

MCC Connects - Saskatchewan communities are home to families from around the globe. On March 21, International Day for the Elimination of Racism, learn about and take action against racial discrimination. MCCS staff are available for workshops.

Generous response to Haiti and Chile earthquakes: MCCs in Canada and the US have received \$12.1 million for Haiti and \$25,000 for Chile relief efforts.

***Upcoming Events:** See bulletin board for more details on:

- MCSask Education workshop, May 25-28 - deadline to register is April 7.
- Touring Mission Fest on May 1 – deadline to register is April 9.
- Dessert Night – evening of recognizing Esther Patkau and Henry Hamm, Wednesday, April 14, 7:00 pm. at the Riverside Country Club.
- For more on RJC, see the latest RJC newsletter.

Worship Leader: Jim Dyck
Song Leader: Kevin Boldt
Accompanist: Melanie Boldt
Scripture: Lacey Braun
Sound: Abe Braun
Ushers: Lloyd Sawatzky, Dick Braun
This Sunday nursery care: MaryAnn Braun
Next Sunday nursery care: Leslie Allaby



OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
March 21, 2010

Lent 5

HOLDING ON, LETTING GO

Focus Statement: What we once prized seems like trash compared to an intimate relationship with God. Relinquishing our self-justifying ways, we pour ourselves out as gift.

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Chiming to worship and silent preparation

***Theme song SS # 63 “God, fill me now”**

GATHERING

***Call to Worship:**

L: When God restored us, it was like a dream:

P: we laughed aloud and shouted for joy.

L: Those around us noticed the difference:

P: they saw what God had done.

All: This is what we long for: God’s saving presence, always.

***Hymn HWB # 538 “Lead me, Lord”**

Invocation and Prayer of the church

HOLDING ON

Confession of faith: SJ # 135

Hymn: HWB # 522 “My Jesus, I love thee”

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

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Gordon Allaby, pastor

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Children's Time: Loose change Sunday Jake Buhler

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21

New Testament Lessons: John 12:1-8; Philippians 3:4b-16

Hymn: SJ # 96 "I'm pressing on the upward way"

Sermon "What is the right motivation?" Bill Kruger

LETTING GO

Confession:

There have been times, Lord, when we had confidence in ourselves, but life has jolted us into reality.

Everything we have stockpiled can disappear overnight.

(silence)

Only with you is there stability.

We want to partner with you, our forever Rock. Amen.

Assurance: HWB # 709

Offering and Offertory Music

Offertory Prayer

***Hymn: HWB # 427 "You shall go out with joy"**

SENDING

*L: Beloved by God, a blessing to your congregation,

Go now as God's emissaries into the world.

P: We are willing. Use us, Lord. Amen.

*Please rise

We welcome all who are worshipping 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 worshipping 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.

TODAY

- **Beverages and snacks** available after the service.
- **Sunday School begins** at 11:15 a.m. for all ages.
- **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.

NEXT SUNDAY is Palm Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***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.

***Maunday Thursday Potluck Supper and Communion**, Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 pm.

***Good Friday service** on April 2 at 7:30 pm.

***Easter Sunday Potluck Brunch and something special** for the children. **Please bring Easter bread, fruit, cheese, or eggs.** There will be no S.S. classes this day.

***All Worship Peoples' lunch meeting** on Sunday, April 11.

***Men's Breakfast** on Saturday, April 17 at 9:30 am.

***CMU/RJC choir banquet fundraiser** on Wednesday, April 28. Banquet at 6:00 pm. and program at 7:30 pm.

Sunday School Information- A new rotation for the grades 1 to 6 classes started last Sunday. It is called 'Jesus, God and His Calling'. The teacher /leaders are Ben Buhler (Drama), Shelley Penner (Art), and Ruth Buhler (Story). Thanks to Wilf Buhler for leading the three week adult study on 'Israel, Palestine, and the Middle East. This study concluded last 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), likewise, if you want to be removed from the list.

* A memorial service for **Peter J. Dyck** (longtime Mennonite Central Committee service worker and administrator, renowned storyteller, Mennonite pastor, and author) will be held at the Rosthern Mennonite Church on Sunday, March 21 at 2:30 p.m. Coffee & fellowship time to follow.

***The Cecilian Singers** present their spring concert on Sat. April 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Grosvenor Park United Church in Saskatoon. The major work presented will be Schubert's Mass in G+ with soloists and instrumentalists. Tickets are \$12.00 in advance and can be purchased at McNally Robinson Bookstore, or \$15.00 at the door. All are welcome.

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

*MC Canada News: Join together in prayer for Joseph Liou, the newly installed pastor of Calgary Chinese Mennonite Church. Thank God of the opportunities we have to serve as a multi-cultural church.

*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 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, or go to our website, www.rjc.sk.ca to download application and bursary forms. Apply now for a great high school experience!

***MDS Summer Youth Program.** There are still openings for small groups (10 or less) for several weeks in July & August. MDS youth will build a "house" for Rock Solid Refuge near Swift Current SK that will house boys ages 13-17 who struggle with addictions. Contact Evelyn at 1-866-261-1274 for more information and scheduling.

***MDS Binational projects in the Gulf Coast** are still in need of cooks and skilled construction crew leaders during mid-May to end of July. Contact Evelyn in the Winnipeg MDS office 1-866-261-1274 if you are able to lend a few weeks of time and have the skills needed.

***Praise God for 60 years of MDS serving people affected by disaster!** 2010 marks MDS having been the disaster response arm of Mennonite churches in Canada and the USA. We are grateful to the thousands of volunteers and donors who allow this ministry to be successful.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Isaiah 43:16 - 21 (NRSV) ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

John 12:1 - 8 (NRSV) ¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

Philippians 3:4b - 16 (NRSV) ⁴ If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. ¹⁶Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

Next Sunday's Lessons: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11