

# The Osler Mennonite Church

## April 2012 Newsletter

Osler Mennonite Church  
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<http://omchurch.org>  
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### A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

> The format of this newsletter is different because of production circumstances. <

## **HOLY WEEK and UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 pm--   | Maundy Thursday POTLUCK and Communion   |
| Friday, April 6 at 7:30 pm --    | Good Friday Service: The Stations of the Cross  |
| Sunday, April 8 at 10:00 am --   | Easter Resurrection Service -- Bring a Bell to Ring.  |
| 11:00 am --                      | Potluck Brunch (fruit, Easter bread, eggs &/or cheese)  |
| 11:30 am --                      | Children's Easter Egg Hunt and bubble blowing (weather permitting).   |
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| Tuesday, April 10, 10-noon       | Youth drop-in recreation time. Check youth calendar for other events.   |
| Saturday, April 14 at 5:00 pm -- | Seniors' Banquet for those 70 years and older.  |
| Saturday, April 21 --            | Church Work Day (the 28th is the rained out date)<br>MC Saskatchewan Leadership Assembly  |
| Sunday, April 22 --              | Earth Care Sunday   |
| Tuesday, April 24                | RJC/CMU banquet and concert.<br>Reservations are necessary for the banquet.<br>Contact Margaret Dyck if you can help billet students. |
| Saturday, May 5 at 5:00 pm--     | Mission Tour Supper at our church. All are invited, but reservations are needed. Details will be on the bulletin board.               |

\*Committees: please check your minutes for your April meeting time.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE FUTURE EVENTS**

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|----------------------|--|
| Sunday, May 6 --     | Weiner roast at the church                             |
| June 8 & 9 --        | MCC Sale   |
| Sunday, June 17 --   | Church Picnic  |
| June 21, 22, 23 --   | TRC in Saskatoon (Truth and Reconciliation Commission) |
| Saturday, June 30 -- | Food Grains Fund raiser.                               |

## Pastor's Notes

As my thoughts are focussed on Passion/Holy Week, I am reminded about the importance of prayer. One of the blessing and responsibilities of being in a faith community is engaging in the power of prayer. Through prayer, our spirits are enhanced, and so too is our compassion, empathy and understanding. In addition, intercessory prayer sends and surrounds the focussed person(s) with God's Spirit--love. There is healing in prayer for the sender and receiver. So, please consider making it in discipline in your daily life to pray for each other. Set aside at least ten minutes each day to pray for those in our church--each of us, and be sure to add an extra prayer for the church leaders and all those serving on committees or in different capacities.

Gordon Allaby

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### ✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

{From the Courier-Journal newspaper of Louisville, Kentucky}

#### **There is another way**

Gorgui Dieng is a basketball player from the University of Louisville. He is having a good season, and his team has made it to the final four of the NCAA playoffs. He's 6'7", and is a rising prospect for the NBA, and only a few ever play in the NBA; however, Dieng is different not because of where he's going, but because of where he's been. Lots of players dream of NBA millions. Dieng has a different view of money.

A native of Kebemer, Senegal, a town of about 15,000 two hours out of the nation's capital, Dieng is the son of Momar Dieng, a school principal, local mayor and legislator who greatly shaped his views about the future, and his basketball enterprise. Perhaps it's best if you listen to him tell this part of the story, and it is not without emotion that he tells it: "Where I am from, my dad taught me how to share," Dieng said. "A lot of people are selfish in this world right now."

Dieng said his father used to take his salary and sit it on a table. People would make a line outside the house because his father was known for his generosity. "My dad always told me, I made this money. I'm not going to save it for you, I'm going to give it to people that need it. If you want to make your own money, just go work for it. He always told me. I'm going to give you food, I'm going to feed you well, I'm going to get you clothes, I'm going to take you to school. But don't ever think that you're going to get my money one day.

"... Then he took that money and gave it to the poor. Bought them food, clothes, took their kids and got them school stuff. And I learned from that. Why could I not be like him one day? Make my own money, helping poor people and people that need it. I think he's a role model and he taught me how important school is. ... You need to be smart to be successful in this life."

"If I made it to the NBA one day, that would be 70 percent of my goals," he said. "And I'm going to change people's lives where I'm from. They're going to look at me and realize how important school and education are. They're going to understand I get where I am through school. Because some kids where I'm from quit school just to play sport. If I have both, get my degree, make it to the league, they will see."

