

**OMC Calendar
DECEMBER 2019**

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Patty Friesen preaching	2 Kids Bible & Adult Conv 7 pm.	3 Centering Prayer mtg 7:30 pm	4	5	6 Osler School Choir concert 10:00 am	7
8 Patty Friesen preaching	9 Kids Bible & Adult Conv 7 pm.	10	11 Men's Group 7:30 pm	12	13 Osler - Warman Youth Overnighter 7:00 pm	14 Youth Overnighter until 9:00 am
15 Singing Sunday. Pizza @ noon. Children's program rehearsal 12:30 pm	16 Kids Bible & Adult Conv 7 pm. Blue Christmas service 8:00 pm	17 Centering Prayer mtg 7:30 pm	18	19	20	21 Children's program rehearsal
22 Children's Christmas Program 10:00 am	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:00 pm	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29 Stephanie Siemens preaching.	30	31			Each Sunday Worship: 10:00 am. Sunday School: 11:15 am	

Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found in the bulletin on the church website. www.oslermennonitechurch.org

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

**The Osler Mennonite Church
DECEMBER 2019 Newsletter**

Osler Mennonite Church
oslermcoffice@sasktel.net
<http://www.omchurch.org>
 Volume X11 Tenth Edition

212 2nd Ave. P.O. Box 129
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A WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR PEACE
Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation



UPCOMING SERVICES

- Dec 1 First Advent & Communion. "Joseph" by Patty Friesen
- Dec 8 "Wisdom Seekers" by Patty Friesen
- Dec 15 Singing Sunday, featuring the Adult Christmas Choir
- Dec 16 Blue Christmas service 8:00 pm
- Dec 22 Children's Christmas Program 10:00 am
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm
- Dec 29 "My Point of View by King Herold" – monologue by Stephanie Siemens

"After their audience with the ruler, (the Magi) set out. The star which they had observed at its rising went ahead of them until it came to a standstill over the place where the child lay. They were overjoyed at seeing the star and, upon entering the house, found the child with Mary, his mother."

Matthew 2:9-11 (Inclusive Bible)

Pastor Patty's Ponderings:

We enter the season of Advent and hopeful anticipation of the coming of Christ into our present time and future even as we celebrate the past coming. Advent isn't a plastic tinsel-like joy. The church proclaims hope in the midst of darkness. Matthew's Gospel tells us Christ's coming challenged King Herod at the expense of the other children of Bethlehem. Advent is a complex season of darkness and light, joy and sorrow, faith and doubt just as our own lives are complex. We will work out the rich powerful themes of Advent/Christmas in scripture and song, in choirs and children's program practice the next four weeks.

We want to share about the work of our committees so we are reminded of our impact in the world as we prepare for a 2020 budget. We appreciate Deacons bringing in Dan Epp-Thiessen to share about surviving cancer. We are thankful that Worship is planning an Advent choir, Singing Sunday and Christmas Eve service. We rejoice with the Youth in their activities and are thankful for Education's work with our children. Community Connections is busy this month providing for the Psych Centre's Christmas party, Christmas hampers and keeping Reconciliation work in front of us.

May God bless our worship and work this season.

Patty's Picks

Beyond the Trees by Adam Shoalts was a great Arctic survival read. Moment of Life by Melinda Gates was lovely to hear on Audio CD even if Melinda is a bit of a stilted reader. How to Catch a Mole by Marc Hamer integrated reflection on life as well as moles. For all with vole problems in Osler gardens!

Official Secrets DVD has all the British greats in this provocative true story of whistle blowing. The Grizzlies DVD had Patrick and I both in tears as hope comes to Inuit youth through lacrosse and a teacher with vision. Highway of Tears DVD is something all Canadians should watch as we awaken to the realities of murdered and missing Indigenous women.

Nora's Notes:

November has been packed with fun youth events, visits, and church events like family games night and hanging of the greens. A big thank you to John Gascho for hosting a youth movie night here at the church, it was a hit!

