

**\*MCC Connects:** The fifth annual Spruce River Folk Fest is taking place August 16, 2014 at Spruce River Farm (20 km north of Prince Albert on Hwy 2). Event begins at 11:30am. This cultural event is planned to create awareness of landless bands within Saskatchewan. Proceeds go to the Stoney Knoll (Young Chippewayan) Band genealogical project. See poster for details or visit [mccsk.ca](http://mccsk.ca).

**\*MCC Connects:** 50 years of Faith in Action at MCCS. On Aug 17, 1:30pm at Spruce River Farm (20km north of PA, HWY 2) MCCS Aboriginal Neighbours program will celebrate 50 years of working with Aboriginal people. You are invited to be part of this special occasion that will include storytelling and good food.

**\*\*Exciting News from RJC: This fall RJC will be running a “shuttle” service** to the Warman/Martensville/Osler area for families that are interested in sending their students to RJC as day students. This helps families who may not be ready to have their sons/daughters board away from home yet and makes it more of a financial possibility as it cuts the cost by about \$5,000/year to attend as a day student instead of a resident. For more information, please contact Val White, RJC Admissions at 306-232-4222 or email [val@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:val@rjc.sk.ca)

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Worship Leader: Dave Feick  
Song Leader: Ben Buhler  
Accompanist: Diana Buhler  
Sound: Dick Braun  
Ushers: Sarah Hiebert, Anna Peters

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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  
August 10, 2014

*The Early Church, Our Church – a seven week worship series  
Week Three: Ephesus*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

### GATHERING

#### Call to Worship

**All: Blessed are you, O God!**

One: You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

**All: You chose us in Christ, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before you in love.**

One: You chose us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ.

**All: In Christ you have provided us redemption, the forgiveness of our trespasses.**

One: Put Christ in our hearts; root and ground us in love;

**All: that we may embrace the breadth and length and height and depth of your love, and share it with one another.**

Invocation

**\*Hymns: Green/SJ #3**

**Green/SJ #12**

**“Jesus calls us here to meet him”**

**“O Sing to the Lord”**

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Faithful God, we confess our faithlessness. We do not seek or trust your power to transform. We perceived differences among people and see only conflicts, divisions and problems.**

**We see Jews and Gentiles, but you see the body of Christ.  
We see different races and colors, but you see the body of Christ.  
We see poor and rich, but you see the body of Christ.  
Help us to see past conflicts, divisions and problems as the potential for change. Help us to trust in your transforming power. Amen**

Words of Assurance:

Hear these words of assurance: In Christ we have redemption. In Christ we see God’s boundless love. May we embrace God’s forgiving love and share it with one another.

Sharing

Discipline of silence and Prayer of the Church

LISTENING

Children’s Time

Edna Zacharias

**Hymn: Green/SJ #15**

**“Santo (Holy)”**

Offering and Offertory music  
Offertory Prayer

New Testament Lessons: Acts 20: 17-38; Ephesians 3: 14-21

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #334**

**“Christ is the world's true light”**

Sermon

Karl Martens

RESPONDING

**\*Hymn Blue/HWB #421**

**“Bless'd be the tie that binds”**

\*Benediction

*\*Please rise.*

*Focus Statement: With the guidance and help of the Holy Spirit, Christians may work together to persevere in situations that would demoralize and paralyze those Christians individually.*

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To all our visitors: WELCOME. We are delighted that you are worshiping with us.

**Children’s Worship Binder**, an instrument to help children through the worship hour, is available in the foyer.

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**The blank, coloured papers** in the pew are for **thank-you notes to God or someone in the church**. Place the note in the offering bag. Notes with names will be delivered to that person. The rest will be saved. Share your thankfulness as an offering.

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**THIS WEEK**

- **Youth “Summer Tuesday”, July 29: 7:30-9:30pm**
  - **Thursday, August 14, 7:30pm – Deacons Meeting**
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**Remember in your Prayers**

**Abe Braun**

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**Announcements**

\*Gordon's remaining Sunday schedule: preaching August 17, 24 and 31. Leslie and Katherine will be leaving on the 25th. Gordon's departure will be sometime in September, and vacation time will consume much of September.

\*If you have old newspapers or boxes that you haven’t recycled yet, Gordon would like to have them.

**\*Youth: Summer Tuesdays continue till August 19, 7:30-9:30 pm.** All youth are invited to weekly informal gathering time at the church on Tuesday evenings this summer. Bring your friends, drop in, hang out, play basketball, ping-pong or come for a chat & tea.

**\* Seeking Team Captains for the National Church Bikeathon!** On October 4, join other Mennonite Church Canada congregations from across Canada on the Ride for Refuge – a first ever national church bikeathon. Riders in every major city across this country will ride in support of Witness workers Nathan and Taryn Dirks to help fund their work with at-risk youth in Botswana. A Mennonite Church Canada Team page has been set up at [www.rideforrefuge.org](http://www.rideforrefuge.org). For more info, contact Daniel Horne at [dhorne@mennonitechurch.ca](mailto:dhorne@mennonitechurch.ca), 1-866-888-6785 ext. 107.

