

***MCC Connects:** HELP THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES: MCC continues to respond to Typhoon Haiyan, providing funding for the disaster response assessment team from Peacebuilders Community Inc., a ministry of Mennonite Church Canada Witness. **The deadline for eligible matching dollars has been extended to Dec 23.** All donations from individual Canadians to MCC's Typhoon response made between Nov. 9 and Dec. 23, 2013 are eligible to be matched by the Canadian government. To donate please go to mcccanada.ca/typhoon or contact the Saskatoon office at 306.665.2555

***A Buncha Guys Christmas Concert** will be at Saskatoon Knox United Church on Saturday, Dec. 7th, 7:30pm. They will also present their Christmas concert at Shekinah Retreat Centre on Friday, Dec. 13th at 7:30pm. Tickets are only \$5 (& kids under 12 are free) and an offering will be taken to support Shekinah Retreat Centre. Tickets are available from McNally Robinson, Russ Regier (249-3650) or the guys. (John and Rhonda Gascho's son Jem is one of the "Guys".)

***Betty Dyck** has moved to Bethany Manor. Please note her new address and phone number: 313 - 110 La Ronge Road, Saskatoon SK S7K 7H8 Phone: (306)384-3242

Worship Leader: Adeline Cox
Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell
Accompanist: Naomi Schellenberg
This week's Nursery Care: Sarah Buhler
Next week's Nursery Care: Jennifer Rowan
Sound: Chris Buhler
Ushers: Dick Braun, Carl Martens-Funk

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

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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan
A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
December 1, 2013

Advent One

Welcome & Announcements
Our Story

Melanie Boldt

INVITING THE MYSTERY

Chiming to worship and silent reflection

Call to Worship

One: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord;

Many: let us learn God's ways.

One: God's instruction goes out from Zion;

Many: God's word from Jerusalem.

One: Let us awake to hope:

Many: the salvation of our God is near.

All: O, the mystery of God's dwelling in our present!

Invocation (based on Isaiah 2:2-5)

***Hymns: Blue/HWB #172 "O come, O come, Immanuel"**
Blue/HWB #176 "Comfort, comfort, O my people"

Confession and lighting the Advent Wreath

One: As we look with hope to the coming of Christ, we pause to remember God, who came into our darkness with marvelous light. Let us also expose the weapons of our sinful pride, releasing them to God to fashion into tools that sustain us. The first Advent candle is the candle of hope.

**Many: In this light, we receive forgiveness,
knowing that God dwells with us in the present.**

Sharing
Discipline of silence and Prayer of the Church

ENGAGING THE MYSTERY

Children's Time Kathryn Janzen

Hymn: Purple/SS #15 "Hope is a candle"

Offering and Offertory music
Offertory Prayer

Gospel lesson: Matthew 24: 36-44
Lesson from the Epistles: Romans 13: 1-5
Dramatic reading

CELEBRATING THE MYSTERY

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

Sermon: "Coming Soon" Gordon Allaby

***Hymn: Purple/SS #1 "Praise the One who breaks the darkness"**

*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.

Advent One Focus Statement: In God's mysterious ways, the weapons that diminish us are turned into the tools that sustain us, the assurance of God's continuing presence is both sudden and expected and ordinary living resounds with extraordinary implications. Let us wake to the establishment of the house of the Lord – there is hope!

***TODAY**

- **Beverages and snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.
- **Choir Practice** in the sanctuary, begins at 11:15am
- **Floor hockey** tonight at 7:00pm.

THIS WEEK

- **Friday, December 6, 9:45-10:45am** Osler School Div. II music concert here at OMC

Remember in Prayer

Tena Friesen, at home, recovering from surgery this past week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **O, the mystery of God's dwelling!** Our Advent theme is a statement about God's profound act of entering the human world, and it also reflects our confusion and frustration from trying to make sense of this stupendous event. To better grasp the Christmas season, Advent is designed to be a penitential season, instead of a frantic shopping season that ends on the 25th. Each Sunday, through to Epiphany, we will progress in exploring the mystery, as penitence peels away the barriers to understanding.

*It's not too late to **join the Christmas choir!** Rehearse today and each Sunday at 11:15am in the sanctuary. The choir will sing once during Advent, December 22nd during the worship service, and on Christmas Eve as part of the Sunday School program.

* Copies of an **Advent-At-Home devotional** resource from Mennonite Church Canada is available in the foyer for families. Please help yourself to a copy of **"The Mystery of God's Dwelling"**.

*Missions and Service Committee is again collection food for **Christmas hampers**. Please bring your donations to the serving room by Dec. 22nd. Home baked goods more than welcome!

***Christmas Giving Project:** Each year at this time the church, through the Education Committee, chooses a Christmas Giving Project. This year's project is through the Canadian Food Grains Bank. It is called the *Christmas Ornament Project*. The aim is to provide food for starving people around the world. We are especially focusing on Syrian refugees who are experiencing severe suffering through the war which is happening in their country. For every \$12.00 donated, an ornament will be displayed on the tree in the church foyer. It takes \$12.00 to feed one person for a month. We are aiming to feed 100 persons for a month. There is a jar in the foyer where you can drop in your donations. You can also designate your church offerings and the Christmas Eve offering will go towards this project as well. Thank you for your support!

***RJC** is hosting a casual style Open House, Friday, Dec. 6th, 7-9 pm, with tours of the school & dorms, video presentations, refreshments, and a time to ask questions about the school's history, programs and unique opportunities. Please email admissions@rjc.sk.ca or call 306-232-4222 if you are interested in attending.

*The Station Singers will be presenting **the Messiah by Handel** with full orchestra on December 8 at 2:30 pm at the Rosthern Mennonite Church, with conductor Duff Warkentin. Guest soloists are Robert Dick, Lisa Hornung, Barbara Milner and Matt Pauls. Get your tickets from choir members or at the door or by calling the Station Arts centre at 232-5332. Tickets: Adults \$20 Students \$10 and Children 12 and under \$5.

***RJC Choir Concert**, December 15, 7:30 pm at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. RJC Chorale, Women's choir and guest performer SONRISA will present a Christmas Concert in Knox United Church, 838 Spadina Crescent East. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone is welcome.

***RJC Christmas Concert** - RJC will present its annual Christmas Concert on Friday, December 20 at 7:00 pm in the school auditorium. Join us as we celebrate the Christmas season with music.

Please pray for and with the church: *Thank you God, for sending Christ, who entered our darkness with marvellous light. Thank you for dwelling among us and giving us hope. (taken from The Mystery of God's Dwelling, www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2164)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Matthew 24: 36-44

³⁶ 'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

Romans 13: 1-5

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgement. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; ⁴for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience.