

## OMC CALENDAR

**June 6** 10:00 am Worship Patty Friesen speaking - Communion

June 7 7:00 pm Kid's weekly Bible School Zoom

June 7 7:00 pm Youth weekly Group/Bible School Zoom

June 9 6:30 pm Community Connection mtg Zoom

**June 13** 10:00 am SS Picnic

11:30 am Bag Lunch Picnic on Church yard

June 14 7:00 pm Kid's weekly Bible School Zoom

June 14 7:00 pm Youth weekly Group/Bible School Zoom

*Note: last week for Kid's and Youth Zooms for the summer*

June 16 7:00 pm Worship Committee mtg Zoom

**June 20 Father's Day**

10:00 am Worship Patty Friesen speaking *(also on Facebook)*

June 21 7:00 pm Education Committee mtg Zoom

**June 27** 10:00 am Nora Pederberg speaking *(also on Facebook)*

**Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found in the Worship Resource on the church website. [www.oslermannonitechurch.org](http://www.oslermannonitechurch.org)**

### **One liners....."**

\* "Telling a woman to calm down works as well as trying to baptize a cat."

\* "A good mood is like a balloon... one little prick is all it takes to ruin it!"

\* "I wish I lived in a world where mosquitoes would suck fat instead of blood."

## **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

4 - Wilf Buhler

6 - Joe Guenther

8 - Ben Buhler

8 - George Janzen

12 - Rhonda Gascho

12 - Zac Stefaniuk

14 - Tony Funk

25 - Margaret Boldt

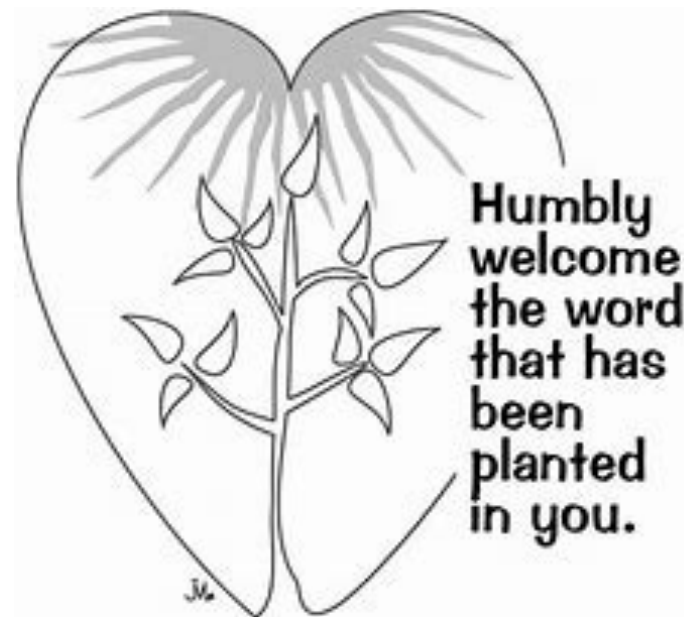
26 - Lynette Janzen

26 - Melanie Boldt



## **The Osler Mennonite Church**

### **June 2021 Newsletter**



#### **Our Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of Osler Mennonite Church is to be a supportive community in which people can meet God through worship and fellowship.

We seek to teach

an Anabaptist understanding of scripture, led by the Spirit to imitate Christ in word and deed.

We strive to nurture faith and discipleship, committing ourselves individually and corporately

*We gather on Treaty Six Lands, Nehiyaw Territory, and the Homeland of the Metis.*

Osler Mennonite Church

[oslermcoffice@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermcoffice@sasktel.net)

<http://www.oslermannonitechurch.org>

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Volume XIV Fifth Edition

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation

## **Pastor Patty's Ponderings:**

At the time of writing this, I am halfway through my May sabbatical and feeling very thankful and refreshed after 17 days in Grasslands East, Grasslands West and Eastend. I had time for solitude and reflection and time with husband Patrick and friend Lois Siemens in my little trailer. I met wonderful fellow campers who helped me find the Milky Way and burrowing owls. I saw a baby bison and golden eagles building a nest and was huffed at by an antelope. Thankfully I saw only one little garter snake! I survived a snowstorm and muddy roads and figuring out a card lock for gas!

I am looking forward to seeing my mom in Edmonton and going on an overnighiter canoe trip from Clarksboro to Batoche with my gal pals.

