

The Osler Mennonite Church April 2011 Newsletter

Osler Mennonite Church
olsermc@sasktel.net
<http://olsermc.sasktelwebsite.net/>
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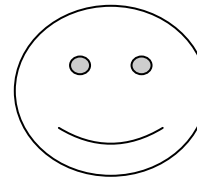
212 2nd Ave. P.O. Box 129
 Osler, SK S0K 3A0
 306-239-2133

A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

2011 Calendar April 2011						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Church Council Meeting 7:30pm	8 Youth- Games & Baking 7:30 – 10pm	9 Seniors Banquet 5:30pm
10 Youth Soup & Pie Fundraiser. Last day for Floor Hockey	11	12 Worship Committee Meeting 7:00pm	13	14 Deacons Committee Meeting 7:30pm	15	16
17 Palm Sunday	18	19 CMU/RJC Fundraiser Banquet (6pm) & Concert 7:30	20	21 Maundy Thursday potluck & Communion 7:00pm	22 Good Friday Service 7:30pm	23
24 Easter Resurrection Service- 10am Potluck Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt (& Kite flying!)	25	26 Education Committee meeting 7:30pm	27	28 Church Executive Meeting 7:30pm	29 Youth Puppet Ministry Practice 7:30 – 9:30pm	30 Men's Breakfast & Work day 9:00 am

Holy Week

Sunday, April 17 -- Palm Sunday
 Tuesday, April 19 -- RJC/CMU dinner (6:00pm) & Concert (7:30pm)
 Thursday, April 21 -- Maundy Thursday potluck supper and
 communion (7pm)
 Friday, April 22 -- Good Friday service (7:30pm)
 Sunday, April 24 -- 10: 00 am Easter Resurrection Service.
 Bring a bell to ring!
 11:00 am -- Potluck Brunch (Eggs, Easter bread,
 fruit)
 11:30 am -- Easter egg hunt for the children.
 12:00 am -- Fly a kite (Bring a kite if conditions
 are good for flying).



Getting Together

The **youth** are joining the adults at the beginning of the gathering time. This is a nice opportunity for adults in the church to connect with our youth, get to know them a little better, and deepen relationships.

*Once again top quality **Easter Lilies** have been pre-ordered that you may purchase at a cost of \$17.00. The lilies will be used to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, and then can be taken home after the Easter service. Please use the sign up sheet to reserve a lily.

*A number of people have shared that they prefer receiving a paper copy of the newsletter. Please inform Adeline if you would like to receive a paper copy instead, or in addition to, the email edition. Thanks.

Pastor's Notes

Potted Plants

There are advantages to potted plants, but that all depends on one's needs and expectations. When a plant is in a pot it is in a controlled and limited environment. Some of the advantages are: it doesn't have to compete with other organisms; nutrients, water and light can be manipulated, and plant growth can be forced; the plant is easily movable; it can be protected from the elements, and it can easily be replaced. Potted plants do have their limitations. The pot size determines plant growth, and they must constantly be feed and cared for. In addition, since they don't have the benefit of natural enzymes and the symbiotic organisms in topsoil, their stamina and longevity is compromised. Exotic houseplants are pampered indoors, but they could not survive in the real world of Saskatchewan. Theirs is a strange and unnatural existence. Moreover, unless you are a grower, a potted plant is received in pristine condition. It is admired and appreciated for a season, until it fades. Potted plants fill a need, albeit an unnatural and limited need.

In contrast, a plant that grows outside in the topsoil acquires vigour, and has the potential to grow and thrive to the limits of its capabilities. To do that, it must plant deep roots and learn to respond to the environment because it cannot move away. In topsoil the plant will live and grow in relationship to the world around it. It will excel when others excel; it will suffer when others suffer. The ebb and flow of its locale will imprint upon the plant's character. Planted in the soil, exposed to all the unpredictable elements and pests will test its character and endurance. It may go through hard times, including bug eaten or withered leaves, and it may not survive. Nevertheless, it also may thrive and grow beyond expectations and in doing so, provide fruit, shade and nutrients to all that connect with it. It will become part of the natural world.

It is a risky endeavour to set down roots. But, it is natural.

Gordon

I will be taking one week of vacation from April 25-May 1 so that I can move. I will likely need help -- hint, hint. We are moving to Bill Friesen's old place; the location where Anne Friesen was born. It is on Range Rd. 3035 on the way to Blumenheim; one mile north of the turn from 393. Please stop by anytime!

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

Human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of those willing to be co-workers with God... We must use time creatively, and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right.

- Martin Luther King, Jr. (Letter From Birmingham Jail (April 16, 1963)

Albert Einstein once wrote: "We must inoculate our children against militarism, by educating them in the spirit of pacifism....Our schoolbooks glorify war and conceal its horrors. The indoctrinate children with hatred. I would teach peace rather than warm, love rather than hate." Fundamental to constructing peace is the need to embrace the power of nonviolence as both the means and the end of our goal. Our thinking and feeling will then inform our doing. The final product should be acts of kindness and consideration toward humanity, nature, and those living creatures with which we share this world.

