

MCC NEWS

*MCC Connects - In Nepal, MCC and the local community are providing water storage for a high school. The tank to provide water for sanitation, drinking and cooking purposes at the school is being built with MCC finances and local partners doing the labor. Come support MCCs "Food For All" project at "An Evening of Quartets" at Forest Grove Community Church in Saskatoon on April 5 at 7:00 pm. Call 665-2555 for more information.

*MC Sask. Ministries Commission invites you to join the Touring Mission Fest on **April 25, 2009**. The tour will take you to Eyebrow, Hanley, Pleasant Point Mennonite Churches and the Dundurn Museum. The cost per person will be \$50.00. You can board the bus at Bethany Manor or at Wildwood Church in Saskatoon. Detailed information and registration forms are available from your churches. Come and see what God is doing in these communities! Seating is limited so please register early.

SOUP & PIE SUPPER & EASTER BAKE SALE

Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 5:00-7:00 pm.

Zoar Mennonite Church, Waldheim

Donations towards the Immigrant Resettlement Fund to assist Colombian families coming to Waldheim

*Saskatchewan Women in Mission Enrichment Day Saturday, **April 18th** from 10:30 – 3:30 in the Hanley Community Center. Elaine Harder and Dana Barrand (MCCS) will be sharing their experiences working with Refugees. Please bring a bag lunch - beverages and Faspa supplied. Check the bulletin board for the poster.

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

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No. 12

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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan

**A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace**

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
March 22, 2009 – Lent 4
God restores

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Call to worship

Leader: We are God's chosen trying to follow, trying to trust.

All: *We are learning to lean on God even in times of trouble*

Leader: When desolation haunts us, God provides

Right: wholeness and expectation.

Leader: When shadows darken our path, God offers

Left: healing and hope.

All: *Even in the midst of despair, God restores us.*

Theme Song: StJ #29

“You are all we have”

Chiming to worship and silent preparation

Invocation

PRAISING and HEARING

Hymn: HWB # 573

“What a friend we have in Jesus”

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Discipline of Silence and Prayer of the Church

Time with Children

Heather Shouse

Song: StJ # 95

“I want to walk as a child of the light”

Confession in unison

**Jesus, we confess you as the Lord of our lives,
the author and perfecter of our faith, our Saviour.
Grant us faith to submit to your lordship.
Give us strength to walk in your holy way. Amen**

Offering and offertory music
Offertory Prayer

Scripture presentation based on:
Numbers 21:4-9, John 3 14-21, Ephesians 2:1-10

Hymn: HWB # 377 “Healer of our every ill”

Sermon: “Night Vision” Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

Hymn: HWB # 575 “Precious Lord, take my hand”

Benediction:

Leader: May God's hand restore you,
 the Spirit speak in the depths of your hearts,
 the strength of Jesus fill you,
 so that you can follow God's teaching,
 rejoice in God's salvation,
 proclaim God's forgiveness
 and glorify the Lord.

All: Our lives are in your hands.

We welcome all who are worshipping with us today.

To all our visitors: WELCOME. If you are a first time visitor, please fill out the card that the ushers gave you, and place it in the offering bag. We are delighted that you are worshipping with us.

Deacons are still looking for a **Nursery Coordinator** to oversee the nursery and to arrange for nursery care during the worship time.

Children’s Worship Binder, an instrument to help children through the worship hour, is available on the table in the foyer.

Worship Leader: Christy Martens-Funk
Song Leader: Ben Buhler
Accompanist: Diana Buhler
Sound: Dave Klassen
Ushers: Cornie Guenther & Russ Friesen
Deacon greeter for March is Loretta Sawatzky

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Art and Edna Zacharias and Frieda Rempel who are in New Orleans with MDS. Check the bulletin board for bi-monthly MDS updates.

THANKS: Helen Peters wishes to thank people for the cards, food, flowers but especially for the support she received in the past month.

TODAY:

*Floor Hockey starting at 7:00 pm with the children and the Youth and Adults at 7:30 pm.

*RJC Guys & Pies Fundraiser and Dessert Auction, Sunday, **March 22**, 7:00 pm. Come and enjoy an evening of pie, coffee and music with Buncha’Guys. Included in the evening will be a dessert auction with funds going towards RJC Auxiliary projects. Join us for an evening of music and fun.

NEXT WEEK:

Blanket making will resume on Monday and Tuesday (March 23 & 24) starting at 9 am each day.

Thursday, March 26 at 8:30 pm – Missions and Service Committee meeting at church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Adult Easter Choir** rehearsals at 11:15 a.m. Anyone interested in singing Easter Sunday is encouraged to attend the rehearsals.

*April newsletter submissions are due by March 31

*Red & Yellow, Black & White, All are precious in His Sight !

OMC Kids Club continues each Monday in March.

Who: Children Grades 2 – 6 Bring a friend !

Where: Here!

