

**OMC Calendar
March 2014**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Each Sunday:</u> Worship:10am <u>SundaySchool</u> @ 11:15am starting Sept 8						1
2	3	4	5 Ash Wednesday	6 Church Council Meeting 7:30pm	7	8 Youth 6pm Skating @ OslerRink, followed by OslerCafe
9 Lent One	10	11 Ladies "Heart to Heart" 7:00pm	12	13 Worship Committee Meeting 7:30pm	14 MCSask Annual Delegates Sessions Regina	15 MCSask Annual Delegates Sessions Regina
16 Lent Two Loose Change Sunday	17	18 "Do Art" Gr 4-9 7:00- 8:30pm	19 Deacons meeting 7:30pm	20 Education Committee Meeting 7:30pm	21 Deacons Movie Night	22
23 Lent Three 30 Lent Four	24 31	25	26	27 Missions & Service meeting 7:30pm	28 Youth – RJC Coffee House – more details to come	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
March 2014 Newsletter**

Osler Mennonite Church
oslermc@sasktel.net
<http://omchurch.org>
 Volume X, Second Edition

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 306-239-2133

A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

Upcoming OMC Events and Opportunities

***LENT** is quickly approaching. **Our theme will be: "Encountering God: What have we witnessed?"** Is encountering something *we* do? Or is the word an adjective describing an attribute of *God*? This season invites us to reflect on encounters with the encountering God who changes lives. The second part of our theme, "What have we witnessed? also has a double focus: both what we have *seen* (been witness of) and what we have *told* others about (witnessed to).

Coming this month:

- *March 4 – Shrove Tuesday
- *March 5 – Ash Wednesday
- *Saturday, March 8 – Youth Skating & Osler Restaurant
- *March 9 – First Sunday of Lent
- *Tuesday, March 11 – Ladies "Heart to Heart"
- *March 14-15 - MC Sask Annual Delegate Sessions
- *March 16 - Loose Change Sunday
- *Tuesday, March 18 – "Do Art" for Gr. 4 - 9
- *Friday, March 21 – Deacons Movie Night
- *Saturday, March 28 – Youth: RJC Coffee House

***March 14-15: MCSask's 2014 Annual Delegate Sessions** are in Regina this year. One delegate per 25 congregational members plus a Youth delegate are invited. Worship focus is *Generosity of Spirit* and Dori Zerbe Cornelsen will be the guest speaker. *Registration forms are on the bulletin board and report books are now in the church office. Please speak to Christy if you will serve as a delegate.*

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Youth Parents Planning Meeting**, Wednesday, March 5th at 8 pm at the Church.

***Celebration of Life**: A service to celebrate the life of the late Harvey Friesen, brother of Deanna Reddekopp, will take place this coming Friday. It will be held at the Osler Mennonite Church beginning at 11 a.m.

***Youth: Saturday, March 8th: Skating/sledding and Osler Restaurant**. Meet at Osler rink at **6 pm**. Bring skates, sleds and money, because after skating, we will walk to Osler Restaurant at 7:00pm. Parents: Pick up around 9 pm at Osler Restaurant.

***Congregational surveys** were placed in each church mailbox. Please give these your attention as soon as possible. Completed surveys should be placed in George Janzen's church mailbox.

*Copies of a **At-Home** Lent resource from Mennonite Church Canada are now available in the foyer to take home.

*The Deacons would like to update the **church Prayer Chain**. Please sign up on the bulletin board to be part of the 2014 chain.

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

When the power of love overcomes the love of power,
the world will know peace.

Jimi Hendrix



Mennonite Church Canada

*Registration is underway for Mennonite Church Canada's Assembly 2014: Wild Hope: Faith for an unknown season. It takes place July 3-6 in Winnipeg. Find more information and register at home.mennonitechurch.ca/events/Winnipeg2014. All are welcome!

*Call for Visual Artists: The Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery invites artists to submit artworks for consideration for a national exhibition to take place during the assembly. More info at: www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2271. **Deadline is May 31.**

*New in 2015: Mennonite World Conference's Assembly (21-26 July 2015, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA) will feature small groups! These multicultural groups will meet daily for conversation and prayer as we get to know our Mennonite brothers and sisters around the world. Find out more or give to the world scholarship fund at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015.

*Africa, Asia, South America, and the Holy Land are calling you! If you can: do renovations, property maintenance, administrative work, teach English, practice hospitality, assist a pastor or librarian – or are a young adult looking for a cross-cultural adventure in a Christian context, then Mennonite Church Canada has opportunities for you – right now! Visit www.mennonitechurch.ca/serve/ for details or contact Tany Warkentin at twarkentin@mennonitechurch.ca.

***Church Leaders Forum 2014** – Shifting Stats, Shaking the Church, with guest speakers Bruxy Cavey (Meetinghouse) and Dr. Don Moore (World Vision): Mennonite Church Canada has negotiated a discount rate of \$20/person for this event which begins on March 18 in Saskatoon and spans 10 cities across Canada, ending on May 8 in Victoria. Visit: www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/2269 to register for your preferred location.

Canadian Mennonite University Announcements

***Going Barefoot 4 / March 21 / 8:45-5:00 PM / CMU Chapel, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd.** *The Future of News* is a one-day communications conference for faith-based and non-profit communicators. Visit gbarefoot.ca for registration and speaker line-up.

*Want new tools for working with conflict? Check out *Peace Skills Practice* with Natasha Mohammed at the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding**, June 16 – 20, 2014. See csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca for more information.

***CMU Campus Visit Day / March 14 / 8:45 - 3:00 PM / 500 Shaftesbury Blvd** Investigating universities? CMU has big opportunities and a welcoming, dynamic community. The day will focus on Social Science and Psychology. **Travel assistance is available.** For more details visit cmu.ca/become.php?s=campusvisit

***2014 CMU Essay contest for High School Students** is accepting submissions. The contest invites students to engage with important questions about literature, visual media and international development. Prize money will be awarded. Essays are due **March 31**. Visit cmu.ca/become.php?s=counsellors for full details.

*Do you work with children or youth? Are you passionate about peace? Check out *Restorative Justice with Youth and Schools* with Alana Abramson and John R. Wiens at the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding**, June 23 – 27, 2014. See csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca for more information.

*Will you be attending a Winnipeg university or college in fall 2014 or know someone that will? Consider Emmaus House, a Christian community for students looking for more than just a dorm room or off-campus 'room and board'. Located in the heart of Winnipeg, Emmaus House offers a unique environment where students can find support academically, spiritually, in lives of service, healthy living and relationship. For more information go to: emmaushousewinnipeg.ca

RJC / Canadian Mennonite University Announcements

***RJC GUYS & PIES Fundraiser and Dessert Auction** - Sunday, March 2, 7:00 pm at RJC. An evening of great music and delicious desserts, featuring A Buncha Guys (an all-male choir from Saskatoon directed by Russ Regier), and the RJC Man Choir directed by Richard Janzen. Included in the evening will be a **dessert auction**. Funds raised will go toward RJC program projects. Coffee, tea and pie will be served during the evening. Everyone is welcome!

***Choir Concert, March 6, 7:30 pm** - RJC Chorale will be guest performers at a **concert at Rosthern Mennonite Church** on March 6, featuring the Pembina Trails Voices from Winnipeg. This choir features three very exciting vocal groups of high school singers. They are directed by David Sawatzky and Janet Brennamen (Janet also teaches at Canadian Mennonite University.) This will be a very entertaining evening of high quality choral singing! Tickets can be purchased for \$5 at the door.

***Festival of Choirs, March 16, 2:30 pm** - RJC Chorale, Canadian Mennonite University Singers and The Station Singers of Rosthern are excited to be part of the Festival of Choirs event at Third Avenue United Church (3rd Avenue N & 24th Street, Saskatoon) on Sunday, March 16. This annual event with CMU is growing each year, and enjoyed a huge audience last year with the move to Third Avenue. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of both RJC and CMU. Don't miss this event!

Canadian Mennonite University cmu.ca

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***March 7-9 “Why do God’s people...?”** at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Pray, Sing, Read Scripture and Worship together at a Prairie Winds Worship Retreat. See the bulletin board for poster and registration forms or for more information, call MC Sask at 306-249-4844 or www.prairiewindsretreat.com. Space is limited - register soon.



***Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan Book Launch March 9, 2014** – 2:30pm at Bethany Manor. Dr. Walter Klaassen will be speaking on “History of the Defenceless Anabaptist Churches from the Times of the Apostles to the Present”, a translation of a 140 year old book written in German by Martin Klaassen.

***Tuesday, March 18** - 5:00-7:00 - Youth Farm Bible Camp's annual Vereniki and Sausage Supper at the Rosthern Mennonite Church. Admission by Donation. We will also be showing a Documentary Video from 1957 entitled "God Giveth the Increase" that showcases the Mennonite Youth Farm Complex and other ministries of the Youth Organization. Viewing will happen at 5:45 and 6:30.

Humour ~ The Isaac Section

At a Wednesday evening church meeting, a very wealthy man rose to give his testimony. “I am a millionaire,” he said, “and I attribute it all to the rich blessings of God in my life. I can still remember the turning point in my faith. I had just earned my first dollar and I went to a church meeting that night. The speaker was a missionary who told about his work. I knew that I only had a dollar bill and had either to give it all to God’s work or nothing at all. So at that moment, I decided to give my whole dollar to God. I believe that is why I am a millionaire today.”

As he finished it was clear that everyone was impressed by the man’s story. As he took his seat, a little old lady sitting in the same pew leaned over and said, “Wonderful story! I dare you to do it again!”

-submitted by Adeline

Lectionary Passages for the next 5 weeks

March 2, 2014– Transfiguration Sunday

Up a high
mountain

Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 or 99

2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9 (1)

March 9, 2014 –Lent 1

Grace abounded

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Psalm 32

Romans 5:12-19 (20)

Matthew 4:1-11

March 16, 2014 –Lent 2

The Lord is your shade

Genesis 12:1-4, Psalm 121 (5)

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

March 23, 2014 – Lent 3

I will be standing there

Exodus 17:1-7 (6), Psalm 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

March 30, 2014 – Lent 4

God’s work might be revealed

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41 (3)



Why We Are Attracted to Bad News

"Once, there were 3 kittens named Murry, Furry and Wurry..."
I'll admit to fabricating Murry and Furry, but you and I both know that Wurry is often pampered and protected like a cherished pet. We talk about our Wurry and cuddle it. We share our Wurry with others, hoping they will choose to love our Wurry as we do. If you try to help a person eliminate their Wurry, they will rise ferociously to its defense.

People who have all chosen to love the same Wurry form organizations and political parties, bound together by a shared anxiety. Would you like to have anxiety? It can be yours if you want it. All you have to do is craft a pessimistic interpretation of ambiguous events and *voilà*, anxiety is yours.

Jesus makes a strong argument against worry in the 6th chapter of Matthew, then finishes his thoughts with these words: "Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

That's a well-known Bible verse, but if you actually choose not to worry, most people will consider you to be foolish and naive.

We are programmed from birth to give our attention to the snarling tiger on our left instead of the beautiful butterfly on our right. When face-to-face with imminent danger, fear gives us focus and clarity. It is a biological imperative that keeps us alive. This is why we give bad news the highest priority. But that doesn't mean fear is always good. When was the last time you encountered a tiger?

In the absence of snarling tigers, modern man has chosen to focus his need to fear beyond this moment, beyond his circumstances, beyond objective reality.

Our fear about the future is called Worry. I do not love it. What would it feel like if we quit borrowing trouble from tomorrow? It sounds reckless, doesn't it, not to worry about possibilities that might never happen? Would that mean the end of planning? Perhaps it would. But it would also trigger an explosion of improvisation. I seem to recall a writer who said that most plans are just inaccurate predictions anyway. I think he makes a good point. Am I seriously suggesting that we eliminate worry from our lives? No, it was Jesus who suggested that. I'm merely contemplating the implications of such a decision and walking you down a path of possibilities. Interesting scenery, don't you think?

