

**2011 Calendar
May 2011**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Congregat- ional Meeting after Worship Service	2	3	4 OMC Book Club meets @ 7pm	5 Church Council Meeting 7:30pm	6	7
8 RJC at OMC for Worship Service, followed by Mother's Day Potluck at noon.	9	10	11	12 Deacons Meeting 7:30pm	13 Youth- Banner Making- To send to Ottawa	14
15 Loose Change Sunday. Deacons Weiner Roast 6:30pm	16	17	18 Education Committee Meeting 7:30pm	19 Worship Committee Meeting 7:00pm	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Missions & Service Committee Meeting 7:30pm	27 Jr.Youth Puppet Practice 7:30- 9:30pm	28
29	30	31				

The Osler Mennonite Church May 2011 Newsletter

Osler Mennonite Church
olsermc@sasktel.net
<http://olsermc.sasktelwebsite.net/>
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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***May 8, 2011 – RJC** will bring the worship service at our church, and a Mother's Day potluck will follow at noon. The RJC students and leaders will be joining us for lunch, so please bring a little extra.

*The Deacons are planning a Sunday evening **"Welcome to Spring" Wiener roast on May 15 at 6:30pm**, weather permitting.

*A big **thank you** for everyone who participated in the church clean-up and work day!

***Attention: Students!** *2011 Applications for the Mennonite Church Saskatchewan Student Education Fund Scholarship* are available for students planning to attend Rosthern Junior College next year. Please contact Leslie Allaby for more information about this \$500.00 scholarship. Deadline for application is July 31, 2011.

If we want to have all our bases covered before we act, nothing exciting will happen. But if we dare to take a few crazy risks because God asks us to do so, many doors, which we didn't even know existed, will be opened for us.

Source: Power, Powerlessness and Power, Henri J. M. Nouwen

Pastor's Notes

“A worshipping church”

On Palm Sunday, I couldn't help but be impressed by how many people were involved in the worship service. The usual worship people who facilitate each service so wonderfully, again faithfully contributed to the service: the worship and song leaders, accompanists, children's time leader, sound person, scripture reader and ushers. In addition to those, many others directly and indirectly engaged in the worship experience. Announcements were made by the youth; young adults presented plans for an intergenerational play, and a couple others shared announcements. Then one of the youth struck the chime to begin the worship service, and that was followed by a fine collection of singers setting the worship tone with the introit. Prayer concerns were shared by three different people, and then a skit was performed by five adults and all the children. And, of course, all in attendance contributed with their voices, spirits and prayers, and others less visibly engaged in the worship experience.

The worship committee oversees the themes and the details for each service. Our janitor makes sure the temperature is comfortable and the sanctuary is ready for use. The church administrator prepares the children's worship binders, collects announcements and information for bulletin, and then prints it. There are two people who count the offering. A number of people add their creative insights for the decorations for each Sunday. Plus, the nursery coordinator and the nursery volunteers provide a safe place for the very young. Also, and very important, are those who pray for our church and our time of worship. I hope I didn't leave anyone out, but I think you get the picture—our church is very much engaged in the Sunday worship experience. We (it truly is a “we”) worship God. We worship because we need to; we need this unique, devoted, intentional time together in order to strengthen our devotion to God and our bond as sojourners along Christ's path. Moreover, we worship together to humbly serve God. Worship is a gift to God.

Gordon

We are now moved into our new place. Our mailing address and phone number is the same. We are located on the west side of range road 3035, the road to Blumenheim. Please stop by and see the place and us!

***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.

☺ Humour ~ The Isaac Section ☺

A Priest was being honoured at his retirement dinner after 25 years in the parish. A leading local politician and member of the congregation was chosen to make the presentation and to give a little speech at the dinner. However, he was delayed, so the Priest decided to say his own few words while they waited:

'I got my first impression of the parish from the first confession I heard here. I thought I had been assigned to a terrible place. The very first person who entered my confessional told me he had stolen a television set and, when questioned by the police, was able to lie his way out of it. He had stolen money from his parents, embezzled from his employer, had an affair with his boss's wife and taken illegal drugs. I was appalled.

