

***MCC Connects: MCCS Restorative Justice** is please to promote the following event: **“Is Our Community Safe? What Can I Do About It?”** Come listen to stories of people affected by crime and those who have been in prison. Saskatoon Police Chief Weighill will speak on the root causes of crime. December 10, 7-9pm. St. Anne Parish Hall, 217 Lenore Drive, Saskatoon. Everyone is encouraged to come. Free will offering will be taken.

***RJC Choir Concert** - December 14, 7:30 pm at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. RJC Chorale, Women's Choir and guest choir SONRISA will present a Christmas Concert in Knox United, 838 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone is welcome.

***RJC Christmas Concert** - December 19, 7:00 pm in the school auditorium. Join us as we celebrate the Christmas season with music and fellowship. A time of refreshments will follow the concert.

***A Buncha Guys Christmas Concerts**
Sat. Dec. 13 - 7:30 pm at Shekinah Retreat Centre
Doors open at 6:45 pm. Tickets (\$5.00) are available at McNally Robinson Book Sellers in Saskatoon, Russ Regier (306-249-3650), any of the Guys, **or at the door. An offering will be taken to support Shekinah Retreat Centre.**

Worship Leader: Jim Dyck
Song Leader: Ben Buhler
Accompanist: Diana Buhler
This week's Nursery care: Adeline Cox
Next Week's Nursery care: Shelley Penner
Sound: Dick Braun
Ushers: Sarah Hiebert, Susan Braun

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 7, 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

“Oh, that you would reveal your peace”

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us worship in faith the God who is here and desires our worship. Redeeming God, work in our hearts so that we, your people, would share in your peace.

All: *Oh, that you would reveal your peace to us, O Lord.*

Leader: The paths of our world are not straight; the ditches are littered with our friends.

People: **Still, we listen for the voice in the wilderness, “Prepare a way for the Lord.”**

Leader: Behold, our God is coming.

People: **God speaks peace into our noisy world.**

All: *“Comfort, comfort, my people,” says our God.*

Confession:

Leader: Today, in this safe but dark and holy place we become aware of your presence, God. We look inward at wrongs we have done against others in our family, our neighbourhood, our workplaces, and our churches. Sometimes we were paying back, sometimes just being mean, and sometimes we didn't realize the wrong we were doing.

People: **We desire John's baptism of repentance, confessing our sins.**

Leader: We ask you, Lord, to take our sin, including our inward secrets, and make us new.

People: Forgive us our trespasses.

All: Restore our peace, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Moment of silence in Darkness

Lighting of Advent Candle

Words of Assurance:

Leader: God speaks peace to us, his people. In peace, we proclaim God's comfort to each other; reassuring one another of God's forgiveness.

All: God is patient with us; God walks with us, helps us deal with the sin that bogs us down, and gives us the gift of peace.

***Hymns: Green/SJ #16 "Praise with joy the world's Creator"
Purple/SS #16 "Peace before us"**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns and Prayer of the church

LISTENING

Children's Time Adeline Cox

Children's Advent Song: Blue/HWB#204 "Gloria"

Hymn: Purple/SS #10 "Come! Walk in the Light"

Offering and Offertory Music

Offertory Prayer

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 40: 1-11, Mark 1: 1-8

Hymn: Blue/HWB #176 "Comfort, comfort, O my people"

Meditation "John the Baptist" Patty Friesen

RESPONDING

***Hymn: Blue/HWB #599 "He Leadeth Me"**

*Benediction

**Please rise.*

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.

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.

TODAY

- **Beverages and snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.
- **Choir Practice: 12:00 – 12:20**

THIS WEEK

- **Saturday, Dec. 13, 6:00pm – Youth Christmas Party**
- **Next Sunday, December 14, Third Advent – "Oh, that you would reveal your joy"**
Sermon: Patty Friesen, "There's Something About Mary"
Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11, Luke 1: 46b-55
- **Sunday, Dec. 14, 12:00-12:20 – Choir Practice**

Next Sunday: Worship leader: Stephanie Siemens

Song leader: Loretta Sawatzky

Pianist: Naomi Schellenberg

Children's time: Kathy Braun

Sound: Doug McKinnell

*This Christmas, MCC Canada invites you to **give a Kit for Christmas – a Gift of Joy, with some assembly required.** Currently MCC's inventories are depleted on certain kit and MCC **urgently** needs 2,000 relief kits, 8,000 hygiene kits, 2,000 blankets. Multiple situations of crisis around the world such as Syria, Iraq, Gaza and Ukraine have depleted MCC's warehouse inventory. Please help MCC replenish its supply to continue responding to needs around the world. See the bulletin board or <http://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/kits> for more information

***Station Singers present “A Celebration of Carols from Around the World”** at the Station Arts Centre in Rosthern on Monday, Dec 15th at 7:30. Tickets are available from singers or from the Station. Call 306-232-5332. Assigned seating - so get your tickets early.

