

**OMC Calendar
November 2012**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday: Worship: 10am Sunday School @ 11:15am Floor Hockey: 7pm: Younger kids, 7:30pm Adults, youth				1 Church Council meeting 7:30pm	2 MCCS Encounter & AGM @First Mennonite Church	3 MCCS Encounter & AGM @First Mennonite Church
4 Floor Hockey starts up again	5 OMC Book Club meets: 7pm	6	7	8 Deacons meeting 7:30pm	9	10
11 Peace Sunday / Loose Change Sunday	12	13	14	15 Worship Comm. meeting 7:00pm	16	17
18 Potluck: Fundraiser for Stephanie Siemens 1 yr Volunteer position in Bolivia	19	20	21 Education Committee Meeting 7:30pm	22 Missions & Service meeting 7:30pm	23	24 Youth 7:30pm
25 Memorial Sunday	26	27	28	29	30	

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

**The Osler Mennonite Church
November 2012 Newsletter**

Osler Mennonite Church
olsermc@sasktel.net
<http://omchurch.org>
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212 2nd Ave. P.O. Box 129
Osler, SK S0K 3A0
306-239-2133

A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

Upcoming Events and Opportunities



***MCC Saskatchewan Encounter & AGM on November 2 & 3** at First Mennonite Church, Saskatoon. “Where has MCC been? Where is MCC going?” **Workshop topics include: Local work:** restorative justice, immigration, Indian Residential School Legacy, Truth Telling, and Reconciliation on the Prairies, Kids Club at Appleby Drive, and thrift stores. **International work:** environmental justice, Global Family learning tour to the Middle East, Global Family curriculum development for BIC schools in Zambia and Global Family supported schools in Mexico.

***Peace Sunday:** November 11th service will include an 11:11 time of silence (Worship service will extend to 11:15am)

Pastor's Note

Every year, it seems, that I vow to try to simplify Advent and Christmas, and every year, it never happens. I have good intentions, yet you know what they say about that--the road to Christmas chaos is paved with good intentions. However, I think I finally figured out why I failed to avoid being overwhelmed and run over by the Christmas season. I didn't plan simplicity; I merely hoped it would happen. My passive preparation allowed "things" to jump in, and thus my schedule became the master of me. This year, I'm going to plan ahead. I wish I could take care of Christmas gifts early, as some people do. Yet, I can't even write a sermon before Saturday, so early shopping is not realistic for me. Even so, what I can do and will do is the following:

- 1) In advance, determine when I will shop, adding extra time since I generally think that I can do more in less time than I can do. And, don't tell Katherine, and I know she won't read this: I'm not going to buy as much this year either.
- 2) Schedule a number of evenings of idle time that only an emergency can change. I plan to inform my family that they are involved in some of those plans, too. And, the plans are to stay home, light candles, listen to music, read or anything else that does not use electricity (we have a gas oven, so making cookies is allowed).
- 3) Schedule more time to volunteer to help others. Research reveals that those who volunteer feel like they have more time on their hands. It is because time spent was deemed worthy and rewarding.
- 4). Change my morning routine during Advent, and invite my family to join me. Each morning in Advent, I will pause, pray and reflect on the season. [There are passages to read each day in Advent, and let me know if you'd like to have that list.]

Ask me in January if I succeeded or not, but at least I'm planning this time and not just wishing.

Gordon

Our church's Advent theme, this year, is "Coming out of the shadows."

Humour ~ The Isaac Section

KIDS IN CHURCH

After the christening of his baby brother in church,
Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car.
His father asked him three times what was wrong.
Finally, the boy replied,
'That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home,
and I wanted to stay with you guys.'

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3
The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake.
Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.
'If Jesus were sitting here, He would say,
'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'
Kevin turned to his younger brother and said,
' Ryan , you be Jesus !'

A wife invited some people to dinner.
At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said,
'Would you like to say the blessing?'
'I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied.
'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered.
The daughter bowed her head and said,
'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'

One particular four-year-old prayed,
'And forgive us our trash baskets
as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets.'

