

OMC Calendar

MARCH 2019

| Sunday | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|-----|---|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Each Sunday Worship: 10:00 am. Sunday School: 11:15 am | | | | | 1 Deacons mtg 12:45 pm | 2 |
| 3 Terri Lynn Friesen preaching | 4 Ladies Heart to Heart 7:00 pm | 5 | 6 Ash Wed Supper & Conversation 5:30 pm | 7 Exec 5:30; Council 7:00; Osler Choral Society 7:00; Project Thursdays 7:00 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Patty Friesen preaching | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 Osler Choral Society 7:00 pm; Project Thursdays 7:00 pm | 15 | 16 Youth meet @ Grismer's |
| 17 Patty Friesen Preaching. Loose Change Collection | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Osler Choral Society 7:00 pm; Project Thursdays 7:00 pm | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Church Retreat @ Shekinah 10:00 – 6:00 31 Lisa Martens- Bartel preaching | 25 Worship mtg @ Steph's 7:00 pm | 26 | 27 M & S mtg 5:15-6:15 pm | 28 Osler Choral Society 7:00 pm; Project Thursdays 7:00 pm | 29 | 30 |

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

www.oslermannonitechurch.org

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

The Osler Mennonite Church MARCH 2019 Newsletter

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

- Mar 3** Transfiguration Sunday: Terri Lynn Friesen
Mar 10 First Lent - Lead Us Not Into Temptation: Patty Friesen
Mar 17 Second Lent: St. Patrick for Mennonites: Patty Friesen (Wear Green!). Loose Change Collection.
Mar 24 Third Lent: **Church Retreat @ Shekinah Retreat Centre** 10:00 Coffee & Cinnamon buns, 11:00 Hymn Sing, Receiving New Member Kaytee, Blessing Terri Lynn on her leave, 12:15 Lunch, Afternoon Games and Hikes, 4:30 Weiner Roast and Camp Singalong
Mar 31 Fourth Lent: Lisa Martens-Bartel preaching

“In God alone my soul finds rest, for my deliverance comes from God, who alone is my rock, my salvation, my fortress: I will never be shaken.” Psalm 62:1 (The Inclusive Bible)

Patty's Ponderings

One Thursday night in January there were three different OMC Community Engagement events going on at the same time. Keith was leading the community choir in the sanctuary. The Osler Community Garden was meeting in the coffee room and OMC was hosting a Truth and Reconciliation Event at the Community Hall. I wished I was trinitarian that night - that I could be three places at once. I was so proud of us using our gifts and passions for music, gardening and indigenous relations to engage those of similar gifts and passions around us who are from the larger community. May these energies continue to guide us in 2019.

Let's Talk About Death - It Won't Kill Us pastors' conference at Canadian Mennonite University has stimulated my desire to talk more about death in my family and church. Ash Wednesday, March 6 marks the beginning of Lent in the high churches with scriptures and ashes to remind us of our mortality as we begin the 40 day journey to Good Friday and Easter Sunday. I want to use the Ash Wednesday doorway to have supper with death and courageous church members who want to talk about death over supper. It may sound like the most morose dinner party ever but I suspect by facing death at dinner, we will be able to laugh with it in ways we could never do if we ignore the elephant in the room. Please join me with a light dinner to share at OMC on March 6, 5:30 p.m. I hope someone brings Death By Chocolate!

Patty's Picks

Saskatchewan's Best Scenic Drives by Robin and Arlene Karpan got me folding pages and making summer travel plans.

Flight by Harold Jantz is a powerful Mennonite historical account of events from Ukraine/Russia.

Your Sorrow is My Sorrow by Joyce Rupp is not a new book but new to me and new to our church library for those of us who grieve.

Isle of Dogs DVD is a Japanese animated delicious movie about dogs and Patrick and I watched it twice in a row.

The Green Book DVD is a must see movie about race relations. Timely and makes us laugh at ourselves.

Get Smart DVD is a newer movie of the old blundering spy series and even more funny.

Terri Lynn's Takes: Signing Off!

