

MCC Connects: This Christmas give a gift that gives back! The 2018 MCC Christmas catalogue has gifts of all sizes. Start a new family tradition, join with friends or colleagues and make a difference in the lives of people around the world! Visit mcccanada.ca/Christmas to find the perfect gift!

*Dec 9: Burnt Thicket Theatre presents **Christmas Presence** - a unique mashup of stories and songs that explores the incarnation with a messy but joyful hope. Artists include Tim Bratton, Becky Thomas, Wyndham Thiessen, and Stephen Waldschmidt. Everyone is welcome, including kids, and hot cider will be served! Dec 9 (7:30pm @ College Park Covenant Church, 909 Acadia Dr) Admission: suggested donation of \$10 and/or a new stuffie for Stephen's Backpacks to support kids in need in Saskatoon. Details at: burntthicket.com or see poster on bulletin board.

OMC CALENDAR

Dec 12 Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm
Dec 15 S.S. Christmas pageant practice, 10:00 am
Dec 15 M & S Hamper distribution, 10:00 am
Dec 15 Men's Breakfast at the Osler Café, 10:00 am
Dec 20 Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm
Dec 22 Youth Christmas party at Terri Lynn & Thomas', 6:30pm
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candle light service, 7:00 pm

Worship Leader: George Janzen Sound: Dick Braun
Song leader: Michelle McKinnell Pianist: Naomi Schellenberg
Ushers: Karl Martens, Anna Peters Nursery: Diana Buhler

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Vol. LIX December 9, 2018 No. 48
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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan
A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent:

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Call to Worship:

Leader: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for God-with-us is coming to set things right!

People: The proud will be scattered and the humble lifted up.

Leader: The hungry will be filled and the prisoners set free.

People: He will guide us in the way of peace and proclaim salvation.

All: Let us rejoice, for our God comes to bring wholeness and new life to the world.

Invocation

Hymns: Blue/HWB #184 "Hark! The Glad Sound!"
Blue/HWB #172 "O Come, O come Immanuel"

Children's Gathering Song: Jesus Loves Me

Children's Time: Jake Buhler

Sharing Joys & Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Offering / Offertory Prayer

Hymn: Blue/HWB #180 “The Angel Gabriel”

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-4a

Hymn: Green/SJ #13 “My Soul is filled with Joy”

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:46-55

Sermon: “Advent is Love and Longing” Terri Lynn Friesen

Sung Benediction: Blue/HWB #178 “Come Thou Long Expected”

Spoken Benediction

To all our visitors: WELCOME. We are delighted that you are worshipping with us.

Scent Free: We are striving to be considerate of those with sensitivities to scents/fragrances and ask all to avoid wearing scented products.

Children’s Worship Binder, an instrument to help children through the worship hour, is available in the foyer.

TODAY:

- **Centering Prayer** in Classroom 1 at 9:15 - 9:30 am.
- **Beverages & Snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15 am.

THIS WEEK:

- **Wednesday, Dec 12: Adult Choir practice, 7:00 pm**
- **Saturday, Dec 15: Sunday School Christmas practice, 10:00 am**
- **Saturday, Dec 15: Men’s Breakfast @ Osler Café, 10:00 am**
- **Saturday, Dec 15: M & S Hamper Distribution, 10:00 am**

Next Sunday, Dec 16: Sunday School Christmas program

Worship Leader: Christy Martens-Funk Song leader: Kathryn Janzen

Pianist: Lynette Janzen

Sound: Matthew Stefaniuk

Nursery: Marlene Campbell

Ushers: Karl Martens, Anna Peters

Patty's Week: Today: Shekinah concert; Tues. sermon, visits; Wed: office, visits; Fri: office, visits; Sat: Christmas hampers.

Terri Lynn’s Week: Today: speaking, youth SS; Wed: office (am), choir (pm); Fri: office(am); Sat: children's program rehearsal

UPCOMING SERVICES

Dec 16 Sunday School Christmas program

Dec 23 Adult Choir Christmas program

Dec 24 Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm

Dec 30 “Mary’s Ponderings” by Patty Friesen

Jan. 6 “The Spirituality of Reading Part I” by Patty Friesen

Jan. 13 “The Spirituality of Reading Part II” by Patty Friesen

Remember in Prayer:

*Pray for Jake and Ruth (Buhler) Wiebe of Rosetown (former members of OMC). Jake has been diagnosed with incurable pancreatic cancer. Jake is Louise Buhler’s brother. Ruth is the sister to Wilf, Ben and Jake Buhler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Extra Christmas baking? Please bring to Dec. 16 and Dec. 23 Christmas program coffees. Please let Patty know.

*A BIG thank-you to Eugene for his creative wood working gifts. All money raised from the sale of these gifts will be going to the Shekinah Cabin Project.

*Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Shekinah Cabin Project. You have the opportunity to contribute up until December 31, after which funds donated will be forwarded to Shekinah.

