

**MCC Connects** - MCC staff in Haiti say, "The people of Haiti are strong. They have survived by helping each other. They now need our support with food, water and shelter." Almost \$500,000.00 has been donated through MCCA. Thank you!

\***Songfest 2010** invites you to join us March 19 and 20, 2010 for the annual songfest in First Mennonite Church in Saskatoon. Registration forms are on the bulletin board.

\*Mennonite Church Canada's response to the **Chile earthquake** will be supported in part by funds from Mennonite Central Committee. MCC does not have program or personnel in Chile. Mennonite Church Canada also invites donations for "Chile relief." Donations may be made directly or through our church, when designated.

\***CMU Afternoon Concert on March 21, 3 pm.**, in support of the CMU School of Music, to be held at the Winkler Berghaler Mennonite Church featuring the CMU Men's Chorus and the CMU Guitar Ensemble. Reception to follow.

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Worship Leader: Adeline Cox  
Song Leader: Loretta Sawatzky  
Accompanist: Melanie Boldt  
Scripture: Steve Guenther  
Sound: Abe Braun  
Ushers: Lloyd Sawatzky, Dick Braun  
This Sunday nursery care: Joanne Feick  
Next Sunday nursery care: Melanie Boldt



## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan  
**A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
March 14, 2010

**Lent 4**

***HOLDING ON, LETTING GO***

**Focus Statement:** When we resist God, attached to our own way, we find ourselves wasting away in silence. When we see ourselves as God sees us, love is ours.

Prelude  
Welcome and Announcements  
Chiming to worship and silent preparation

\***Theme song SS # 63** "God, fill me now"

### GATHERING

\***Call to Worship:**  
L: Brokenness and fear have narrowed our vision.  
**P: We yearn for true perspective.**  
L: Look. God shows us the path to walk,  
**P: in this we can rejoice.**

\***Hymn: HWB # 81** "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing"

Invocation and Prayer of the church

### HOLDING ON

**Confession of faith: HWB # 714**

**Hymn: HWB # 491** "Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling"

Children's time

Sarah/Charlie

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0

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Gordon Allaby, pastor

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## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 32

New Testament Lesson: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**Hymn: SS # 58**

**“O God, how we have wandered”**

Sermon “Doing what’s right” Christy Martens-Funk

## LETTING GO

**Hymn: SJ # 47**

**“Oh, Lord have mercy”**

Confession:

Loving God, some silences are nourishing.

But there are also silences in which our spirits waste away;  
times we feel unloved, useless.

*(silence)*

Bring us back and restore us to your blessing.

Amen

**Assurance: HWB # 705**

Offering and Offertory Music

Offertory Prayer

**\*Hymn: SJ # 44**

**“The love of God”**

## SENDING

\*L: God created us and said it was good.

**P: We accept this high calling.**

L: God put the Spirit within us.

**P: We cherish and listen to the Spirit.**

L: Strengthened and healed,

***All: we go now to serve a world that needs God.***

\*Please rise

**We welcome all who are worshiping with us today.**

To all our visitors: WELCOME. If you are a first time visitor, please fill out the card that the ushers gave you, and place it in the offering bag. We are delighted that you are worshiping with us.

**Nursery care is provided** during the worship service for those who desire it (children over 4 years old should be accompanied by an adult).

**Children’s Worship Binder**, an instrument to help children through the worship hour, is available in the foyer.

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**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Gordon Allaby, recovering from surgery.

## **TODAY**

- **Beverages and snacks** available after the service.
- **Sunday School begins** at 11:15 a.m. for all ages. Adults will have a combined class in the sanctuary; we are studying the Israel/Palestinian situation.
- **Floor hockey** at 7:00 pm for children, 7:30 pm for youth and adults. Children will not be allowed to play freely in the church after 7:30 pm without supervision.
- **Evening of Trios and Quartets** at 7:00 pm. at Cornerstone Mennonite Church, sponsored by MCC.

## **THIS WEEK**

- **Education committee meeting** on Thursday, March 18, 7:30 pm.
- A Deacon’s sponsored **Family Swim** at the Shaw Centre on **Saturday, March 20 from 4-6pm**. Individual adult-\$7. Family - \$15. In order to get the group rate, please try to be there as close to 4 pm. as possible.