Roy H. Williams



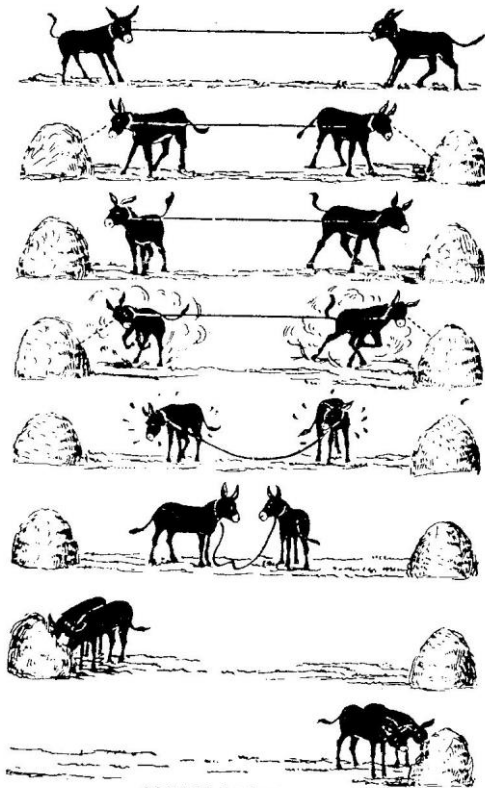
In their 1992 research paper, Graham C. L. Davey and James Hampton said that if you think of worry as "an attempt at finding a solution to a stressful situation, it appears to be a particularly inefficient process... Borkovec (1983) reported that worriers appeared to be **very poor at generating successful solutions or effective coping responses**, but very good at defining problems." * Borkovec, T. D., Robinson, E., Pruzinsky, T. & Dupree, J. A. (1983). Preliminary exploration of worry: some characteristics and processes. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 21, 9-16.

Where does worry come from?

"Fear is considered to be a basic emotion, arising from the operation of an evolutionally old brain system for detecting and avoiding danger. In higher organisms, particularly humans, the development of complex cognitive processing capacity allows the evocation of the fear system by **symbolic** representations of potential dangers, not necessarily currently present or avoidable." Andrew Mathews and Buddy Mackintosh, *A Cognitive Model of Selective Processing in Anxiety*, *Cognitive Therapy and Research*, Vol. 22, No. 6, 1998, pp. 539-560

*St. Thomas More College is holding a one-day conference March 8th, 2014, 8:30am-5pm, titled *Respect, Reconciliation and Renewal: Exploring the Future of Indigenous / Christian Relations*. The conference will be held at the College on the University of Saskatchewan campus. For more information contact: Gertrude Rompré, St. Thomas Moore College 306-966-8929

“Pulling Together” (below) - Submitted by Sarah Hiebert



SOWERS OF SEED, INC.
BOX 6217 - FT. WORTH, TEXAS 76115

Pray with us as we labor together.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*Don't miss it! **Feast-and-Share Gathering, Tuesday, March 4**, at **Mennonite Central Committee**, 600 45th St. W at Ave. C
6 p.m. – Share a Potluck Supper (bring a dish if you wish)
7 p.m. – Presentation by Darlene Okemaysim-Sicotte and/or Myrna LaPlante, co-chairwomen of **Women Walking Together**, raising awareness of and working to prevent violence against Aboriginal women. Come, hear and support the efforts of these women!

***Friday, March 14, 4:30-7:30pm: CFGB Annual Perogy & Sausage Supper** at the Brian King Centre in Warman. This is a fundraiser for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. By donation.

***Tuesday, March 18 - 5:00-7:00** - Youth Farm Bible Camp's annual Vereniki and Sausage Supper at the Rosthern Mennonite Church. Admission by Donation.

***The Cross of Christ – An Ecumenical Lenten Retreat, Saturday March 22, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** Are you searching for a deeper way to appreciate and enter into this season of Lent? This compelling retreat invites participants to reflect on a symbol we see so often in our daily lives, and yet do not – and cannot - fully understand: God's unconditional love and vulnerability, and invitation for us to forgive our enemies and live without resentment. Location: The Cathedral Hall, St. John's Anglican Cathedral, 816 Spadina Crescent East. Cost: \$15. Please bring a bag lunch – refreshments will be served **RSVP by March 19** - Sarah: 306-717-3707

***Saskatoon MEDA Supper Event**, Thursday, April 10th at Bethany Manor. Reception at 6:00 Supper 6:30. Marion Good from Waterloo is the guest speaker.

***The Micah Mission** is in need of people who are willing to give an hour or two a week to help support people in prison or recently released from prison. There is a growing need for Circles of Support and Accountability in Saskatoon. Please contact Dave Feick at The Micah Mission for more information and to volunteer.