***The Youth Farm Bible Camp** is once again selling frozen food packages to raise money for our annual mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico in April. Each package is \$100 and includes 80 servings of food. Go to our website at www.yfbc.com/foodpackage for more information and to place your orders before December 14th. Food for your Family = A House for a Mexican Family. The Sale ends December 14th. See the bulletin board for more details.

Mennonite Church Canada

*“Invest in People” is the theme of this year’s Christmas Giving Guide from Mennonite Church Canada. This week’s focus is on helping church member entrepreneurs start small businesses in the Global South. Tom Roes (Zurich MC, Ont.) teaches microfinance, sustainable eco-friendly technologies and entrepreneurship in Africa and Latin and South America. For more information, see donate.mennonitechurch.ca/project/SustainableDevelopment

*The most recent PrayerNet from Mennonite Church Canada is now posted on the bulletin board.

Announcements

***Patty's Week:** Tues: sermon and prayer, Wed: Forever in Motion training, Fri: 8:30-12:30 office, Sat. Youth Xmas Party. Please feel free to call Patty at home: (306) 955-2928.

***Christmas Choir Practice** continues today, 12:00-12:20 p.m. in the sanctuary and continues again next Sunday, Dec. 14. The choir will be singing during the Sunday morning worship service on Dec. 21 as well as Christmas Eve. The 4th Advent service on December 21 will include Lessons, Carols, Christmas Choir & Joy Singers.

***Saturday, December 13, 6:00pm – Youth:** Meet at the church for your Christmas party, including a gift exchange.

*Mission & Service Committee will be putting together **Christmas Hampers** which will be **distributed on Saturday, December 19th**

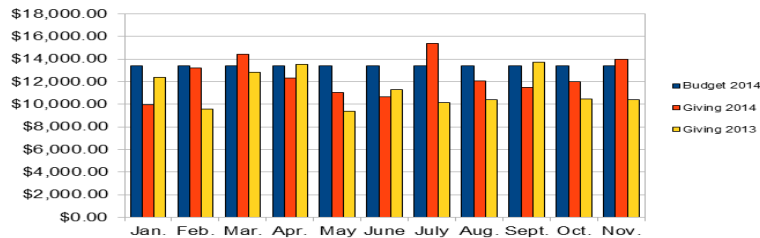
. If you would like to contribute non-perishable food items, baking or other items please bring them to the church and put them in the serving room. If you wish to donate money for the purchase of such items please designate Christmas Hampers on your cheque or envelope.

*Every year, our Sunday School has a special **Giving Project** for Christmas. This year, the Youth Sunday School class has chosen the **“Gift of Water” through Mennonite Central Committee.** Water is a life giving resource that many parts of the world need. For example, \$350 buys pipes and plumbing to connect families to clean water sources, like Samia Baderir in Egypt. MCC and BLESS, a service arm of the Optic Orthodox Church, work to connect low income households to clean water supplies. BLESS also reduces water-borne illness by training community members to share lessons on hygiene and safe water. A giving jar will be set up in the foyer and offerings can be designated for this project.

***OMC Visioning Process** will begin in December with 30 minute interviews with wonderful listeners from MC Sask at OMC and Saskatoon. Sign-up sheets are coming.

***Thinking of joining OMC in the new year?** We'd love to have you! Please speak to Patty or one of the deacons for a Joining Sunday in January or February.

***General fund receipts for the five Sundays in November** were \$13,961.95 bringing our total for 2014 to \$136,419.83. This is 84.7% of our approved budget for the year after 91.5% of the year has passed. Thank you for your continuing support of our church's ministry.



***CMU Campus Visit Day January 30, 2015 | 8:45 AM - 3:00 PM**
Explore undergraduate University education with a difference! Come to campus on Friday, January 30 to learn about Outtatown and our Arts, Science, Business and Music undergraduate programs, offered within a dynamic, faith-filled community. Interact with faculty and present students and tour our campus. Students and parents welcome! Sign up for a campus visit day now at cmu.ca/campusvisit.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Isaiah 40: 1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every

valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' ⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and the Lord's arm rules for God; God's reward is with the Lord, and the Lord's recompense before the Lord. ¹¹ God will feed the Lord's flock like a shepherd; the Lord will gather the lambs in God's arms, and carry them in God's bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Mark 1: 1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'