

***MCC Connects – Give kits for Christmas** - a gift of joy with some assembly required. MCC urgently needs 10,000 school kits and 10,000 hygiene kits to replenish its supply. Shipments to places like drought-affected East Africa have drained MCC's warehouses. Please consider donating a kit this Christmas. See mccsk.ca/materialresources or call MCCS at 306-665-2555.

*The **Saskatchewan Women in Mission** Christmas letter is now posted on the bulletin board.

*Just in time for Christmas, CMU PRESS announces the release of two new children's books: *On the Zwieback Trail* by Lisa Weaver, J. Kauffman and J. Rempel Smucker, and *David's Trip to Paraguay*, by Miriam Rudolph. Available from CMU Bookstore: www.cmu.ca.

***January 6 & 7, 2012: RJC ALUMNI TOURNAMENT OF MEMORIES** Basketball, hockey and singing. Alumni and friends of RJC should register by Dec. 23 by email: deneldafast@hotmail.com or phone (306)242-1757. Reconnect with old classmates and friends, and exercise your mind, body and spirit at the same time! See your Alumni Bulletin for more details or contact Denelda with questions.

Worship Leader: Sandra MacArthur
Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell
Accompanist: Mark Bigland-Pritchard
Scripture reader: Amy Loewen
Sound: Dave Klassen
Ushers: Anna Peters, Carl Martens-Funk
This Sunday nursery care: Leslie Allaby
Next Sunday nursery care: MaryAnn Braun

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
Vol. LI I December 11, 2011 No. 50
Gordon Allaby, pastor
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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
December 11, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent - Joy

Prelude and Carol singing
Welcome and Announcements
Our Story

Mark Bigland-Pritchard

GATHERING

Chiming to worship – a moment of silence
Introit: “Where is this stupendous stranger?”

Call to Worship

One: The righteous cry and the Lord hears.

All: God be gracious to us and bless.

One: Let the people praise Thee, O God.

**All: Let us shout joyfully because God is always with us,
watching over us.**

One: We light the third candle of Advent as a sign of our faith in
God's grace.

**All: We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's
hand.**

Lighting the candle of Joy

Invocation

***Hymns: SS #15 v. 1,2,4 Advent theme song “Hope is a candle”
HWB #209 “Oh, how joyfully”**

Sharing of joys and concerns
Discipline of Silence and Prayer of the church

Choir: “Bright Morning Stars Arising”

PRAISING AND HEARING

Children's Time

Youth Puppet Ministry

Hymn: HWB #180

“The angel Gabriel”

Offering

Offertory Music: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Kathryn & Lynette Janzen

Offertory prayer

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-6

New Testament Lessons: Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 2:10

Hymn: HWB #184

“Hark! The glad sound!”

Sermon:

“Weight Lifting”

Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

Hymn: HWB #318

“Joy to the world”

*Benediction

***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 11:15am.
- **Choir practice** in the sanctuary at 11:15am
- **Floor hockey:** 7:00 – 7:30pm – younger children
7:30pm-8:30pm – older kids, youth and adults

NEXT WEEK

- **Monday, December 12, 7:00pm Book Club Discussion** at the church

- **Sunday, December 18 – 11:15am Sunday School rehearsal** for the Christmas Eve program. **A pizza lunch at noon will then be followed by another rehearsal till 2:00pm.**
- **Saturday, December 24 10:00-11:30am Dress rehearsal** for Sunday School Christmas Eve Program
- **Saturday, December 24, 7:00pm Sunday School Christmas Eve Program**

Remember in Prayer

Connie Friesen, who is in RUH, and also remember her family, Tim, Colton & Megan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Sharing our Joy:** “We are in Edmonton marvelling at our beautiful new granddaughter, Maria, just born to our daughter Jody and husband Chris. All are well.” - Glen & Sandra Grismer

***Committee chairpersons** are reminded that it is again time to prepare **yearend reports** and submit those reports to Diana Buhler.

***Sunday School Christmas Giving Project:** This year, cash and school kit donations will be collected for MCC's **Gift of Education**. A Giving Jar will be in the foyer during Advent for cash gifts for MCC to buy books, nutritional snacks and to sponsor students in Uganda, Honduras and more. Items for school kits are also requested, as there is a great need for these items.

***The Missions and Service Committee** is once again assembling **Christmas food hampers for people in need. Please bring your donations for these hampers to the church.** Also, if you know someone in need of such assistance, please contact Anna Peters or any M&S committee member and let them know by December 18th.

***Please note address change for Tina Dyck:** 339- 120 LaRonge Rd, Saskatoon SK S7K 7Z9

***The Deacons' sponsored Winter Study** for 2012 will be a Bible Study on the book of Romans, based on the Believers Church Bible Commentary.

***Sunday, December 11, 7:30 pm** - RJC Chorale and Women's Choir, with guest performer Tim Campbell (guitar) will perform in the beautiful and historic Knox United Church located at 838 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon. Everyone welcome.

***Sunday, December 11th - RJC Alumni Christmas Business Tour!** Come and enjoy an afternoon touring four local businesses in Saskatoon, hearing their stories, enjoying the festive atmosphere and shopping! Meet at Action Office Interiors at 3:00pm, followed by RSVP Event Design, Ten Thousand Villages and Willow Studio. The afternoon will end at Willow with a reception at approximately 6:00pm. The tour will be by donation collected at the reception. A percentage of proceeds from our purchases at TTV will be donated to RJC . . . so save your Christmas shopping for this afternoon! For further information call or email Denelda at 242-1757 or deneldafast@hotmail.com OR Lydia at 477-1850 or lydia.peter@sasktel.net.

*** Sunday, December 18, 2:30 pm** - RJC Concert Choir, Chorale and Women's Choir will present the RJC Christmas Concert Sunday afternoon in the school auditorium. Join us as we celebrate the Christmas season with music and fellowship. Everyone welcome.

Canadian Mennonite University www.cmu.ca

***Mar. 9-11, 2012** – CMU invites high school students to attend **PIT 2012**. PIT offers a special kind of peace conference, where participants can also connect, play, and engage in worship and workshops with youth from across Canada. Visit www.cmu.ca/pit for more details.

***Journey through time on the CMU Study Tour: Ancient Stones, Living Stones: the Holy Land in Perspective.** Travel April 30 – May 21, 2012 with leader Gordon Matties, Professor of Biblical & Theological Studies. Visit www.cmu.ca/studytour for more details.

***Mennonite Church Canada invites you to grow our family this Christmas.** Take a look at the Christmas Gift Guide in your mailbox and prayerfully consider extending the mission of the wider Church.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Isaiah 9:2 - 6 (NRSV) ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Matthew 1:18 - 25 (NRSV) ¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Luke 2:10 (NRSV) ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.