Time: 7:00 - 8:15 pm

What: Fun, games, Crafts, snacks and a multicultural theme

(For more information, please contact Leanne, Loretta or Adeline)

*Osler Family Resource Centre is hosting a Food Safe Handlers Course on April 18. Since it is required that one person per kitchen usage must have this certification, we encourage more people to take in this one day course offered for only \$15. Contact Lisa @ 239-4616

***The youth** are planning to do an MDS project in Winnipeg on the week starting July 19. We would welcome anyone else who would be interested in coming with us. The cost is \$50. We will be renovating an old hotel that will be used to house low income people. Let Lucy Friesen know if you are interested.

*Shekinah Retreat Centre Fundraising Dinner & Silent Auction - Featuring entertainment by Matt & Laura Pauls. Saturday, **March 28, 2009** at Mount Royal Mennonite Church; Tickets \$15. Silent Auction opens 5:30 pm; Catered supper 6:30 pm. Please contact the Shekinah Office (945-4929) or a Shekinah Board Member for tickets.

*Volunteer Opportunity at Shekinah: hosting and housekeeping, term to begin July 1st. George and Agnes Epp have been volunteering this past year and their term ends in June. Come for a 6 month or 1 year term. For additional information or to express interest, please contact Shekinah (945-4929; office@shekinahretreatcentre.org).

*Cecilian Singers presents their Spring Concert on **April 4th** at 7:30 p.m. at Grosvenor Park United Church. Selections include sacred, including Dubois' /Seven Last Words of Christ/, and secular music. Tickets are \$12.00 in advance, \$15.00 at the door and are available from McNally Robinson.

***April 17th** MEDA Supper Event 6:00 pm Saskatoon Travelodge Hotel This years Connecting Faith and Business event will recognize Kathy Thiessen from Rosthern and Dave Giesbrecht from Saskatoon for their contributions in their work place, church and community involvement. Keynote speaker: Cheryl Dougan. Cost \$30.00. RSVP by April 13th – call Paul or Lois Tiessen, 374-8161 or Email pltiessen@sasktel.net

*Mennonite Church Canada Youth facilitators are looking forward to receiving the MC Canada Youth Assembly registrations. An exciting program is being planned and they hope to see you in Caronport on July 6-10. The bunnyhug (hoodie) and t-shirt designs are on the MC Canada website for viewing www.mennonitechurch.ca/events/youth09. Check it out and get your registrations coming in.

Mennonite Church Canada Assembly 2009:

Where: University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon Saskatchewan

When: June 4, 2009: Conference for Ministers

June 5-7, 2009: Mennonite Church Canada Annual Delegate Assembly: Yes, you read correctly! The dates for our assembly are indeed earlier than normal this year. The event really is June 5-7, 2009. This is to enable as many people as possible to attend Mennonite World Conference Assembly in Paraguay this summer; we are having an earlier, abbreviated Assembly this year. **Our theme** this year is **Living Inside Out** (Colossians 3:12-17). Based on the theme text from Colossians, the Delegate Assembly will reflect on our ministry together as God's People. Together we will:

- Learn and discuss how to strengthen our voice for peace in the public square;
- Understand and discuss issues of church growth and health;
- Strengthen our capacity to interpret God's Word;
- Engage in the routine but important ministry-enabling business of the church.

We are anticipating up to 500 persons coming to Saskatoon. It will be an inspiring time of fellowship and discernment.

*Check the bulletin board for more complete information.

Friends of MDS,
Spring greetings! Our snow is finally beginning to melt here in Manitoba and we are hopeful now that spring will actually come after a very long and cold winter. The following announcements from Mennonite Disaster Service are available for your church bulletins, mailboxes, announcement sheets or newsletters. Thank you for your continued support of our work and getting the word out regarding our needs and activities!

1. The Canadian MDS summer youth project will be hosted in core Winnipeg during July assisting with renovations to Red Road Lodge – once a 100 year old hotel & bar, now a rooming house for some of Winnipeg's former homeless. July 27-31 there is still room for a church youth group of 15 (including leaders). Please call 204-261-1274 to speak to Evelyn regarding this wonderful opportunity for young people to serve.

2. Urgent volunteer needs: New Orleans April 25-May 30 Crew leader, Assistant Cook. Pass Christian LA June 14-Aug 8 Project Director, Construction Supervisor, Office Manager. Diamond LA June 14-July 25 Project Director, Construction Supervisor, Office Manager. Winnipeg July 5-July 31 Project Director, Office Manager. Call Evelyn 204-261-1274 if you are available to serve!

3. MDS Manitoba is diligently monitoring the flood predictions for the Red River Valley this spring and preparing with its partner agencies to respond where needed.

4. Come out and join MDS at a banquet in Steinbach Manitoba April 4 6pm Steinbach Mennonite Church or for dessert in Edmonton Alberta April 24 7pm First Mennonite Church to hear about the work of Mennonite Disaster Service, eat great food, and be entertained with good music. (For tickets in Manitoba call the office

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: YEAR B – Lent 4

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Focus statement: With humanly scandalous remedies, God provides healing and hope in the midst of death and despair. We respond in trust, looking to God to restore us in times of trouble.

Numbers 21:4 - 9 (NRSV) ⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3:14 - 21 ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Next Week's passages: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:50; John 12:20-33