

MCC Connects – What is the legacy of Indian Residential Schools in our communities? How might a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) influence our future relationships? To learn more about upcoming TRC events and opportunities, visit mccsk.ca or peacebuildingontheprairies.wordpress.com

March 2013 – where will you be? You could be swimming with sharks in South Africa or hiking a volcano in Guatemala, or improving your camel riding skills in French Africa, all while learning about different cultures and deepening your relationship with God. Apply for **CMU's Outtatown** program before these sites are completely full! www.outtatown.com

***Just Food Exhibit.** In this Canadian and worldwide art exhibit, visual artists add their voices to growing numbers connecting the right to food with a faith-based response to hunger in our world. For the month of April, one half of the exhibit will be hosted at the Rosthern Station Arts Centre, and the other half at MCC on 600-45th Street West, Saskatoon. Check out the poster on the bulletin board.

Worship Leader: Dave Feick
Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell
Accompanist: Lynette Janzen
Scripture reader: Sandra Grismer
Sound: Dave Klassen
Ushers: Sarah Hiebert, Russ Friesen
This Sunday nursery care: Jan Guenther, Katherine Allaby
Next Sunday nursery care: Sarah Guenther

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
Vol. LIII March 18, 2012 No. 12
Gordon Allaby, pastor
Church Office – 306-239-2133 Pastor's Office – 306-239-2274
Fax – 306-239-2279
oslermc@sasktel.net oslermcpastor@sasktel.net
website: <http://omchurch.org>



OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

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

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
March 18, 2012

WHERE DO I SIGN? Lent Four

Focus Statement: *Looking to Jesus, we are saved from death, condemnation and the power of sin, just as the Israelites were saved when they gazed upon the serpent that Moses lifted up in the wilderness. We sign on as we respond by proclaiming God's acts and doing good works, so that others may look to us and see the God who is the source and initiator of our actions.*

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Chiming to Worship / silent reflection

Theme song: SJ #44 "The love of God"

Call to Worship:

Leader: We give thanks to the Lord, who in goodness has gathered us

Side 1: called us from the east and west,

Side 2: led us from north and south.

Leader: We come to worship because our Lord has redeemed us.

All: God alone has saved us from our enemies.

Invocation

***Hymn: HWB #102 "To God be the glory"**

Sharing of joys and concerns

Discipline of Silence & Prayer of the church

PRAISING AND HEARING

Children’s Time and Loose Change collection: Jake Buhler

Hymn: HWB #345 “God sent his Son”

Old Testament Lesson: Numbers 21: 4-9

Gospel Lesson: John 3: 14-21

Drama

Offering and Offertory music

Offertory prayer

Hymn: HWB #143 “Amazing grace!”

Confession: (in unison)

God, we confess our evil deeds, our impatience, our complaints, our disrespect for your appointed leaders. Our sins are killing us. Only you can save us. By faith, we look to Jesus, the one you lifted up so that we might not perish but have eternal life. Teach us to trust that you desire not to condemn but to save us and free us to live in the light of your presence rather than to cower in the darkness of sin. Amen.

Assurance of pardon:

We were dead through the sin in which we once lived, but God has made us alive together with Christ Jesus, recreated us for good works, which were prepared beforehand to be our way of life. We pledge to live so that those who are dying from their sins can see the love and grace of Jesus shining in our lives.

Sermon: “Snake bites” Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

***Hymn: HWB #150 “Wonderful grace of Jesus”**

*Benediction

***Please rise**

We welcome all who are worshiping with us today.

To all our visitors: WELCOME. We are delighted that you are worshiping 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 children** begins at 11:15 am.
- **Easter choir practice:** 11:15 am.
- **Floor hockey:** 7:00 – 7:30pm – younger children
7:30pm-8:30pm – older kids, youth and adults

THIS WEEK

- **Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm** “Do Art” for kids
- **Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 pm**, Education Committee meeting
- **Thursday, March 22, 7:30 pm**, Missions & Service Committee meeting
- **Friday, March 23, 7:30 pm**, Youth games night

Remember in Prayer

**Aron Friesen and Connie Friesen,
who are both facing surgery**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Today is the fourth Sunday of Lent.** Our theme: “**Where do I sign**” can suggest signing in, signing on or signing up. All variations imply the present moment and the future, and signing one’s name is pledge to commit. Lent prompts us to commit to God / to be a follower of Christ.