Coming up for December we have a big youth overnighter on the horizon, which takes us to the end of our calendar year of youth events. We also have Blue Christmas coming up on December 16th. Details are in our bulletins.

I wanted to make sure to write in my upcoming holiday time. I will be away on holiday Dec.23-Jan 6. I will be spending some time in Alberta with family and enjoying my sisters' company as she is visiting from Mexico during her Christmas break.

Osler-Warman Youth December Overnighter!!

When: Friday Dec. 13th 7:30pm – Saturday Dec. 14th 9:00am

Where: Osler Mennonite Church

What: The night will include church wide games, board games, Bible study, movie options, cookie decorating, and more!

Bring: Overnight gear (sleeping bag, toothbrush, comfy attire etc.)

Youth are encouraged to bring their favorite board games and a snack to share with the crew.

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 to respond to the needs of others.

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Sunday school Christmas 2019 Giving Project: MCC MeadowGreen Neighbourhood Youth Christmas Party and gifts hosted by Kaytee Edwards Buhler on December 17.** Giving Jar in the lobby of the church.

***Christmas Hampers:** Community Connections Committee will be assembling Christmas Hampers on **Saturday, December 21.** We are asking the congregation for cash & food donations. Also if you are aware of a person/family that could benefit from a hampers please let Harold Loewen or Patty Friesen know.

***Monday December 16th 8:00pm Blue Christmas:** This is a gentle, contemplative service for those who are carrying pain or loss during this season of celebration. It is a small service creating space to bring our struggles and hold a moment together for acknowledgement, comfort, and hope in the presence of one another and the Spirit.

***Osler Choral Society Christmas Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2:00 pm @ The Barn Playhouse. Tickets \$15 - call The Barn Playhouse 306-239-4600.

***Church Office Closed December 23-January 2.** Feel free to call Patty's cell for emergencies 306-260-6069

OMC CALENDAR

Dec 2, 9, 16 Kids Bible & Adult Convo, 7:00 pm
Dec 3 & 17 Centering Prayer Group 7:30 pm
Dec 11 OMC Men's Group 7:30 pm
Dec 13-14 Osler-Warman Youth Overnighter @ OMC
Dec 15 Christmas Singing Sunday service 10:00 am with Special Christmas coffee to follow.
Dec 16 Blue Christmas service, 8:00 pm
Dec 22 Children's Christmas program 10:00 am with Special Christmas coffee to follow.
Dec 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight service 7:00 pm
Jan 8 Wednesday Bible Study 1:00 pm

Hymns on the Nativity by Ephrem the Syrian, fourth century poet

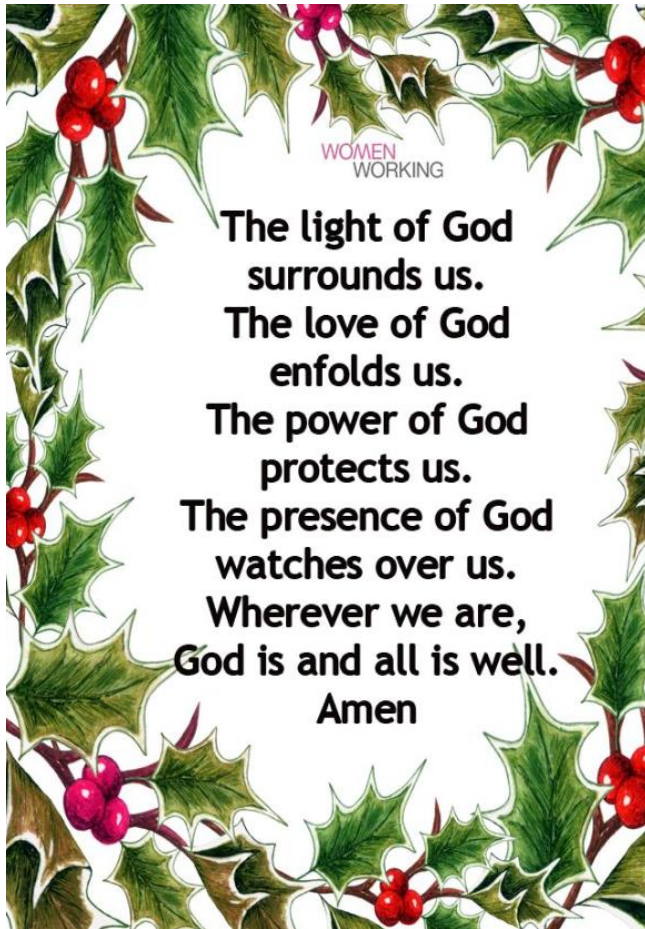
Blessed be the Child who today delights Bethlehem.
Blessed be the Newborn who today made humanity young again.
Blessed be the Fruit who bowed down for our hunger.
Blessed be the Gracious One who suddenly enriched all of our poverty and filled our need.
Blessed be the One whose mercy inclined to heal our sickness.

