

OMC Calendar

April 2017

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Each Sunday</u> Worship: 10:00 am.</p> <p>Sunday School: 11:15 am.</p>						1
<p>2 Terri Lynn Friesen preaching</p>	3	4	5	<p>6 Council meeting 7:00 pm</p>	7	8
<p>9 Patty Friesen preaching</p>	10	11	12	<p>13 Maunday Thursday Potluck & Communion 6:00 pm</p>	<p>14 Good Friday service 7:00 pm</p>	15
<p>16 Easter Patty Friesen Preaching. Easter Potluck Brunch 11:00 am.</p>	17	<p>18 Ladies Heart to Heart mtg 7:00 pm</p>	<p>19 Worship Comm Meeting 7:00 pm</p>	20	21	22
<p>23 Steph Siemens Preaching</p> <p>30 Patty Friesen Preaching. Seniors pizza @ Bethany Manor 5:00 pm</p>	24	25	26	<p>27 Missions & Service mtg 7:00 pm</p>	28	29

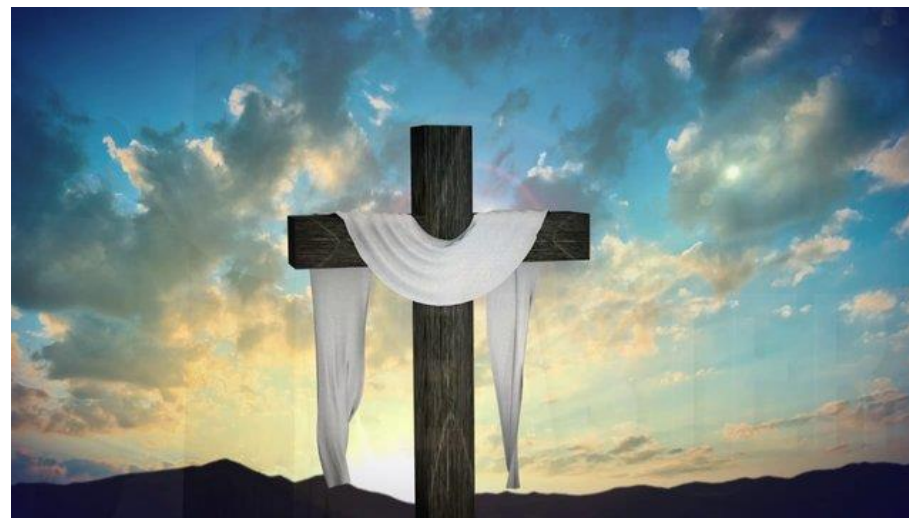
Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found on the Events Calendar on the church website. www.omchurch.org

The Osler Mennonite Church APRIL 2017 Newsletter

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



Upcoming Worship Services at OMC

- April 2 "Go down Moses" – Terri Lynn Friesen
- April 9 "Palm Sunday & the Passover Lamb" – Patty Friesen
- April 13 Maunday Thursday Potluck & Communion, 6:00 pm
- April 14 Good Friday service, 7:00 pm
- April 16 "Easter & Deliverance" – Patty Friesen
- April 23 "Deborah" – Stephanie Siemens
- April 30 "Bread & Water of Life" – Patty Friesen

"YOU ARE LOOKING FOR JESUS THE NAZARENE,, WHO WAS CRUCIFIED. HE HAS RISEN! HE IS NOT HERE.

MARK 16:6

Patty's Ponderings:

Lent sucks. After only 2 weeks of giving up favourite comfort foods and drinks, Patrick and my household is a little on the edge with withdrawal. But we have to admit that we feel better for not stuffing ourselves with "comfort" these past weeks. This season of discipline is really good for us. We have a friend who has given up plastic for Lent and is alarmed by how much plastic has invaded her life and our culture. Lent is about personal and social awareness.

We "give up" things for Lent but we also "take on" renewed efforts at morning devotions. I accidently picked up the green child-friendly lenten material at church which had Patrick and I making up actions to songs. Finally we're into the more serious purple material and appreciate the reflections on scripture and prayers.

Easter is late this year and it will really feel like a springlike celebration. In our journey through Exodus, we will land Passover on Maundy Thursday and the Crossing of the Red Sea on Easter Sunday, putting our Christian traditions solidly within the Jewish ones. It gives a fresh perspective on what Jesus means through Exodus eyes. May God bless the remainder of our Lenten observances and upcoming Easter celebrations.