Dear OMC,

This is my last month as your Pastor of Faith & Community for this season! If all goes well, I will begin my maternity leave on April 1, but I'll be taking my unused holiday time the last week of March, so our last day worshipping together will be March 24. This is not good bye forever! - but this is a significant change for our family and for OMC and the individual who will fill this role in the interim, and so we will be intentional in trying to make space for those adjustments to happen well.

So, I do want to say, 'see you later!', and make sure that you know how grateful I am for the ways that we have grown together over the past (almost!) three years. Thank you for taking a risk on me and allowing me to explore my vocation as a pastoral person. Thank you for making space for letting me learn from my mistakes, letting me try new things, allowing me to pursue other development opportunities and to take time for my own spiritual growth and renewal. Thank you for trusting me to lead and hang out with your youth and children, whom I have loved getting to know. Thanks youth and kids for being awesome, insightful, caring, and for reminding us how to delight and wonder in God's kingdom.

I am grateful for the amount of work that is done by committees and behind the scenes. I've been astounded by the number of people involved not only in the formal nuts and bolts of keeping a church community active, but also the way I see you be intentional in loving your neighbours - next door and far away - as well as you can.

I feel like I have only scratched the surface of what this position can be, and so I also ask your forgiveness on what remains undone - the conversations I meant to have, the initiatives I had hoped to try, the good ideas that you have mentioned but there was not time enough to implement. I am especially grateful to Loretta for her patient and well-organized presence in the office, and to Patty for her enthusiasm, encouragement, and experience that often complemented my growing edges. I am excited to hear how the gifts and passions of the Interim Pastor might nurture and be nurtured in our community.

And finally, thank you for sharing in the joy and anticipation of our little one! What an exciting and vulnerable season it is for Thomas and I as we anticipate the gift and responsibility of parenthood. I have been grateful for your grace, empathy and encouragement, and by God's grace, we are looking forward to making introductions once she has arrived and settled in.

Please keep listening to the Spirit, asking good questions, caring for one another, and sharing God's love with the world!

In love and peace, Terri Lynn

✿ **Pieces of Peace** ✿

“If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is ‘Thank You’, it will be enough.”
Meister Eckhart



**The light of God surrounds us.
The love of God enfolds us.
The power of God protects us.
The presence of God watches over us.
Wherever we are, God is, and all is well.
Amen.**

***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>.

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

Mar 4 Ladies Heart to Heart meeting, 7:00 pm
Mar 6 Ash Wednesday Supper & Conversation, 5:30 pm
Mar 7 Executive meeting, 5:30 pm; Council, 7:00 pm
Mar 7 Choral Society practice & Project Thursdays, 7:00 pm
Mar 14 Choral Society practice & Project Thursdays, 7:00 pm
Mar 16 Youth meet @ Grismer's
Mar 17 Loose Change Sunday
Mar 21 Choral Society practice & Project Thursdays, 7:00 pm
Mar 24 **Church Retreat @ Shekinah. No service @OMC.**
Mar 25 Worship meeting, 7:00 pm @ Stephanie's
Mar 27 M & S meeting, 5:15-6:15 pm

HUMOR

TOP TEN OLD TESTAMENT MANUALS

10. "Ten Easy Trumpet Tunes to Bring Down the Walls" by Joshua
9. "Eat Right or Die: the Levitical Nutritional Handbook"
8. "Jonah's *Pre-Moby Dick* Guide to Marine Life"
7. "The Sodom & Gomorrah Primer: First Aid for Fire and Brimstone Related Injuries"
6. "It All Boils Down to Patience" authored by Job, with his friends Larry, Darrell and Darrell
5. "Choosing your Staff" by Moses
4. "Bone Up on Prophecy" by Ezekiel
3. "Treading Water: Your Guide to Flood Survival" (author unknown, presumed drowned)
2. "When Workouts Get Hairy: Samson's Guide to Muscle Building"
1. "Arks 101"

Feeling Shock at the News by Joyce Rupp
(from Your Sorrows are My Sorrows)

Faithful Shelter, my life has suddenly changed.
I feel numb and unbelieving, stunned and alarmed.
It does not seem possible that my life could be so quickly turned
upside down.
Comfort me, Abiding Companion.
Wait with me until I try to grasp the truth.
Slowly reveal to me what I need to accept.
As the layers of the days ahead unfold, keep me safe in the shelter of
your love.
Abide with me, abide with me.

