

**OMC Calendar  
October 2012**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday: Worship: 10am Sunday School @ 11:15am	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Photo sessions for Church pictorial directory 3-9pm	<b>4</b> Church Council meeting 7:30pm / Photo Sessions 3-9pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Thanksgiving and Communion Sunday	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> OMC Book Club meet: 7pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Deacons meeting 7:30pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Worship will feature A Buncha Guys. POTLUCK to follow after Sunday School	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Education Committee / Missions & Service meetings 7:30pm	<b>18</b> Worship Comm. meeting 7:00pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Men's Breakfast 9am at OMC
<b>21</b> Noon Meeting for Worship People/Pizza lunch	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Hot Chocolate Booth			

**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  
October 2012 Newsletter**

Osler Mennonite Church  
[olsermc@sasktel.net](mailto:olsermc@sasktel.net)  
<http://omchurch.org>  
 Volume VIII, Eighth Edition

212 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. P.O. Box 129  
 Osler, SK S0K 3A0  
 306-239-2133

A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

**Upcoming Events and Opportunities**



**\*October 7** will be Thanksgiving and Communion Sunday.

\*The Deacons have again assembled care packages for Bible school & University students for our 7 students, Kyla Boldt (RJC) and Scott Feick (CMU), Chris Cox (UofA), Craig Friesen (UofS), Lacey Friesen (UofS), Anna Bigland-Pritchard (CMU) and Greg Boldt (UofM). Thank you for your contributions and for your prayers for all our students.

\***OMC Book Club** is reading the book "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett. The book discussion will be on Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 7:00 p.m. The book club will next be reading "Far to Go" by Alison Pick. Those interested in having a book can see Jan Guenther. The next book club discussion will be Tuesday, November 6th.

## Pastor's Note

### Lullabies and Raspberry Fuzz

My mother sang me lullabies. My father didn't. I wish my father had sung me lullabies, too, because then he might have know some of the sensual, holy joy of a child close to your body, a child drawing strength and giving hope. And, I might have learned at an earlier age that the God with a male image can be nurturing, too.

I recall a while ago, watching a friends put his child to bed with a CD of some lullabies. ``It's better than my croaky voice," he said. NO! Canned lullabies are half-hearted imitations of the truth, like canned raspberries eaten from a bowl that offers pale and one-dimensional memories of a hot, buzzing, prickly path in the middle of summer. Canned raspberries don't even come close to savouring a ripe berry, in the sun and warm breeze, with thorn scratched arms. The tongue only renders part of the whole taste experience.

The sound of a lullaby is all you get on a recording. It may be better music, but it is music for the ears and not the soul. It is not music of a father's heartbeat, nor the warmth of a body, nor the smell of a woman or a man. It is not the sense of oneness with another, with creation, with the future, with a child. Likewise, canned raspberries have the smell of summer sterilized away--no leaves that rustle in the breeze, no blemishes, no thorns, no mosquitoes, and no inkling of eternity. It's food, but not spiritual nutrition.

God can't speak in words we hear; however, God speaks to us in life, in the sweetness of a freshly picked raspberry, in the taste of a mother's love and in the texture of a father's tenderness. Carnal knowledge of a raspberry patch or of a baby put to sleep with lullabies is the pulse of holiness.

### Gordon Allaby

P.S. If your children are no longer young, sing lullabies to them, anyway, and also to your grandchildren. And, hand write letters! Don't just use emails and answering machines to show you care. Hand write letters: they contain essences of the writer and they are cherished for years.

## ✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

-Martin Luther King Jr.

## Humour ~ The Isaac Section

A rich man was near death. He was grieved because he's worked so hard for his money and he wanted to be able to take it to heaven. An angel heard his concern and appeared to him. "Sorry, but you can't take your wealth with you."

The man pled with the angel.

Later the angel reappeared and told the wealthy man that he could take one suitcase with him. Overjoyed, the man found his largest valise and filled it with gold bars.

