

OMC Calendar

April 2018

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Easter Patty Friesen preaching. Brunch 11:15 am. Kid's Easter egg hunt	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 George Janzen preaching	9	10	11	12 Council mtg 7 pm	13 OMC 90 th committee mtg 10 am	14 Seedy Sat 1:00-2:30 pm Youth 6:30- 8:30 pm
15 Patty Friesen preaching. Seniors pizza supper @ Bethany Manor 5 pm	16	17	18	19 M & S mtg 7:00 pm	20	21 Serve at Friendship Inn
22 Patty Friesen preaching.	23	24	25	26	27	28 Youth 6:30 - 8:30 pm
29 Dan Richert preaching	30					<u>Each Sunday</u> Worship: 10:00 am Sunday School: 11:15 am

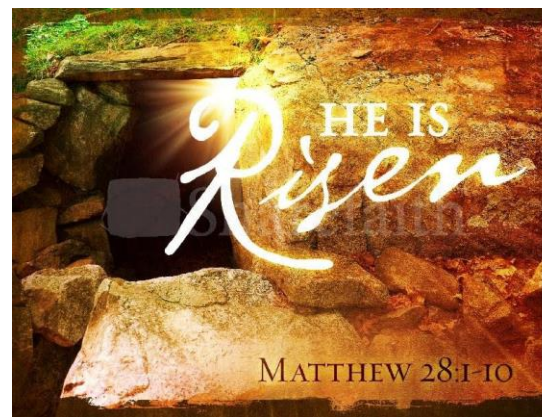
Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found on the Events Calendar on the church website. www.omchurch.org

The Osler Mennonite Church APRIL 2018 Newsletter

Osler Mennonite Church
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<http://www.omchurch.org>
 Volume X1 Fourth Edition

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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE



April 1 "O Healing River" by Patty Friesen. 11:15 am Brunch
April 8 "Easter Part II" by George Janzen
April 15 "Peter and John Went to Pray" by Patty Friesen
April 22 "Peter and John on Trial" by Patty Friesen
April 29 Dan Richert preaching

**"WHY DO YOU LOOK FOR THE LIVING AMONG THE DEAD?
 HE IS NOT HERE; HE IS RISEN."
 LUKE 24:5-6**

Pastor Patty's Ponderings:

The Power of Moments by Chip Heath reminds us of moments in which grace breaks through and changes us. In our personal lives, it's our first day of school, getting our driver's license, graduation, our weddings and the births of our children. In church, it is those moments when we are moved by someone's testimony, our baptism, participating in a service project, the funerals of our loved ones. Chip Heath says the power of moments may be serendipitous or they can be orchestrated. In our homes, we orchestrate birthday parties and anniversary celebrations. In church, we orchestrate Christmas programs and Easter services - the power of moments of Christ's life that changed history. We also orchestrate grace-filled moments through blanket making and serving at Friendship Inn, Sunday School picnics and 90th anniversaries. The 90th Anniversary Committee has been sharing OMC memories in worship, moments that celebrate our church. Let's make space for grace this spring and find even more moments to celebrate at home and church.

Patty's Picks:

Chosen Nation by Benjamin Goossen provided eye-opening connections in Mennonite history. Available in church library. Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese is a re-read for me but one that continues to delight over the years about Indian doctors in Ethiopia.

Victoria & Abdul DVD is a fascinating biographical relationship between Queen Victoria and her Pakistani servant/friend Abdul. Alive Canada on www.vimeo.com/flonick is an amazing photographic journal of Nick's time in the Rockies.

Terri Lynn's Takes: Spiritual Streams

In February, we've taken a couple of Sunday School Forums to talk about *Spiritual Streams*. The imagery of Spiritual Streams comes from Richard Foster, a Quaker thinker and author from Colorado who is also known for his work, *Celebration of Discipline*. In his book *Streams of Living Water*, Foster invites us to think about six traditions of Christian faith flowing out of different but equally important parts of the person of Jesus:

- The contemplative, or prayer-filled life
- The holiness stream, or virtuous life
- The charismatic stream, or spirit-empowered life
- The proclamation/evangelical stream, or word-centred life
- The social justice stream, or compassionate life
- The incarnational stream, or sacramental life

We all have streams that naturally flow out of who we, and we are also conditioned by the spiritual environments with which we are familiar. But ideally, we can appreciate the best each stream has to offer, be aware of the pitfalls that we can fall into when we become complacent in what is familiar to us, and seek to see how each stream is linked in many ways to the others. If you missed the sessions or are curious to learn more, there are extra resources on the table in the entrance of OMC.

