

OMC Calendar
NOVEMBER 2020

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Patty Friesen preaching	2 Blanket making 9am. Kids Bible School zoom 7 pm. Education committee zoom 7 pm	3 Blanket making 9 am	4 Blanket making 9 am. Exec zoom 6 pm. Council zoom 7 pm.	5 Blanket making 9 am. Youth Group Bible zoom 7pm	6 Blanket making 9 am.	7
8 Nora Pederberg preaching.	9 .Kids Bible School zoom 7 pm	10	11	12 Youth Group Bible zoom 7 pm	13	14
15 Patty Friesen preaching.	16 Kids Bible School Zoom 7pm	17 Worship committee zoom 7:30 pm	18	19 Youth Group Bible zoom 7 pm	20	21
22 Memorial Sunday: Ryan Siemens preaching.	23 Kids Bible School zoom 7pm	24	25	26 Youth Group Bible zoom 7pm	27	28
29 First Advent & Communion. Patty Friesen preaching.	30 Kids Bible School zoom 7pm					<u>Each Sunday</u> Worship: 10 am. In sanctuary & on Facebook

Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found in the bulletin 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

NOVEMBER 2020 Newsletter

Osler Mennonite Church
oslermcoffice@sasktel.net
<http://www.omchurch.org>
 Volume X111 Sixth Edition

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



UPCOMING SERVICES

- Nov. 1:** All Saints Day: MLK by Patty Friesen
- Nov. 8:** sermon by Nora Pederberg
- Nov. 15:** Vincent Harding and the Mennonites by Patty Friesen
- Nov. 22:** Memorial Sunday: Ryan Siemens, Area Minister Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
- Nov. 29:** First Advent and Communion

“Now since we have been made right in God’s sight by our faith, we are at peace with God through our Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Because of our faith, Christ has brought us to the grace in which we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to the day on which we will become all that God has intended.” *Romans 5:1-2 (Inclusive Bible)*

Pastor Patty's Ponderings:

As I prepare for November worship services, I see that the obscure prophets show up in the lectionary readings: Micah, Zephaniah, Amos, etc. They are kind of doom and gloom prophets so I've been changing some of the early chapters of gloom to the final chapters of hope and redemption. I figure we have enough doom and gloom every day that we need more prophetic words of hope. Yet the prophets say we can't get to the light days of redemption without the dark days of judgment on the deeds of injustice. This may be the insight for us in this growing season of darkness: there is no going *around* the dark but going *through* it to the light. As much as we may fear the long winter and lock-downs, let us try to embrace a quieter life and deeper reflection on it.

I take courage from the beautiful John Bell hymn #86 Sing the Story "Thank you for the night": Thank you for the night, the sign that day is done, that life is meant to rest and sleep to come. Thank you for the quiet as silence scatters sound, while God, in both, is waiting to be found. Thank you for the dark to compliment the light, as insight, open-eyed, replaces sight. Thank you for the word, which darkness can't contain, that life, laid down, is raised to life again. Thank you for the night, a measure of your care. In darkness, as in light, you, Lord, are there.

Pastor Patty's Picks

Crash Landing on You (Netflix) - a lovely Korean romantic comedy that helped me understand the North/South Korean dynamics and cultures better.

Unforgotten (PBS) - for those who love British mysteries with strong female leads.

A Call to Conscience: Speeches by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. woke up my conscience to the centuries old racial struggles in the US and their parallel to Canadian Indigenous struggles.

Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. convinces the black community not to abandon the non-violence and faith of Christ in their protests to change economic and political systems.

The Way of Imagination by Scott Russell Sanders is a collection of essays by a prophetic writer influenced by MLK.

❁ Pieces of Peace ❁

The true measure of an individual is how you treat someone who can do you absolutely no good. Samuel Johnson (1709-84)

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR NOVEMBER

Nov 1, 2020 (All Saint's Day)

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalm 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

or Nov 1, 2020

Micah 3:5-12
Psalm 43
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23: 1-12

Nov 8, 2020

Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Nov 15, 2020

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25: 14-30

Nov 22, 2020

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Nov 29

Isaiah 64: 1-9 Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19 I Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13: 24-37

OMC Announcements & Opportunities

**Refugee sponsorship needs...*

Osler and Wildwood Mennonite churches are committed to providing Lina Alnouri and her family with a warm and welcoming home. The Refugee Committee is looking for furnishings and housewares for this family of six. **Items still urgently needed are listed on the Osler Mennonite Church web site at**

<http://www.oslermennonitechurch.org>. Then click on "Community Announcements". Contact Sandra Grismer (306-380-4576; sgrismer1@sasktel.net) if you can donate, pledge to provide, or have questions on these or other items the family may require. Thank you.

***MCC Blanket making Nov. 2-6 here at OMC.** This will be a "Serving Safely" project of Community Connections with distanced tables, masks and each person working on their own blanket and bringing their own coffee/snack. Contact Diane McKinnell or Anne Peters for more information.