When he finally died and showed up in heaven, St. Peter saw the suitcase and said, "Hold on, you can't bring that in here."

The man explained to St. Peter that he had permission. Sure enough, the saint checked the record and verified the man's story. "But," St. Peter added, "I am supposed to check the contents before letting it through."

So St. Peter opened the suitcase to discover what was too precious to leave behind. He couldn't believe his eyes. "You brought pavement?"

Conversation at a business lunch turned to illegal immigration. "I read an article that said 60 percent of Americans are immigrants," commented one businessman.

"That can't be true," another said.

"No," agreed a Native American co-worker. "There's a lot more of you than that."

-submitted by Adeline

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

**\*October 19-20 – Women’s Retreat** presented by Saskatchewan Women in Mission at Shekinah Timberlodge. **Registration Deadline is October 5, 2012** with a cost of \$80 for the entire retreat, including meals and accommodation. Registration forms and a poster with more information can be found on the OMC bulletin board. To register or for more information, contact Verna at 306-384-8431 or Ruth at 306-232-1918 or [rutholiver@sasktel.net](mailto:rutholiver@sasktel.net). Dora Dueck is the guest speaker. This is a time for women of all ages to come meet Christ our Lord, be spiritually refreshed and challenged, and fellowship with old friends and new. Come to enjoy nature in a beautiful setting. Crafters and artists and Ten Thousand Villages will be present with display items, and a pedicurist will be present on Saturday.

**\*The Youth Farm Corn Maze** is open at Rosthern for family fun! Open every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Holiday Monday from 1-8pm until October 28<sup>th</sup>. On **Thanksgiving Monday, October 8**, the Youth Farm Corn Maze will be open from 10:00am-6:00pm. Lunch will also be available at the Corn Maze. [www.youthfarmcornmaze.com](http://www.youthfarmcornmaze.com) The Youth Farm is located east of Rosthern on Highway 11, 30 minutes north of Saskatoon. (1-855-855-9322) Purchase an entrance to the Corn Maze and receive two event tickets free (\$2/value) Tickets can be used for the climbing wall, bounce castle, Sumo wrestling, cow train, popcorn, churros, drinks and more! General Admission: Adult \$7, Age 11-16 \$6, Age 3-10 \$5.

**\*Shekinah Retreat Centre’s annual Quilting and Scrapbooking Retreat** will be held October 12 – 14, 2012. Whether you are a quilter, a scrapbooker, a knitter, a calligrapher, a painter – whatever your favourite pastime – you are welcome to enjoy this weekend! Cost: \$150. It's not too late to register as the registration deadline for the retreat has been extended to October 7th. Phone the Shekinah office at 306-945-4929 or email [office@shekinahretreatcentre.org](mailto:office@shekinahretreatcentre.org) to reserve a spot. Or for more information, contact Donna Schulz @ 306-232-4733 or [donna.schulz5360@gmail.com](mailto:donna.schulz5360@gmail.com))

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

**\*Sunday, October 14**, our worship service will feature “A Buncha Guys”, with a **Potluck** lunch to follow at noon. Please bring enough food for yourselves and a little extra, as we are hosting our guest singers.

**\*Saturday, October 20**, 9am: Men’s Breakfast at OMC. All men and boys are welcome.

**\*Sunday, October 21** - All worship people meeting at noon. This will be a one hour meeting over lunch for all those who contribute to and are involved in the worship service. Please plan to attend this meeting if you worship lead, are involved with the music, present the children's story, do the sound system or are a substitute. Pizza will be provided for lunch. Please help defray the costs with your donation.

