

**\*MCC Connects:** Do you love culture? Do you wish you could travel the world but find you don't have time? Being a host with MCC's International Volunteer Exchange Program allows you to experience other cultures through building relationships with young people from all over the globe. Share your gift of hospitality and learn from amazing young adults. We are looking for hosts beginning in October 2016 in Saskatoon, Regina, Warman, Osler and Martensville. If you would like more information please contact IVEP Provincial Coordinator Kaytee Edwards Buhler at KayteeEdwards@mccsk.ca or 306-665-2555, ext. 237.

**\*"SING TOGETHER" concert** featuring Rosthern Junior College Chorale and Canadian Mennonite University Singers - **February 28, 2016 @ 2:30 pm at Knox United Church** in Saskatoon. Free admission! The concert is a fundraiser for both schools and is sure to be a beautiful event of inspired singing!

\*The Youth Farm Bible Camp will be hosting our annual **Vereniki and Farmer Sausage Supper on Tuesday, March 8th, 5-7pm** at Rosthern Mennonite Church. Admission by donation.

**\*The March-April-May REJOICE daily devotional** guides are in the foyer and available to take home.

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Worship Leader: Zachary Stefaniuk  
Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell  
Accompanist: Naomi Schellenberg  
Nursery Supervision: Jan Guenther  
Sound: Chris Buhler  
Ushers: Karl Martens, Anna Peters

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

Vol. LVII

February 21, 2016

No. 8

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## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan

A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
February 21, 2016

### *Second Sunday of Lent: Living Ink: Finding Light in Dark Text*

Focus Statement: There are many dark things we face and confront in our lives that cause fear. As Christ followers we are invited to face these darkest pages and chapters in our lives without fear, knowing that Christ's light will shine in the dark.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

### **Call to Worship (based on Psalm 27)**

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation: whom shall we fear?

*All: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?*

Leader: One thing we ask of the Lord, one thing we seek;

*All: We seek to live in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord's temple.*

**Invocation: God, we come to you in humility, with deep thankfulness for your hospitality to us. Prepare us to worship you. (Silence) May we see and feel your light of hope in this place. Amen**

**\*Hymns: Green/SJ #5**

**“Come and be light for our eyes”**

**Purple/SS #31**

**“Jesus, be the center”**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Offering & Offertory Prayer

Children's Time: Patty Friesen and Zachary Stefaniuk

**Hymn: Green/SJ #54 "Longing for light"**

Scripture Lessons: Luke 15: 11 - 19

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #558 "When the storms of life are raging"**

Sermon: "Lost Son #1 – Looking for Love in all the wrong places"  
Patty Friesen

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #336 "When peace, like a river"**

\*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

- **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.
- **5:00pm – Faspa and Games**

## THIS WEEK

- **Thurs, Feb 25: 7:00pm – MCSask Ad Hoc Committee on Same-Sex meeting**
- **Next Sunday, Feb 28: 11:15am – Deacons Meeting**

**Next Sunday, LENT THREE: February 28: Luke 15: 20-24**

**"The Fable of the Forgiving Father" by Patty Friesen**

Next Sunday, February 28: Worship leader: Christy MartensFunk

Song leader: Loretta Sawatzky Pianist: Mark BiglandPritchard

Children's Time: Lynn Loewen Sound: Dick Braun

Nursery Supervision: Marlene Campbell

Ushers: Karl Martens, Anna Peters

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## Remember in Prayer

**Concerns** – Cutbacks to Micah Mission's budget.

Pray for our new Pastor of Faith and Community position.

**Joys** - Winter break, Soup and Share, Friendship Inn, youth visit to Islamic Center. The birth of Walter James, son of Kathryn and James on Feb 14 - almost on Nora's birthday. Walter weighed in at a healthy 9 lbs. 7 oz. Congrats to mom, dad and happy grandparents!

Many thanks to Garry and Bill for clearing the church parking lot, to Bill and Cornie for upgrading church wiring/outlets. Thank you, Worship Committee, for adding art to the sanctuary with the lovely new sound baffle coverings.

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## Announcements

**Patty's Week:** Tuesday: Bethany. Wednesday: MC Sask/office. Friday: office/visits.

**\*Today, 5:00pm** – Everyone is invited to join in the Deacons **"Fantastic February Family Faspa and Games.** (5-7pm) Bring faspa finger foods to share and your favorite board games and come to play! Coffee will be provided.

\*Delegates are needed for the **MC Sask Annual Delegates Sessions on March 11 & 12** here at OMC. Please pick up a registration form from the table in the church foyer. **Please complete the form and see Christy if you are interested in representing OMC as a delegate.** Note: Registration deadline for meals is March 4.

**\*This is a message from Shekinah Retreat Centre.**

While 2015 proved to be an exciting year with a number of developments 2016 has started with a major challenge. The economic downturn that the province is experiencing is also affecting Shekinah. We have lost some of our larger bookings and are anticipating some significant revenue losses over the next few months. We have also been behind in our fundraising dollars over the last few years and that is only compounding the situation. We had some exceptional support from our faithful supporters in 2015 with our donations exceeding what we have received in recent times.

Unfortunately however, we still find ourselves in a time of crisis. We are facing a potential shortfall that could possibly lead to some very difficult decisions that may need to be made. We are appealing to you, the congregations, the churches and the people that have put so much love and effort into this place, for help. This is not a situation that affects only a few people, but it affects all who belong to the body of Christ that is represented by Mennonite Church Saskatchewan and all who love Shekinah. We are all owners of Shekinah and we all have a vested interest in the future of this beautiful place.