I feel relaxed and a girlfriend even said I looked different! Probably because I hadn't had a bath in 17 days! Sabbaticals are good for pastors and hopefully good for congregations. I pondered the super response to our congregational review and was thankful for the work of the Review Committee - Christy, Ben, Sandra G, Louise and George. I prayed for the congregation as a whole and each congregant who flitted through my brain.

Hiking up and down the hill trails not able to see what was over the top of the next one, yet trusting I would be able to see far enough for what was needed, I thought this is a metaphor for what the next three years hold for us in our congregational journey together. We will hike through the pandemic and experience more re-opening this summer and take the next steps of re-building together.

Meanwhile our Great Creator has made beauty all around us and birds and animals, providing rain and all we need in our physical and spiritual lives.

I am deeply grateful for this sabbatical time, this sabbath rest and reflection on God's care for me and for all of us and all of creation.

## **Pastor Patty's Picks:**

Peace by Chocolate *by* Jon Tattrie is a delicious biography of the Hadhad family's journey from Syria to Canada. *Church library.*

Hudson Bay Bound *by* Natalie Warren inspired me as does all outdoor adventure writing, by women in particular.

## **LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR MAY**

### **May 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 3:16-24 John 15:1-8

### **May 9 Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17

### **May 13 Ascension of the Lord**

Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 or 93 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53

### **May 16 Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19

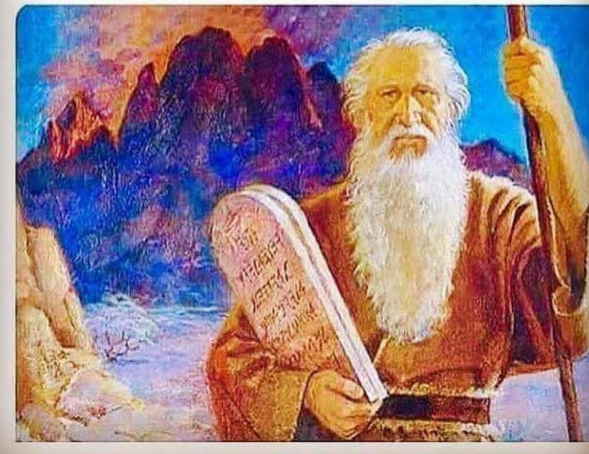
### **May 23 Day of Pentecost**

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Roman 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21 John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

### **May 30 Trinity Sunday**

Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17

So technically Moses is the first man to download files from the cloud using a tablet.



### **❁ Pieces of Peace**

“I finally realized it that people are prisoners of their phones that's why they're called cell phones.”

“One day YouTube, Twitter and Facebook will join together and be called... *Youtwit-face.*”

## OMC Announcements & Opportunities

**\*From the Re-opening Committee.** Today we enter Phase 1 of the Sask. reopening plan. For both Phase 1 and 2 the rules change to allow us to seat up to 30% of our sanctuary capacity. Due to physical distancing rules, that currently means about 50 people. This includes the main sanctuary, overflow and balcony. We still require physical distancing so please respect the seating arrangements and sit on the green tape. Masks are still mandatory. Until we get close to the max capacity, calling in ahead of Sunday is **not** required. We welcome all people who wish to attend in person.

**\*Want to donate to the Refugee Fund?** Leave your bottles at any Sarcan and use the Drop & Go system. Register using the group name “LRS” and the phrase “Refugee” and you’re set! That bag tags will be printed and the money goes directly to Lina’s support.

**\*Consider donations, memorial or otherwise for the Voices Together Hymn book.** Your memorial will be printed inside the book as a lasting memory. Donations to our **projector fund** are also needed.

**\*With the many uncertainties surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic, Shekinah Summer Camp will not run for the 2021 camp season.** Please continue to pray for and donate to our 2022 camp program. We encourage you to hike our trails and experience the presence and glory of God.

**Looking for work? Shekinah Retreat Centre is looking for maintenance workers and kitchen workers.** Please contact [ron@shekinah.ca](mailto:ron@shekinah.ca), call the office at 306-945-4929, or check out the news item on our website at [shekinah.ca](http://shekinah.ca) for more information. Applicants must be between the ages of 15-30. Jobs will run for 8 weeks, with maintenance work starting ASAP

**\*The Tabernacle at the Youth Farm Bible Camp will be open for a few weekends starting on May Long Weekend.** The Tabernacle is a museum quality replica of the Old Testament tabernacle made straight from the details in Exodus, and it is the only one in Canada! It is a fun, family friendly way to learn more about the Old Testament and how it relates to the New Testament. Tickets need to be pre-purchased at [www.yfbc.com](http://www.yfbc.com). The petting zoo, jumping pillow, train ride and more will be open for attenders as well.