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*Anyone can become angry. That is easy. But to be angry with the right person, to the right degree, at the right time, for the right purpose and in the right way, that is not easy. - Aristotle*

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* Thanks to all who helped, **DO ART** was a huge success. For three Tuesdays in March, grades 4-9 children from our church and community, did ART. Cheryl Haas and Clint Neufeld were the artist instructors, and the children thoroughly enjoyed being creative / doing art. For an hour and half, three evenings in March, they helped make the world a better place because art is the opposite of war. They added to the creative Spirit, and loved it. In fact, they'd like to have DO ART become a regular ministry of our church. These art classes were sponsored by the Education Committee.

\* More Sunday School teachers are needed. Our rotation style of Sunday School depends on many people willing to teach, and the commitment is only for three weeks. So, teachers are not tied up all school year. Moreover, teaching is a wonderful opportunity to meet and encourage our children--our most precious resource. Children thrive when adults demonstrate interest in their lives. So, please contact John, and let him know that you'd love to teach a rotation (3 weeks).

\* **Survival of the Weakest: Justice, Mercy and the Local Church** is an upcoming conference at Lakeview Church in Saskatoon on May 12th from 8:30am-4:00pm. The keynote speakers will be Shane Claiborne (Irresistible Revolution), Ron Sider (Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger) and Leonard Sweet (Soul Tsunami). They will challenge attendees to think and act responsibly in bringing justice and healing in the world. There will also be numerous workshops focusing on this kind of work in Saskatoon and area. Contact Stephanie if you'd like to attend, as she is arranging for group rates. Also, see <http://www.theweakest.ca/index.html> for more information.

\* **Anyone interested in decorating the church** for various themes, church seasons and events, please let Gordon know.

\* **The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada** will host its fourth National Event in Saskatoon on June 21 to 24. This is an opportunity for all Canadians, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, to learn more about and bear witness to the legacy of the Residential School system. Prior to the National Event in Saskatoon the TRC is holding 12 Community Hearings throughout Saskatchewan. The schedule appears in the information posted on the bulletin board. Attending one or two of these hearings is a good way to prepare ourselves for attending the event in June or watch live webcasts of the hearings online. For the latest information go to: <http://sk.mcc.org/truth-and-reconciliation-commission-canada>

## Youth Mentorship at OMC

The Education Committee and Youth Ministry Team, in response to the growing needs of our youth group, have been exploring the concept of youth mentorship at OMC. In response to this desire to learn more, we invited Anna Rehan, Mennonite Church Saskatchewan's Conference Youth Minister, to teach the committee and congregation a bit more about the model. She shared with us the following:

*What is mentoring?*

Mentoring involves matching the youth with a mature adult from within the congregation (the mentor). This pair would then hopefully develop a close relationship, one in which the mentor would be offering the youth friendship, support and counsel.

*Where do we find examples of mentoring in the Bible?*

The relationship between Jesus and his disciples is an obvious one. Samuel's relationship with Eli: as Samuel observed and learned the ministry of the priesthood from Eli's experience. Paul and Timothy: as Paul gave Timothy special encouragement in developing his faith.

*Why would a congregation consider mentoring?*

Mentoring can offer the adults in the church an opportunity to walk side by side with their youth, helping them be and become all that God intended – unique expressions of God's love in the world. Mentoring can compliment the other settings in the congregation where the lives of youth are touched such as Youth Group, SS, family life and worship.

*When can people enter the mentoring program?*

There are different ages at which youth can be matched with mentors, however, many begin at 12 years old.

*Who is involved in the mentoring program?*

The youth-mentor relationship can involve Junior and Senior youth and any adult church member.

In the months ahead, I will be meeting with youth, their parents, and those congregational members who the youth have identified as possible mentors. We will be discussing mentorship in more detail and determining personal interest in mentorship ministry involvement. My hope is that by the beginning of the new school year, we will have our youth/mentor matches in place and an exciting new ministry for our OMC youth will have begun.

Please keep the youth, their parents and the congregation as a whole in your prayers as we embark on this new ministry together.

Leslie Allaby



**A Beautiful Explanation of Death**

A sick man turned to his doctor as he was preparing to leave the examination room. "Doctor," he said. "I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side."

"I don't know," said the doctor, very quietly.

"You don't know? You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door. From the other side came a sound of scratching and whining. As he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that I was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing. I know my loving God is there and that is enough."

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Sunday, April 22 at 2:30 pm, Station Singers , under the direction of Duff Warkentin, present Mendelssohn's Lobgesang (Song of Praise) at the Station Arts Centre in Rosthern. Soloists include Louella Friesen, Louise Friesen and Philip Klaassen. Accompanists are Sharryl Riekman, piano, and Janet Wilson, organ. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students, \$5.00 for 12 & under. Tickets are available from the Station (232-5332). This concert is also being performed in Saskatoon at the Grace Westminster United Church on Saturday, April 21 @ 7:30 pm. Tickets at the door.