There is a vision at Shekinah that has been inspired by God and that the staff and the board is excited about, we just need your support, we need your help through this challenging time. We are asking for financial assistance and we are asking for the opportunity to discuss with you other ways in which you may help. If you would like to help, please speak to one of the board members or contact Nick Parkes, the Executive Director at Shekinah, we would be happy to fill you in with more details and answer any questions that you may have.

*“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12”*

Thank you and please pray for us.

Shekinah



**Mennonite Church Canada**

Area Churches and Congregations are invited to submit advance resolutions for discernment at the Mennonite Church Canada Annual Delegate Assembly in Saskatoon this coming July 6-10. Advance resolutions help congregational discernment in preparation for the Assembly. Guidelines and a template can be found at [www.commonword.ca/go/502](http://www.commonword.ca/go/502) .

**\*Mennonite Church Sask Annual Delegate Sessions**

Osler Mennonite Church will be hosting the Mennonite Church Sask ADS on March 11 and 12. We are looking forward to this as another uplifting experience for our church. In order for this to happen **we need a large number of volunteers:**

1. Are you able to provide billeting for one or more delegates? If so, please let Margaret Dyck know.
2. Are you able to help out in areas such as food services, registration, setup, and cleanup? See the list on the bulletin board and sign up or speak with John Reddekopp.

**\*Don't forget to bring small pieces of cloth that mean something to you or represent part of "your story".** Join the Worship committee in the project to make a **Story Quilt** to hang in our church. It can be anything that you like: work clothes, finery, tie-dyed, polyester plaid, baby wear, jerseys, etc... (*The plan is to cut 3 inch squares, so bring pieces at least that size - anything larger than that will be cut into 3 inch square pieces to use.*) Even "imposter" pieces will be accepted, if you don't want to part with the real thing.

If your piece(s) have a particular story we would love to hear that as well. Thanks!

\*Ladies "**Heart to Heart**" is coming on **Monday, Feb. 29, 7:00 pm.** Mark your calendars, Ladies, and come join a time of Bible study, singing, prayer and fellowship.

\***APPLE PIE!** As a student of RJC, Katherine is helping to raise money for the "**Have a Heart Fundraiser**". The money is going to the places that students will be visiting during ALSO (Alternative Learning Service Opportunities) week.... Guatemala, Alabama, Calgary, and Friendship Inn, as well as helping a refugee family in Rosthern. So Katherine is making **homemade apple pies** (frozen, unbaked) and **will be selling them each Sunday until March 6.** Cost is \$10/pie. Come see Katherine after church today for yours!

\***Bottle Drive Fundraiser:** You are invited to bring your recyclable pop and other bottles and cans to church for the next few weeks, to help Liam and Zach with their RJC ALSO fundraiser. Or speak to the guys about picking up your bottles, if that is more convenient.

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## OMC CALENDAR

Sun Feb 21	Lent Two – Patty Friesen preaching
<b>Sun Feb 21</b>	<b>5 – 7pm Fantastic Family Faspa and Games</b>
Sun Feb 28	Lent Three – Patty Friesen preaching
Sun Feb 28	11:15am - Deacons Meeting
<b>Mon Feb 29</b>	<b>7:00pm Heart to Heart</b>
Tues Mar 1	7pm – Missions & Service Comm. Meeting
<b>Wed Mar 2</b>	<b>7:30pm – Youth Discussion with Steph</b>
<b>Thur Mar 3</b>	<b>7:30pm – Church Council meeting</b>
Sun Mar 6	Lent Four – Patty Friesen preaching
<b>Sun Mar 6</b>	<b>Noon - Worship Committee meeting</b>
<b>Fri Mar 11</b>	<b>Annual Delegate Sessions at OMC</b>
<b>Fri Mar 11</b>	<b>9:30pm Barn Dance at Osler Community Hall</b>
<b>Sat Mar 12</b>	<b>Annual Delegate Sessions at OMC</b>
Sun Mar 13	Lent Five - Willard Metzger preaching

**\*MCC Blanket Making at the church on March 14 -18, 2016.**

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## OMC Employment Opportunities

### 1. Pastor/Minister of Faith and Community.

At our AGM, our congregation has approved this new position. This person will help fill the gap in our youth program, but the position is actually much more broad - focusing on faith and relationship building with youth, children, families, and the wider community. A big job; which we're only filling part-time at this point. We are hoping to fill this position quite quickly if the right candidate finds us. The position is now advertised on our Church website home page, and the job description is there as well.

Know someone who would be a good fit? Preferred start date is as soon as possible. Questions and applications to: Christy Martens-Funk [martensfunk@gmail.com](mailto:martensfunk@gmail.com); 306-225-2200 or by mail to Christy Martens-Funk c/o Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, SK S0K 3A0. **Applications should be received no later than Feb. 26, 2016.**

## OMC Employment Opportunities

2. Adeline has indicated that she will be resigning from her position as our **church office administrator**. We will be looking for someone to fill this position by mid-April. If you are interested, please talk to anyone on the church executive: George, Christy, Diana, Jim or Patty.

**\*Sat. March 5 - 9:30 a.m. Mennonite Historical Society AGM ;**  
11 a.m. - Henry Harms - Photography; 1 p.m. - Ray Dirks - Painting

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURES: Luke 15: 11 - 19

Then Jesus said, 'There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

<sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.' "

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## Our Statement of Purpose

The purpose of Osler Mennonite Church is to be a supportive community in which people can meet God through worship and fellowship.

We seek to teach an Anabaptist understanding of scripture, led by the Spirit to imitate Christ in word and deed.

We strive to nurture faith and discipleship, committing ourselves individually and corporately to respond to the needs of others.