*Committee Reports due Tues. Jan. 8 for AGM book to karlwmartens@gmail.com.

*Missing Music Stands - if anyone has seen or borrowed 2 extra OMC music stands - please return for Christmas season.

***December Sunday School schedule:**

Children's Sunday School: Christmas program practice on Dec 2 & 9 during regular Sunday School time, with a **dress rehearsal on Sat, Dec 15, 10:00 am**. No Sunday School on Dec 16.

Youth & Adults: Regular Sunday morning Sunday School on Dec 2, Dec 9, and Dec 16.

No Sunday School for all ages on Dec 23 and Dec 30.

***Sunday, December 9: A Very Shekinah Christmas, 2-5:30 p.m.**

Get in the Christmas spirit and join us in the Timber Lodge for an afternoon of musical entertainment. Peppernuts and apple cider will be served from 2-3 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Photo Booth opens at 2 p.m. Sing-a-long to your favorite Christmas carols at 2:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. Guests A Buncha Guys and Sonrisa to perform at 3:00 p.m. Faspa to follow. Tickets are \$10 – available online (shekinahretreatcentre.org) or at the door. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

***RJC CHRISTMAS CONCERTS:**

Concert #1 - Wednesday, December 19, 7:30pm at Knox United Church, 838 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon.

Concert #2 - Friday, December 21, 7:00 pm at Rosthern Junior College. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone is welcome.

***The MCCS Thrift Store in Warman has a job opening for a Co-Manager.** The Co-Manager will supervise the overall operations of the Shop at 115 Klassen Street in Warman. This Co-Manager position is a 1.0 FTE (full time equivalency), is salaried and includes benefits, and will work in a collaborative manner with the other Co-Manager.

Legal eligibility to be employed in Canada is required. Start date is December 17, 2018. For a full job description go to <https://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/co-manager-warman-thrift-shop-0>

OMC YOUTH CALENDAR:

Youth Christmas Party! - Sat, Dec 22 - 6:30-8:30pm at Terri Lynn & Thomas' (419 Ave E S Saskatoon)

A fun evening of Christmas festivities: snacks, cookie decorating and games! Friends are welcome! If you are able to drive, please respond on the google calendar invite.

***Missions & Service will be collecting items for the Christmas Hampers again.** We will be putting the hampers together on Dec 15th. We will take non-perishable, perishables (Dec 14 or 15) and cash donations.

***Our Sunday School Giving Project** this year is *Buckets of Thanks* - a Mennonite Central Committee program that provides essential hygiene supplies for families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster. Relief buckets are one of MCC's most requested material resources, and for every \$50 that we collect, a relief bucket can be sent to somewhere like Jordan, Haiti, Ukraine, or Syria. This is a project for everyone, regardless of your age or the size of your contribution! There are learning resources for families, and the youth have helped decorate the donation bucket in the lobby. Thanks for considering *Buckets of Thanks* as part of your Christmas giving.

***ADULT CHRISTMAS CHOIR:** Keith and Merel will lead the adult choir. This will culminate with a **Christmas Choir program on Sunday, December 23** during the worship service. **Rehearsal will be on Wednesday this week at 7:00 pm.**

***Frozen Meal Drive** for Baby Doucette (Erica and Robin) and Baby Tataryn (Kathryn and James). Please help yourself to foil pans and make double when making supper, label and freeze and bring to deacons' freezer Room 007. Pineview Farms meat and Prairie Meat meals are an option as well - see fundraiser note on bulletin board. Any part of a meal welcome also - cookies, muffins, etc. Gluten-free if possible for Janzen/Tataryn.

Taste of Syria - On Saturday, January 5, 2019 at 5:30pm OMC will host a Syrian meal prepared by the Alnouri family with help from the Sponsorship group. We encourage the church family to come out, enjoy the food and get to know the family that we and the Living Sky group have sponsored and continue to support. More information about the family was in the last church newsletter. Come help us bring in the new year by celebrating the Alnouris' first 8 months in Canada. To help cover the cost of the meal we are suggesting donations of \$10.00 per adult or \$20.00 for a family. If you plan to come please put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board before Dec. 30th to assist in planning. If you have any questions please talk to Linda Stucky or Margaret Dyck.

***Save the Date: Church Photo Directory pictures will be taken here on February 8 & 9. If you will not be able to come to have your picture taken on those dates, please submit your own photo by Feb 3.**

A Prayer for the Advent Season:

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, O Promised One. Once again we come to this time of Advent and await your presence.

Give us the patience to seek the meaning of these busy days.

Give us the courage to wait in times of pain and trouble.

Give us the compassion to wait for one another.

Give us the faith to wait for the Messiah when we are threatened by the Herods of this world.

Give us the hope to wait for the Savior even when we cannot hear the angels singing.

Give us the love that does not wait when it meets Christ in our neighbour. Amen.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES:

Genesis 1:1-4a

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ^{4a} And God saw that the light was good;

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."