

**OMC Calendar
May 2014**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Each Sunday:</u> Worship:10am <u>SundaySchool</u> @ 11:15am starting Sept 8				1 Church Council Meeting 7:30pm	2	3 Seniors Banquet 5pm
4 Many Peoples Sunday	5	6	7	8 Deacons meeting 7:30pm	9 Youth: Bigger and Better Meet at church at 7pm	10
11 Mother's Day	12	13 Ladies "Heart to Heart" 7:30pm	14 Worship Committee Meeting 7:45pm	15 Education Comm. Meeting 7:30pm	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Church Work Day 9:00am
25	26	27	28	29 Ascension Day	30 Youth Event	31

Note: Meetings and church activities can also be found on the Events Calendar on the church website. www.omchurch.org

**The Osler Mennonite Church
May 2014 Newsletter**

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

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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

Upcoming OMC Events and Opportunities



Coming this month:

- Saturday, May 3, 5:00pm: Seniors Banquet/sponsored by Deacons
- Friday, May 9, 7:00pm: Youth "Bigger& Better"
- Tuesday, May 13, 7:30pm: "Heart to Heart" for all ladies
- Thurs., May 15, 7:30pm: Education Committee Meeting
- Saturday, May 24, 9:00am: Church Work Day
- Friday, May 30: Youth event – details TBD

*Craig Neufeld of Rosthern is preaching on **May 11** and will be sharing details, during the Sunday School time, about the Chinese pastors' visit to our area in June.

***VBS 2014** – MC Sask is once again putting together a Vacation Bible School troupe to provide churches with the opportunity to host this program in their communities. We are looking for 1 Troupe Leader, 3-4 Troupe Members, and 5-8 host congregations to help make this program happen. Check out the SMYO website (www.smyo.ca/vbs) for more information and applications, or contact Kirsten Hamm in the ACYM Office.

Pastor's Note:

The offering bag and electronic giving

Every Sunday, a segment of our worship service is a demonstration of giving to God. We call it the offering. The ushers quietly offer everyone a bag to receive each gift, which is taken to the front as an act of releasing the gifts to God, all the while, the pianist plays a song to add a contemplative feeling. Stepping back from the gifts offered to God, a prayer is given to bless and to give thanks. This ceremony of giving our offering is an important part of worshipping God; however, for most people, the decision to give to God was made before coming to church. Few people decide in the moment if and how much to give. Therefore, the worship ceremony is just that: an intentional act to show our submission to God and our passion to join in God's kingdom. It is spiritual, but it is not the spiritual moment of decision.

A few months ago, we started the option to give electronically by depositing directly into the church's account. A number of people have chosen this method to give to God through the church. Ask Jim if you want to learn more about this. Just like most everyone else, their spiritual decision was made outside of the worship service, yet they are not actively participating in the offering ceremony. The worship committee would like to invite them back into the ceremony and add a new element to the offering ceremony. Note cards are now in the pews, and they are there to allow everyone to participate in the worship service offering. Children and all people are welcome to use them. Consider writing something you are thankful about or write a thank-you note to someone (be sure to address it with the recipient's name). The thank-you notes will be forwarded, in an envelope, to the person you address. The thanksgiving giving notes will be saved. Don't feel you have to put your name on it. This is all about an offering to God, and giving thanks to others and to God is a wonderful way of giving.

May we all continue to rejoice in our giving to God, and may we all be part of this spiritual ceremony of the offering.

Gordon Allaby

Humour ~ The Isaac Section

How many charismatics does it take to change a light bulb?

One, since his/her hands are in the air anyway.

How many Calvinists does it take to change a lightbulb?

None. God has predestined when the lights will be on.

How many Brethren does it take to change a light bulb? CHANGE?!!!

How many Pentecostals does it take to change a light bulb?

10, one to change it and 9 others to pray against the spirit of darkness.

How many TV evangelists does it take to change a lightbulb?

One. But for the message of hope to continue to go forth, send in your donation today.

How many Amish does it take to change a lightbulb?

What's a light bulb?

How many Polygamous Mormons does it take to change a lightbulb?

Five. One man to change the bulb, and 4 wives to tell him how to do it.

How many Jehovah's Witnesses does it take to change a light bulb?

Three. One to screw in the bulb, and two to knock on your door and ask you if you've seen the light!