**\*Featured prayer request from the wider church:**  
(selected from PrayerNet – subscribe for free at: <http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/ResourceView/59/7507>):  
AnaSara Rojas from Fort Garry Mennonite Church (Winnipeg MB) is taking a year off from her university studies to live and serve in South Korea. She will begin her short term assignment this September, helping with various ministries of the Dream Church and the Peace 'n Joy Church, two congregations that are part of the Korea Anabaptist Fellowship. Pray for AnaSara as well as her Korean host family and churches as they prepare for this assignment.

\*The faces, facts and figures of Mennonite Church Canada ministry and activity during 2013 are available in an uplifting 4 minute video at [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2379](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2379). Thanks to everyone who helped make this work possible!

**\*The 2014 Annual Delegate Sessions** of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan were held in Regina on March 14 & 15. It since came to the attention of the Council of Mennonite Church Sask. that some discussion issues were not well understood by some in our congregations. Some differences in theological thinking and understanding were highlighted; both within and between congregations. Instead of Equipping Day, all members of all congregations of our Area Church will be invited to **“Equipping to Listen”**. **The Council will hold a discussion at First Mennonite Church, Saskatoon on October 25, beginning at 10am till approximately 3:30pm.** Please plan to attend.

**\*Church yard maintenance:** Thanks to Lyle for looking after the church yard this week.

\*Today: **MC Sask Day in the Park** - Plan to be there to enjoy warm visiting, the fun games, the wonderful Vietnamese food and the great music. Check the bulletin board poster for details.

**\*Taste of Bethany – Aug 12, 2:30 – 5:30 pm** in the Bethany Manor Courtyard. Sponsored by Bethany Staff, there will be Food, Food and more Food, Games, Music, and a Dunk Tank (the first dunk of **Glen Grismer**, Executive Director, will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at 3 pm). Admission is by donation with proceeds to the **Bethany Manor Housing Assistance Fund**. Everyone welcome! See poster for more details.

\*Come and join us for the **5th Spruce River Folk Festival, Saturday, August 16**, located at the Spruce River Farm, 20km North of PA on HWY 2. The day begins with a Pipe Ceremony at 10:00am, followed by stories of Landless Bands in Saskatchewan at 11:30am and music at 1. We have an exciting lineup including: Java Time, The Buhler Boys, Jake Felix, The Lost Keys, O'Kraut, Violet Naytowhow, All Mighty Voice, and back due to popular demand, Constant Reminder! Only \$10 to get in, \$20 for families. Food on site. Silent Auction. All proceeds will go toward MCC Sask's work with First Nations' partners in Saskatchewan. For more information, go to <http://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/events/5th-annual-spruce-river-folk-festival> or contact Leonard Doell at MCC 306.665.2555 or Ryan Siemens at Grace Mennonite Church, PA at 306-764-4342.



\*Mennonite World Conference is coming to North America, and registration opens this month! The 16<sup>th</sup> assembly will be held July 21-26, 2015, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The theme is “Walking with God.” Registration and additional information can be found at [mwc-cmm.org/pa2015](http://mwc-cmm.org/pa2015). Plan to attend!

\***Academy of Discipleship** presents: “*Engaging Spirituality: Belonging*” on Monday evenings beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> in Saskatoon. Do you want to engage in a structured small group process which looks to Jesus as the model for integrating faith and life? Does the invitation to live more deeply and broadly spark the flame within you? For more information see the bulletin board poster or <http://academyofdiscipleship.org> [a0dsaskatoon@gmail.com](mailto:a0dsaskatoon@gmail.com)

## TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

### **Acts 20: 17-38**

17 From Miletus he sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. <sup>18</sup>When they came to him, he said to them: ‘You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, <sup>19</sup>servicing the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. <sup>20</sup>I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, <sup>21</sup>as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus. <sup>22</sup>And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup>except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. <sup>24</sup>But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God’s grace. <sup>25</sup>‘And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. <sup>26</sup>Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, <sup>27</sup>for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. <sup>28</sup>Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that the Lord obtained with the blood of God’s own Son. <sup>29</sup>I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. <sup>30</sup>Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the

disciples to follow them. <sup>31</sup>Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. <sup>32</sup>And now I commend you to God and to the message of God’s grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. <sup>33</sup>I coveted no one’s silver or gold or clothing. <sup>34</sup>You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. <sup>35</sup>In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”’

<sup>36</sup>When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed. <sup>37</sup>There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, <sup>38</sup>grieving especially because of what he had said, that they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.

### **Ephesians 3: 14-21**

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Lord, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of God’s glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through God’s Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.