

***April 19, 2011: Billets are needed** for the CMU students and staff coming for the CMU/RJC joint fundraiser concert in our church. If you are willing to host and/or have questions, please contact Margaret Dyck. (239-2205 or dyck.mj@gmail.com)

***A Buncha Guys Spring Concert** with special guest Jerry Buhler Saturday, April 16th at 7:30 at Mayfair United Church, Saskatoon. An offering will be taken to support The Micah Mission. Tickets (\$5.00) are available at McNally Robinson in Saskatoon, from Russ Regier (249-3650), any of the guys or at the door.

***MCC Connects** - As refugee families from around the world continue to need resettlement, and more Low-German speaking Mennonites make Saskatchewan their home, let us work together to create safe and welcoming churches and communities for them. For more information contact Leonard or Elaine at MCCS, 665-2555. Visit sk.mcc.org/programs.

***Shekinah** board and staff wish to thank all who attended the Shekinah Fundraising Banquet and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 26. The event raised \$13,740 for Shekinah Retreat Centre.

Worship Leader: Wilf Buhler
Song Leader: Ben Buhler
Accompanist: Diana Buhler
Sound: Chris Buhler
Ushers: Cornie Guenther, Susan Braun
This Sunday nursery care: Sarah Buhler
Next Sunday nursery care: Leslie Allaby

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

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Gordon Allaby, pastor

Church Office – 306-239-2133 Pastor's Office – 306-239-2274

Fax – 306-239-2279

oslermc@sasktel.net

oslermcpastor@sasktel.net

website: <http://oslermc.sasktelwebsite.net/>



OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan

**A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
April 3, 2011

***Lent Four: Shaped through Thirst
The colour is Yellow***

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming to Worship

Silent Reflection

Introit:

Kathryn, Jake, Michelle and Doug

Ubi caritas: "Where charity and love are found, God is there"

GATHERING

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is our Shepherd

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God makes us lie down in green pastures.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God leads us beside quiet waters.

People: We shall not want.

***All: Restore us through your Holy Spirit, the love of Jesus Christ,
and the comfort of your presence.***

Invocation

***Hymn: HWB #352 HWB "Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us"**

Confession:

Lord, we long for light, but all is darkness and we walk in deep shadows. We have driven back justice. Truth has tumbled in the streets, and thick darkness is over the people. We confess our deeds of darkness.

We confess to the Lord ...

Hymn: HWB #410 HWB “Lord of light, your name outshining”

Time of Sharing

Silent Prayer and Prayer of the church

As everything exposed to the light becomes visible,

We walk from darkness into light.

Open our eyes, Jesus, that our lives may radiate your glory. Amen.

PRAISING AND HEARING

Drama

Children’s Time

Kathy Braun

Hymn: HWB #517 “Open my eyes, that I may see”

Old Testament Lessons: Psalm 23

New Testament Lessons: John 9:24-30

Offering and Offertory Music

Prayer of Thanks

Hymn: SJ #54 “Longing for light”

Sermon: “Here is an astonishing this” Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

***Hymn: SJ #77 “The peace of the earth be with you”**

***Benediction:**

Leader: Go forth and shine, for the Light has come,

People: and the glory of the Lord rises upon us.

Leader: Surely goodness and love will follow us all the days of our lives.

All: and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***Please rise**

We welcome all who are worshipping with us today.

To all our visitors: WELCOME. 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 for all ages** begins at 11:15 a.m:
- **Floor hockey:** 7:00-7:30 pm – younger children
7:30-8:30 pm – older kids, youth and adults

THIS WEEK

- **Thursday, April 7, 7:30pm:** Church Council meeting
 - **Friday, April 8, 7:30pm:** Youth will be baking homemade pies under Lacey’s leadership for the upcoming fundraiser. All Youth are invited for a night of games, learning, baking, and a little tasting!
 - **Saturday, April 9, 5:30pm:** Seniors Banquet sponsored by the Deacons.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember in your prayers:

- * **John Friesen**, recovering from surgery, now at City Hospital.
- * **Kim (and Ian) Osmond**, as Kim is undergoing treatments.

***OMC Book Club:** For all those interested a second book has been chosen for reading and discussion. This book is “Unless” by Carol Shields. **Approximately 10 copies will be available for loan and may be picked up at church on Sunday, April 3 from Margaret Dyck.** Coffee and discussion of the book will happen on Wednesday, May 4th at 7:00pm. Enjoy the book and come out for the discussion!

***Easter Lilies** are pre-ordered and available to purchase for \$17.00. The lilies will decorate our sanctuary Easter Sunday, and then taken home after the Easter service. Please sign up to reserve a lily.

***Nursery:** If you can help with nursery supervision for 4 Sundays in the year, please call Diana at 239-4706.

***Youth Soup and Pie Fundraiser next Sunday, April 10th,** following Sunday School. Funds raised will go to support upgrading of the sound booth system and toward youth ministry. Relax at the church and have a wonderful lunch prepared by Abe, MaryAnn, Lacey and the youth group.

***RJC Chorale and CMU Singers** fundraising Banquet and Concert will be held April 19th at Osler Mennonite Church. Join us for the banquet at 6:00 pm and/or the concert to follow at 7:30 pm.

Reservations are needed for the banquet, but not the concert. **Call RJC by April 8th** to reserve banquet tickets (306 232-4222 or office@rjc.sk.ca). Please join us for an inspiring evening of music! An offering in support of both schools will be taken at the concert.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Psalms 23:1 - 6 (NRSV) ¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;³ he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

John 9:1 - 41 (NRSV) ¹As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We[£] must work the works of him who sent me[£] while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.