How many Unitarians does it take to change a lightbulb? We choose not to make a statement either in favor of or against the need for a light bulb. However, in your own journey you have found that light bulbs work for you, that is fine. You are invited to write a poem or compose a modern dance about your light bulb for the next Sunday service, in which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, three-way, long-life and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence.

How many Mennonites does it take to change a lightbulb?

Don't know, but let's have a potluck, form a committee and explore this missional opportunity.

-submitted by Adeline (...and Gordon)



*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!

*Children's Assembly is in need of additional volunteers, particularly male volunteers. Volunteers with children will receive a large discount on their children's registration in this wonderful program. If you enjoy children and can free yourself from other commitments for the evening of July 3rd, or the days of July 4th and 5th, or even part of that time, please contact erempel@mennonitechurch.ca about this short term service opportunity.

*Join with Indigenous and non-Indigenous Christians from across North America for Native Assembly July 28-31 (Wpg.). The theme is *Ears to Earth and Eyes to God*. For registration and info: <http://home.mennonitechurch.ca/event/NativeAssembly2014>
Everyone welcome!

*Please continue to pray for the members and the work of the Being a Faithful Church Task Force and the Future Direction Task Force as they seek answers to questions about faith and our future, and prepare for plenary sessions at Mennonite Church Canada's Assembly 2014 (July 3-6): Wild Hope: Faith for an unknown season.

*Young adults – a special invitation for you to Assembly 2014: Wild Hope: Faith for an unknown season (July 3-6, Wpg.). There will be an evening event just for you on Friday. Throughout the weekend you can enjoy seminars on movies, social media and how the Christian peace stance can “disturb Empire and delight Creation.” Special rates for students and young adults, subsidies for under-resourced participants. Register online at: home.mennonitechurch.ca/events/Winnipeg2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Special Announcement from OMC Missions & Service Committee

As a church, we have "adopted" **Nathan and Taryn Dirks**, who are MC Canada Witness Workers in Gaborone, Botswana.

Nathan and Taryn work with the young adults of a number of African Indigenous Churches. Their focus is on Bible teaching and equipping others to conduct Bible studies of their own, as well as on serving as the Body of Christ within the larger community. They are leading young adults in ministry within a local prison, a school for children with mental illness, and in small-scale urban agriculture. They have an informative website and blog at <http://ntdirks.com/>.

Our role at present (we are free to build on this later if we choose to do so as a church) is to pray for Nathan and Taryn, and to have regular communication with them. Feel free to discuss with Mark Bigland-Pritchard or with other members of Mission and Service committee (Jan Guenther, John Gascho, Margaret Dyck, Wilf Buhler)

Canadian Mennonite University cmu.ca

*Want to know more about Aboriginal peace and justice? Check out *Exploring Indigenous Justice and Healing* with Rupert Ross at the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding**, June 16 - 20, 2014. See csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca for more information. Space is limited.

*Need a change from work or school? **Outatown** is an opportunity to travel to one of three international locations: Guatemala, South Africa and Burkina Faso, learn about God, and make lifelong friends. Space available for Sept 2014. Learn more and apply at Outatown.com

*How does one heal from trauma and violence? Find out at *Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience* with Elaine Zook Barge at the **Canadian School of Peacebuilding**, June 23 – 27, 2014. See csop.cmu.ca or csop@cmu.ca for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*As the 50th anniversary celebrations for MCCS continues our congregation is invited to the next event in May. On **Sunday, May 4**, 3-6pm at **Grace Mennonite Church in Prince Albert**, CCS will be celebrating the **restorative justice program** by honouring the work that has happened in *Person to Person (P2P)* and *Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA)*. Come for faspas and stories. The program will include stories from Orville Andres, the first coordinator of P2P, and several participants who have been involved throughout the province. Three local Sask. organizations which have taken on this work as their own will be highlighted: CoSA South Saskatchewan, The Micah Mission, and Parkland Restorative Justice.

*On **May 10-11**, **Steve Heinrichs**, director of **Indigenous Relations for Mennonite Church Canada**, will be at **Nutana Park Church** for parts of those days helping us think about paths for peacemaking with the host peoples around us. We would like to open up Saturday evening (May 10, 7:00pm) as an intra-Mennonite event so that other interested and available Mennos can benefit from Steve's experience and wisdom. Steve will facilitate that evening session and may simply do so in a question / answer mode. **Adrian Jacobs**, a pastor and Keeper of the Circle (at the United Church Indigenous Theological/Training Centre) will be joining us as a conversation partner, sharing his experience of building bridges/relationships. Adrian is Cayuga, Six Nations...a very good man with a tender heart and lots of good stuff to share... We will provide dessert and put the coffee on.

