

**\*MCC Connects:** MCCS is now accepting applications for the salaried 0.8 FTE position of Material Resources & Building Maintenance Coordinator. To apply visit: <http://mcccanada.ca/get-involved/serve/openings/material-resources-building-maintenance-coordinator> or call Erica Baerwald, Human Resources Coordinator (306) 665-2555 at the MCCS office for more information.

**\*A Buncha Guys Christmas Concerts** with special guests – the Friesen Family Band. **Saturday, Dec. 12 - 7:30 pm at Shekinah** Retreat Centre. Doors open at 6:45 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 ea, available at McNally Robinson Book Sellers in Saskatoon, any of the Guys, or at the door. An offering will be taken to support Shekinah.

**\*Saturday, December 12, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm: Warman Thrift Shop Christmas Bake sale.** Proceeds going toward MCC Relief kits fund. *Donations of baking are welcome!*

**\*RJC Christmas Concert - December 18,** 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. Everyone is welcome.

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Worship Leader: Sarah Buhler  
Song Leader: Loretta Sawatzky  
Accompanist: Naomi Schellenberg  
Sound: Dick Braun  
Ushers: Russ Friesen, Cornie Guenther, Jadrian Guenther  
Nursery Supervision: Sarah Guenther

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Vol. LVI December 6, 2015 No. 47  
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## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan  
A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
December 6, 2015

### *Second Advent*

Prelude  
Welcome & Announcements

### **Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candles**

L: Be strong, and let your heart take courage.

**C: For God will come and dwell in our midst.**

L: Many nations shall join themselves to God on that day and shall be my people and I will dwell in their midst.

**C: Then the love of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.**

*All: God's kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, God's dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is faithful in all words and gracious in all deeds.*

### **Invocation**

O God, we praise you in our worship today that Mary responded to your Spirit and was your servant to bring salvation. Let us give ourselves also, as your servants; let us be bearers of good news and messengers of mercy and peace, through Christ we pray. Amen.

**\*Hymns: Blue/HWB #189. "To us a Child of hope is born"**  
**Blue/HWB #212 "O come, all ye faithful"**

Sharing Joys and Concerns/ Prayer of the Church

Offering/ Offertory Music  
Offertory prayer

"A Little Night Caroling"

Ladies Ensemble

Children's Time

Adeline Cox

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #208 "Love came down at Christmas"**

Scripture Lesson: Luke 1:26-45

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

Sermon: "Mary and Elizabeth: A Collision of Joys" Patty Friesen

**Hymn: Green/SJ #49. Rain down**

\*Benediction

*\*Please rise.*

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

**Scent Free:** We are striving to be considerate of those with sensitivities to scents/fragrances and ask all to avoid wearing scented products.

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

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### TODAY

- **Choir practice: 9:00am**
- **Staffing meeting @ 9:00am**
- **Centering Prayer** in Classroom 1 **at 9:15am.**
- **Beverages and snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.
- **11:15am – Membership Conversations: Sanctuary**
- **2:00pm – Sing for John Wall** at City Hospital

### THIS WEEK

- **Thurs, Dec. 10, 9:45am – Osler School Concert here**
  - **Sat, Dec 12 – 11:30am - Friendship Inn Volunteering**
  - **Sat, Dec 12 – Youth & Young families Christmas party**
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**\*Next Sunday: December 13 – Third Advent: Theme: Joy**  
Luke 1:46-56, 67-79

### Next Sunday, December 13

**Sermon: Patty Friesen "Mary and Zechariah Magnificats"**

Worship leader: Sarah Buhler

Song leader: Ben Buhler

Accompanist: Diana Buhler

Children's Time: Lynn Loewen

Sound: Dan Schellenberg

Nursery Supervision: Lucy Friesen

Ushers: Russ Friesen, Cornie Guenther, Jadrian Guenther

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### Remember in Prayer

**Joys** – Katherine Penner in Barn Playhouse, RJC Deeper Life week, Youth catechism and Sunday School teachers. Theatre of the Beat and Mega-Menno. Warman MC vote deferred, births to MC Sask pastors. Jake, Ben & Diana Buhler and Matthew Stefaniuk at Bethany Manor today. **Concerns** – staffing committee, refugee committee and youth committee meetings, MC Canada downsizing

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### Announcements

**\*Patty's Week:** Tuesday: Warman Ministerial. Wed: office. Friday: city visits. Saturday: Youth and Young Families Christmas Banquet.

**\*Stuart Murray and Membership Conversations:** Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>: 11:15 Sanctuary: Everyone is invited to join this discussion! There are copies of "*Belonging/Believing/Behaving in Church after Christendom*" on the lobby table, which will be used as a guide for the discussions.

**\*Today, 2:00pm** - Anyone interested is invited to **join Patty to sing Christmas songs for John Wall** in his room at Saskatoon City Hospital. Just ask at the front desk for the room number.

**\*Christmas Choir practice** started **today at 9:00am and continues the next two Sundays at 9am.** The choir will be singing during the December 20<sup>th</sup> worship service. If you love to sing songs of the season, please come out and join the choir!

**\*Thursday, December 10, 9:45am – Osler School concert** here. Everyone is welcome.

**\*The Youth Farm Bible Camp** is fundraising for their annual trip to Mexico in March. Once again **Frozen Food Packages** are available for purchase before December 9th. The cost is \$100. Details and online ordering can be found at [www.yfbc.com/foodpackfundraiser](http://www.yfbc.com/foodpackfundraiser).

**\*RJC Choir Concert at Knox - December 6, 7:30 pm** at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. RJC Chorale and Women's Choir 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.

## Mennonite Church Canada

\*Your gift to Mennonite Church Canada this Advent season helps to grow leaders for the church in Canada and around the world. Visit [www.mennonitechurch.ca](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca) to give.

