

**\*MCC Connects** – As snow and temperatures fall in the Middle East and violence in Syria shows no signs of abating, MCC is intensifying its response to meet basic human needs. Sarah Adams, MCC's representative for Syria and Lebanon reminds us, "The most urgent concern is a physical concern. People left in the summer and they didn't bring winter clothes with them, so they have nothing. They don't have blankets. They don't have coats and they don't have winter shoes." Can you help? Contact MCC at 306-665-2555 or visit [mccsk.ca](http://mccsk.ca) to donate.

\*MCSask Ministries Commission invites you to join the **Touring Mission Fest 2013** on Saturday April 27, 2013. The Tour this year will take you to Wildwood in Saskatoon, North Star in Drake (with input from/about Bethany Mennonite in Watrous and Sharon Mennonite in Guernsey) and Nutana Park in Saskatoon. The cost will be \$50.00 per person and will include the Bus Fare as well as all full-course meals. Registration forms and further information will be posted on the bulletin board and is available online . [www.mcsask.ca](http://www.mcsask.ca)

\*CMU invites high school students to hear **Shane Claiborne** at **Peace-It-Together (PIT) 2013, October 18-20**. Claiborne will speak on Pursue Peace, Seek Justice. Registration forms and info are available at [www.cmu.ca/pit](http://www.cmu.ca/pit)

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Worship leader: Melanie Boldt

This Sunday Nursery care: Leslie Allaby

Sound: Abe Braun

Ushers: Dick Braun, Carl Martens-Funk

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

Vol. LIV

March 3, 2013

No. 9

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## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan  
A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
March 3, 2013

### *Lent Three*

*Ashamed No More – We will seek the Lord and be Fruitful*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Our Story

Chiming to Worship/Silent Reflection

Call to Worship: Isaiah 55: 1-9

Invocation

**“Come, thou fount” (Blue/HWB #521)**

**Romans 8:31-39 (selected)**

***Fearfully Wondrously Gloriously Lovingly* –Glenn Kaiser**

**I was there when you turned your face to the wall**

**I was there when you felt you were ten feet tall**

**I was there when nobody knew your name**

**I'll be there and I'll tell you again and again**

**Chorus:**

**You are fearfully, wondrously, gloriously, loving made**

**You are loved, you are wanted, desired,**

**I'll tell you again and again**

**You are fearfully, wondrously, gloriously, lovingly made**

**There were times when you wondered if I was around  
There were times when you stumbled and fell to the ground  
There were times when you tried to avoid every test  
But everything works for your good,  
when you love, when you trust you find rest**

**“Come! Walk in the light” (Purple/SS #10)**

Sharing & Prayer of the Church

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13: 6-9

Children’s Time Jake Buhler

**“Christ is our cornerstone” (Blue/HWB #43)**

Offering/Offertory: “Before the Throne of God Above”

Psalter lesson: Psalm 63:1-8

**“I will come to you in the silence” (Purple/SS #49)**

Sermon “Fig-ure it” Gordon Allaby

**Confession:**

**O Great Gardener, our fields are barren. Our flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. The weight of our sin holds us down. We confess that our lives have not produced the fruits of love, mercy, and kindness. We have turned away from your bounty to feed our own ambition. We hoard our time, our money, and our love.**

**Assurance:**

I will bring you to flower and fruitfulness once more. For the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

**“Rain down” (Green/SJ #49)**

Benediction

***Becoming the answer to our prayers:** Spend some time each day this week doing something kind for someone else. Shovel an elderly neighbor’s driveway; let several people go ahead of you in a grocery checkout line; have tea with a child; talk to a homeless person.*

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**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.

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**TODAY**

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

**THIS WEEK**

- **Thursday, March 7, 7:30pm** – Deacon’s Meeting
  - **Saturday, March 9 – Youth 3D Glow in the Dark Mini Golf** – meet at the church at 6:00pm
  - **Next Sunday, March 17 – Choir practice** during Sunday School time
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lent theme: Ashamed No More:** In our Western culture we are comfortable openly dealing with judgment and guilt, yet we rarely discuss the issues of shame and honour. The logical, mathematical side (judgment and guilt) addresses our cognitive concerns, but not our emotional, feeling domain. We need salvation from the disgrace we may suffer, and we need to have our sense of honour and respect restored, too. Our Lenten theme contends with the redemption from shame.

