

**OMC Calendar  
March 2013**

| Sun  | Mon       | Tue  | Wed   | Thu  | Fri  | Sat   |
|--|-----------|--|---|--|--|---|
| Each Sunday:<br>Worship:10am<br>SundaySchool<br>@ 11:15am<br>Floor Hockey:<br>7pm      |           |  |   |  | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b><br>Annual<br>General<br>Meeting<br>9:30am-<br>Noon |
| <b>3</b><br>Lent 3   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b><br>Deacons<br>meeting<br>7:30pm               | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b><br>Youth –<br>see Youth<br>Calendar of<br>events   |
| <b>10</b><br>Lent 4  | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b><br>"Do Art" 7-<br>8:30pm for<br>Grades 5-9 | <b>13</b><br>Disciple-<br>ship<br>Group Mtg<br>7:30pm                 | <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>   |
| <b>17</b><br>Lent 5<br><b>Loose<br/>Change<br/>Sunday</b>                              | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b>  | <b>20</b><br>Missions<br>and<br>Service<br>Comm.<br>meeting<br>7:30pm | <b>21</b><br>Education<br>Comm.<br>meeting<br>7:30pm   | <b>22</b><br>Deacons<br>Movie<br>Night<br>7:30pm | <b>23</b><br>Youth -<br>see Youth<br>calendar               |
| <b>24</b><br>Lent 6<br><b>Palm<br/>Sunday</b><br><b>31</b><br><b>Easter<br/>Sunday</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b><br>Maundy<br>Thursday<br>Communion<br>7:00pm | <b>29</b><br>Good<br>Friday<br>7:30pm            | <b>30</b>   |

**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  
March 2013 Newsletter**

Osler Mennonite Church  
[olsermc@sasktel.net](mailto:olsermc@sasktel.net)  
<http://omchurch.org>  
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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE



**Upcoming OMC Events and Opportunities**

**Tuesday, March 12, 7:00-8:30pm - "Do Art" for Grades 5 – 9**  
**Sunday, March 17 - Loose Change Sunday and Choir Practice**  
**Friday, March 22 – Family Movie Night**  
**Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday and Choir Practice**

*Holy Week 2013*

**Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00pm: potluck supper and Communion**

**Good Friday worship service at 7:30 pm**

No Sunday School on Easter. There will be a potluck brunch after the worship service (fruit, bread, finger food), followed by an Easter egg hunt for the children.

Pastor's Note:

I was recently interviewed by MC Canada for an article about MC Canada's financial dearth. [Here is the link to the article: <http://news.mennonitechurch.ca/pastor-concerned-about-financial-health-wider-church> ]

I am troubled by the reduction of ministries because of the shrinking support for both MC Canada and MC Saskatchewan. However, just as I'm concerned about the vitality of both of these fine extensions of our church, I am as much or more alarmed about the response and the reasons for the decreasing funds. The requests to increase contributions are anchored to a sense of loyalty and dedication to the organizations, and both provide sound services. Yet, I wonder if we have neglected to focus on the real purpose of why we are organized, including the spiritual aspect, too.

We are the church. We are the body of Christ, and putting money in the offering bag should not be to sustain an organization, regardless of what it's called. Learning to give, to completely release ownership, is part of our spiritual journey. The Sunday offering is an opportunity to give to God, and our giving is a reflection of our love and our trust in God. The purpose of the church (local, provincial and national) is to do the will of God, and that is not dependent on the bottom line of a financial statement. God will enable and empower what God leads us to do. To be sure, I don't think God calls us to be reckless and wasteful.

As individuals, we must regularly ask God, "What amount or percentage do you want me to give to you?" As a church, we must constantly seek God's leading for our ministries, and this includes the extensions of the local Mennonite church--MC Canada and MC Saskatchewan. Moreover, there are numerous excellent charitable organizations, worthy of support, but they are not the church. When we embrace why we do what we do and who we are giving our money to, then we will not have to worry about the limitations of money.

-Gordon

## Humour ~ The Isaac Section

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, "You should do it, because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee."

The husband said, "You are in charge of the cooking around here so you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee." "Wife replies, "No, you should do it, and besides it says in the Bible that the man should do the coffee."

Husband replies, "I can't believe that! Show me."

So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says, "HEBREWS."

-submitted by Jake and Louise B.

Dennis began to fall out a tree and cried out, "Lord, save me, save me!" There was a pause and then he said, "Never mind, Lord, my pants got caught on a branch."

Prayer from a Child's Heart:

"Dear God, please take care of my daddy and my mommy and my sister and my brother and my doggy and me. Oh, and please take care of yourself, God. If anything happens to You, we're gonna be in a big mess."

Mattie was a first class church lady and a constant Bible reader. When asked why she did not try a more varied reading, Mattie replied, "I can't. I'm cramming for my finals."

-submitted by Adeline C.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\*Friday, March 8, 4:30 – 8:00pm – A fundraiser **Vereniki and Sausage** Supper for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank will be held at the Brian King Centre in Warman. Everyone is welcome.

\***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.

\*MCSask Ministries Commission invites you to join the **Touring Mission Fest 2013** on Saturday April 27, 2013. The Tour this year will take you to Wildwood in Saskatoon, North Star in Drake (with input from/about Bethany Mennonite in Watrous and Sharon Mennonite in Guernsey) and Nutana Park in Saskatoon. The cost will be \$50.00 per person and will include the Bus Fare as well as all full-course meals. Registration forms and further information will be posted on the bulletin board and is available online . [www.mcsask.ca](http://www.mcsask.ca) Come and join us and see what God is doing and has done – through whom – and how – in these MC Sask Congregations.

\***Warman MCC Thrift Shop has two employment opportunities:**  
1. A Half-time Operations Manager (Duties: Assist manager, supervise processing of donations) and 2. Full-time Receiving and Shipping Manager (Duties: Supervise the sorting of donations. Discard unsuitable materials. Arrange for pick up and delivery of items. Share responsibilities with the management team. Contact the Warman Thrift Shop for complete job descriptions.

\*Mennonite Church Sask is now inviting applications for 2013 **Vacation Bible School Troupe Members and a Troupe Leader**. The job descriptions and application forms are now posted on the bulletin board.

## Mennonite Church Canada – Ministry Highlights

What does Mennonite Church Canada have to do with ministries like Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) or Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS), or even the soup kitchen down the street? Quite a lot, actually. Mennonite Church Canada builds the foundation for the good work they do by building people of faith.

These ministries and others like them rely upon the hands, feet and hearts of people – often volunteers – who are dedicated to working for peace and justice, caring for creation, healing relationships with Canada's First Nations, and extending compassion and hospitality to newcomers and those of other faith traditions. Many of them draw their convictions from deep roots in Jesus Christ that have been nurtured by God's gift of the church.

Mennonite Church Canada is a church-building, faith-nurturing body, a community of over 225 congregations represented by five area churches: Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC), Mennonite Church Manitoba (MCM), Mennonite Church Saskatchewan (MC Sask), Mennonite Church British Columbia (MCBC). This family is building a capacity to support three priorities that connect in an ever-growing circle.

The many ways in which we minister together are not as immediately visible as on-the-ground responses to the social justice issues or national disasters that make media headlines, but they are making a difference. Read on to discover a few of the many ways that you have helped to grow people and communities for God in 2012.

In 2012, Mennonite Church Canada shared resources with over 220 churches and thousands of individuals across the country, providing timely and relevant materials to inspire services, church leadership resources, and organized a variety of events that brought people face-to-face for discussion, growth and fellowship, all with the objective of shaping people who will play an active role in building God's Kingdom.

1. Mennonite Church Canada distributed 10 issues of Equipping to each of our congregations in 2012. This collection of resources keeps congregations up-to-date on wider church activities and provides educational and worship resources. Thank you for using these materials – and for providing the donations that allow us to produce them!  
[www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/128](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/128)
2. Mennonite Church Canada is looking ahead with a task force created in 2012 to explore how we as a family of congregations can work together to achieve God’s missional aspirations for the world. The future may be steeped in mystery, but together as congregations, Area Churches and the National Church, we are working to live into that mystery.
3. Your donation dollars enables Mennonite Church Canada to produce booklets like *Witness Worker Update* and the *Worship at Home* series (including the poseable Chris and Selah dolls based upon the series’ main characters), and quarterly newsletters like *World of Witness (WoW)* and *Intotemak*
4. Resources materials specifically designed to meet the needs of Canadian congregations would not be possible without your support.
5. Your support has helped Mennonite Church Canada Indigenous Relations publish the quarterly magazine, *Intotemak*, since 1972. *Intotemak*, received by over 1,200 households, means “my friends” or “my clan.” It nurtures discussion and reflection on the various ways that non-aboriginals and aboriginals can seek peace and relationship together across cultures. [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1919](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1919)
6. *Please Pass the Faith: The Art of Spiritual Grandparenting*, written by Mennonite Church Canada Formation consultant Elsie Rempel, sold over 700 copies. This book is a response to your call for a resource to connect generations through a legacy of faith. [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1798](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1798)

## OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\*The Worship committee will again offer **Easter lilies** to be pre-ordered to be picked up after worship on Easter Sunday.

\***DO ART:** The Education and the Mission & Service Committees are sponsoring "Do ART" for Osler community children in grades 5 -9 once a month from January through March. The final Do Art evening is on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>: 7 to 8:30 pm with Cheryl Haas.

\***Penny Power:** Start gathering up pennies now and see how many you can save to donate to MCC at the Relief Sale in June!

\***Family Movie Night**, sponsored by the deacons, is Friday, March 22 at 7:30 pm. Bring your family and friends for popcorn, a great movie for all ages and fun for all.

\*The new **pictorial church directories** are here! If you had your portrait taken, or submitted your photo and purchased a directory, your copy has been placed in your church mailbox. Some additional copies are available to purchase for those who did not have a photo taken. Please contact the church office if you would like to buy one. (Cost \$13.75/each)

### ❁ Pieces of Peace ❁

The most valuable possession you can own is an open heart. The most powerful weapon you can be is an instrument of peace.

-Carlos Santana

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\**Open your Heart to the Wonder of Spring*". Sonrisa's Spring Concert will be held on Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at Knox United Church in Saskatoon. Tickets \$10 adults, \$8 Seniors/Students and children are free. Tickets are available through choir members, by phone at 239-2131 or by emailing [sonrisachoir@hotmail.com](mailto:sonrisachoir@hotmail.com). We look forward to seeing you there!

\*Mennonite Church Saskatchewan offers **Student Education Fund Scholarships of \$500** for students attending RJC, CMU, Columbia Bible College, Conrad Grebel College or AMBS. 2013 Application forms are now posted on the bulletin board (and in the Youth room).

\*Application forms for the **2013 Mennonite Trust Ltd. Scholarship** of \$250 are now on the bulletin board and in the Youth room. This scholarship is for students attending a post-secondary Mennonite school (CMU, CBC or Conrad Grebel) and is administered through the MC Sask office.

\***RJC Guys & Pies Fundraiser and Dessert Auction** - Sunday, March 17, 7:00 pm at RJC. Come and enjoy an evening of pie, coffee and music featuring A Buncha' Guys and the RJC Man Choir. Included in the evening will be a dessert auction, with funds going towards RJC program projects. Join us for an evening of music and fun.

\*Is **Canadian Mennonite University** the right place for you? Find out for yourself by coming to visit our campus, **March 15, 2013**. Contact [info@cmu.ca](mailto:info@cmu.ca) for travel assistance information and further details. [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)

\*CMU invites high school students to hear **Shane Claiborne** at **Peace-It-Together (PIT) 2013, October 18-20**. Claiborne will speak on Pursue Peace, Seek Justice. Registration forms and info are available at [www.cmu.ca/pit](http://www.cmu.ca/pit)

## Lectionary Passages for the next 5 weeks

**March 3, 2013 Lent 3**

**Theme: God is faithful**

Isaiah 55: 1-9, Psalm 63: 1-8, I Corinthians 10: 1-13, Luke 13: 1-9

**March 10, 2013 Lent 4**

**Theme: Everything has become new**

Joshua 5: 9-12, Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**March 17, 2013 Lent 5**

**Theme: They might declare my praise**

Isaiah 43: 16-21, Psalm 126, Philippians 3: 4b-14, John 12: 1-8

**March 24, 2013 Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday**

**Theme: Let the same mind be in you**

Liturgy of the Psalms, Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 Luke 19: 28-40

Liturgy of the Passion, Isaiah 50: 4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16,

Philippians 2: 5-11, Luke 22: 14-23:56 or Luke 23: 1-49

**March 28, 2013 Maundy Thursday**

**Theme: A day of remembrance**

Exodus 12: 1-4, (5-10), 11-14,

Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19, I Corinthians 11: 23-26, John 13: 1-1, 31b-35

**March 31, 2013 Easter**

**Theme: I shall live**

Acts 10: 34-43 or Isaiah 65: 1-25, Psalm 11: 1-2, 14-24, I Corinthians

15: 19-26, John 20: 1-18 or Luke 24: 1-12



# OMC YOUTH GROUP MARCH 2013 ACTIVITIES

| Sunday   | Mon | Tues                              | Wed | Thurs  | Fri                                    | Saturday  |
|--|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|--|--|---|
|  |     |                                   |     |  | 1                                      | 2   |
| 3<br>Worship Service - 10 am<br>Sunday School - 11 am  | 4   | 5                                 | 6   | 7  | 8                                      | 9<br>3D Glow in the Dark<br>Mini Golf<br>Meet @ 6pm at church |
| 10<br>Worship Service - 10 am<br>Sunday School - 11 am   | 11  | 12<br>"Do Art" for Grades 5-9 7pm | 13  | 14   | 15                                     | 16  |
| 17<br>Worship Service - 10 am<br>Sunday School - 11 am   | 18  | 19                                | 20  | 21   | 22<br>Family Movie Night at the Church | 23<br>Game Night 7:30 pm at the Church                        |
| <b>24 Palm Sunday</b><br>Worship Service - 10 am<br>Sunday School - 11 am<br><br><b>31 Easter – No Sunday School</b> | 25  | 26                                | 27  | 28<br>Maundy Thurs. Service at the church 7:00pm | 29<br>Good Friday Service 7:30pm       | 30  |



## Mennonite Church Canada Church Matters Podcasts:

*15 minute Broadcast that Airs the Third Sunday  
of Each Month on Golden West Radio & available online*

- Church Matters Podcast: Episode 73: Unpacking Native Stereotypes  
Guest: Steve Heinrichs, Director, Indigenous Relations, Mennonite Church Canada (MP3) <http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/ResourceView/46/15573>
- Church Matters Podcast: Episode 72: So You Want Better Relations? A Retelling of Mark 10 in a First Nations Perspective Guest: Soren Mennohawk (MP3) <http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/ResourceView/46/15477>



### Mark your calendar for future OMC events:

**Saturday, April 13** – Deacons Seniors' Banquet  
**Sunday, April 21** – Creation Care Sunday and Youth Soup and Pie Fundraiser

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*"God loves each of us as if there were only one of us"- Augustine*