-submitted by Mark Bigland-Pritchard

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*The Mennonite Historical Society of Saskatchewan invites all to a **book launch at Bethany Manor** in Saskatoon on Sunday, Nov. 4th at 2:30pm. *Helena, A Peek Into The Past* is written by Helena's daughter, Nettie Friesen Balzer, a resident of Osler. The main personality in the book, Helena, was born to Julius and Helena Banman in Manitoba. After growing up near Aberdeen, she married Jacob W. Friesen and after moving to Osler farmed there. They had 9 children. Coffee, sweets and a social hour will follow.

***Bethany Manor Craft Sale** will be held on November 10th from 9:30 am – 3:00 pm at 110 La Ronge Road in Saskatoon.

***RJC Corporation AGM, Saturday November 17th, 5:00 pm** in the RJC Chapel at 5:00 pm. RJC encourages all supporters of the school to attend this meeting. **RJC Annual Fundraising Dinner & Event, November 17th, 2012 at 6:00 pm** at Rosthern Junior College. All alumni and friends of RJC are invited for an evening to connect with friends and support the school. Guest speaker: Kim Pityn from MEDA, speaking about "*Sustainable Tools That Give Hope to the World*". There will be musical performances by the RJC Alumni community, a Silent and Live Auction, and an offering for the programming of RJC. To reserve your complimentary tickets call 306.232.4222 or email office@rjc.sk.ca by November 8th. Limited tickets available!

***RJC On Stage Fall Theatre** - Sunday and Monday, November 18 & 19, 7:00 pm in the Pit Theatre. The RJC Theatre Arts class is preparing a stage version of the classic Alfred Hitchcock movie mystery "The 39 Steps." The Musical Theatre class will present excerpts from "Godspell" - a story based on the book of Matthew. Tickets are \$10. Call RJC at 306 232-4222 to reserve your tickets.

~When the world says give up.....Faith whispers try it one more time~

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

***Floor hockey** resumes Sunday, November 4th: 7:00 – 7:30pm for younger children and 7:30 – 8:30pm for older kids, Youth and adults.

***OMC book club** is reading "Far to Go" by Alison Pick. The next book discussion will be Monday, November 5th at 7:00pm.

***Loose Change Sunday** is November 11th.

***Stephanie Siemens is leaving to Bolivia for a 1-year volunteer term teaching English.** To help cover costs, there is a fundraiser coming up, that you are all invited to participate in. On Sunday, **November 18**, a Potluck fundraiser will be held here at OMC to support Stephanie's term in Bolivia. Please come - bring your family, friends and favourite dish! If you would like a tax deductible receipt for your donation, cheques should be made out to "Evangelical Mennonite Missions Conference" with the memo line reading: "The ministry of Stephanie Siemens".

*Saturday, **December 1**, noon: **Ladies Luncheon** will be a Bangladesh meal at the church. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please contact the church office for more information.

***Memorial Sunday** – November 25th

*Do you play an instrument and are you willing to play during the worship service? Would you like to accompany congregational singing, do a feature selection or play during the offering? The worship committee desires to expand our musical worship experience, and invites you to help make this possible. Please contact Gordon or Michelle if you're willing to share your talent and skills.

MORE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

***Help wanted:** the worship committee is seeking people who have talent and desire to decorate the church sanctuary for Sundays, especially for seasonal themes. Please let Gordon or Michelle know if you would like to engage your visual artist talent in decorating the sanctuary.

*Kyla Boldt is collecting bottles and cans to raise money for an RJC Habitat for Humanity service trip to Alabama in April. On weekends she can pick up any bottles/cans you are willing to donate. For more information, contact Kyla at kyla.boldt@hotmail.com or text 881-2398 or talk to Bruce or Kathy Boldt.

*The worship committee has purchased a copyright license which permits us to use songs that are copyrighted. If you're selecting music for worship, and are unsure what material can be used, please contact a member of the worship committee.

*For your opportunity to provide snacks for the Sunday School children and/or for the adult Gathering Place, just sign up on the bulletin board in advance or give Louise or Joanne a call. Thanks!

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

'The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace.'

- Mother Teresa of Calcutta

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Warman Thrift Store** will hold its annual Christmas Sale on Saturday, November 10th from 9:00am to 4:00pm.



*All are invited for an afternoon of delightful classical music at Nutana Park Mennonite Church, 1701 Ruth Street in Saskatoon on November 18 at 2:30 pm.