**\*Wednesday, Oct 31** - serving hot chocolate from 5-7:30 pm

**\*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.

**\*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.

**\*Looking ahead.....**Floor hockey will resume November 4<sup>th</sup>.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

\*MCC is hosting *Restorative Justice Storytelling* – an evening at **Shekinah Retreat Centre** on **Wednesday October 10th** at 7pm. Come to listen and laugh, celebrating the impact of those who have transformed and healed the lives of prisoners, victims, Mennonites, and beyond, featuring stories from Dale Schiele, Wilma Derksen, Helmut Isaac, and Wayne Northey. All congregation members are invited, and any others who would enjoy this event. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

\***Friday, October 12, 4:30 – 8:00pm** A Soup and Pie Fundraiser for Warman Thrift Shop will be held at Osler Community Hall. A Silent Auction, Kids table and Raffle draw are included and your help is needed. If you can donate soup (chicken noodle or summa borscht), pies, or buns, call Melodie Peters at 239-2042. To donate a silent auction item, call Nettie Boehr at 933-2090. Admission is by donation.

\***October 12 & 13 - RJC Alumni Weekend** Football – (Sat. only), Soccer (Sat. only) and Volleyball. Come join the fun! Delicious lunch: 11:00-1:00 in the Rehearsal Hall. To register for volleyball or for information, email Denelda at [deneldafast@hotmail.com](mailto:deneldafast@hotmail.com) by Oct. 7th. Alumni & friends are welcome.

\*October 20, 9am-4pm Oskayak High School in Saskatoon: *“It Ain’t Easy Being Green: Faithful Alternatives for Energy, Economics and Environment”* workshops. For more information or to register phone: 242-1500 or by email @ [2BorNot2BGreen@gmail.com](mailto:2BorNot2BGreen@gmail.com)  
Registration deadline: October 12

\***Saturday, October 20, 6:00pm Vereniki and Sausage Supper.** This fundraiser supper at Pleasant Hill Mennonite Church in Saskatoon will raise funds for MDS. Admission by donation & entertainment to follow. Get tickets from Art Zacharias: 239-4620

## ISRAEL/PALESTINE LEARNING TOUR



Walk where Jesus walked and visit Nazareth, Capernaum, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and the hilltop where Jesus preached his famous “Sermon on the Mount.”

Hear stories from Palestinian Christians and their Muslim neighbours about what it is like to live under army occupation.



Dialogue with the Israeli colonel in charge of building the Wall between Israel & the West Bank.

Listen to Israeli citizens opposed to the policies and practices of their government and army.

### Experience Israel/Palestine for 10 to 12 days and have it change your life!

When: March 9-22, 2013

Cost: \$1500 for all on-the-ground costs (lodging, meals, transportation) in Israel/Palestine

Plus airfare, for a total of \$3000 to \$3500.

Call Ray Friesen at 773-5063 or email [mediation@sasktel.net](mailto:mediation@sasktel.net) for more info.

*Sponsored by  
Mennonite Central Committee Saskatchewan &  
Emmaus Mennonite Church*

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Saturday
<b>OMC YOUTH Calendar OCTOBER 2012</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>7 Thanksgiving Worship Service 10am Sunday School 11am</b>	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>14 Worship Service 10am  Sunday School 11am</b>	15	16	17	18	19	20
<b>21 Worship Service 10am  Sunday School 11am</b>	22	23	24	25	26	<b>27 Games Night at the church</b>
<b>28 Worship Service 10am Sunday School <u>11am</u> 30</b>	29	30	31			

**\*Youth will again helping to band owls one Friday or Saturday this month. This time it will be the smaller Saw-whet owls.**

## MORE CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

**\* The Saskatchewan Unit of Mennonite Disaster Service** has launched a Hay Drive to assist farmers in drought stricken areas of Eastern Ontario and the U.S. Midwest. Drought in these areas is severely impacting the livestock sector, resulting in farmers feeding hay now that was stored for winter feeding. The shortage of hay is becoming critical. MDS is working to move surplus Saskatchewan hay to these drought stricken areas. Farmers willing to donate hay, may email Ike Epp at [birwood@littleloon.ca](mailto:birwood@littleloon.ca) or call (306)342-4344. Cash donations are also needed to help defray the cost of buying and/or moving this hay to the East. [www.mds.mennonite.net](http://www.mds.mennonite.net)