“Every time we make the decision to love someone, we open ourselves
to great suffering, because those we most love cause us not only great
joy but also great pain. The greatest pain comes from leaving....the
pain of the leaving can tear us apart.
Still, if we want to avoid the suffering of leaving, we will never
experience the joy of loving. And love is stronger than fear, life
stronger than death, hope stronger than despair. We have to trust that
the risk of loving is always worth taking.” - Henri J.M. Nouwen

“Love is not a feeling. Love is an action, an activity. Genuine love
implies commitment and the exercise of wisdom. True love is an act
of will that often transcends ephemeral feelings of love. It is correct to
say, ‘Love is as love does.’” - M. Scott Peck

“There is no remedy for love, but to love more.” - Henry David
Thoreau

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*OMC has a new website. You can find us at
www.oslermannonitechurch.org.

***Ash Wednesday, March 6, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Supper and
Conversation: Let's Talk About Death - It Won't Kill Us. Bring
food to share-** we will have a light meal of cheese, bread, veggies,
spreads, and fruit - in the coffee room.

**If you have questions about death - please write them and put in
basket for Ash Wednesday discussion.**

*5:30 - Welcome to Ash Wednesday - the reminder of our
mortality, Prayer, 5:35 - 6:10 Meal and Table Conversation:
Our earliest experiences with death and the most meaningful
funerals we've attended, 6:15-7:00 - Slow Grief and Our
Pondering Questions About Death and Grief.*

*Cornerstone MAiD event with Dr. Sheila Harding
(Medical Assistance in Dying). Dr. Sheila Harding who is the head of
the Christian Medical and Dental Society of Canada will address
issues around MAiD and Dr. Margaret Cottle will talk to us about
Palliative Care. This will be taking place on Saturday March 30 from
1:00 to 4:00 PM at Cornerstone Church, 315 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon

New Children's Books in the Library on Grief:

Nana Upstairs, Nana Downstairs

What on Earth do you do when someone dies?

Elf Help Series - Sad Isn't Bad, A Children's Guide to Funerals, When
your Grandparent Dies, When your Mom or Dad dies.

Everet Anderson's Goodbye

The Tenth Good Thing About Barney

Cynthia Voigt's Homecoming

The Heart and the Bottle by Oliver Jeffers

There's no such place as far away. By Richard Bach

Wolf Erlbruch's Death, Duck and the Tulip for all ages.

The Sun is Broken and Dad for Sale, both Helbling Young Readers!

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR MARCH

March 3, 2019 – Transfiguration Sunday –

We worship at your sacred mountain

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99 (9)

2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2

Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

March 10, 2019 – Lent 1 –

In the wilderness

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13 (1)

March 17, 2019 – Lent 2 –

My light and my salvation

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27 (1)

Philippians 3:17–4:1

Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36

March 24, 2019 – Lent 3 –

Come to the waters

Isaiah 55:1-9 (1)

Psalms 63:1-8

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

March 31, 2019 – Lent 4 –

The message of reconciliation

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalms 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (19)

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

OMC YOUTH EVENTS:

March Youth Events:

**there is NO MegaMenno event at the Annual Delegate Sessions (ADS) in Waldheim.

****Saturday March 16:** Glen & Sandra Grismer have offered to host the youth at the acreage for a special youth night. They will have the opportunity to try some blacksmithing (under Glen's guidance!) and to hear about the Grismer's recent backpacking trip "God and the West Coast Trail"! Please wear old clothes for blacksmithing - something you wouldn't mind getting a dirty or a small hole in.

Sometimes events keep changing so please check the bulletin for an up to date youth schedule.



GRANDPA POEM

Written by Kale Zacharias in memory of Grandpa Art Zacharias

Grandpa Art is a man I will forever strive to be.
I'm proud to be his grandson for he shoveled the path for me.
Not only did he build my first sandbox, for others their refurbished home.
He volunteered his life to provide a space for the world to grow.
For me he was an ear that listened as I spoke.
Philosophizing Wisdom, followed by a joke!
Oh grandpa, you know you really did leave your mark-
I suppose that's why God chose to name you Art!
Till we meet again grandpa, "Auf Wiedersehen".