

**OMC Calendar  
January 2013**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday: Worship:10am SundaySchool @ 11:15am Floor Hockey 7pm		1	2	3 Church Council Meeting 7:30pm	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Deacons Meeting 7:30pm	11	12
13 Winter Bible Study#1 during SundaySchool	14	15 "Do Art" begins 7-8:30pm	16 M&S Comm. Mtg 7:30pm	17 Worship Comm. meeting 7:00pm	18	19
20 - Winter Bible Study#2 during SundaySchool -Pizza Lunch -Winter Bible Study#3	21	22	23	24 Education Comm. meeting 7:30pm	25	26 Bethany Manor Board Mtg 9am-3pm Youth 7:30pm
27	28	29	30	31		

**Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found on the Events Calendar on the church website. [www.omchurch.org](http://www.omchurch.org)**

**The Osler Mennonite Church  
January 2013 Newsletter**

Osler Mennonite Church  
[olsermc@sasktel.net](mailto:olsermc@sasktel.net)  
<http://omchurch.org>  
Volume IX, First Edition

212 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. P.O. Box 129  
Osler, SK S0K 3A0  
306-239-2133

A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

**Upcoming Events and Opportunities**

\*Reminder: Committee **yearend reports** should be submitted to Diana by January 4, 2013.

**WINTER STUDY**

Our Winter Study is part of "Being a Faithful Church". *Being a Faithful Church* is the process we are in with MC Canada as we learn to process issues of contention. This study will explore how we use the Bible for inspiration and instructions.

**Sunday, January 13** -- Session One will be during the Sunday School time, and will introduce the topic. This will be in the sanctuary, and all adults are invited.

**Sunday, January 20** -- The sermon time will expand further on "how we use the Bible".

-- Session Two will be during the Sunday School time, and will be preparation for the case study.

-- Pizza lunch at noon -- all are invited.

-- Session Three will follow the pizza lunch and will be the case study on the justification for slavery and discussion.

Please note: Adult Sunday School classes on January 13 and 20 are invited to join the Winter Study.

## Pastor's Note

The Christmas season will be over after Epiphany Sunday, and the colourful decorations will disappear, too. Yet, before we finally wrap 2012 up at our annual business meeting, I'd like to know how Christmas was for you. If you have a moment, send me an email with your comments (gallaby@sasktel.net). Were you able to meet your expectations and aspirations for Advent? Were you successful in regularly having an Advent devotion or moment, or did events get out of control? Was the home study guide helpful? What did you think of our Advent theme and focus each Sunday of Advent? And, what are your suggestions on how to enhance the spiritual aspect of Advent? Any feedback would be appreciated.

In the context of ending one year and retooling for another, I'd like to thank everyone for investing yourselves in the church. The sharing of your gifts, resources and time make our church a whole and vibrant "body of Christ". All of you participated in one way or another, and I'm delighted to see that we are dropping that old myth of "I've done my part; let the younger people do the work." There is no retirement when it comes to serving God, and individuals of every age are serving through the church. So, thanks to all for being active in our church, this past year, and thanks to those accepting a ministry position in our church for the coming year. With our focus on serving God as followers of Christ and our openness to embracing God's Spirit of love, 2013 will be a good year.

Gordon



## Humour ~ The Isaac Section

A woman called a Christian radio station and said: "Pastor, I was born blind and I've been blind all my life. I don't mind so much being blind, but have some well-meaning friends who tell me that if I had more faith I could be healed." The pastor asked her, "Tell me, do you carry one of those white canes?"

"Yes, I do," she answered.

"Then the next time someone tells you that, hit them on the head with your cane and say, "If you had more faith, that wouldn't hurt."

---

When Ted died and went to heaven, he was met at the front gate by St. Peter, who let him know that he needed one hundred points to make it in the pearly gates. "You tell me all the good things you've done, and I'll give you points according to your deeds. When you reach one hundred, I'll swing the gates open."

"Okay," Ted reported, "I was head usher at First Mennonite for fifty years."

"That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth two points."

"I was married to the same woman for almost 65 years and never cheated on her."

"Excellent" Peter declared, "here are three more points."

"Only three? Ted frowned. "How about this? I started a soup kitchen in the inner city and worked in a homeless shelter."

"Terrific, and here are two more points."

Ted's eyes opened wide, and he yelled: "Two points! At this rate the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God!"

"Come on in!"

-submitted by Adeline

---



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\*Travel the world, learn, and stretch your faith! Mennonite Church Canada has 3 to 12 month assignments that will connect you and your congregation with the global church. Check out <http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/serve/>.

\***RJC Alumni Tournament of Memories:** Jan. 4 & 5, 2013 - Basketball, hockey and singing. Alumni and friends of RJC should register by Dec. 21st by phoning 306-242-1757 or by email ([deneldafast@hotmail.com](mailto:deneldafast@hotmail.com)). Reconnect with old classmates and friends, and exercise your mind, body and spirit at the same time! See your Alumni Bulletin or RJC website for more details, or contact Denelda with questions.

\*Is **Canadian Mennonite University** the right place for you? Find out for yourself by coming to visit our campus, **February 1, 2013**. Contact [info@cmu.ca](mailto:info@cmu.ca) for travel assistance information and further details. [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)

\*What do theatre and the arts have to do with peace? Check out *Healing the Wounds: Peacebuilding Through Transformative Theatre* with Armand Volkas at the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding**, June 17 – 21, 2013. See [csop.cmu.ca](http://csop.cmu.ca) or [csop@cmu.ca](mailto:csop@cmu.ca) for more information.