**\*October 27, 2012 Equipping Day** at Wildwood Mennonite Church 9:30am -3:45pm. See the bulletin board or contact MC Sask for more information. Speakers include Helen Friesen, Jake Buhler, Harley Eagle, Audrey & Ken Bechtel, Elsie Rempel, Irma Fast Dueck, Eric Olfert, Leighton Tebay and Jerry Buhler. Cost is \$35 (includes lunch) Register by October 18 by phoning 249-4844 or email [mcsask@mcsask.ca](mailto:mcsask@mcsask.ca)

**\*Film contest for 16-25 year olds – Redefine Community** and share what it looks like to you! Top 5 entries will be screened at the MCCS Encounter & AGM on Friday evening, November 2, 2012 at First Mennonite Church, 418 Queen Street, Saskatoon. Visit [mccsk.ca](http://mccsk.ca) for details. \$500 prize for the winning entry!

**\*Is Canadian Mennonite University (CMU)** the right University for you? Find out for yourself by coming to visit the campus, October 19, 8:45-3:00pm. Contact [info@cmu.ca](mailto:info@cmu.ca) for further details.

**\*Portable CMU:** Bring CMU to your own local setting. The 2012-13 Portable CMU brochure features 20 short courses in a wide range of topics our faculty members have prepared to deliver in a variety of contexts away from CMU. <http://www.cmu.ca/portable.html>

**\*MC Canada Videos:** The August 20 edition of Canadian Mennonite carried the story about Portage Mennonite Church (Manitoba) closing. Another story – about Wanner Mennonite Church celebrating 175 years, contains the following concern: “Lester Bechtel of the spiritual care team noted that, as in many other congregations, many of Wanner’s young adults go off to university elsewhere and do not return, giving the feeling to some of a “dwindling church.” These events and concerns are being heard at Mennonite Church Canada. It can be difficult to know how to respond – especially for a national church body which is often far away geographically from the congregation concerned. One way in which MCCCanada is hoping to be of some help is by producing the Mennonites Everywhere video series. These little 60 second films feature persons who did not grow up in a Canadian Mennonite Church, but have come to find a spiritual home in one. You don’t have to be born into a Mennonite congregation or have a certain kind of surname or eat a certain kind of food to be part of a Mennonite Church, as these videos illustrate. Two videos have been completed thus far. The first features NHL player Nick Spaling and can be found at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQRShPXUDyM>

The second features Zahara Kwaji Ali, a newcomer to Canada who has found a home in the Mennonite tradition. Find Zahara’s film at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsuOCQnB03Q>

**\*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](mailto:office@rjc.sk.ca) by November 8th. Limited tickets available!

## **MCCS Encounter & AGM First Mennonite Church, Saskatoon**

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**Friday, November 2, 2012**

**Church Leaders Seminar 2:00 - 4:30pm**

**Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Reflections and Next Steps**

For Senior Pastors, Youth Pastors, Sunday School Teachers and all interested persons. See [mccsk.ca](http://mccsk.ca) for more information. No cost.

**Worship 7:00 - 9:30pm**

Worship, Music, Video Vignettes, Offering

Looking Back - Looking Forward

Arli Klassen - Former Executive Director, MCC

Heather Peters - Returned MCCer from Sudan

Myriam Ullah - MCCS Community Engagement

International Volunteer Exchange Program Participants

Film and Art Contest - Redefining Community

No cost.

**Saturday, November 3, 2012**

**Encounter & AGM 9:00am - 4:00pm**

Registration, coffee 8:30am

Worship, music, workshops

Global Family Program

Mariana Rivera Tinoco, Mexico

Elsie Remple, MC Canada

Werner Wiens, MCC Canada

**Registration - \$25.00** (includes lunch)

Forms available online at [sk.mcc.org](http://sk.mcc.org) or at your church office.

Call 306.665.2555 for more information.

Join us both days at **First Mennonite Church**, 418 Queen Street, Saskatoon, SK.