

MCC Connects: Christmas Blessings to you from the Board and Staff of MCC Saskatchewan! May our celebrations of the birth of the Christ child nurture and strengthen our living and serving in the name of Christ throughout the coming year.

OMC CALENDAR

- Jan 4 Council meeting, 7:00 pm
Jan 7/2018 Communion service, 10:00 am
Adult S.S. Forum on Marriage, 11:15 am
Jan 13 Men's Breakfast, 9:00 am at the Osler Café.
Jan 14 Adult S.S. with Kaytee Edwards-Buhler, 11:15 am:
"Part1 Enneagram Personality Study"
Potluck Fundraiser for MDS at noon
Part 2 Enneagram Personality Study, 12:30 pm
Jan 17 Education meeting, 7:00 pm
Jan 18 M & S meeting, 7:00 pm
Jan 20 Serve at Friendship Inn, 11:30 am
Jan 21 Adult S.S. on Divorce
Jan 24 Deacons meeting, 12:45 pm
Jan 29 Worship meeting, 7:00 pm

Worship Leader: Terri Lynn Friesen Song Leader: Kathryn Janzen
Pianist: Lynette Janzen Sound: Stephanie Siemens
Ushers: Carl Martens-Funk, Lloyd Sawatzky

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 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Focus Statement: Infused with God's vision, we proclaim with confidence, "Let it be with us according to your word!"

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Choir: "Bring a torch, Jeanette Isabella"

Hymn: Blue/HWB #215 "What Child is this"

Call to Worship: "Wisdom & Wonder" Advent reading
by Kathy Braun and Nora Bergen-Braun

Invocation:

Leader: Yes! The invitation to carry Light comes to each of us, no matter who we are.

All: *O God, you choose to dwell within us. You promise to move about with us until we find our rest in You.*

Leader: Your call seems risky; saying yes takes away our breath.

All: *Yet we know your faithfulness and steadfast love endure forever.*

Leader: You are our strength.

All: *Yes! Let it be now.*

Lighting of Advent Candles

Hymn: Blue/HWB #203 "Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly"

Special music: "O Jesulein süß" (J.S. Bach) – Merel Kriegsman

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

Children's Time Edna Zacharias

Offering/ Offertory - Choir: "Away in a manger"

Scripture: Blue/HWB #840 Luke 1:47-55 (Mary's song)

Sharing of Joys & Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Special music: "Ava Maria" (Shubert) – Merel Kriegsman

Choir: "In the bleak Midwinter" ; "Huron Carol"

Special music: "Jesu Bambino" – Keith Boldt

Hymns: Blue/HWB #191 **"O little town of Bethlehem"**

Blue/HWB #199 **"The first Noel"**

Mass Choir: "Friedensfurst"

Scripture: Romans 16: 25-27 "Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages²⁶ but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Special music: "Adeste Fideles!" – Keith Boldt and congregation

*Benediction: May you go with God. May you carry the grace of Christ fearlessly. May the power of the Holy Spirit overshadow you, and may you understand that nothing is impossible with God. Amen.

(*Please rise)

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.

TODAY

- **Centering Prayer** in Classroom 1 at 9:15 am.
- **Beverages & snacks** available after the worship service.
- **No Sunday School December 17, 24, 31**
- **Adult choir practice after coffee.**
- **7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Next Sunday, Dec. 31: "Christ is born!" – Audrey Bechtel

Worship Leader: Terry Stefaniuk Song leader: Kevin Boldt

Pianist: Melanie Boldt Nursery: Marlene Campbell

Sound: Dick Braun Children's Time: Vanessa Stefaniuk

Ushers: Carl Martens-Funk, Lloyd Sawatzky

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jan 7 Marriage That Works: Seeking Wisdom by Patty Friesen, & Communion

Adult SS Forum - 50 Years of Marriage by Louise & Jake Buhler, Deanna and John Reddekopp

Jan 14 Marriage That Works: Let's Talk About Sex by Patty Friesen
Adult SS Forum – Part 1: 11:15 - Enneagram for Marriage and Other Relationships by Kaytee Edwards Buhler.
Part 2: 12:30-1:30 p.m

Jan 21 Marriage that Doesn't Work: How to Divorce Without Killing Anybody

Adult SS: Divorce

Jan 28 Dave Neufeld speaking

Sermon Series will be available on lobby lectern next Sunday so everyone can see where we are going and how we are going to get there!