***There will be Easter choir practice today, and for the next two Sundays, at 11:15 am. Everyone welcome!**

***Songfest** will be at First Mennonite Church, **March 23 & 24.** See the bulletin board for a poster and registration forms.

*"A Buncha Guys" Spring Concert, Saturday, April 14, 7:30 pm at Mayfair United Church. See poster on the bulletin board for more details.

*Rosthern Junior College Chorale and Canadian Mennonite University Chamber Choir fundraising Banquet and Concert will be **held April 24th at Osler Mennonite Church**. Join us for the banquet at 6:00 pm and/or the concert to follow at 7:30 pm. Reservations are needed for the banquet, but not the concert. Contact RJC by April 9th to reserve banquet tickets (306 232-4222 or office@rjc.sk.ca). Please join us for an inspiring evening of music! An offering in support of both schools will be taken at the concert.

*Warman Thrift Store is looking for a volunteer custodian for three times a week after 4:00 pm. to clean floors, windows, and washrooms. For more information, call Sheila at 933-3293.

Church Directory Updates: email address for Jan Braun is now janguentherbraun@gmail.com
Joel Sawatzky's new phone # - 403-392-7460

***MDS Update:** Large groups of local MDS volunteers were on the ground helping with clean up immediately following the series of tornados that swept the mid-west of the USA last week. Local MDS leaders need prayers for wisdom as they work with communities in discerning the most appropriate areas for MDS long-term response. The damage to families and communities is incalculable. Canadians are asked to respond in prayer, through financial donations, and openness to serve in volunteer capacity once long-term response is determined. Thank you for working together to not only repair and rebuild homes, but to touch lives, nurture hope, faith and wholeness. For current updates, check the MDS website www.mds.mennonite.net or on Facebook.

* **Billets are needed for April 24** for the CMU students and staff coming for the CMU/RJC joint fundraiser concert in our church. If you are willing to host and/or have questions, please contact Margaret Dyck. (239-2205, or dyck.mj@gmail.com)

March 29 @ 6:30 pm Young Adult supper and meet and greet Sara Wenger Shenk, AMBS President @ Nutana Park Mennonite Church

March 29 @ 7:30 pm Meet and greet Sara Wenger Shenk, AMBS President @ Nutana Park Mennonite Church

***The Saskatoon Men's Chorus** conducted by Lynn Driedger, will be presenting their **spring concert "A Gift of Song" at Osler Mennonite Church on Friday March 30 at 7:30 pm** and Knox United church on Sunday April 1 at 2:30 pm. The concert will feature both sacred and secular selections. Tickets are available from choir members, McNally Robinson Book Sellers, Doug McKinnell 239-4603, men's chorus email "inquiries@saskatoonmenschorus.ca" or at the door. The cost is \$12 in advance, \$14 at the door and \$10 for seniors and students.

* **Sonrisa Women's Choir** concert at Knox United Church, 7pm March 31st. Tickets are \$10, available from Erin or Kathy Boldt.

*Shekinah Retreat Centre Fundraising Banquet and Silent Auction on Saturday, March 31, at Mount Royal Mennonite Church.
5:30 – Doors open
6:30 – Supper
7:30 – Entertainment: The Friesen Family Band
Tickets available from Shekinah Board Members or Shekinah office 945-4929 or email office@shekinahretreatcentre.org

*Shekinah Retreat Centre Fundraising Concert at Bethany Manor, Saskatoon on Sunday April 1, 2:30 pm. Featuring - The Friesen Family Band Free Admission - Opportunity will be given to donate to the ministry of Shekinah Retreat Centre.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Numbers 21: 4 - 9 (NRSV) ⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3: 14 - 21 (NRSV) ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."