

**\*MCC Connects** - Have you considered participation in an MCCS Learning Tour? Learning tours provide a unique opportunity to learn about MCC work and partners in a new culture and political reality. A tour to Israel/Palestine is being planned for early 2013. Contact the MCCS office at (306) 665-2555 or email [office@mccs.org](mailto:office@mccs.org) for more information.

**\*A Buncha Guys** Christmas Concerts with special guests – *The Friesen Family Band* on **Sat. Dec. 10 7:30 pm** at Knox United Church, Saskatoon and **Sat. Dec. 17 7:30 pm** at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Doors open at 6:45 pm Tickets are \$5.00 each (Children age 12 and under are free) Tickets are available at McNally Robinson Book Sellers in Saskatoon, Shekinah Retreat Centre, Russ Regier (249-3650), any of the guys or at the door. An offering will be taken to support Shekinah Retreat Centre.

**\*Canadian Mennonite University** [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)  
Canadian Mennonite University invites applications for several tenure-track faculty positions: **Social Science, Conflict Resolution** (at MSC), **Business and Organizational Administration, and Ministry Studies** (joint appointment of Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary Canada and CMU). Visit [www.cmu.ca/employment.html](http://www.cmu.ca/employment.html).

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Worship Leader: Adeline Cox  
Song Leader: Art Zacharias  
Accompanist: Lynette Janzen  
Sound: Abe Braun  
Ushers: Dick Braun, Karl Martens  
This Sunday nursery care: Diana Buhler  
Next Sunday nursery care: Sarah Buhler

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The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0  
Vol. LII November 27, 2011 No. 48  
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## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
November 27, 2011

### *First Sunday of Advent - Hope*

Prelude and Carol singing  
Welcome and Announcements

#### GATHERING

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

#### **Call to Worship**

One: Hear, O Lord, when we cry with our voices, and be gracious to us and answer us.

**All: O Lord, be not far off; hasten to my assistance.**

One: Hold us by the hand and watch over us.

**All: Grant me faith to be assured of things not seen.**

One: We light the first candle of Advent as a symbol of the abiding hope we have through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles. They will run and not get tired; they will walk and not become weary.**

Lighting the candle of Hope

Invocation

**\*Hymns: SS #15 v. 1 Advent theme song “Hope is a candle”  
HWB #216 “Christ, whose glory fills the skies”**

Sharing of joys and concerns

Discipline of Silence and Prayer of the church

## PRAISING AND HEARING

Children's Time

Youth Puppet Ministry

**Hymn: HWB #343**

**“My hope is built on nothing less”**

Offering and Offertory Music

Offertory prayer

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9

New Testament Lesson: Mark 13:24-37

**Hymn: HWB #178**

**“Come, thou long-expected Jesus”**

Sermon:

“To Hope”

Gordon Allaby

## RESPONDING

**Hymn: HWB #359 v. 1,3,4 “Lead us, O Father”**

\*Benediction

**\*Please rise**

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**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.

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## 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, November 28, 7:00pm Executive Meeting**
- **Saturday, December 3, 9:00am Church Council Meeting**

- **Sunday, Dec. 4** – If you would like to sing **Christmas carols, come early as Advent carol singing will begin at 9:50 am.** Next Sunday's advent theme will be **Peace.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*Items for December's church newsletter** to be submitted to the church office by Wednesday, November 30.

**“Many thanks** for the impressive collection of goodies sent to us from OMC. It was so thoughtful to think of us.” From The Boldt kids: Ryan, Greg, Erin, Kyla.

\*For the next **Sunday School** rotation (December 4 & 11), Shelley will teach the Art and Steve and Kevin will lead the Drama activities.

**\*Winter walking in the church** – avoid the ice outside and walk in the church on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9am to noon.

**\*Rejoice devotionals** for the next 3 months are now available in the foyer to take home for your daily devotional readings.

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

\*More helpers are welcome for **Nursery supervision.** If you can help in the Nursery, please sign up on the bulletin board.

\*Ben Buhler and Jake Buhler are conducting the worship service at Bethany Manor this morning.

\*Mark Bigland- Pritchard will be co-ordinating rides for people attending the Northern Thank You Feast in Prince Albert next Saturday, December 3. Call Mark at 249-4101 or 827-7431 or email: [mark@lowenergydesign.com](mailto:mark@lowenergydesign.com),

\* **Saturday, December 10, 10:00am** Come to the Youth Farm Bible Camp for Fresh Hot Cinnamon Buns and reports about the ministry happening over the summer and fall. We will also be having a tour of the new Chapel Building! There will be an opportunity for donations.

**\*Saturday, December 10, 4:00pm - Join with other Christians to celebrate the Nativity!** This December, Christians from a large number of churches in Saskatoon and area will be joining together to host an outdoor nativity pageant as part of their effort to support the Good Food Junction Co-op grocery store at Station 20 West. ***“Would You Like to Hold the Baby?”*** will be held on Saturday December 10 in Civic Square (23<sup>rd</sup> Street by City Hall). Anyone interested in joining the festivity is welcome to participate; a free will offering will be taken for the Good Food Junction. Children and youth interested in taking part are asked to be at Third Avenue United Church (304 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N) at 2 pm on December 10 for a rehearsal (with costumes if you have them!). For a CD of the music to practice ahead of time, contact Janice Sanford Beck at 655-5301. Refreshments will be served following the pageant. Anyone interested in contributing cookies or fruit is invited to bring contributions to Third Avenue United Church between 1 and 2 pm on December 10.

**\*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 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cmu.ca/studytour) for more details.

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

**Isaiah 64:1 - 9 (NRSV)** <sup>1</sup> O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— <sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup> Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

**Mark 13:24 - 37 (NRSV)** <sup>24</sup>“But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup> and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake— for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”