Please make the following corrections to your Church Directory:

Email address corrections:

Carl Martens-Funk: blaccfarms@gmail.com

Sandra MacArthur: sandy.kathleen@gmail.com

Mailing Address corrections:

George & Rita Guenther: 208 – 315 Pinehouse Drive, Saskatoon SK S7K 7Y7 (phone: 382-2123)

Jan Braun: 53 Ward St., Toronto ON M6H 4A5

Tony & Jacqueline Funk: 207 Venture Court, Hague SK S0K 1X0

Kathy Boldt and Howard Boldt: Postal Codes should be S7K 3J7

Phone Number:

Jake Buhler's Cell phone # is 371-9640

Children information:

Add "Liam" to Matthew and Teresa McKinnell's family.

Correct spelling of Steven & Jennifer Rowan's son's name to "Jaret".

Correct spelling of Julie Bergen & Matt Braun's daughter's name to: "Nora Marie Bergen-Braun".

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

* **Men's Breakfast and Church Work Day -- Saturday, April 30th.** The men's breakfast will start at 9:00 am at the church. The work activities will begin when you arrive and/or after breakfast.

*The last Sunday for Sunday evening **floor hockey** is April 10th.

*The Deacons are planning a Sunday evening **wiener roast on May 1**, weather permitting.

* **Saturday, April 16, 6:00 pm: SMYO Fundraiser** for Youth Assembly at Wildwood Mennonite Church, Supper and Talent!

***Saturday, April 16, 7:30 pm: A Buncha Guys Spring Concert** at Mayfair United Church. Special guest – **Jerry Buhler**, *guitar*. More information to follow.

***Tuesday, April 19, 2011: Rosthern Junior College Chorale and Canadian Mennonite University Singers** fundraising Banquet and Concert at Osler Mennonite Church. Banquet at 6:00 pm with the concert to follow at 7:30 pm. Reservations are needed for the banquet, but not the concert. **Call RJC by April 8th to reserve banquet tickets** (306 232-4222 or office@rjc.sk.ca). Come for an inspiring evening of music! An offering in support of both schools will be taken at the concert.

***Tables for Sale:** There are a few of the old 3' X 6' wooden tables left for sale @ \$50/table. These are being replaced by plastic tables. Please contact Sarah Hiebert.

***Scholarships:** Application forms for the Mennonite Trust Ltd Scholarship and the Mennonite Church Sask. Student Education Fund Scholarship, are now available at www.mcsask.ca.

***The 3rd annual Canadian School of Peacebuilding** at CMU from June 6 – 24, 2011 with three 5-day sessions will be offered for academic credit or professional training for practioners. See the poster on bulletin board for more details. See www.cmu.ca

***MCC Connects - The MCCS Relief Sale and Auction** is June 10 and 11 at Prairieland Park, Saskatoon. Volunteers along with donations of auction and artisan items, pies and bake sale goods are needed. Contact Armin & Edith Krahn, Relief Sale Coordinators, at 384-1206 or eakrahn@sasktel.net or visit sk.mcc.org/mcc-relief-sale.

Canadian Mennonite University www.cmu.ca

***May 9 to 13** – The School of Writing at CMU offers writers the opportunity to receive creative support and guidance from respected award-winning writing instructors. 2011 instructors include Marina Endicott (Fiction), Allan Rudy-Froese (Writing Sermons), Myrna Kostash (Creative Nonfiction) and Joanne Klassen (Life Writing – this course has a waiting list)

<http://www.cmu.ca/schoolofwriting/index.html>

***You are invited to Shekinah this summer!**

1. Calling all CIT's!!!! If you are finished grade 10 or 11....come volunteer at Shekinah! It will be an incredible experience of learning, fun, challenges and growth. Experience the life of a staff; living in a shanty, role modeling, hanging out with some great campers, engaging with creation and the God that continues to amaze us daily! Call Shekinah or go on the website for an application...and more information.
2. Calling all COOKS/KITCHEN HELP and BIBLE LEADERS!!!! At camp we rely heavily on those people who give of their time to feed us...both physically and spiritually:) If you have some time to spare this summer or if you can free up some time to engage with campers and staff in these ways....please call the office and ask for Kristy. We look forward to hearing from you!

***April 17: CMU convocation.** Baccalaureate Services at Loewen Athletic Centre, 10:00 am and Graduation Exercises at Immanuel Pentecostal Church, 2:00 pm. All are welcome.