*From Community Connections Committee: as a way to continue our support for local families through the Friendship Inn we will collect items specifically for mothers and children. **Items in need are: formula, disposable diapers, baby food, larger sized diapers & feminine hygiene products. We will have a collection box at church until November 22nd. We will also do pick ups from people's homes during the week of Nov. 23rd - 27th.** Please contact Kaytee at 306-221-1729 to organize pickup."

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.

HUMOUR

(submitted by Jake Buhler)

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn . . .	Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn . . .	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn . . .	The Church's One Foundation.
Tailor's Hymn . . .	Holy, Holy, Holy.
Golfer's Hymn . . .	There's a Green Hill Far Away.
Politician's Hymn . . .	Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn . . .	Open My Eyes That I Might See.
IRS Agent's Hymn . . .	I Surrender All.
Gossip's Hymn . . .	Pass It On.
Electrician's Hymn . . .	Send The Light..
Shopper's Hymn . . .	Sweet Bye and Bye.
Realtor's Hymn . . .	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
Massage Therapist's Hymn.	He Touched Me.

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

55 mph . . .	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph . . .	Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph . . .	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph . . .	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph . . .	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.

Puns Alert!

*No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationary.
*A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
*A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital.
When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, the nurse said,
"No change yet."

Nora's Notes:

I'm always uncertain what people are hoping to read in my newsletter submissions, so if this falls far from the mark please accept my apologies. If some of you have not yet been exposed to the nerdier side of my brain then I feel this newsletter submission will do the job.

I always try to read fiction before bed. Presently I am rereading the Lord of the Rings series, and am enjoying being lost in the quests and adventures of hobbits. The reason I am sharing about this in our November newsletter is because I found a new metaphor rising up in the pages of this work that I have been reflecting on now for the past few weeks. In my house we are spending time sorting through our desires, met and unmet. Giving space for us to name them with thanksgiving or lament, and also to humbly discern where our desires are from a place of need or want. This is the context in which my friends the hobbits have been speaking to me before I nod off to sleep. For those of you unfamiliar, the books involve a long and perilous quest, from home into an unknown land that unfortunately contains many points of misery and despair. At many points the supplies of the hobbits run short and they are dependent on the generosity of those along the way – especially for food. Hobbits are traditionally creatures of great feasting and celebrating, famously having a practice of holding six meals a day including second breakfast – and a heavy tradition of hosting guests. This is not possible on their long journey, where there is often barely enough food for survival let alone feasting. However, they learn they are durable creatures and persist none the less.

The Hobbits receive two different gifts of nourishment that caused me to pause and think. These gifts are Lembas bread and Ent-water. Both of these items are tasty and enough to sustain the hobbits on to their tasks and mission, but they are not a meal that can satisfy the want of a hungry hobbit stomach. After a few months of surviving on this bare minimum of sustenance, one of the hobbits, Sam, reflects that this bread will never satisfy the craving that he has for 'real' food, for the goodness of the feasts he has known before, but it is none the less enough to allow him to live out his purpose. He gives himself space to name his lament, and then shifts to a state of gratitude, a posture of receiving what can nourish him for the time being.

I sat with the wisdom of this little hobbit and realized that perhaps this is the image I need for spiritual wellness. Nearly eight months in to a time of difference, and well into a season that traditionally holds many feasts – spiritual and food based – it is challenging to recognize all the dissatisfactions and still feel there is enough to continue on this journey. I recognize that I may not be able to meet the desires of this season, and that this is worthy of lament. I also see the provision of daily bread, the nourishment of enough, that while simpler and perhaps less satisfying than what I have known still allow me to do the work of being a child of God. It is clear that like the hobbits, the communities surrounding me are full of durable folks, who remain faithful to their purpose to love others well.

May you all receive the nourishment you need, space to grieve what is absent, and the companionship of God's spirit and this community as we strive to recognize the daily bread that will sustain us as we enter November.

Patty's Picks for Table Games for Winter - (shop local at Dragon's Den or McNally)

#1 Wingspan - for bird lovers. It is a bit complicated - watch set-up on-line but once you start gathering food and laying eggs - it becomes a huge addiction.

#2 Carcassonne - an endless delight of building roads and cities.

#3 Pandemic - the best collaborative game as players work together to defeat outbreaks. Maybe a little too realistic!

OMC CALENDAR

- Nov 2-6 Blanket making for MCC starting at 9 am each day
- Nov 2 Kid's weekly Bible School zoom 7:00 pm
- Nov 2 Education Zoom meeting 7:00 pm
- Nov 4 Executive zoom mtg 6:00 pm; Council zoom mtg 7:00 pm
- Nov 5 Youth weekly Group / Bible School zoom, 7:00 pm
- Nov 17 Worship committee Zoom 7:30 p.m.