Ted Janzen for Station Singers

Plan to attend, "Meda in Ethiopia"

May 3rd, 5:30 reception 6:00 pm supper at Bethany Manor Fellowship Hall. Allan Sauder, President of Meda, will share Meda's work in Ethiopia with small-scale rice farmers and artisans to achieve higher income and more sustainable livelihoods.

RSVP by April 30th. Call Bethany Manor office 242-9019 or email [smcsi@sasktel.net](mailto:smcsi@sasktel.net)

Cost \$20.00

### [Art featured at Assembly 2012](#)

For the third year in a row, an art exhibit will be featured with Mennonite Church Canada's Annual Assembly. In keeping with the 2012 Assembly theme, Dusting off the Bible for the 21st Century, artists are invited to submit scripture based artworks for possible inclusion in the exhibit.

October 20, 2012 An Ecumenical day sponsored by the Roman Catholic Social Justice Commission invites all church/faith communities to a workshop called "It Ain't Easy Being Green: Faithful Alternatives to Energy, Economics and the Environment. Guest speakers: Mark Anielski and Mark Bigland Prichard. Save the date! more info to follow.

Claire Ewert Fisher

- Canadian Mennonite University [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)

Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) invites inquiries and applications for five positions: Development Associate (FT), Accounting Assistant (FT), Enrolment Counsellor (FT), Enrolment Counsellor (12 wks), Outtown Program Manager (FT). Direct inquiries to Dianna Robson, Director of Human Resources at [drobson@cmu.ca](mailto:drobson@cmu.ca). Visit <http://www.cmu.ca/employment.html>

Apply now for CMUs Redekop School of Business. Scholarships for transfer and first-year students are available. See what being a part of the CMU community is all about. Contact [zpeters@cmu.ca](mailto:zpeters@cmu.ca).

Come learn about Women and Peacebuilding with Ouyporn Khuankaew and Anna Snyder at the Canadian School of Peacebuilding, June 25 - 29, 2012. See [csop.cmu.ca](http://csop.cmu.ca) or [csop@cmu.ca](mailto:csop@cmu.ca) for more information.

Come participate in your choice of five-day courses for personal inspiration, professional development, or academic credit at the Canadian School of Peacebuilding, June 18-22 and 25-29. Apply by April 1 to avoid a \$50 late fee. More information is available at [csop.cmu.ca](http://csop.cmu.ca) or by e-mailing [csop@cmu.ca](mailto:csop@cmu.ca).

“Youth Ministry as School of Love” is a youth ministry conference planned for June 1 - 2 at CMU. Associated with the conference is an intensive week long course that can be taken for graduate or undergraduate credit. The conference and course will feature Mark Yaconelli and Michael Hryniuk. Participants can register for this conference separately or participate as part of the week long course. Details and registration information can be found at [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)

You can Recycle your fluorescent bulbs at London Drugs

**MEDIATION - An Informal Process for Conflict Resolution**

Saskatoon: May 15-16 (early rate deadline April 24)

*When people involved in conflict cannot resolve it on their own, a third party facilitator may be what is needed to resolve the dispute. This skills based workshop is designed to give participants the understanding to work with disputing parties to identify interests, clarify issues and work towards options for resolving the conflict. Participants will have the opportunity to experience scenarios that will help prepare them for intervening in various conflict situations*

Workshop Fee: Early Rate \$385 + GST; Regular Rate \$460 + GST

**EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE - Increasing Harmony and Productivity**

Saskatoon: April 12 (limited space still available)

*Emotional intelligence (EI) refers to the ability to identify and assess the emotions of oneself and others and then to use that information to guide one's actions. While cognitive skills are also important, it is emotional intelligence that has the greatest impact on people's ability to be productive and work well with others. Participants of this workshop will learn to utilize emotional intelligence more effectively through both self-assessment and skill development exercises, resulting in an increased sense of how to engage more effectively with others.*

Workshop Fee: Early Rate \$150 + GST; Regular Rate \$180 + GST

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**Humour ~ The Isaac Section**

An irate customer called the newspaper demanding to know where her Sunday paper was. "Madam," said the newspaper employee, "Today is Saturday; the Sunday paper will be delivered tomorrow, on Sunday."

There was a long pause. "Well!" she said, "I guess that explains why there was no one at church either."

[submitted by Loretta]

Humor isn't the opposite of seriousness. Humor is the opposite of despair." -- Conrad Hyers

{ Share your JOKES }