But as the days went on, I learned that my people were not all like that and I had, indeed, come to a fine parish full of good and loving people.'...

Just as the Priest finished his talk, the politician arrived full of apologies at being late. He immediately began to make the presentation and gave his talk:

'I'll never forget the first day our parish Priest arrived,' said the politician. 'In fact, I had the honor of being the first person to go to him for confession.'

Moral : Never, Never, Never Be Late.

(submitted by Gordon)

***Munsch on This: Calling on EVERYONE!** Craig and Stephanie have written a hilarious play for our church family to put on. But they need your help! Actors are needed, as well as help with set design, costumes, sound, and lighting. Most practices will be Sunday afternoons, and also some evenings closer to the performance dates. Dress rehearsal: June 12; Performances: June 17th and 18th. Craig & Steph are very excited about doing this and hope for it to be an inter-generational activity. Please contact them to get involved!

***RJC SPRING CONCERT – May 15, 2:30 pm**, RJC gym. Join RJC for an afternoon of wonderful music, including season finale performances by the Concert Choir and Chorale. Admission is free; a collection in support of the ministry at RJC will be taken. The official opening and dedication of the new Student Gathering Space will also be held at the concert. Refreshments will follow in the rehearsal hall.

***Updates on the MC Sask Annual Delegate Assembly:**

1. At our assembly we heard stories of historical connections between First Nations people and their Mennonite neighbours. We know there are many more such stories in our constituency. If you have a story, or know of someone whose story should be heard, contact Leonard Doell at MCC Sask. (665-2555)

2. The Peace and Justice Committee challenged all MC Sask congregations to publicly declare ourselves as “Live for Peace” churches by putting up a banner on our church sign or other suitable surface inside or outside our churches. The possibilities for banners are posted at <liveforpeace.org.>. MC Canada is willing to work with banner makers to assist in production of a banner. Contact MC Canada MC Sask Peace and Justice chair, Stephanie Epp at saep@yaho.com

***MDS: The MDS project in Catalina Newfoundland** is underway to build three homes for disaster survivors of Hurricane Igor (Sept 2010). The foundations have been completed and framing has begun, and MDS needs more volunteers to sign up and help build. Groups of 10 maximum per week are needed during May, June, July, and August. Call 1-800-241-8111 to volunteer at this unique location. See: www.mds.mennonite.net/regions-units/region-v/

Canadian Mennonite University www.cmu.ca

***May/June** – Consider taking one of CMU’s one-week intensive courses in theological studies, either for graduate credit or simply to deepen your understanding. For a schedule and course syllabi see http://www.cmu.ca/programs/grad_courses_offered.html.

***CMU’s Outatown** discipleship program welcomes applications for site leaders for 2011/2012. Leaders have the opportunity to mentor young adults while travelling, serving, and learning throughout Canada, plus Guatemala, South Africa, and French Africa. More information available at www.outatown.com

***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) www.cmu.ca/schoolofwriting/index/html

***June 6 to 24** – Canadian School of Peacebuilding presents 5-day courses this summer. Learn various approaches to peace building, justice, reconciliation, conflict resolution and development within an international network of peace builders. Courses available for academic or professional development credit. www.cmu.ca/csop

***A mission of the Mennonite church in Montreal** since 1974, the Maison de l’amitié continues to welcome and support new arrivals to Canada and Quebec through English and French language classes and a community-focussed student residence. You can support the ministries of the Maison de l’amitié this summer by having fun! Come visit Montreal and stay in our Summer Guestrooms! Rates start as low as \$40 per night. Visit the website: www.residencema.ca

P.S. Cycle while you visit! The city has an extensive network of bike paths that will take you to all the major tourist areas including all our wonderful waterside parks, beaches and pools. Montreal now offers a bike taxi service called Bixi. You can rent a bike, inexpensively, for short trips throughout various parts of the city. If you are planning on staying at Maison de l’amitié there is a station just a minute’s walk away. For more information visit the Bixi website at www.bixi.com.

