

**OMC Calendar
FEBRUARY 2019**

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday Worship: 10:00 am. Sunday School: 11:15 am					1	2 AGM 9:30 am
3 Joe Heikman preaching	4	5	6	7 Adult Choir 7:00 pm	8 Photo Directory pictures 2:30-8:30 pm	9 Photo Directory pictures 9:30 am- 3:00 pm
10 Receiving new members & Communion	11	12	13	14 Adult Choir 7:00 pm	15	16 Youth meet at 6:30-8:30 pm
17 Patty Friesen Preaching.	18	19	20 Worship committee mtg @ TL's 7:00 pm	21 Adult Choir 7:00 pm. M & S mtg 7:00 pm.	22	23 Youth Ski Trip to Table Mountain
24 Patty Friesen preaching. Noon Potluck & Play Day.	25	26	27	28 Adult Choir 7:00 pm		

Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found on the Events Calendar on the church website. www.omchurch.org

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

**The Osler Mennonite Church
FEBRUARY 2019 Newsletter**

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

212 2nd Ave. P.O. Box 129
Osler, SK S0K 3A0
306-239-2133

A WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR PEACE
Following Jesus on the Path of Reconciliation



UPCOMING SERVICES

- Feb 3 "God is Personal" –Joe Heikman, Wildwood Mennonite Church
- Feb 10 Receiving New Members & Communion
- Feb 17 "The Beatitudes" - Patty Friesen
- Feb 24 "The Sermon on the Plain" - Patty Friesen

**"Your love, YHWH, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your justice is like the mountains in their splendor, Your judgments like the great deep. Whether human or animal, YHWH, you keep us all in your care. How precious is your love!"
Psalm 36:5-7a (The Inclusive Bible)**

Pastor Patty's Ponderings:

While Patty's Ponderings may not be as deep as Mary's pondering in Luke 2:50, I've been thankful once again for the good energy in the congregation with helpful review feedback, a full sanctuary on Sunday mornings even during hot holidays, Friendship Inn and Sunday school sign-ups and participation. We've had a rich epiphany with our winter study on spiritual disciplines, the start of choir, and the Truth and Reconciliation Event at Osler Hall. New babies and health concerns have brought us closer together in congregational care and cooking.

We still don't know everything that 2019 holds but we move forward into it with trust and courage.

Patty's Picks

Mary Poppins Returns was a colourful delight. The songs may not have been as memorable as A Spoonful of Sugar from the old Mary Poppins but each generation finds their interpretation.

M*A*S*H reruns kept Patrick and I laughing and theologically engaged in pacifist discussions.

The Measure of My Days by Florida Scott Maxwell is a hard to find deeply philosophical work on aging that I will return to time and again.

A Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Annie Dillard is a spiritual reflection on the natural world that I also return to time and again.

CAPSULE SERMONS

Set personal goals, but don't set them in concrete.

Be bold in what you stand for and careful in what you fall for.

You can't control the length of your life, but you can control the width and depth.

The world is full of beauty if your heart is full of love.

Terri Lynn's Takes: Mentorship: The spirituality of walking with.

At the start of this new year, our worship will focus on the spirituality of raising up another generation in an inter-generational community of faith. It's part of a larger series on our spiritual growth - indicating that being intentional about passing on our faith to children and youth is not just for their spiritual growth, but for ours too. Mentorship is another aspect of passing on our faith that I'm glad is part of OMC. We 'set up' mentorship pairs so there are some clear boundaries and roles in a relationship that otherwise can vary a lot in what it looks like: it could be going for coffee or breakfast, or exploring nature, art or a sport together. It could be inviting a youth into something you or your family are already doing, or showing up for them at a concert or sports game, or as a youth group sponsor.

Being a mentor doesn't necessarily take a lot of time, but it does take intention and an openness to grow, and may be a little uncomfortable sometimes, because it asks us to share from our life experience, even in its imperfections. Having these types of relationships with the youth and kids at our church is one of the things I love best about my job. And at the Vine & Table, it happens in a different way, inseparable from the rest of life. Our younger housemates get to witness how Thomas and I miscommunicate and have disagreements, how we navigate difficult house decisions, how we care for and show appreciation for our housemates, our anticipation of parenthood, and lots of things in between. And we're willing to risk living this way (which seems pretty vulnerable at moments) - not because we have it right - but because we believe that some of our greatest spiritual growth happens as we learn to navigate life together (and Sunday mornings are just a small part of that).

Being a mentor at OMC doesn't need to be this intense, it just takes an openness to listen well, ask good questions, and share from your own experiences and faith journey. It may be just the thing to which God is inviting you, to experience growth in a new way this year. You'll notice our mentorship forms don't have age limits, recognizing that 'adults' are often glad to have to have someone walking with them that is further down the path - this is not just for youth! You'll find some such forms in the church entrance later this month, and you're invited to spend some time praying about if mentorship might be for you; parents of youth (grade 6 and up) are invited to help their youth imagine who they might like to spend more time with! Pass on your mentorship forms to my mailbox, and I will be happy to contact your mentor and set things up!

☼ Pieces of Peace ☼

If civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships - the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world at peace.
Franklin D. Roosevelt

HUMOR

Cash or a Cure? (Submitted by Art Z)

This guy was running a little low on cash in his wallet, so he took a small cheque, that he had received in the mail, to the bank to turn it into cash. While standing in line, he got a severe case of the hiccups. Try as he might, he could not stop. He held his breath – that didn't work. He took a drink from his water bottle – that didn't work.