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

The hope of a secure and livable world lies with disciplined nonconformists who are dedicated to justice, peace and brotherhood.

Martin Luther King Jr.

Lectionary Passages for the next 4 weeks

May 4, 2014 - Easter 3

Many People's Sunday

What shall I return to the Lord?

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (6)

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

May 11, 2014 – Easter 4

Goodness and faithful love

Acts 2:42-47

Psalm 23 (6)

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

May 18, 2014 – Easter 5

Let your face shine

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (16)

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

May 25, 2014 – Easter 6

Keep my commandments

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

(15)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Touring Missionfest** is fast approaching. Tour Shekinah Retreat Center, Zoar Mennonite Church in Waldheim, the Menno Home in Waldheim and Zoar Mennonite Church in Langham on **Saturday, May 10th**. The cost is \$50 and includes transportation, lunch and supper. Registration forms are available from your church office or online at mcsask.ca.

***RJC Spring Concert - Saturday, May 10**, 7:00 pm at RJC - Season finale performances by Concert Choir, the Man Choir and Chorale will highlight the evening. Admission is free; an offering will be taken during the concert. We look forward to having you join us.

***RJC Spring Classic Golf Tournament Fundraiser, Saturday, May 24** - Join us at the Valley Regional Park, Rosthern, for a Texas Scramble Golf Tournament. Sign up individually or as a team (\$125/person or \$500/team). This event includes on-course contests and challenges, and a banquet and silent auction at RJC following the tournament. Information and registration forms are available on the RJC website at www.rjc.sk.ca or contact rijcgolf@rjc.sk.ca. If you are interested in being a corporate sponsor, or donating team prizes or silent auction items, please contact Dan Richert at dan@rjc.sk.ca.

***Saskatchewan Women in Mission** would again like you to consider the **opportunities to serve**--- as secretary, president elect, on the program committee, or on the nominating committee. SWM is open to all women in Mennonite Churches in Saskatchewan. Are you, or is there someone you know, who would have the gifts/talents or interests that would suit these positions? Contact: Denise Epp, Rosthern (306) 232-4801 l.d.epp@sasktel.net OR Glenis Koop, Saskatoon gleniskoop@hotmail.ca (306) 665-8011

*MC Sask presents a Continuing Education opportunity on May 20-22 at First Mennonite Church: **“Faith and Literature”** with professor Cindy Wallace. See the bulletin board for more information – registration with MC Sask by May 15th.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Tuesday, May 6, 2014 - 7:00 pm at Rosthern Junior College** - The **Recycled Orchestra** (from Paraguay) – No admission. A freewill offering will be received and will be tax receiptable, and will be used for building a community education centre in the Cateura neighbourhood, the home of the Orchestra. For reserved rush-seating, send your request along with name and phone number to recycled.rosthern@gmail.com or phone 306-232-9117 (9am-9pm)

*The Youth Farm Complex Auxiliary is holding a **May Day Tea and Cake Walk on Thursday, May 8** from 2-4pm in the Mennonite Nursing Home Auditorium. Admission by donation. Proceeds from the Tea will go towards purchasing a new wall unit for the Nursing Home Auditorium. Everyone is welcome!

***Amazing Race – RJC Edition, May 10, 1:00 pm** – RJC is hosting an “Amazing Race” event for students in grades 9-12 - a scavenger hunt with all the thrills of the Amazing Race and a dash of trivial pursuit. Teams of 5-6 will navigate the town of Rosthern on foot solving clues and facing fun challenges. Register as an individual or team. It will be a GREAT day followed by supper and an awards ceremony in the Dining Hall for you and your family. Registration forms available at www.rjc.sk.ca or email val@rjc.sk.ca.

*Do you or someone you know have a passion for working with and mentoring youth? **Rosthern Junior College** anticipates job openings in our student residence for **Residence Deans** for the 2014-2015 school year. For more information please contact the school at 306.232.4222 or office@rjc.sk.ca.

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

“There is nothing that war has ever achieved that we could not better achieve without it.”

Havelock Ellis