***Worship + Imagination** (formerly Refreshing Winds) will take place February 7 – 9, 2013 at CMU. This year's symposium will explore the theme of "Worship & Witness." How does worship bear witness to the imagination of God in the world? How does worship shape us for witness? How can worship and the arts resist injustice and oppression and enable God's peace and reconciliation in the world? *Who should come?* Worship planners and leaders, pastors, musicians, church leaders, and lay people. Learn more about the resource persons, schedule and registration details by going to www.cmu.ca/wi

*Is **Canadian Mennonite University** the right place for you? Find out for yourself by coming to visit our campus, **Nov 23, 2012**, 8:45 to 3:00PM. Contact info@cmu.ca for further details and travel assistance information. www.cmu.ca

*Please mark November 25th on your calendars and plan to join MC Sask for a coffee & dessert evening to honor Anna Rehan and recognize her work among us. This will take place at Wildwood Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm. More details will follow.

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Saturday
OMC YOUTH Calendar November 2012				1	2	3
4 Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11am	5	6	7	8	9	10 Movie Night at Boldts- meet at church @ 7:00 pm
11 Peace Sunday/ Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11am	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11am	19	20	21	22	23	24 Games Night at the church 7:30 – 10pm
25 Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11am	26	27	28	29	30	

Saskatoon Premiere
The STARTING POINT: Saskatoon Experiences of
Poverty and Health
November 19, 2012 Broadway Theatre

Doors open: 6:30pm Show: 7pm-8:30pm
Free of Charge - Snacks will be served.

Come be among the first to view three thought-provoking short films:

*Watch Lorne Molleken, coach of the Saskatoon Blades, as he participates in the Food Basket Challenge and shares his insights on how the challenge touched him, his family and his friends.

*Follow a day in the life of a Saskatoon resident, Della Kinequon, as she talks candidly about raising a family on a limited income, living with diabetes and her dreams for her family's future.

Let's start a conversation about health and talk about more than healthcare rounds out the evening's line-up and showcases the event's overarching theme. Following the films, a panel will share their thoughts, discuss what can be done, and answer questions.

Participants include: Della Kinequon; Food Basket Challenge participant, Deborah Bryson-Sarauer, of Family Services Saskatoon; Chief Felix Thomas, and a representative from the Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership.

The Starting Point is sure to be an evening of good film, food and fun don't miss out!

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

Some helpful peace and justice web sites, in no particular order.

<http://www.liveforpeace.org/>

<http://mccottawa.ca/>

<http://mccsk.ca/>

<http://www.alternativeservice.ca/>

<http://www.departmentofpeace.ca/>
<http://peace.mennolink.org/peacesigns/>

<http://www.cpt.org/>

<http://www.mennocreationcare.org/>

<http://www.thirdway.com/>

<http://www.socialjustice.org/>

<http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/ResourceView/23/9637>

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"The passive American consumer, sitting down to a meal of pre-prepared food, confronts inert, anonymous substances that have been processed, dyed, breaded, sauced, gravied, ground, pulped, strained, blended, prettified, and sanitized beyond resemblance to any part of any creature that ever lived. The products of nature and agriculture have been made, to all appearances, the products of industry. Both eater and eaten are thus in exile from biological reality."

— Wendell Berry

Two prayers* by Luke Gascho

God, you are our Sustainer and Redeemer.

Forgive us when our dependence and addiction to oil and gas fuels further abuse of your creation.

Give us strength to reform our perspectives of needs and wants, so that, with your grace, our lifestyles might be transformed to truly reflect your love for all creation.

May we live more mindfully, so that all might live more abundantly.

Amen ¹³

Dear Lord,

You too walked on this Earth.

We thank you for taking on flesh like ours.

But we struggle with the reality of our walk.

Our North American footprint is large and heavy.

We know there is a connection with our way of living and the oppression of other people in the world.

We don't want this to be so. Our lives are filled with many good things.

Parting with them is hard, for they give us comfort and security.

Forgive us for having our securities so rooted in things rather than in your love.

We seek repentance. We desire change.

Grant us wisdom to live in your joy by living with less.

May we be participants with you in restoration.

Amen.

13 From the Lenten Materials on Mining Justice, quoting Luke Gascho, Creation Care: Keepers of the Earth (MMA, Goshen, Ind., 2008), 99.

**These prayers from MCCanada Peace Sunday Resources*