

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 7/2018 Communion service, 10:00 am
Adult S.S. Forum on Marriage, 11:15 am
- Jan 11 Council meeting, 7:00 pm
- 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: Terry Stefaniuk Song Leader: Kevin Boldt
Pianist: Melanie Boldt Sound: Dick Braun
Ushers: Carl M-F, Lloyd S Nursery: Marlene Campbell

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 31, 2017

Fifth Sunday of Advent

Focus Statement: We marvel at the vastness of God's plan. We celebrate in exuberant praise what God has done and will continue to do.

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

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

Lighting of Advent & Christ Candles

Invocation

***Hymns: Blue/HWB #36 "God of our strength"**

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

Sharing of Joys & Concerns / Prayer of the Church

Offering/ Offertory Prayer

Children's Time Vanessa Stefaniuk

Hymn: Blue/HWB #285 "All hail the power of Jesus' name"

Scripture lesson: Luke 2:21-40

Hymn: Blue/HWB #71 "Joyful, joyful, we adore thee"

Sermon: "Let it be new" Audrey Bechtel

***Hymn: Purple/SS #32 "Oh, beautiful star of Bethlehem"**

*Benediction: As you go, may you rejoice greatly in the goodness of our God. May your whole being spring forth with joy. May you not find rest until redemption shines like the dawn and safekeeping glows like a burning torch. May you be called by a new name, and may you delight in the presence of 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**

Next Sunday, Communion Sunday, Jan 7: "Marriage that works: Seeking Wisdom" by Patty Friesen.

Worship Leader: Lyle Stucky Song leader: Kevin Boldt
Pianist: Melanie Boldt Nursery: Sarah Buhler
Sound: Dick Braun Children's Time: Terri Lynn Friesen
Ushers: Susan Braun, Cornie Guenther, Jadrian Guenther

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jan 7 Adult SS Forum @ 11:15am - 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 by Patty Friesen. Adult SS 11:15 : 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:

- Zachary's officiating Uncle Steven and Aunt Kelsey's wedding
- Joe's recovery from surgery -power/ water/sewer repair people
- Patty at her in-laws -wonderful Christmas Eve services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We welcome Audrey Muriel Bechtel as guest preacher this morning. Audrey is a retired chaplain, MC Sask preacher and member at Wildwood Mennonite Church. She is married to Ken Bechtel who is completing an interim ministry at Eigenheim Mennonite Church today.

*Tuesday, Jan. 2, 10:45 a.m. Granite Curling Club: Team Sawatzky vs Team Buhler for first place standings. Lunch to follow.

***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**.

Youth Calendar:

January 13 - 6:30-8:30pm

January 27 - 6:30-8:30pm

SMYO Sr. High Retreat at Shekinah: January 26 - 28 (Grades 9-12)
Registration forms on Bulletin Board and at www.mcsask.ca/youth-ministry/

***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 Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark and Ephesians** in 2018 in the OMC coffee room. Everyone welcome!

Wednesdays 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Jan. 10: Mark 1-4

Jan. 17: Mark 5-8

Jan. 24: Mark 9-12

Jan. 31: Mark 12-16

Feb. 7: Ephesians 1-3

Feb. 14: Ephesians 4-6

***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.

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

***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

***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** during spring break Feb. 18-25. People involved are Matthew Stefaniuk, Dayna Goerzen, Katie Wiebe (MC Sask Youth Minister interim) and Stephanie Siemens building 5 houses for seniors that were burned in the 2015 wildfires. Student **MDSers will be making dessert for the January 14 fundraiser potluck.** We will send them with our blessing on February 11 and they will report in church on March 4.

***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.

***Mark your calendars for these important Upcoming Events here at OMC:**

OMC AGM, Sat. Feb. 3, 9:30 a.m.

CMU Men's Chorus Sat. Feb. 3, 7:00 p.m.

RJC Chorale Sun. Feb. 4, 10:00 a.m.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

Luke 2:21-40

Jesus Is Named

21 After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'),²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage,³⁷ then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day.³⁸ At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.