**NEXT SUNDAY** is “Loose Change” Sunday

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*“**Thank you** for all your prayers and words of love and support this last week. We feel very blessed to have you as our church family.”  
Gordon, Leslie and Katherine

\***If you would like to order Easter Lilies** through the church, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board. They will be available for pick up Easter Sunday.

\*We are updating the **Prayer Chain**. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board.

\* **Church emailing list**: to receive the latest updates from Mennonite and related sources, request to be added to the mailing list (send email to [oslermc@sasktel.net](mailto:oslermc@sasktel.net)), likewise, if you want to be removed from the list.

\* A separate **Bulletin Board for Sunday School** is located on the north side of the hallway opposite the general office and the pastor's office. Please take a walk that way occasionally to see samples of the children's handiwork, photographs and descriptions of what's happening in our Sunday School program.

\* Breath of Life Mennonite Church was formally welcomed as a MC Sask congregation at the 2010 Delegate Sessions in Prince Alberta. Pray for the journey and ministry of this house church.

\* A memorial service for **Peter J. Dyck** (longtime Mennonite Central Committee service worker and administrator, renowned storyteller, Mennonite pastor, and author, who died of cancer on Monday, Jan. 4, 2010) will be held at the Rosthern Mennonite Church on Sunday, March 21 at 2:30 p.m. Experience much of the memorial service held in Akron on January 9. Hear tributes, share memories. Opportunity to donate to the "Peter J. Dyck Peace & Justice Scholarship" fund. Coffee & fellowship time to follow.

\***Sask Valley Foodgrains Bank** charity auction fundraiser supper to be held at the Brian King Centre, Warman, on Friday, March 19 from 4:30 to 8:00 pm. For more information, call 239-4959.

\*Food Grains Bank Auction Sale will again be at the Walter Wiebe farm on Saturday, June 26.

\*RJC SPRING THEATRE, March 26 & 27, 7:00 pm in the Pit Theatre. The RJC Theatre Arts Class is pleased to present an evening of five student-directed one-act plays. Tickets are \$10 each (rush seating) and can be purchased by contacting the RJC office at 306 232-4222 (Visa & MasterCard accepted). Seating is limited, so please call early to reserve.

\*RJC PHONATHON - The annual RJC Alumni Phonathon will be happening on March 15 - 18 and March 22 - 25. We are so very grateful for the support and roles that our alumni play in the school and we look forward to speaking and re-connecting with you.

\*RJC is now accepting applications for the 2010-2011 school year. If you send in your application by March 15 you pay the 2009-2010 fees. Please be aware that we have bursary money available to assist families in sending students to RJC. If you are interested in RJC, call or email Dave at 306.232.4222 or [dave@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:dave@rjc.sk.ca), or go to our website, [www.rjc.sk.ca](http://www.rjc.sk.ca) to download application and bursary forms. Apply now for a great high school experience!

\*Do you want to help a student go to RJC? You can do so by contributing to RJC's bursary fund. For more information, please call or email Dave at (306) 232-4222 or [dave@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:dave@rjc.sk.ca), or go to our website, [www.rjc.sk.ca](http://www.rjc.sk.ca) and click on the Canada Helps button to Donate to RJC. The RJC staff, board and students are grateful to our alumni and constituents for your generous support of our school. Thank you.

\*MC Sask. Ministries Commission invites you to join the Touring Mission Fest on May 1, 2010. The tour will take you to Grace Regina, Peace Regina and Aberdeen Mennonite Churches. The cost per person will be \$50.00. You can board the bus at Bethany Manor or at Wildwood Church in Saskatoon. Detailed information and registration forms are available from your churches and at [www.mcsask.ca](http://www.mcsask.ca). Come and see what God is doing in these communities! Seating is limited so please register early.

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

**Psalms 32:1 - 11 (NRSV)** <sup>1</sup> Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. <sup>2</sup> Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. <sup>3</sup> While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup> For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. <sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. <sup>6</sup> Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. <sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. <sup>9</sup> Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. <sup>10</sup> Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. <sup>11</sup> Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

**Luke 15:1 - 3 (NRSV)** <sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable:

**Luke 15:11 - 32** "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup> "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

