

***MCC Connects** – Give relief for Christmas. Your gift of relief enables MCC and its partners to prepare for emergencies, to respond to urgent needs as they happen and to help people plan for the future. \$60 supports displaced people in Colombia in raising chickens for food and income. See Christmas Giving at mccsk.ca or call MCCS at 306-665-2555.

***RJC Alumni Tournament of Memories:** Jan. 4 & 5, 2013 - Basketball, hockey and singing. Alumni and friends of RJC: register by Dec. 21st by phone @ 306-242-1757 or deneldafast@hotmail.com

***Friday Night Live at RJC.** RJC invites Grade 6-12 Youth, youth leaders, parents and pastors to Friday Night Live on Friday, January 18, 7:30 pm. This exciting event includes interactive activities, performances by RJC students, and information about RJC programs and upcoming events. Admission is free, but please RSVP so there are enough seats and treats for everyone! Email Valerie White at val@rjc.sk.ca or click "join" on the RJC Facebook event page. Watch for the BRING-A-FRIEND contests on the Facebook pages and website.

Worship Leader: Wilf Buhler
Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell
Accompanist: Lynette Janzen
This Sunday Nursery care: Amalia Aldana and Loren Gomez
Next Sunday Nursery care: MaryAnn Braun
Sound: Abe Braun
Ushers: Sarah Hiebert, Susan Braun

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
Vol. LIII December 23, 2012 No. 52
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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan
A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
December 23, 2012

Advent: *Out from the Shadows* Advent Four

Prelude Lynette Janzen, Katherine Allaby
Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Chiming to worship and silent preparation

Choir - Part One

Call to worship

One: The Messiah will be mighty and strong.

All: He shall be the one of peace.

One: The Messiah will pull down the powerful.

All: He will lift of the lowly.

One: The Messiah is coming for all.

All: We light the forth candle of Advent to join in the radiance of the coming Messiah.

Lighting of Advent 4 Candle

Invocation

***Hymns**

Sharing of joys and concerns

Discipline of Silence and Prayer of the church

LISTENING

Children's Time

Edna Zacharias

Hymn

Old Testament Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:46-55

Offering /Offertory music by Emily Neufeld
Offertory prayer

Choir – Part two

Advent 4 Reflection

Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

*Hymn

Choir – Part three

*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 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.
- **Christmas Choir Practice** begins at 11:15am.

- **Noon Pizza Lunch** for Youth and Sunday School children and families. **Rehearsal for Christmas Eve pageant** follows at 12:30pm to 1:45pm.
 - **No floor hockey tonight or next Sunday.**
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Birth Announcement

*Congratulations to Alison and Danny Warren and families, on the birth of daughter Annika Louise Warren in Portland Oregon on December 12th. Proud and happy grandparents Jim and Margaret Dyck say that baby and parents are doing fine!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The final Sunday School practice for the Christmas Eve Pageant will be **this afternoon at 12:30pm**, following a **Pizza Lunch**. Parents and families are welcome to stay for lunch and rehearsal as well. This practice will run till approximately 1:45pm.

*Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service and Pageant** will be held on Monday, December 24th at **7:00pm**. Everyone is welcome and bring your neighbours and friends!

*This year the Sunday School Christmas Giving Project is **MCC's "Supporting People Caught in Crisis" in Syria**. A giving jar is 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". See the bulletin board for more details.

*The church office will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

*Thank you for your contributions to the Christmas hampers. The Mission and Service committee put together 9 hampers full of food and useful personal use items yesterday.

*The deacons invite you to prepare a meal for John and Rhonda Gascho and their son Jem. See the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to sign up for a Tuesday or Thursday in December or January. Please speak to one of the deacons if you have any questions.

***Deadline: Today!** Everyone should have received a 3-question Questionnaire by email or in your church mailbox, requesting your reflections and visions for the future of our church. Extra copies can be found on the podium in the foyer. Council requests that your responses be directed to Louise Buhler by today.

*Submissions for the January newsletter should be in to the church office by Friday, December 28th.

*Reminder: Committee yearend reports should be submitted to Diana by January 4, 2013.

*The financial books for the church for 2012 will need to be closed by Jan. 5, 2013. Please ensure that any bills or donations to be included in 2012 are in the hands of the treasurer by that date.

***A “Messiah’ Sing-A-Long”** is planned for December 30, 2012 at 3:00pm in the Osler Mennonite Church. Those who have sung this famous work by G.F. Handel are invited to participate in this fun event. Singers; please bring your own scores (if you have one) and be at the church by 2:15pm. If you wish not to sing, you are invited to come, listen, and enjoy this casual musical afternoon, including a Potluck “Faspa”, (sweet or savoury) after the sing-a-long. And fun will be had by all!

Mennonite Church Canada Prayer for Advent 4:

“Creator God, your steadfast love brings a powerful wave of righteousness and redemption. Help us to see those who suffer and how we may help them, and in doing so, worship your holy Name.”

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵ and he shall be the one of peace.

Luke 1:46-55

Mary’s Song of Praise

46 And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, ⁴⁸ for the Lord has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God’s name. ⁵⁰ God’s mercy is for those who fear the Lord from generation to generation. ⁵¹ The Lord has shown strength with God’s arm; the Lord has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵² The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³ God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ The Lord has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.’