\*Thank you for all the thoughts and prayers during Steve’s surgery and recovery. Steve & Jan

for God will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Romans 8:31-39 (selected)** - What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ...Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ...No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Luke 13: 6-9** Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

### **Psalm 63:1-8**

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name. My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

\*A reply from the Minister of Public Safety, Vic Toews, is posted on the bulletin board. It is concerning the government's involvement with the P2P program and prison chaplains

\***Choir practice**, in preparation to sing a couple songs at the Good Friday service and two songs on Easter Sunday, will be during the Sunday School time on Sundays, March 17 and 24.

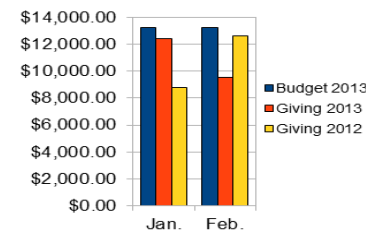
\*A big "Thank you" from the Trustees to all those who helped with snow removal from the church roof this week.

\*The new **pictorial church directories** are here! If you had your portrait taken, or submitted your photo and purchased a directory, your copy has been placed in your church mailbox. Some additional copies are available to purchase for those who did not have a photo taken. Please contact the church office if you would like to buy one. (Cost \$13.75/each)

\*Mark your calendars – coming up soon:  
Tuesday, March 12: "Do Art" for Grades 5 – 9 students  
Sunday, March 17 – Loose Change Sunday

\***Family Movie Night**, sponsored by the deacons, is Friday, March 22 at 7:30 pm. Bring your family and friends for popcorn, a great movie for all ages and fun for all.

\*General Fund receipts for February were \$9,535.20 bringing our total for 2013 to \$21,917.44. This is 13.8% of our proposed 2013 budget after 16.2% of the year has passed. Thank you for your generous and continuing support of our church's ministry.



\*A new sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board and the deacons invite everyone to participate by signing up and preparing one meal a week for John and Rhonda and Jem Gascho. If you have any questions, please speak to one of the deacons.

\*The Youth Farm Bible Camp is having their annual **Vereniki and Sausage Supper** at the Rosthern Mennonite Church on Tuesday, March 5th. The supper will be from 5:00-7:00 pm with admission by donation.

\*Friday, March 8, 4:30 – 8:00pm – A fundraiser **Vereniki and Sausage Supper** for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank will be held at the Brian King Centre in Warman. Everyone is welcome.

\*Please join the **Sonrisa Womens Choir** for “*An Evening of Music to Open your Heart to the Wonder of Spring*”. Sonrisa’s Spring Concert will be held on Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at Knox United Church in Saskatoon. Tickets \$10 adults, \$8 Seniors/Students and children are free. Tickets are available through choir members, by phone at 239-2131 or by emailing [sonrisa choir@hotmail.com](mailto:sonrisa choir@hotmail.com). We look forward to seeing you there!

**\*Warman MCC Thrift Shop has two employment opportunities:**

1. A Half-time Operations Manager (Duties: Assist manager, supervise processing of donations) and 2. Full-time Receiving and Shipping Manager (Duties: Supervise the sorting of donations. Discard unsuitable materials. Arrange for pick up and delivery of items. Share responsibilities with the management team. Contact the Warman Thrift Shop for complete job descriptions.

**\*RJC Guys & Pies Fundraiser and Dessert Auction** - Sunday, March 17, 7:00 pm at RJC. Come and enjoy an evening of pie, coffee and music featuring A Buncha’ Guys and the RJC Man Choir. Included in the evening will be a dessert auction, with funds going towards RJC program projects. Join us for an evening of music and fun.

\*Mennonite Church Sask is now inviting applications for 2013 **Vacation Bible School Troupe Members and a Troupe Leader**. The job descriptions and application forms are now posted on the bulletin board.

\*Mennonite Church Saskatchewan offers **Student Education Fund Scholarships of \$500** for students attending RJC, CMU, Columbia Bible College, Conrad Grebel College or AMBS. 2013 Application forms are now posted on the bulletin board (and in the Youth room).

\*Application forms for the **2013 Mennonite Trust Ltd. Scholarship** of \$250 are now on the bulletin board and in the Youth room. This scholarship is for students attending a post-secondary Mennonite school (CMU, CBC or Conrad Grebel) and is administered through the MC Sask office.

\*Is **Canadian Mennonite University** the right place for you? Find out for yourself by coming to visit our campus, **March 15, 2013**. Contact [info@cmu.ca](mailto:info@cmu.ca) for travel assistance information and further details. [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)

## **TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:**

**Isaiah 55: 1-9** Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for the Holy One has glorified you. Seek the Lord while the Lord may be found, call upon God while God is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that the Lord may have mercy on them, and to our God,