Osler Mennonite Church

A Welcoming Community for Peace
Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation

10:00 a.m. Worship Service **October 25, 2026**

Good Neighbours

Prelude
Welcome/Land Appreciation/Announcements

Call to Worship:
Leader: As God's people, we have gathered.
All: We may be discouraged, dismayed, discordant with life.
Leader: Let us sit together, sharing the solace of silence.
All: Let us possess the peace of God's presence
and be wrapped in the warmth of God's love.
All: Let us be comforted and quieted,
prepared for communion with God and fellowship with one another.

Invocation

Gathering Hymns: VT #1 Summoned by the God Who Made Us
VT #6 Let's Walk Together

First Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
As you yourselves know, brothers and sisters, our visit with you wasn't a waste of time. On the contrary, we had the courage through God to speak God's good news in spite of a lot of opposition, although we had already suffered and were publicly insulted in Philippi, as you know. Our appeal isn't based on false information, the wrong motives, or deception. Rather, we have been examined and approved by God to be trusted with the good news, and that's exactly how we speak. We aren't trying to please people, but we are trying to please God, who continues to examine our hearts. As you know, we never used flattery, and God is our witness that we didn't have greedy motives. We didn't ask for special treatment from people—not from you or from others— although we could have thrown our weight around as Christ's apostles. Instead, we were gentle with you like a nursing mother caring for her own

children. We were glad to share not only God's good news with you but also our very lives because we cared for you so much.

Children's Gathering Song: Today Earth is Singing
Story Time for All Ages

Offering Prayer/Music for Meditation
Sharing Joys and Concerns/Prayer of the Church
We pray – for First Mennonite Church as they close Nov 8th
-for Edna's continuing health concerns
-Zach's ordination next Sunday
Thanksgiving for North Star Mennonite celebrating 120

Prayer for the Church
Candle Prayers for peace and our hearts' desires…

Hymn: VT #551 Beautiful Things

Second Reading: Matthew 22:34-46
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. One of them, a legal expert, tested him. "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?"
He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."
Now as the Pharisees were gathering, Jesus asked them, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?"
"David's son," they replied.
He said, "Then how is it that David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, called him Lord when he said, The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right side until I turn your enemies into your footstool'? If David calls him Lord, how can he be David's son?" Nobody was able to answer him. And from that day forward nobody dared to ask him anything.

Scripture Response:
Leader: For the word of God in Scripture,
for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us.
People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: VT #485 Put Peace into Each Other's Hands

Sermon: "Love Beyond Words,"

Hymn: VT #827 Move in Our Midst

Benediction: "May God bless you and keep you. May the very face of God shine on you and be gracious to you. May God's presence embrace you and give you peace."

*Offerings can be done via e-transfer to osler.mc.treasurer@gmail.com
*Our services are all streamed and archived on-line.

TODAY Oct 25 *Neighbours*
Speaker: Dalen Applegate Worship Leader: Terry Stefaniuk
Song Leaders: Kathryn. Loretta, Ben, Nora Accompanist: Melanie
Story: Marlene Sound: Benjamin Ushers: Dick/Susan
Offering Counter Team: Susan/Garry
Snack/Coffee: Worship Committee
Please consider signing up to bring a snack and make the coffee.

Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday 8:30 am. to 12:30 pm

Friday 10:00 am Coffee Time with staff

Brad's Week: usual work days are Mon, Wed. and Fri. but not necessarily in the office – he may be out visiting, If you'd like a visit, please call him @ 306-361-0601

Luke's Week: Wed. NPMC Men's Bible Study; Thurs. Bethany Manor Bible Study; Fri. Youth; Sat. Village Green with the Youth

Birthdays this week: 25 – Diane McKinnell; 27 – Bree Schellenberg; 31 – Zenon Borne

TODAY: as you exit the sanctuary, please see Rachel to set up your appointment to have your photo taken for the new Photo Directory. IPC photo company will be here ***November 20 from 2:30 pm to 8:30 pm and 21 9:30 am to 2:50 pm***

TODAY 11:00 am. The **Worship Committee invites** all to join the committee for coffee and discussion about worship here at OMC.

Remember North Star Mennonite Church as they celebrate 120 years today!

Church council is revisiting our current tagline *"Welcoming Christian Community for Peace"* and bring it into the 21st century. Please share your thoughts and ideas on a sticky note on the white board in the lobby. Council will visit all the suggestions and come up with a tagline for the church to consider.

If anyone is interested in helping out in the Nursery during worship, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board or talk to anyone on the Education Committee.

From the Worship Committee: We recognize how dependent we are on technology for our worship services and so we want to thank everyone who volunteers in the sound booth! We also recognize that there will be times when some feel adjustments can be made. We ask that if you feel this way, please bring any feedback to Brad, Dave, or Matthew S. Thank you.

Community Connections: November 8 at noon you are invite to share in *Faspa and Conversation* about the encampment in Saskatoon. Sarah Buhler will be leading the conversation.

New Address for Rob & Brandee Borne
39 2nd St in Osler

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin Board – check posters for detail information
- Nursery Help signup sheet
- Snack/Coffee signup sheet
- Newsletter from Bethany Manor
  -Events Poster
- Council minutes
- RJC Events Posters
- Shekinah Events Posters

MCC Connects: The 9th season of Grow Hope Saskatchewan is coming to a close on October 31. Most of the fields have been harvested but there are still some acres remaining to be sponsored. Consider supporting the work of MCC and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank in providing emergency food supplies and long-term food security programs around the world. As little as $15 can provide food assistance to one person for a month, and $350 can sponsor one acre and support up to 200 people for a month. For more information and to donate, visit: www.growhope.ca

MC SASK Updates:
Where's Len this week? After some vacation time in Ontario, Len is travelling to Elkhart, Indiana this week for board meetings at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS). (New)

On November 1, Zach Stefaniuk will be ordained at Zion Mennonite in Swift Current. You are welcome to attend or send a greeting otherwise.

On November 22, we will have a commissioning service for Dalen Applegate as Faith Development Minister. The service will be held at Wildwood Mennonite in the afternoon. Again, you are welcome to attend or send a greeting otherwise.

Nov 1: Forest church @ Shekinah 3pm. Join the praise of the "living creatures" from Revelation in outdoor worship. All are welcome! (New)

LET'S SING!: Songs and hymns along the journey
Tuesday, November 10, 7:00 p.m. Mount Royal Mennonite Church. Join Lois Siemens to celebrate and mark 10 anniversaries in 2026 with music. Marilyn Houser Hamm - song leader, Lynette Janzen - piano and more!

RJC Spend-A-Day | Friday, October 30 Prospective students in Grades 7–11 are invited to experience a day at RJC from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Shadow a current student, attend chapel, enjoy a meal in our dining hall, and explore music, sports and dorm life. Register at rjc.sk.ca/spend-a-day.

Shekinah's Burger Bonanza: Saturday, November 7, 6 p.m. in the Timberlodge. Enjoy a great evening with your Shekinah friends and the music and energy of the Celtic band *Back of the Bus*.

As First Mennonite Church has voted to close the church, we have chosen Sunday, November 8, 2026, at 2:00 pm. for a Thanksgiving and Closing Service with coffee to follow. Churches with a history at First Mennonite Church are invited to attend. A brief time to bring greetings will be available. A choir will be singing if anyone wishes to join. Details on practice will be available.

Bethany Manor presents "Sip, Savour, Support on Wednesday, November 4 6:30-8:30 pm. There will be *small plates and live music* in support of the Equipment Fund. Entertainment from the Pat Michell Trio. Tickets are $75 – Available from the Bethany office

MCC Saskatchewan Peace Conference – Nov 7 9:00 am – 4:30 pm at Station 20 West, Saskatoon. *The Grass is Still Gowing: Returning to the Spirit & Intent of Treaty.* Treaty is an important framework for building peace in our province. To mark the 150th anniversary of Treaty 6, this year's Peace Conference presents a special partnership with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner. We will take a close look into the original meaning and covenantal intentions of Treaty, and explore the implications of living as Treaty people in Saskatchewan today.

LOCAL

Forever in motion, a physical activity program geared for older adults, will begin September 16. This drop-in class begins at 10:00 am and runs every Wednesday & Friday until April. **Staying on Your Feet,** a program aimed at improving your balance will begin September 15. This 12-week course that is intended for weekly attendance, runs from 9:30 – 11:00 am each Tuesday. It will cover varies topics and feature guest speakers. All sessions are led by persons with Leader's Certificates from the Saskatoon Health Region. Both classes are free to attend at the Osler Community Hall. Check the posters on the bulletin board for more details.

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Sermon on the Mount

Instructors: Rev. Mitchell Anderson and Rev. Dr. Don Schweitzer
Thursdays, November 5, 12, 19, 26
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST

This is going to be an engaging exploration of one document I would suspect few of us know well, and a teaching from Jesus that some/many of us know very well! I am encouraging groups of people to come together to watch/participate in these classes - whether around a computer in someone's home, or in a church/community hall. For more info and to register: https://www.spiritrivercommunity.org/courses/the-un-declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples-and-the-sermon-on-the-mount

If this is of interest to anyone in the congregation, please let Brad know.

Refugee Sponsorship

I'm sending this email to people who have applied with us to sponsor Afghan refugees, and to a number of our other regular sponsorship teams. The difficulties faced by applicants in Pakistan have reached a

point where urgent action by the Canadian government on their behalf has become imperative:

- While posting typical processing times of 10 to 12 months on the IRCC website for refugee applicants in Pakistan, our experience is that a figure in excess of 24 months is more realistic at present: we have had no Afghan arrivals since late October 2025, and are still waiting for one family and two single people for whom we applied in 2024.
- Official Pakistani government policy is to detain all Afghans who do not have Pakistani visas, and for most people it is impossible to obtain or renew a visa (or, if theoretically possible, it is financially unattainable). Hence the majority of Afghan applicants are now at serious risk of deportation.
- As an essential part of the Canadian government's processing of applications, applicants are required to provide biometrics (generally in Islamabad, but could be in Karachi or Lahore) and (normally later, in Islamabad) attend interview and undergo a medical examination. For reasons of safety, most refugees are now living at some distance from Islamabad, but Canadian authorities say that it is impossible to do any of these things remotely. They have additionally made it clear that they are unable to provide travel protection (beyond providing, on request, a letter asking for their Canadian application to be respected - which some Pakistani police will respect and others will not), nor to provide safe accommodation in Islamabad. I am in regular communication with other SAH reps across Canada, and have been made aware of multiple cases of people detained en route to biometrics or interview appointments. Detention now appears to usually lead to deportation; even if this is not the case it may include physical assault or financial extortion.
- Even if not travelling to Islamabad to satisfy Canadian government requirements, Afghan refugees in Pakistan live in fear of being arrested on the street or of police coming to their homes.

The latest element in this crisis came on Friday: an official statement from IRCC saying that they will not be accepting any new applications next year for Afghans in Pakistan. They remain committed to process existing applications, but will not be accepting any new ones. This is devastating for people whom we have had to ask to wait because of the limited application spaces allotted to us in the last couple of years.

I'm therefore asking you to call on the Canadian government to do more to protect these people. One way of doing this is quite simple: sign the parliamentary petition which you can find at https://www.ourcommons.ca/petitions/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-7749, and ask others to do so. The petition calls for the government to speed up the processing of applications, put in place protection measures for applicants, and increase their processing capacity. If you sign, you will receive an auto-reply asking you to confirm your signature (please don't forget to do this!)

with best wishes,
Mark Bigland-Pritchard
Migration & Resettlement Coordinator
Mennonite Central Committee Saskatchewan

Please copy and paste the link into your browser to get to the petition. It would be greatly appreciated if you could sign it!

CALENDAR

Sun. Oct 25 – 10:00 am Dalen Applegate speaking
-11:10 am – Worship Workshop
Sun. Nov 1 – 10:00 am – Brad Schroeder preaching – *Song of Songs*
Mon. Nov 2 – 7:30 am Council mtg
Sun. Nov 8 – 10:00 am – Luke Bushman preaching – *Exodus Part III*
Sun. Nov 15 – 10:00 am – Charlie Clark speaking

NEXT SUNDAY – Nov 1 *Song of Songs*
Speaker: Brad Schroeder Worship Leader: Dave Feick
Song Leader: Michelle Accompanist: Naomi
Story: Wilf Sound: Stephanie Ushers: Dick/Benjamin
Offering Counter Team: Lloyd/Wilf
Snack/Coffee:

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Vol. LXVII October 25, 2026 No. 43
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website: http://oslermennonitechurch.org
We gather on Treaty Six Lands, Nehiyaw Territory, and the Homeland of the Métis