Finally, it was his turn at the desk. The teller checked his information on the computer, looked up and said, "I can't cash this for you. Your account is overdrawn by \$5000."

He gasped and said, "That can't be! Are you sure about that?"

She hesitated for a moment, looked up at him and smiled, saying, "No, it's not true. But have you noticed that your hiccups are gone?"

He got his cash!

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 CALENDAR

Feb 2-3 YOUTH: Senior High Retreat @ Shekinah
Feb 2 Annual General Meeting, 9:30 am
Feb 7 Adult Choir, 7:00 pm
Feb 8 & 9 Picture days for OMC Photo Directory
Feb 10 Receiving new members & Communion, 10:00 am
Feb 14 Adult Choir, 7:00 pm
Feb 16 Youth meeting, 6:30-8:30 pm
Feb 20 Worship Committee meeting @ Terri Lynn's
Feb 21 M & S meeting, 7:00 pm; Adult Choir 7:00 pm
Feb 23 Youth MegaMenno Ski Trip. Meet at OMC 7:30 am
Feb 24 Potluck & Play Day, starting at noon.
Feb 28 Adult Choir 7:00 pm

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR FEBRUARY

February 3, 2019 – You are my hope

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6 (5)

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 ; Luke 4:21-30

February 10, 2019 – They left everything and followed

Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 ; Luke 5:1-11 (11)

February 17, 2019 – Like trees planted by streams of water

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm 1 (3)

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Luke 6:17-26

February 24, 2019 – Do good

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (3)

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

BOOK REVIEWS -by Rhonda Hildebrand-Gascho

While at the Syrian meal, which I thoroughly enjoyed, I faintly remembered hearing about a book of Middle Eastern recipes coming from a family who homesteaded in SK. I did a little online searching when I got home, and the book I was thinking of is called "**Arab Cooking on a Prairie Homestead**" by **Habeeb Salloum**, whose Syrian family homesteaded in the 30's in SW Sask. He has written many cookbooks and other books over the years, and is now in his 90's. The history chapters of Arab Cooking are very interesting, and now I have started reading the recipes. I think I found the dish that was like perogies cooked in yogurt, with a filling of ground meat, Sheesh Barak / Dumplings in Yogurt (pg. 56). Many of the recipes look quite doable, and some are slightly familiar from the More With Less, with which the book shares themes of nutritious, tasty, economical cooking with simple, local ingredients. Because many of the book's recipes make careful use of available foods, they fit well with an intention to eat in a way that respects sharing of our world's resources. Some of the recipes are very similar to familiar dishes. Several herbs & spices, which add welcome new flavours, are not as familiar, though substitutes and options are included. Salloum's mother did not have access to her accustomed herbs & spices in the 30's and made creative adjustments. I was thinking this might be a good book for the OMC library, if it's not already there. People who enjoy history will find the first 3 chapters interesting, even if they're not cooks.

In an interesting juxtaposition, I also received "**A Dangerous Crossing**" by **Ausma Zahanat Khan** from the library at the same time. (I make a lot of library requests when I hear about books from different places, and never know what will arrive when.) This book is a thriller that mostly takes place in present-day Greece, where Syrian refugees are arriving daily from Turkey under desperate circumstances. Though I can't say it was the best thriller, (and the romantic involvements were frankly annoying) I found the setting of the crisis in Syria, Turkey and Greece very informative. The factual background included is much more horrific than the novel itself.

A Syrian family homesteading (and cooking) in SW Saskatchewan in the 30's, a present-day thriller about Syrian refugees crossing from Turkey to Greece, and the Alnouri family here, cooking for us.

Food for thought, and our stomachs.

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Saturday, Feb 2:** OMC AGM, 9:30 a.m.

***Friday & Saturday, Feb 8-9:** Church Photo Directory picture days: The sign-up sheets are now in the lobby to book your picture appointment. Submitted photos need to be in by Feb. 3.

***Winter Walking** available at Community Hall Mondays and Thursdays 10:00-11:00 with Forever in Motion. Winter Walking and Parent-Supervised Children's Winter Playtime at OMC Wednesday and Friday mornings 10am - 12 noon. Please bring a separate pair of clean, non-marking shoes for use in the gym.

***Sunday, February 24 - Fabulous February Frolic Potluck & Play Day.** Bring skates, table games for afternoon fun after potluck.

***The season of Lent is rapidly approaching.** This season is a time of reflection, fasting and prayer as we prepare for Easter. Whether you're looking for a family or adult study, a DVD series, or a book of prayers, CommonWord has something for you. Resources can be found at <http://www.commonword.ca/go/1451>.

OMC YOUTH EVENTS:

**** Sat, Feb 16 - 6:30-8:30pm @ OMC - Regular Monthly Youth Gathering**

****Mon, Feb 18: Shekinah Family Fun Day** - if your family isn't going and you'd like to carpool with Terri Lynn & other youth, let Terri Lynn know.

****Sat, Feb 23: MegaMenno Ski Trip to Table Mountain** - Meet at OMC @ 7:30am (carpooling from Saskatoon also an option). Snowboard/ski rentals covered by the youth fund; youth bring \$26 for lift ticket, and snacks/lunch. A driver/sponsor for OMC/WMC is needed - please contact Terri Lynn if you'd like to go.