And additional reading from MC USA: *Love Is A Verb Spiritual Practices Resource for 2016-17*

Available at: http://mennoniteusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Love_Is_A_Verb_Spiritual_Practices_Resource_2016-17.pdf

Enneagram Workshop:

If you were intrigued by the Enneagram workshop that Kaytee led in January, there is a full-day workshop happening on **Saturday, April 21 - 9am-4pm** at the College Park Covenant Church (Saskatoon) led by Spiritual Director Deb Arndt. There will be a \$10 fee for the workshop (lunch included). If you're interested in attending, please [click here](#) to register or on their church website: www.collegeparkcovenant.org. The group will be limited to 20 participants. Registration **Deadline: April 14**

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*OMC 90th Anniversary “Celebrating Diversity” Updates:

-**Sat. Oct. 13**, 4:00 p.m. Open House: visiting, art show, cemetery tour, 5:30 pm - Diversity Potluck, 7:00 Music Program. Open to community.

-**Sun. Oct. 14**, 10:00 a.m. Worship Service followed by Celebration Coffee and burying of OMC 100 Time Capsule.

-**Other Events:** Spring visit to original Kasdorf home-site and wiener roast at Wiebe farm. Watch for more details to come.

*Seedy Saturday, April 14, 1:00 p.m. @ OMC

1:00 Community Garden info and registration

1:30 Gardening Techniques by Shyla Cross

2:00 Seed Swap and Coffee Free and Open to the Public

*Osler Community Garden Plant Sale

OMC Friday, May 25, 2:00-sold out

Anyone who would like to donate extra plants, please bring them to church the day of.

OMC YOUTH CALENDAR

CANCELLED: Honouring the Earth has been cancelled by MC SK for this year ☺

Regular youth nights:

Sat April 14: 6:30-8:30

Sat April 28: 6:30-8:30

***Save the Date:** Jr. High Retreat (Gr. 6-9) May 25-27 at Youth Farm Bible Camp

OMC CALENDAR

Apr 1 Easter Service 10:00 am; Brunch 11:15 am. Easter Egg hunt for the children!

Apr 12 Council meeting, 7:00 pm

Apr 13 OMC 90th committee meeting, 10:00 am

Apr 14 Seedy Saturday, 1:00-2:30 pm

Apr 15 Senior's Pizza supper at Bethany Manor, 5:00 pm

Apr 19 Missions & Service meeting, 7:00 pm

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

Praying gives you a moment of peace; it's a chance to recharge your batteries so that you can go on with greater strength.

*A Tribute to Tuesday Morning Open at the Granite:

There once were ten curlers from Osler (and Hague)

Who would not be considered posers.

The rocks they would hurl

And with accuracy curl

And into the button would nose-er.

Thanks for an entertaining season! Your fans

***Doctrine of Discovery:** A Comic Lament by Ted and Co at Wanuskewin, Thursday, July 26. There will be a dance performance at 2:00 p.m. as part of the regular Wanuskewin programming. They can also arrange for a smudge and prayer by elders at the opening of the Discovery: A Comic Lament presentation. They will see if the restaurant will stay open until 6:00 instead of the regular closure at 4:30 p.m.

This day has the potential to communicate powerfully the beauty and tragedy of our relationship with First Nations kin; a half day picnic of exposure to new understandings. Folks have free access to the park if they come to attend this show.

Sponsored by Ministries Commission of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan with financial support of MCC and individual congregations.

CAPSULE SERMONS

“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”
-Mark Twain

“Character is doing the right thing when nobody is looking.”
-J.C. Watts, Jr

MC Sask Vision Year One 2018: Deepening Relationship with God

***Actions Highlighted by OMC Delegates, March 10, 2018**

Choose 1-2 from each category:

Personal

Commit 5-20 minutes per day to prayer.

Commit 5-20 minutes per day walking in a spirit of prayer.

Ask a person to be your spiritual friend: sharing your faith journey.

Read one or more books on the theology and practices of prayer.

Council/Committees

*Begin each meeting with several minutes of silent prayer.

Begin each meeting by inviting each person to share for a minute about how they are doing and pray for that person.

Commit 5 minutes of every meeting midway or at end for listening to God's call.

Fast from one activity, replacing this energy with prayer and/or spiritual reading.

*Council devote one meeting/year focused on deepening faith/reading scripture

Congregation

*Allow for silence and contemplative prayer as part of the worship service (at beginning or after sermon)

*Plan a congregational retreat to learn about spiritual disciplines.

On 5th Sunday, plan a differently-styled worship service to meet God in a new way.

Invite one person per Sunday to share in worship about their encounter with God.

Teach practices of prayer through MC Sask Spiritual Formation, book study, centering prayer.

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR APRIL

April 1, 2018, Easter

I shall live

Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

or Acts 10:34-43

John 20:1-18 *or* Mark 16:1-8

April 8, 2018

Life was revealed

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

April 15, 2018

We are witnesses

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

April 22, 2018

I am the good shepherd

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

April 29, 2018

Abide in me

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

HUMOR

Support a Family

The prospective father-in-law asked, “Young man, can you support a family?”

The surprised groom-to-be replied, “Well, no. I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to fend for yourselves. “

Grandma’s Age

Little Johnny asked his grandma how old she was.

Grandma answered, “39 and holding.”

Johnny thought for a moment and then said, “How old would you be if you let go?”

