

***MCC Connects:** School kits are MCC's most requested item. MCC sends school kits to places including Iraq, Nicaragua and DPRK. Bring joy to more children by donating kit supplies. Visit mccsk.ca/material-resources for more information, or call the Saskatoon office and ask for Del Lennea at 306.665.2555.

***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

***Sonrisa Choir of Young Women** Kick off Barbecue on Sunday September 7th, 7:00 p.m., at the Driedger Enns Farm at Osler. All singers over the age of 18 and interested in singing in the choir are welcome. Rehearsals begin Sunday September 14th, 7:00 p.m. at Nutana Park Mennonite Church in Saskatoon. For more information please Facebook or call Lynne Driedger-Enns at 306-220-1194 or email her at gord.lynne@sasktel.net

Worship Leader: Melanie Boldt
Song Leader: Kathryn Janzen
Accompanist: Lynette Janzen
Sound: Stephanie Siemens
Ushers: Harold Loewen, Anna Peters

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
Vol. LV August 17, 2014 No. 33
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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan
A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
August 17, 2014

*The Early Church, Our Church – a seven week worship series
Week Four: Philippi*

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship

One: O God, let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus.

Many: Though he shared your very nature, he did not regard equality with you as something to be exploited.

One: But he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave.

Many: And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

One: Therefore you highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name.

Many: So that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

All: And every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the praise of your glory!

Invocation

***Hymns: "Gathering" Green/SJ #54 "Longing for light"
"Praising" Blue/HWB #213 "Let all together praise our God"**

Prayer of Confession:

Our actions, our words, our silence, our fears all show the presence, or absence of God in our lives. As we enter this time of confession, let us empty ourselves of all that burdens us and freely admit our need for God, the One who can make us whole. Please join me in prayer.

Holy God, our faith is uncertain, our forgiveness slow, our convictions weak, and our compassion wavering. We have exalted the proud and powerful, ignoring the weak and neglecting the poor. Instead of helping the hungry, we have helped ourselves. In the silence of these moments, we pause to confront ourselves and name the things that prevent us from fully realizing your grace and sharing it with those around us.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love. We abandon ourselves to you in trust. Hear us, love us, and forgive us. Merciful One, hear our prayer. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

Hear these words of assurance from Philippians 4: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Sharing

Discipline of silence and Prayer of the Church

LISTENING

Children’s Time

Kathryn Janzen

Hymn: Blue/HWB #620 “Child of blessing, child of promise”

Offering and Offertory music
Offertory Prayer

New Testament Lessons: Acts 16: 9-15; 2 Corinthians 8: 1-5,
Philippians 4: 15-20

Hymn: “Responding” Blue/HWB #145 “There's a wideness”

Sermon

“Foolish Open Hands”

Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

***Hymn “Sending: Blue/HWB #167 “For God so loved us”**

*Benediction

**Please rise.*

Focus Statement: Receiving the generosity of the gospel with an open heart allows us to respond by opening our hearts and hands to others.

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.

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.

THIS WEEK

- **Youth “Summer Tuesday”, August 19: 7:30-9:30pm**
 - **Thursday, August 21, 8:00pm – Education Committee Meeting**
-

Remember in your Prayers

Abe Braun

Announcements

*Gordon's remaining Sunday schedule: preaching August 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.

***SENDING PARTY FOR THE ALLABYS - On Friday, August 22 at 6:00 pm, please come out to the church for a wiener roast and program to thank Gordon for his pastoral service with our congregation over the last 10 years.**

Please bring something to roast, and chips, potluck salads or appetizers and lawn chairs.

Buns, condiments, beverages and dessert will be provided.

There will also be a program to share our appreciation and blessings to Gordon, Leslie and Katherine. If you would like to share a song, story, prayer or other item, please talk with George or Christy.

***Youth: Tuesday, August 19, 7:30 – 9:30pm - This week is the last “Summer Tuesday”.** All youth are invited to come out for a casual gathering time at the church. Bring your friends, drop in, hang out, play basketball, ping-pong or come for a chat & tea.

***Sunday School and after-worship Coffee time in the Gathering Room** will resume in a few weeks. (Sept. 7th). Feel free to sign up any time to bring snacks for the Sunday School kids and for the Gathering Time. And as always, volunteers will be needed to make coffee and clean up after the coffee time, so sign up sheets are on the bulletin board, available for all to sign up and take a turn.

***Church yard maintenance:** Thanks to Art Z. for looking after the church yard this week.

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Acts 16: 9-15

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, ‘If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.’ And she prevailed upon us.

2 Corinthians 8: 1-5

⁸We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; ²for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, ⁴begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints ⁵and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us,

Philippians 4: 15-20

¹⁵You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone. ¹⁶For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit that accumulates to your account. ¹⁸I have been paid in full and have more than enough; I am fully satisfied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.