***Cycling for peace**

<http://www.cbc.ca/albertaatnoon/episode/2011/03/07/cycling-for-peace/>

Abe Janzen, executive director of the Mennonite Central Committee in Alberta and Adam Bariault are traveling to Kenya for a cycling road trip. (Sandra MacArthur's son-in-law Leon will also be participating.) They're cycling through 8 to 10 communities to build bridges among warring groups there and to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

Olympic speed skating champion Cindy Klassen will join them while they're there, and Adam will be blogging about it all. Here is the link to the MCC Alberta page that has Adam's blog on it:

<http://alberta.mcc.org/>

***April 30, Enrichment Day for Saskatchewan Women in Mission:**

10:00am – 3:30pm Tiefengrund Mennonite Church. Contact Barb Wolfe at 232-4204 or sb.wolfe@sasktel.net For more details, see a letter from Sask.Women in Mission on the bulletin board.

OMC CHURCH HANDBOOK

Our church handbook has been updated to include the Bylaw amendments approved in February 2011, and also now includes the Safe Church Policy, a Table of Contents and an Index. A few paper copies are available in the office and copies are also available electronically. Please contact the office if you would like a copy emailed to you.

The Wider Church

*MC Sask invites members to the **TRC (Truth & Reconciliation Commission)** event in Saskatchewan in 2013. This is an invitation to hear Richard Twiss on Friday, April 15 @ 6 p.m. at the Indian and Metis Friendship Centre in Saskatoon. Free Admission. Richard Twiss is a Native American evangelical Christian theologian.

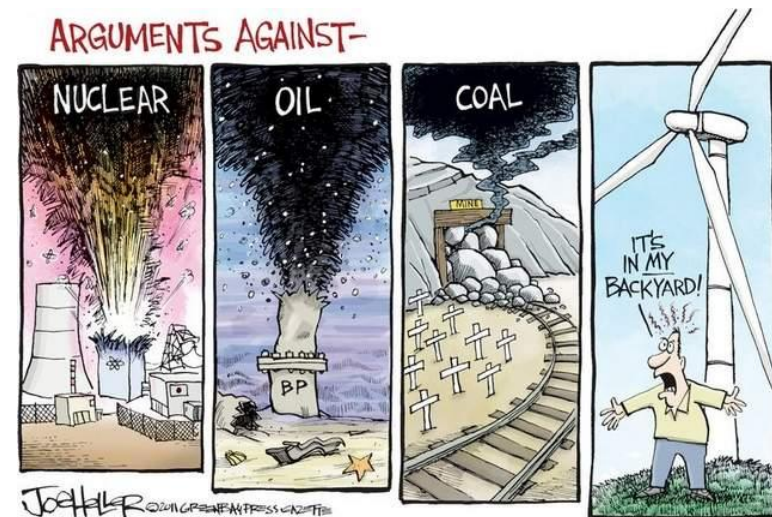
***MCC Connects** - MCCS provides a community partner grant to support the work of Spurgeon Root (Healing Hearts Ministry) with inner city youth in Regina. We invite your prayers for wisdom and joy in this ministry.

To learn more, visit sk.mcc.org/aboriginalneighbours

From Ed Clere in the New Albany, Indiana Tribune:

Amid tragedy there is hope, as my wife, Amy, experienced personally last week. Amy teaches Japanese, among other languages. Rescue volunteers in Japan found several young children, cold and shivering, under a damaged barn in which the children had been playing before the earthquake. Their parents were nowhere to be found. Scared by aftershocks that continued to shake the barn, the children sought shelter in a muddy crawl space. A frightened 3-year-old girl — the youngest in the group — had crawled into a small, inaccessible hole, and neither the other children nor the volunteers — a group of college students from the United States — had been able to coax her out. With the temperature below freezing and the stability of the barn uncertain, the situation was critical.

The students' Japanese was limited, and they couldn't get the traumatized little girl to come out of the hole. They called home looking for help. Apparently through an Internet search, a contact in St. Louis found Amy. The time was around 4 a.m. in Indiana when Amy started talking and singing to the girl in Japanese via a Google Talk video connection on a laptop computer. By a miracle of technology, they could see and hear each other, and, after 20 minutes, the girl crawled out of the hole and into the arms of the rescuers.



-submitted by Gordon Allaby

☺ **Humour ~ The Isaac Section** ☺

When little Kelli said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal in the house. For several weeks, after she and her mother had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.'

This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. Mother's curiosity got the best of her and she asked her, 'Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?'

Her response: 'Because everybody always finish their prayers by saying 'All Men!''

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A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

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While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humour, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... "Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."

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A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

-this month's humour submitted by Adeline



**youth 2011
assembly
is coming**
itsepic.ca

Youth Sponsors & Parents

Get ready for Youth Assembly 2011, *Remembering God's future.*
Online at itsepic.ca, join our facebook group, read the 2009 Caronport Backstage newsletter www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1221, and visit our youtube channel www.youtube.com/ItsEpic2011

For general Assembly information see
www.mennonitechurch.ca/events/waterloo2011



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remembering
God's future*

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