**\*MC Sask** is pleased to be able to offer students enrolled in the eligible schools or service programs scholarships. Check it out at <https://mcsask.ca/youth-ministry>

## Canadian Foodgrains Bank

It is important to recognize and extend our gratitude to all Foodgrains Bank supporters for responding with compassion and generosity in this difficult past year. During the 20-21 fiscal year, more than \$16 million was received from individuals, businesses, and growing projects and community events—with SK-based donors contributing just over \$2 million in total donations.

Thank you for sharing your resources with our global neighbours who are impacted by hunger!

### Cultivating Faith Audio Devotional—Iand that Drinks the Rain

“I cannot quite imagine how hard it is for farmers to wait patiently for rain to come. The Bible even refers to this act of patience in James 5:7—’...see how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rain.’

Some things in life simply require patience, but how does one remain patient when there is so much at stake?”

### New Resource! Hunger for Justice—a learning and reflection guide for youth groups.

What might acting justly, loving mercy and walking humbly with God look like in you life? Or in the day-to-day life of youth today?

Musu Taylor-Lewis, Foodgrains Bank resources and public engagement director, shares “in terms of helping youth resonate to an issue that seems too large (hunger), we are reminded that Jesus doesn’t ask us to do more than we can, only to use what we already have, no matter how great or small.”

*Go to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank website to download a copy.*

**Germinating Conversations**, a new book, is being launched after nearly a decade of gatherings and relationships between food growers and eaters in Manitoba who committed to listening well to each other’s hopes and concerns regarding food, faith, farming and the land. An online book launch is slated for Thursday, June 3, 7:00 pm CT. To register, check the FG website.

Peace to you,

Rick and Jacque Block, *Saskatchewan Representatives*  
**Canadian Foodgrains Bank**

## **Nora's Notes:**

I write this with Phase 1 of the Saskatchewan reopening plan mere days away. I am so excited for the continually rising count of vaccines and our communities beginning to feel safe once more. It is also worth noting that for every conversation I have about the thrill and joy of reopening, I am having conversations about the anxiety and uncertainty of it. Listening to an excellent podcast, Dare to Lead, hosted by Brene Brown, I have found some language and guidance to name this duality. Brown hosted an interview with the brilliant author and expert Priya Parker, titled "How We Return and Why It Matters." I have provided the link here for those who love podcasts, but I will also share a few of my takeaways on the topic.

<https://brenebrown.com/podcast/brene-with-priya-parker-on-how-we-return-and-why-it-matters-part-1-of-2/>

We need to take time to exist in the transition period. We have been through something huge, and the re-entry process is something that we must hold as its own growth period. It will be a time of awkwardness as we learn what it looks like to be together again. We will need to take into account the ways that we have grown and changed, and discover how that will transform and inform the future we are entering into. It will be a time filled with experiences of "perceived moments of micro-aggression." After months of training our bodies to act in one way, it will still be a shock when we instinctively reach out a hand and the person instinctively leans away from it. We need to be ready to meet these awkward moments not with shame or defensiveness but with gentleness and patience. To remember that we are all healing and navigating transition at a different pace, and that the psychological impact of the last 15 months will follow a different timeline than the changing of protocols.

We will need to use our words, naming our experiences and our feelings. Priya Parker teaches that when things are really complex, the secret to gathering together well is to make the implicit explicit. To practice saying out loud "I'm not sure how to do this yet" and "Oh sorry,

I'll adjust that" or "Wow this feels bizarre now doesn't it?" and "Is this [handshake/hug/distance] okay for where you're at?" In navigating the awkward of the in between, naming is our superpower. We name where we are at, we ask for consent in our interactions. This is the way forward so that we can create experiences that minimize shame and maximize connection.

We come together as a community that is committed to loving each other deeply where we are at right now with our current needs. We assume that in the trial and error of transforming to a church on the other side of a pandemic, we are going to fumble and make mistakes, and then we will readjust and try something else. To understand that at our core we are all trying our best with the capacity we have. My prayer is that through the rejoicing and the uncertainty we remain a community of grace, that can meet one another with kindness and encouragement as we navigate the unknowns of the coming months.

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**"If you're ever headed the wrong way in life, remember the road to Heaven allows U-turns."**