On this night of the humble One, let us be neither proud nor haughty.
On this day of forgiveness, let us not avenge offences.
On this day of rejoicings, let us not share sorrows.
On this sweet day, let us not be vehement.
On this calm day, let us not be quick-tempered.
On this day on which God came into the presence of sinners, let not the righteous exalt themselves over the sinner.
On this day on which the Lord of all came among servants, let the employers acknowledge their employees lovingly.
On this day when the Rich One was made poor for our sake, let the rich also make the poor a sharer at table.
On this day a gift came to us without our asking for it, let us give alms to those who cry out and beg from us.

In a manger the Lord of the universe reclined for the sake of the universe.
On this day our Lord exchanged radiance for vulnerability, as the Humble One.

❁ Pieces of Peace ❁

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.”
Colossians 3:15



HUMOR

Thanks for the electric guitar you gave me for Christmas," little Chris Cody said to his uncle the first time he saw him after the holidays. "It's the best present I ever got."

"That's great," said his uncle. "Do you know how to play it?"

"Oh, I don't play it," the little fellow said. "My mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day and my dad gives me five dollars a week not to play it at night!"

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR DECEMBER

Dec 1, 2019	<u>Isaiah 2:1-5</u>	<u>Psalms 122</u>	<u>Romans 13:11-14</u>	<u>Matthew 24:36-44</u>
Dec 8, 2019	<u>Isaiah 11: 1-10</u>	<u>Psalms 72: 1-19</u>	<u>Romans 15: 4-13</u>	<u>Matthew 3: 1-12</u>
Dec 15, 2019	<u>Isaiah 35: 1-10</u>	<u>Psalms 146: 5-10</u>	<u>James 5: 7-10</u>	<u>Matthew 11: 2-11</u>
Dec 22, 2019	<u>Isaiah 7: 10-16</u>	<u>Psalms 80:1-19</u>	<u>Romans 1: 1-7</u>	<u>Matthew 1: 18-25</u>

Dec 24, 2019	<u>Isaiah 9: 2-17</u>	<u>Psalms 96</u>	<u>Titus 2: 11-14</u>	<u>Luke 2:1-14</u>
Dec 25, 2019	<u>Isaiah 52: 7-10</u>	<u>Psalms 98</u>	<u>Hebrews 1: 1-12</u>	<u>John 1: 1-14</u>
Dec 29, 2019	<u>Isaiah 63: 7-9</u>	<u>Psalms 148</u>	<u>Hebrews 2: 10-18</u>	<u>Matt 2:13-23</u>

HUMOR

My wife was going through her wardrobe. "Oh look at this" she said, "it still fits me after 25 years!" I said, "It's a scarf."

The Three Wise Women

You do know what would have happened if it had been three wise WOMEN instead of men, don't you? They would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and brought disposable diapers as gifts!