Airport Security

Little Willie: My grandma is here to visit us for a week.”

Neighbour: “That’s nice. Where does she live?”

Little Willie: “At the airport. Whenever we want her, we just go out there and pick her up.”

Wishful Thinking

Bakery clerk: “What would you like today?”

Customer: “I’d **like** that chocolate-covered doughnut, that jelly-filled doughnut and that cheese Danish. **But...** I’ll take an oat bran muffin.”

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.

Mennonite Historical Society of Sask. Events:

APRIL 13 @ 7 p.m. - Film Night “And When They Shall Ask” at Bethany Manor Fellowship Centre, Saskatoon, coffee to follow, and books for sale. All are welcome. Free Admission. Donations will be accepted.

And When They Shall Ask is a portrait of the Mennonite experience focusing on Russia during the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, but beginning with background of the Menno Simons Era (16th century). Using interviews, the past is seen through the eyes of those who experienced it. The film follows Mennonites through migration, prosperity and persecution using archival footage, present day footage from the Soviet Union, and drama. It is a film about the past with a message of hope for tomorrow. The film was produced by Dueck Films. The music score is by Victor Davies and features unforgettable melodies from hymns of faith and hope.

APRIL 20 @ 7 p.m. – Come to a Book Evening at Bethany Manor Fellowship Centre, Saskatoon, coffee to follow, and books for sale.

“**FLIGHT**” is a 735-page book of translations and summaries by writer-editor Harold Jantz, all from the Mennonitische Rundschau. It tells the story of the Russian Mennonite community facing the Soviet empire in 1929-30. This was the period of a mass flight of Mennonites to Moscow, the refugee movement to Paraguay, Brazil, and Canada, the beginning of exile for many who remained in Russia, and a 1930 Mennonite World Relief Conference in Danzig. **FLIGHT** is about suffering, perseverance of faith, and starting again in the face of adversity. For survivors or descendants of the time, **FLIGHT** will have great interest.

What is Spring?

Officially, Spring arrives on the day of Spring Equinox, around March 21, when night and day are the same length. But around Osler, Winter is usually steadfast on March 21. Indeed, because of our high latitude, true Spring arrives a month or so later.

We could say true Spring arrives when:

- Seven consecutive days pass with no days under zero degrees.
- Crocuses stick their heads out of the ground in a pasture or field.
- Robins and meadow larks and hawks and kingbirds return. Baltimore Orioles are usually the last bird to return.
- Micro fungi in the soil give us that welcome smell of fragrant earth.
- Farmers are in their tractors seeding wheat, barley, peas, canola and more.
- Gardeners are readying the soil, and planting vegetables and herbs.
- Easter is compared to new life... The Resurrection!
- Our Church Yard Manitoba Maples, Dropmore Lindens, Siberian Elms, and Chortitza Oak leaf out. The large Green Ash is always the last to leaf out!
- We put away our parkas until October or November.
- We collect “pussy willows” from red willows and decorate our houses.
- Snow melts and we follow the streams of water with a stick or spade.
- We no longer go to the South Saskatchewan River to watch spectacular Ice Break-ups. Why not? The Gardiner Dam with its water releases prevents thick ice sheets from developing.

One Spring in 1950, Mr. H. K. Boldt who lived about a mile west of Osler developed a serious illness and could not seed his land. The farmers of Osler Mennonite Church all got together and in one day seeded all his land. The Boldt children – Henry, Anne, Elizabeth, Tena, and Evelyn – looked on in disbelief as the tractors and drills worked the soil and seeded the land. *Submitted by Jake Buhler*

Will You Share an OMC Story?

When you think about your OMC life, what comes to mind? Is there an OMC event you often remember? Perhaps you recall a time with a friend that makes you laugh, a time with family that brought you closer, a time you did something special or important, or a time with God that changed your life. These personal stories are a vital part of OMC history. As a church family we have shared much and continue to share a lot. The 90th Anniversary Committee knows there are stories special to you, young and old, and they are important to us all.

We want you to write down your story. Stories will be compiled for all to read and, during this anniversary year, a story will be read out in church each Sunday and perhaps on other occasions.

We also want you to help us gather these stories. Over 90 years there have been many people in the OMC family who no longer attend but whose stories are equally important. If you know of someone, tell them about our project and ask them to share a story. If you like, have them contact Sandra Grismer at (306) 380-4576, or sgrismer1@sasktel.net.

There is a catch! Even though the topics are endless and the stories will not be censored (well, we hope not), they should be only about 250 words long, just like this notice. Please email your story to Sandra or drop them in her box at church.

*EXCITING NEWS: THE TIME IS NEAR – OUR REFUGEE FAMILY WILL SOON BE HERE!

We have recently been informed that all members of the Alnouri family have received their visas and are expected to be on flights from Beirut in mid April. Our refugee committee has been working tirelessly to have everything in place for them when they arrive. Please pray for safe travels as they come to Saskatoon to start a new life in Canada.