Patty's Picks

*Where God Was Born by Bruce Feiler is a wonderful accompaniment to Old Testament Bible Study.

*The Brain's Way of Healing by Norman Doidge was a super interesting and helpful read.

*The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben was also super interesting.

*Big Magic by Elisabeth Gilbert on the creative powers that surround us has stuck with me for weeks.

*Dark Horse DVD is a hopeful story for dark times. Welsh accent can be challenging.

*Queen of Katwe DVD is a hopeful story for dark times. Ugandan accent can be challenging.

*Loving DVD is another hopeful story for dark times. Southern accents can be challenging.

*A Man Called Ove is a Swedish hopeful story for dark times. English sub-titles alleviate challenging accents :)

Terri Lynn's Takes: "Never say never."

Thomas and I bought a house this month. Owning a home is never something I thought I'd do; I couldn't have imagined having to commit to one place for at least the first half of my twenties. And besides, my skill set ranks pretty low in relation to anything 'handy'.

Thankfully, I've always had housemates who enjoy that sort of thing, and now, my permanent housemate does too. :) But even now, I prefer to think of us as the current stewards of our house and yard; many people have lived in this house before us. We hope to share it with at least a few more, and hope many more will call it home after our season here is over.

It's a three-storey fixer-upper; the last paint job(s) weren't done with much care, and the yard has received even less. But, the foundation is good, and the size fits our current dreams: there is room for one, or two, or even three more suites, and eventually the yard could grow most of our veggie needs. We have big dreams for this place – some that we still can't fully articulate - but that we hope our elbow grease (& reno budget) can keep up with.

But one thing that I've loved about hanging out with Mennonites, especially of many different age brackets, is that big and radical dreams are the norm! In the past, I've thought that my generation was doing something new, and radical. But then, I'll sit down with someone who tells me an equally radical story of their lifetime – farming out of principle and not just profit, raising kids overseas, peaceful protests, starting businesses and non-profits, and stepping out in faith to do service terms, plant churches, offer radical hospitality, and other adventures of all kinds that probably looked a bit risky at the time.

The adventures to which our faith calls us are as unique as we are each created to be. Not all adventures are glamorous or exotic, they often involve being uncomfortable, and there's a good chance that lots of folks won't 'get it'. But our biblical story is full of good company, and so is the history of Anabaptists. And so, I have stopped saying aloud, "I could never do that!", and started trying to pay more attention to God's Spirit breaking into my awareness and into the world.

Old Testament Worship Themes for April

April 2	Exodus 1-11	Moses
April 9	Exodus 12	Palm Sunday & the Passover Lamb
April 13	Exodus 13	Maunday Thursday, 6 pm Potluck, Communion and Passover
April 14	Exodus 14	Good Friday "Through the Red Sea"
April 16	Exodus 15	Easter and Deliverance
April 23	Judges 4-5	Deborah

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist."

Golda Meir

YOUTH & INTERGENERATIONAL CALENDAR

April 1	Youth worship practice at OMC, 3:30-5:30 pm
April 13	Intergenerational Seder Meal (Maundy Thurs) 6 pm
Apr 18-19	Mega Menno - Honouring the Earth event with MCC
April 21	Youth Discussion Night, 7:30 PM
May 7	S.S. Hour - Intergenerational Purim Party
May 19	Youth Discussion Night
May 26-28	Jr High Retreat at Shekinah

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.

OMC's History of Women and Ordination by Jake Buhler and Patty Friesen

OMC's first minister beginning in 1928 was Kevin Boldt's great grandfather, Jacob J Boldt. He served until 1933.

The first ordination in Osler Mennonite Church occurred on August 9, 1938 when Jacob H Pauls (Edna Z's father) and Cornelius Boldt (Kevin Boldt's grandfather's brother) were ordained by Aeltester David Toews. Cornelius Boldt left the community soon thereafter, leaving Jacob Pauls to serve almost alone for the next 25 years.

Walter Franz who replaced Jacob Pauls was ordained in 1963.

OMC supported 2 female missionaries, Martha Giesbrecht and Martha Boschman financially, during the 1950s -early 60s. They were not ordained. Much of the money was raised by the women of OMC through the two Naevereins.

