

\***MCC Connects** – Visit the birthplace of Jesus and walk where he walked. Experience current realities. Emmaus Mennonite Church and MCC Palestine are hosting a learning tour March 9-21, 2013. The cost, including on-the-ground costs and airfare, totals about \$3000. Please call Ray Friesen at (306) 773-5063 or for more information email [mediation@sasktel.net](mailto:mediation@sasktel.net). The registration deadline: Dec 10/12.

\*Mennonite Church Sask is pleased to welcome **Kirsten Hamm** to the position of **Area Church Youth Minister**. Kirsten will begin her ministry with MC Sask in the summer of 2013.

\*RJC Chorale, RJC Women's choir and Sonrisa will present a **Christmas Concert** in beautiful Knox United Church (838 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon) on Saturday, December 15 at 7:30 pm. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone is welcome.

\***RJC Christmas Concert** - Rosthern Junior College will present its annual Christmas Concert on Friday, December 21 at 7:00 pm in the school auditorium. Join us as we celebrate the Christmas season with music and fellowship and refreshments.

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Worship Leader: Wilf Buhler  
Song Leader: Loretta Sawatzky  
Accompanist: Mark Bigland-Pritchard  
This Sunday Nursery care: Sarah Buhler and Katherine Allaby  
Next Sunday Nursery care: Diana Buhler  
Sound: Abe Braun  
Ushers: Susan Braun, Sarah Hiebert

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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  
December 2, 2012

### **Advent: *Out from the Shadows*** **Advent One**

Prelude  
Welcome and Announcements

#### GATHERING

Chiming to worship and silent preparation

#### **Call to Worship**

One: The time has arrived; we are at the advent of a new season.

**All: We are here, waiting for a new day.**

One: Rise up and look around because your redemption is drawing near.

**All: All of creation cries out in anticipation.**

One: Come out from the shadows. God will execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**All: We light the first Candle of Advent in the hope that the grip of darkness will be broken.**

Lighting of Advent 1 Candle

Invocation

\***Hymn: Blue/HWB # 189** “To us a child of hope is born”  
**Blue/HWB #184** “Hark! The glad sound!”

Sharing of joys and concerns

Discipline of Silence and Prayer of the church

## LISTENING

Children's Time

Lacey Braun

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #178 "Come, thou long-expected Jesus"**

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Gospel Lesson: Luke 21:25-36

Offering and Offertory music

Offertory prayer

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #186 "Fling wide the door, unbar the gate!"**

Sermon: "Ready" Gordon Allaby

## RESPONDING

**\*Hymn: Blue/HWB#204 "Gloria"**

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 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.
- **Christmas Choir Practice** begins at 11:15am.
- **Floor Hockey – 7:00pm**

## THIS WEEK

- **Wednesday, December 5, 7:30pm:** Missions and Service Committee meeting.
- **Thursday, December 6, 7:30pm:** Church Council meeting

- **Saturday, December 8: Youth Scavenger Hunt** at the WDM– meet at the church at 1pm

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

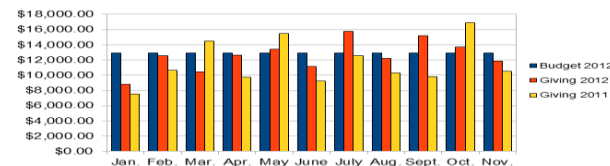
\*Everyone is welcome to join in choir practices, starting at 11:15am today in the sanctuary. Come and sing Christmas music!

\*Copies of an **at-home Advent devotional guide** is available on the podium by the front door. The winter Rejoice devotional booklets are also in the foyer. Please help yourself to a copy.

\*The deacons would like to arrange for **two meals a week for John and Rhonda Gascho** and a sign-up sheet is now on the bulletin board. Meals can be frozen and if you are able to help but unable to deliver a meal, arrangements can be made to get it to the Gaschos.

\***For those who had a portrait taken** for the new church pictorial directory, but did not purchase the portrait package, your free 8x10 pictures are in. Please stop in the church office to pick up yours.

\*General Fund receipts for November were \$11,888.61 bringing our total for 2012 to \$137,828.81. This is 88.9% of our annual budget after 91.5% of the year has passed. Thank you for your generous and continuing support of our church's ministry.



\*Again this year, the Mission and Service committee will be delivering **hampers** full of food and useful personal use items. We are hoping to have enough donations to fill 9 hampers. Please leave your contributions under the Christmas tree or in the buffet room by December 20th.

\*This year the project chosen by the Education Committee for our annual **Christmas Giving Project** is MCC's "**Supporting People Caught in Crisis**" in Syria. Due to the violence and unrest in Syria, families are leaving their homes, sometimes with only a suitcase and the clothes on their backs. Our support through MCC can provide emergency assistance through shipments of school kits, relief kits and comforters. Vital items such as medicines, milk powder and diapers are purchased locally, and financial support is needed to buy them. MCC also supports 'Caritas Jordan' where Syrians can register as refugees, enroll children in an afterschool program and receive material resources.

A giving jar will be placed in the church foyer for the Advent season and you may place donations there, or designate gifts made through the offering as for: "**Christmas Giving Project: MCC Syria**"

*"I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25: 36*

**\*Student Bursary Fund applications:** A Bursary fund was started by a donation from the Estate of Rev. Corney Boldt for students who will be attending one of our church schools. A once-in-a-lifetime bursary of \$500.00 per student will be available as long as there is money in the fund. To qualify, the applicant or their parents must be members of Osler Mennonite Church or must have been active in the church program for the past three years. All applications must be submitted to the Bursary committee by December 7<sup>th</sup>, so they can be processed this year. The applications can be obtained at the office or from one of the committee members. Please return the completed application to Doug McKinnell. Thanks from Doug McKinnell, Linda Stucky and Margaret Boldt.

\*Mennonite Church Canada invites us to pray for and with the Church this first Sunday of Advent:

*"Loving God, as we wait for Jesus' arrival at Christmas, may we recognize the waves of your love that flood over us. Empower us to graciously share that love with others through the ministries of individuals, congregations, Area Churches and Mennonite Church Canada."*

## **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

### **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

14 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

### **Luke 21:25-36**

25 'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

29 Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34 'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.