Patty's holidays: *Church office closed Dec. 25-Jan.4. Patty will take emergency on-call Dec. 25-29 306-955-2928

Terri Lynn's holidays: December 25 - Jan 4 inclusive. On call: (c) [306-715-5595](tel:306-715-5595) Dec. 29 - Jan 3 while Patty in Kansas

Remember in Prayer:

- thanksgiving for great SS program -music of the season
- Nelda and Ramon's move to Luther Heights
- Esther Patkau's passing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***A big thank-you to:** Kevin and Melanie Boldt for leading choir; to Lynette Janzen, Naomi Schellenberg and Kathryn Janzen for leading the Sunday School program and Christmas Eve services; to choir members; to Nora and Kathy for Advent readings; to the guys fixing the roof.

***Sunday School Christmas Project:** This year the Sunday Christmas Giving Project is to collect funds in support of Mennonite Central Committee in their efforts to provide hunger relief around the world. More specifically, the project that we are supporting provides rabbits and chickens to needy families in various parts of the world. Rabbits produce quickly and cost little to raise and chickens provide eggs and meat. MCC-supported training helps people raise and sell animals such as these.

You are invited to support this project by placing a donation in the box by the project display in the foyer, or else you may designate an offering as *Christmas Giving Project*.

Donations will be accepted until the end of December. We hope to raise \$750 for this project.

***Winter Study on Marriage, Sex and Divorce** begins with Sunday, Jan. 7, 14, 21 sermons and 11:15 Adult Education. Kaytee will lead an Enneagram Personality study on Jan. 14 at 11:15am, and at 12:30-1:30 pm, following a Student MDS noon fundraiser potluck.

***Winter Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark and Ephesians** on Wednesdays 2018: Jan. 10, 17, 21, 28, and Feb. 7, 14 at 10:00 a.m. in the OMC coffee room. Everyone welcome.

***Forever-In-Motion Free Drop-In Classes** at the Osler Community Hall: Mondays and Thursdays January 8 – end of April, 2018. 10:00 – 11:00 am. All adults welcome! Please wear walking shoes. Contacts are Susan Braun and Lucy Friesen.

***Address change for Ramon & Nelda Hoffer:** Moving to Luther Heights: #117 – 1802 Alexandra Ave, Saskatoon, SK S7K 8A6

RJC WINTER THEATRE - The Theatre Arts Class will present "The Mad Tea Party" in the Pit Theatre on Saturday, January 20 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, January 21 at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 and will go on sale January 4, 2018. This play is appropriate for all audiences

***Saturday, January 13, 9:00 am, Men's Breakfast at the Osler Café.** Talk to Cornie or George if interested.

***Sunday, January 14, at noon: Potluck Fundraiser lunch:** Bring your favourite potluck dish(es) and come prepared to offer cash donations to go towards the transportation costs of our young people who will be going to Clearlake, California on MDS in February.

***SMYO Senior High Retreat at Shekinah, January 26-28.** See poster for registration details and let Terri Lynn know if you are going.

***Lost/Found: A ladies ring** was found in the ladies washroom last Sunday. If yours, please see the office with a description to claim it.

***MCC Colombia Education Fund:** Thank you to everyone who contributed their loose change to this project. In 2017 we were able to raise \$1,019,70 and this has enabled children in Colombia to have access to an education. This money has been forwarded to MCC.

***Rejoice Devotionals:** Please sign up if you are interested in receiving the Rejoice, which costs OMC \$37.70 per subscription. Users please consider giving as able.

***Prayer request from MC Sask:** May all of our Witness workers who have left their home communities and families (including grandchildren) to share the story of Jesus with others, be embraced by their global families and be truly refreshed and inspired through discovering anew the true meaning of Christmas.