***Mennonite Church Canada Assembly 2011: “It’s Epic: Remembering God’s Future”** in Waterloo, Ontario, this summer (July 4-8), will include many friends, a special Sarah Harmer concert, awesome worship music and inspiration overflowing. Everything you want to know about this event, including online registration @ www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1500 or by calling 1-866-888-6785

***It’s not too late! Please come to Shekinah this summer.** Calling all CIT’s. If you are finished grade 10 or 11, volunteer at Shekinah for an incredible experience of learning, fun, challenges and growth. Experience the life of a staff; living in a shanty, role modeling, hanging out with great campers, engaging with creation and the God that continues to amaze us daily! Call (306) 945-4929 or see www.shekinahretreatcentre.org for information and application forms.

***Calling all Cook, Kitchen Help and Bible Leaders!** Camps rely heavily on people who give of their time to feed campers - both physically and spiritually :) If you can spare some time this summer to engage with campers and staff in these ways, please call Shekinah’s office at (306) 945-4929 and ask for Kristy.

***Rosthern Junior College** (www.rjc.sk.ca) invites applications for the following positions for the 2011-12 school year:

- **Residence staff** - full-time positions for residence staff in boys' and girls' dormitories beginning August 23, 2011 (For complete job description, please visit our website.)
- **Two-year term position for teacher** with primary responsibilities in English Language Arts and the humanities

Qualified applicants should mail resumes to:

Rosthern Junior College
Box 5020

Rosthern, SK S0K 3R0 or Fax: 306-232-5250 or

Email: administration@rjc.sk.ca *Closing Date: May 30, 2011

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

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

So why has crime dropped?

James Hackler of the University of Victoria thinks “the strongest answer to crime rates is equality of income”: Countries such as Scandinavia and Japan, where the ratio between CEO pay and worker pay is smaller than it is here, have lower crime rates.

For many years, Canada's approach to criminality relied less on prison and more on rehabilitation, on changing people. Now we seem to be headed the other way. Sadly, it is not true that tougher penalties and more prison time reduces the crime rate. [From the Globe and Mail, April 9]

An economically egalitarian society is a safer society. Therefore, limit affluence and enable the poor. Do peace and justice with grace.

Please make the following corrections to your Church Directory:

Email address correction:

Tracy and Tanner Baudais new email is: tratanb@sasktel.net

Address change:

Jacob & Junko Friesen: new address: #12-1841 Ambrosi Rd
Kelowna, BC V1Y 4R8 (effective May 10, 2011)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***We will soon be launching our new website.** If you want to check out the “work-in-progress”, see: www.omchurch.org. Suggestions and feedback are welcome.

***Air Miles** - Mennonite Church Canada Assembly will be held in Waterloo, Ontario this summer. If you can donate air miles to delegates attending on behalf of our church, talk to a council member.



☺ **A little more Humour** ~~
The Isaac Section Continued ☺

Commonly used Acronyms

AMBS	Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
COSA SS Saskatchewan	Circles of Support and Accountability South
CLRT	Congregational Life Resource Team
CMU	Canadian Mennonite University
MCC Canada	Mennonite Central Committee Canada
MCC Sask	Mennonite Central Committee Saskatchewan
MC Sask	Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
MC Canada	Mennonite Church Canada
MFC	Mennonite Foundation of Canada
MHSS	Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan
MTL	Mennonite Trust LTD
PLC	Pastoral Leadership Commission
RJC	Rosthern Junior College
P2P PA	Person to Person Prince Albert
PCE	Prairie Centre for Ecumenism
RJMS	Restorative Justice Ministries Saskatchewan
SMYO	Saskatchewan Mennonite Youth Organization
SWM	Saskatchewan Women in Mission
TMM	The Micah Mission
YFBC	Youth Farm Bible Camp
YFCB	Youth Farm Complex Board
VW	Vision and Wholeness Group

Church Bulletin Bloopers: These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