Helen Kruger was the first Mennonite chaplain to be ordained in 1995 for her work at St. Paul's hospital. She also was the first woman to be ordained at Osler Mennonite Church. In her pioneering path of chaplaincy and the ordination of women, **we were pleased to ordain Julie Bergen, March 5, 2017.** We will license Terri Lynn Friesen for ministry on June 18, 2017. We are keeping MC Sask minister Ryan Siemens busy! We will celebrate OMC's 90th anniversary on Thanksgiving weekend 2018.

There are many concerts and fundraisers in the coming weeks:

-**Sonrisa Womens Choir**, Saturday, April 1, 7:30 pm at Knox United.

-**RJC Guys and Pies**, Sunday, April 2, 7:00 pm at RJC.

-**Saskatoon Men's Chorus**, April 23, 2:30 pm at Grace Westminster United Church.

-**Station Singers**, Thursday, April 27, 7:30 pm at Rosthern Station Arts Centre; and Friday, April 28, 7:30 pm at Mayfair United Church in Saskatoon.

-**Shekinah Fundraising Banquet**, Saturday, May 6, 6:00 pm at Mount Royal Church in Saskatoon.

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Adult choir practice** continues Sunday mornings at 9:00 am on April 2, 9 & 16.

***MCC Blanket Making: Thank you to all the volunteers** who came out to make blankets. 100 blankets were delivered to MCC. Whoohoo!

***Easter Potluck Brunch for everyone** and an Easter Egg hunt for the children after Worship on Easter Sunday.

***Ladies Heart to Heart** on Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 pm. We welcome Cindy Wallace to lead us in Part 2 in our study of the Book of Esther.

***“The Great Canadian Mennonite Opera – A love story between Haenschen Klein and Haiden Roeslein -”** is a play written and performed by the descendants of Isaak Zacharias at Bethany Manor on **Saturday, April 29th**, 7:30 pm. All are welcome!

***MDS Service Project in the Hague/Osler area:** Volunteers are needed throughout the summer months, starting May 14, to build houses that will be moved onto basements that are being built in Fort McMurray. Contact the MDS rep in your area and sign up today!

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Apr 1	Youth worship practice, 3:30-5:30 pm
Apr 6	Council mtg, 7:00 pm
Apr 13	Maunday Thursday Potluck & Communion, 6:00 pm
Apr 14	Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm
Apr 16	Potluck Brunch, 11:00 am; Easter Egg hunt for children
Apr 18	Ladies Heart to Heart, 7:00 pm
Apr 19	Worship Committee mtg, 7:00 pm
Apr 27	Missions & Service mtg, 7:00 pm
Apr 30	Senior's Pizza party @ Bethany Manor, 5:00 pm

HUMOUR

Conservative Mennonite Church Accidentally Elects Female Elder
March 5, 2017 Daily Bonnet elders, gender roles
KRONSFELD, MB

For decades, members of South Kronsfield Mennonite Church have faithfully followed the biblical model of deciding absolutely everything, including church leaders, by pulling names out of Mr. Wall's hat. However, this practice has come into question recently after the church's first female elder was selected using this method. "We usually just throw all the names of the eligible candidates in a hat, pray over it, and let the Lord decide," explained longtime church elder Peter B. Wall. "I'm not sure how it happened but when I reached in to select the new elder, I pulled out the name of Mrs. Henry Vogt. I thought for sure there must be some kind of error."

Wall suggested that the 's' at the end of 'Mrs' was really not meant to be there, but try as he might he could not succeed in explaining it away.

"Perhaps it was just an ink smudge," pondered the elder. "Because it couldn't possibly be that the Lord wanted a woman on the board. A woman elder? It doesn't give such."

Some church members were considering casting another vote, but Mr. Wall reluctantly admitted that, "the hat has spoken," and that Mrs. Vogt would be allowed to take her position.

Since the casting of lots was clearly the biblical method of elder selection there was simply nothing Mr. Wall or any of the other men in the congregation could do, and Mrs. Vogt was pleased to take her spot on the board.

"I'm glad to see our church make some progress, even if it was brought on by a leaky pen," said Mrs. Vogt, who said she was pleased with her selection. "*Oba*, the Lord works in mysterious ways, yet."

Hard work is easier to admire if you don't have to do it!

Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want.