

MCC Connects – The lives of millions of people are affected by HIV and AIDS. MCC supports churches and partner organizations to raise awareness about HIV and AIDS, to provide encouragement, treatment and nutrition, to care for those who are ill and to support children orphaned by AIDS. Pray for caregivers, churches and those who test HIV positive.

You can help. **Pray for the people of Sudan and their leaders** guiding the referendum process. On January 9, 2011 southern Sudan is scheduled for a historic vote – whether or not to remain within the larger country of Sudan. Please pray for and with the Sudanese people as they make this important decision.

Rick & Jacquie Block, Ezra & Hilary from Saskatoon, recently relocated to Chiapas Mexico to serve with MCC as Community Development Workers. Pray for them during language study, in settling into a new home and community and in their work.

Worship Leader: Wilf Buhler
Song Leader: Kevin Boldt
Accompanists: Melanie Boldt
Sound: Chris Buhler
Ushers: Dick Braun, Karl Martens
This Sunday nursery care: Sarah Guenther
Next Sunday nursery care: Sarah Buhler

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

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Gordon Allaby, pastor

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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan

**A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
January 2, 2011

Ephiphany: Be the sign!

Focus Statement: In our time, the church is scattered and shattered, divided by differing belief and practice, God calls us to display divine wisdom in its rich variety and reveal the mystery of Christ, which draws all people to God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

***Hymn: HWB#218**

“As with gladness men of old”

***Theme Song: SS#49**

“I will come to you in the silence”

Chiming and Silence

Call to Worship:

L: Arise, shine! For your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

P: Grace was given to us

to bring the news of the boundless riches of Christ.

L: to make everyone see the mystery
hidden for ages in God who created all things,

P: so that, through the church,

the wisdom of God in its rich variety

might now be made known to rulers and authorities

in the heavens and in the earth.

Invocation

PRAISING AND HEARING

Children's Time

Jake Buhler

Hymn: HWB#319

“Jesus shall reign”

Offering and prayer

Old Testament Lessons: Psalm 72:1-7, 12-14; Isaiah 60:1-4;

Chiming and Silence

New Testament Lesson: NT - Matthew 2:1-12

Hymn: HWB#190

“’Twas in the moon of wintertime”

Sermon:

“Christmas lights”

Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

***Hymn: HWB#200**

“Where is this stupendous stranger”

Chiming and silence

Litany of Confession: (unison)

Christ, you illumine us, and in your light we see light.

Make us radiant, a people giving and receiving light among our neighbours, whether friend or adversary. Make your people as nourishing as showers that water the earth. Make us one, that righteousness may flourish, and that well-being may abound. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the church

SENDING

*Benediction: May the wisdom of God in its rich variety be shown, through you, to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places! “Go in Christ’s light and the wholeness of his Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn: HWB# 318**

“Joy to the world”

***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

- **Ladies Bible Study** Wednesday January 5, 10:30am
 - **Church Council meeting** Thursday January 6, 7:30pm
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter Bible Study begins next Sunday, January 9, 2011 at 11:15am with the topic: “Faith and Hope in the midst of Changing Times”. This will be **followed by a Pizza Lunch at noon**. Study will continue at 1:00pm with Session 2. Sessions 1 & 2 to be presented by Dave Feick. The winter bible study will continue the next three Sundays: January 16, 23 and 30, 2011, during the Sunday School hour. All session will be held in the sanctuary.

***The new Winter Book Club will meet briefly** in the sanctuary after church next Sunday, January 9, 2011, to pick the first meeting date. If you are interested in spending some winter time with friends, reading and discussing good books, join us!

***Too icy or snowy to get exercise walking?** Then, walk in the church. Church is open for walking Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9-noon.

***Coming soon:** Blanket making January 17, 18 and 24, 25, 2011.

RJC Coming Events

***RJC Alumni Tournament of Memories** - January 7 & 8, 2011
Basketball, hockey, crokinole and singing. Alumni and friends of RJC should register by December 30th by phone (306 242-1757) or email (deneldafast@hotmail.com). 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.

RJC Open House, January 21, 5:30-10:00 pm. Come and find your place with us! Youth in Grades 7-12 are invited to join us for a fun evening of information about Rosthern Junior College. Bring your parents, bring your youth pastor, bring your whole youth group. Come for supper and stay for School and Dorm tours, Coffee House, Parent Meeting and Night Lunch. Please call 306 232-4222 or email office@rjc.sk.ca by January 17 to register.

***Prayer Request from Mennonite Church Canada**

As we celebrate Epiphany, arise and shine! Pray that as the family of God and the Body of Christ, the church will continue to find new ways of extending God's light of mercy and grace to the world.

***Upcoming MCSask Event: Women in Ministry luncheon** will be held at Wildwood Mennonite Church on Thursday, January 20, 2011. Contact Mennonite Church Saskatchewan for more information.

Psalms 72:1 - 7 (NRSV) ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. ²May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice. ³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. ⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. ⁵May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. ⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. ⁷In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

Psalms 72:12 - 14 (NRSV) ¹²For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper. ¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. ¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

Isaiah 60:1 - 4 (NRSV) ¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Matthew 2:1 - 12 (NRSV) ¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem,

saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

***Offerings and tithes for 2010** will be accepted by treasurer, Rachel Buhler until Saturday, Jan 8th this year.

***Committee reports** are to be submitted to Shelley by January 10, 2011.

***New Members:** Karl Martens will be received as a new member (by transfer) on January 16th, and Kathryn Janzen (by transfer) will be received as a new member on January 23rd.

***Sunday School Information-** The children are beginning the study of a new three week rotation this Sunday. This study is called, "Three Young Men Stand Tough". It is taken from the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abendego in the book of Daniel. The teachers are; Ben Buhler/Wilf Buhler (Drama), George Janzen (Story), and Steve Guenther (Art). **Teachers are needed for the follow up rotation on 'Daniel'** which begins on January 23. Please check the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer.

*Thank you for your generous support of the **Sunday School Christmas Giving Project:** the MCC-supported Peace School for Children and Youth in Iraq. Giving for this project totalled \$1,161.29. Your gift helps build peace in Iraq.

Upcoming Youth Events

***Friday, January 21, 2011, 5:30pm – RJC Open House** (See "RJC Coming Events") Please let Dave know by January 16 if you want to attend.

***January 28-30 SMYO Senior High Retreat** at Shekinah. Theme: "Earth, Stars and Us". See Dave for a registration form.

***CMU PIT - Mar. 11 to 13, 2011 – PIT is back!** CMU welcomes students to pray and praise together at PIT 2011's "Pieces of Peace" gathering. This year's event features speakers Adelia Neufeld Wiens, Dan Epp-Tiessen, and Jarem Sawatsky and drama from Ted Swartz (www.tedandcompany.com) Registration fees increase after Feb. 1. Visit pit.cmu.ca