\*Last year some congregations shared Advent and Christmas photos from their congregations with us. Thank you! Mennonite Church Canada is using them in a variety of ways this year: online, on Christmas cards, on social media, etc. We'd love to receive more images of this joyous season from our congregations. Please email hi-resolution images to [office@mennonitechurch.ca](mailto:office@mennonitechurch.ca) – and then watch for appearances in 2016!

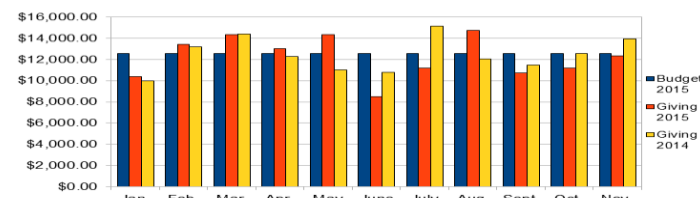
**\*Featured prayer request from the wider church** Pray for the citizens of Chile as they recover from a mid-September earthquake, and for the church in Chile as it seeks the most life-giving ways to respond as followers of Jesus. Mennonite Church Canada is connected with several Anabaptist church groups in Chile including the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Chile and the Puerta del Rebaño congregation. Titus and Karen Guenther (Charleswood Mennonite Church, Wpg.) have served in Chile through short-term teaching assignments with Mennonite Church Canada, most recently in 2013.

**\*Friendship Inn: Next Saturday, Dec. 12th is the final OMC opportunity to serve this year**, but don't worry, a new sign-up sheet has more opportunities in the new year: January 16, February 20 and March 19. Thank you for your service. P.S. Feel free to sign up early.

**\*Christmas Hampers** - Mission & Service Committee will be distributing Christmas hampers **on December 19th** and are looking for participation from OMC. The box in the foyer labelled Christmas Hampers will be used to collect non-perishable food items. Other items that would be appreciated are baking, homemade jams, pickles etc. Baking and perishable items should be brought to the church on December 18th or 19th. These hampers will be assembled and distributed at 10:00am in the Youth room on December 19th. If you have any questions please talk to a member of the M&S Committee.

**\*Sunday School Christmas Giving Project:** This Christmas, we can give the Gift of Food to People Affected by the War in Syria through the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank**. A donation of **\$13.50 will provide food for one person for a month** through the Foodgrains Bank, and we will hang a CFGB ornament for each person helped. All donations for people affected by the Syrian crisis will be matched 4:1 by the Canadian government. Donations are also matched dollar-for-dollar by the Canadian government through its new Syria Emergency Relief Fund, up until December 31. A donation of \$13.50 will provide a total of \$81—\$67.50 for the Foodgrains Bank (enough for food for five people), and an additional \$13.50 for the government's Syria Emergency Relief Fund, which will dispense money to Canadian NGOs to help people affected by that conflict. A giving jar will be in the foyer or donations can be designated for Sunday School CFGB project through your offering.

**\*General fund receipts** for the five Sundays of November were \$12,321.30 bringing our total for 2015 to \$134,121.38. This is 89.1% 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.



\*Osler Mennonite Church members have been looking for a while into the possibility of **sponsoring a refugee family**. At a meeting in September, 5 church members said they would be willing to join a committee, and nearly 20 indicated ways in which they could help. Since then, we have been made aware of a home in the city, suitable for a small family, which the owner has offered to rent at a very reasonable rate, cutting the cost of a year's support from about \$27,000 to possibly less than \$20,000. MCC has offered to connect us with other people in the city who are keen to help. The committee has begun to meet to build some plans for refugee sponsorship - but the final approval for this needs to come from the congregation as a whole. **We will meet briefly after the service on Dec. 20th** to hear and vote on the committee's proposal. Then the group can know whether they can quickly move ahead.

#### OMC CALENDAR

**Today: Dec 6 - Second Sunday of Advent**

**Sun. Dec 6** 9:00am – Choir practice  
 9:00am – Staffing Committee meeting  
 9:15am Centering Prayer in Classroom 1  
 10:00am Worship Service  
 11:00am Beverages and snacks after worship service.  
 11:15am Sunday School for all ages  
 11:15am – Membership Conversations: Sanctuary  
 2:00pm – Sing for John Wall at City Hospital  
 Tonight: 7:30pm – RJC Choir Concert at Knox United Church  
**Thur Dec 10** 9:45am – Osler School concert at OMC  
**Sat Dec 12** 5:00 – 8:00pm – Youth/Young families Xmas party  
**Sat Dec 12** 7:30pm - A Buncha Guys concert @ Shekinah  
**Sun Dec 13** 9:00am – Christmas Choir practice  
**Sun Dec 13** 11:15am – Membership Conversations: OMC Sanctuary  
**Mon Dec 14** 7pm - Warman Community Band at Warman MC  
 Fri Dec 18 7pm - RJC Christmas Concert at RJC  
 Sat Dec 19 10am Assemble Christmas Hampers: Youth room  
**Sun Dec 20** 9am – Christmas choir practice  
**Thur Dec 24** 7:00pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Program  
**Sunday, Dec 27** – No Sunday School on this Sunday.

#### 2016

**Sat Jan 2** 7:00pm - YOUTH Movie Night at Ben & Diana's

#### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 1:26-45**

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.' <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her. 39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

\***Council has formed a staffing committee** to work at developing a job description for an additional **part-time pastoral staff person** as agreed at our September congregational meeting. The committee consists of Patty Friesen, George Janzen, Matthew Braun, Naomi Schellenberg, Lyle Stucky and Christy Martens-Funk. One of them will be contacting you in the next couple weeks to get your input for their work. Please also feel free to talk with any of them.