\***Shekinah Retreat Centre** invites applications for an **Executive Director**, starting Feb. 2013. For job description and remuneration, speak to a Board of Directors member. SRC is also seeking a **Program Director, a Maintenance Supervisor and an Office Administrator**. Posters for all of these positions can be found on the church bulletin boards. For more information, contact Jesse Ens, Interim Administrator, Shekinah Retreat Centre by email: [jesse@shekinahretreatcentre.org](mailto:jesse@shekinahretreatcentre.org)

## Lectionary Passages for the next 6 weeks

.....

### January 13, 2013 *Baptism of the Lord*

*Theme: You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased*  
Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (22)

### January 20, 2013 *Second Sunday after the Epiphany/Stewardship Sunday*

*Theme: You shall be called by a new name*  
Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

### January 27, 2013 *Third Sunday after the Epiphany/Mennonite World Fellowship Sunday*

*Theme: Drink of one Spirit*  
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:14-21

### February 3, 2013 *Presentation of the Lord*

*Theme: Love never ends*  
Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30

### February 10, 2013 *Transfiguration Sunday*

*Theme: Put out into the deep*  
Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13), Psalm 138, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11

### February 17, 2013 *Lent 1*

*Theme: You have made the Lord your refuge*  
Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16, Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13



# OMC YOUTH GROUP JANUARY 2013 ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Saturday
		1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5
6 Worship Service - 10 am Sunday School - 11 am	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Worship Service - 10 am Sunday School - 11 am Meeting re: Youth Assembly	14	15	16	17	18 RJC: Friday Night Live- meet @ church: 7pm	19
20 Worship Service - 10 am Sunday School - 11 am	21	22	23	24	25 SMYO Sr High Retreat Jan 25- 27th	26 Game Night at the church 7:30pm
27 Worship Service - 10 am Sunday School - 11 am	28	29	30	31		

## OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\*A new **Nursery supervision** schedule is now being prepared for the period from March to June 2013. If you are able to help with nursery supervision one Sunday every two or three months, please contact the church office by January 15<sup>th</sup> to volunteer.

\*The deacons invite you to **prepare a meal** for John and Rhonda Gascho and their son Jem. If you can help, please sign up on the bulletin board to deliver a Tuesday or Thursday meal. If you have any questions, speak to one of the deacons: Steve G., Kathy Braun, Kathryn J., Dave F. & Edna Z.

### \*DO ART

The Education and the Mission and Service Committee are sponsoring "Do ART" for the Osler community children in grades 5 -9. Do ART will happen once a month from January through March, starting on January 15th from 7 to 8:30 pm -- the art teacher is Cheryl Haas.

\***Blanket Making** for MCC will take place at the church on January 21, 22 and January 28 and 29.

\***OMC Book Club** will be reading "The Book of Negroes" by Canadian author Lawrence Hill this month. If you'd like a book, please see Loretta. Discussion will be Monday, February 4.

\*Mark your calendars: Saturday, February 2 is our **Annual General Meeting** from 9:30am to noon.

In peace, sons bury their fathers. In war, fathers bury their sons.

-Herodotus

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\*Saturday, January 12 - 10:00am - Come to the **Youth Farm Bible Camp** to have some fresh Cinnamon Buns and hear reports from last summer and exciting future projects!

\***Songfest 2013** will be held at First Mennonite Church, 418 Queen Street in Saskatoon on March 8 & 9, sponsored by the Music Committee of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan. Registration forms and more information can be found on the bulletin board and is also available at <http://www.mcsask.ca> under the EVENTS page.

### Remember our seniors unable to attend our church

Bill and Marge Braun  
Annie Guenther  
Tina Dyck  
Tena Kruger  
John and Anne Friesen

### ✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness:  
only light can do that.  
Hate cannot drive out hate:  
only love can do that.”

— Martin Luther King Jr., *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches*

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

### Mennonite Church Canada's 2013 Youth Assembly Camp Assiniboia, Winnipeg, MB July 29-August 2, 2013

Osler Mennonite Church's youth (those in Grades 9–12 in the 2013-2014 school year) are very excited to be attending the upcoming Mennonite Church Canada Youth Assembly in Manitoba. For all of them, this will be their first experience attending a national youth assembly!

The cost of the trip per youth will be:

- ❖ \$390.00 for the weeklong assembly.
- ❖ \$200.00 for transportation and overnight accommodations. A bus has been reserved for Mennonite Church Saskatchewan participants. Total Cost - \$590.00

**In order to make this trip affordable, our youth will be doing fundraisers this winter and spring. It would be great if we could raise the entire amount needed! More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead on fundraising activities. If you have questions, or want to make a contribution to the Assembly Fund, please let me know.**

For more information on the Youth Assembly, go to [www.fatcalf.mennonitechurch.ca](http://www.fatcalf.mennonitechurch.ca).

Thanks,  
Leslie Allaby

\*\*\*\*\*

**\*Friday Night Live at RJC.** RJC invites Grade 6-12 Youth, youth leaders, parents and pastors to Friday Night Live on Friday, January 18, 7:30 pm. This evening includes interactive activities, performances by RJC students, treats and information about RJC programs and events. Admission is free! Watch for the BRING-A-FRIEND contests on the Facebook pages and website. **OMC Youth will meet at the church at 7:00pm to leave for Rosthern.** Contact Leslie A. for more information.