

OMC Calendar

October 2015

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Each Sunday:</u> Worship:10am</p> <p><u>SundaySchool</u> @ 11:15am</p>				1 Church Council 7:30pm	2 Singing with the Spirit workshop NPMC	3 Singing with the Spirit workshop NPMC Coffee House @ NPMC 7:30pm
4 World Communion Sunday -LooseChange Sunday -Mentor/Mentee Pizza Lunch	5	6	7 Youth Discussion Nite with Stephanie 7:30 – 9pm	8	9	10
11 	12	13 Worship Committee Meeting 7:30pm	14 Youth Planning Meeting	15 Deacons Meeting 7:00pm	16	17
18 World Food Day	19	20	21 Youth Discussion Nite with Stephanie 7:30 – 9pm	22 Missions & Service Comm Mtg. 7:30pm	23	24 Volunteering at Friendship Inn
25 Food Heritage Sunday & Thanksgiving Potluck @Noon	26 Heart to Heart 7:30pm	27	28	29	30	31 Youth: Halloween Fun – Watch for Details

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

The Osler Mennonite Church October 2015 Newsletter

Osler Mennonite Church
oslermc@sasktel.net
<http://omchurch.org>
 Volume X1, Eighth Edition

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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE



Upcoming OMC Events

*All are welcome to participate in **Centering prayer every Sunday beginning at 9:15am**, meeting in room #1. For those who would like more information, please contact John Gascho or Patty Friesen.

*Upcoming Services:

October 4 - World Communion Sunday: Sharing by Matthew, Terry and Zachary Stefaniuk. Terry, Zachary and Patty will be received into membership. It is also **Loose Change Sunday**.

At Noon: Mentor/Mentee Pizza Lunch

October 11 - Giving Thanks for the Harvest: The State of the Union by Patty Friesen

October 18 - World Food Sunday: Sermon by Gord Enns, Saskatoon Food Council.

October 25 - Food Heritage Sunday: Sharing by Ruth Buhler and Lynette Janzen. We will have a Thanksgiving Potluck following the service. Please bring a dish from your heritage and your most beat-up cookbook. The rattiest cookbook will win a prize of a new one from Ten Thousand Villages.

Patty's Ponderings

"Osler has the best parties," someone declared enthusiastically at Chris and Kaytee's wedding this summer. This person had attended the Local Foodfest in Osler last summer and frequents parties at PineView Farms. I had to agree that Osler has the best parties including our church potlucks and I believe that is our evangelical niche. Folks want to party in the best sense of the word, by making meaningful connections, laughing heartily and eating good food. If this is what it means to be Christian and Mennonite, then who wouldn't want to join us?!

New members who are joining us this fall testify to feeling made welcome by our congregation. We are living up to our sign "A Welcoming Christian Community for Peace and Parties."

Patty's Picks

Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held Evans the author of the hilarious "Living Biblically for Women", shares her honest reflections on the challenges and gifts of church.

Eager to Love by the prolific Richard Rohr is another challenge to deepen our spirituality in the tradition of St. Francis.

Our Only World by Wendell Berry is a collection of essays by this iconic philosopher farmer.

Clay, Water, Brick by Jessica Jackley is an inspiring read about the Micro-Loan movement.

Still Alice DVD is as engaging as the book.

Woman in Gold DVD is a wonderful movie about the theft of art owned by Jews in WWII.

The Crimson Field DVD is another addictive series by BBC.

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"Thanks to everybody. I had a very good time.

-Helen Peters

On her September 20th visit to OMC, from Warman Care Home.
Thanks to Bill Peters for bringing her.

Humour ~ The Isaac Section

There are still more cow jokes and puns out there.....

Q: When do you know it is time for the cows to go to sleep?

A: When it is pasture bedtime.

What do you call a cow with three legs? Lean beef.

What do you call a cow with no legs? Ground beef.

What side of the cow has the most spots? The outside!

What did the calf say to the silo? "Is my fodder in there?"

What do cows get when they are sick? Hay fever.

Why did the farmer put his cow on the scales? He wanted to see how much the milky weighed!

What do you get from a cow on the North Pole? Cold cream.

If you crossed a cow with a goat, what would you get? Half and half.

If you crossed two cows with a flock of geese, what would you get?
Milk and quackers.

What would you get if you crossed a cow with a rabbit?
Hare in your milk!

Why doesn't Sweden export its cattle? It wants to keep its Stockholm!

And finally, always remember to Honor thy fodder and thy mother and all your udder relatives.



***Ride For Refuge** is gearing up! There are already five teams established on our RIDE page at

<https://rideforrefuge.org/charity/mennonitechurchca>

All Mennonite Church Canada congregations are invited to support our Thailand ministry by joining the Ride for Refuge recreational family bike ride on October 3rd. Be a team captain, join a team, and ride in support of Tom and Christine Poovong's (Trinity Mennonite Church, Calgary) work with marginalized and vulnerable people.

Rides occur in cities across Canada. For details, see:

<https://donate.mennonitechurch.ca/project/Poovong> Thank you!

*Looking for someone to pray for? Mennonite Church Canada's October edition of "**PrayerNet**" is now on the bulletin board. In addition to those affected by the earthquake in Chile and the coup in Burkina Faso, there are many in need of prayer.

<http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/prayernet/>

***Featured prayer request from the wider church:** Mennonite Church Canada helps to support the church in Cuba through close partnerships and leadership development seminars presented by Hippolyto Tshimanga (Director, Latin America Ministry) and Tom Roes. Pray for the growing church in Cuba and those who walk with them as new pastors are sent to new locations to strengthen and build up rural congregations.

***Featured prayer request from the wider church:** Pray for Kyong-Jung Kim and the staff and volunteers of the Korea Anabaptist Center (KAC), Mennonite Church Canada's partner in South Korea through the ministry of Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park. Kyong-Jung, the KAC Director, plans to begin an extended sabbatical in Fall of 2015. Pray for Kyong-Jung's sabbatical preparations and for smooth transitions at KAC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Singing with the Spirit! October 2-4** – A weekend music Workshop for the Congregational Voice with Marilyn Houser Hamn at Nutana Park Mennonite Church, 101 Ruth Street, Saskatoon.

Friday, October 2: 7:30 – 9:00pm – an evening of spirited singing

Saturday, Oct 3 – 10am – 3:00pm – Various workshops on congregational singing, song leading, accompanying
Resources will include HWB, SJ and SS and others.

\$20 registration fee for Saturday workshops includes lunch

Saturday, Oct. 3, 7:30 pm – Coffee House

Sunday, Oct. 4, 11:00am – NPMC Worship Service with Marilyn leading congregational singing

Save the date and phone NPMC office to register: 372-2144

Open to anyone with an interest in congregational singing.

***2015 Women's Retreat at Shekinah, Oct 16 & 17**

Theme: *Igniting our Creativity: Looking Back, Moving Forward*

All women are invited to come and consider both divine and human creativity, based on "Spark, Ignite Your God-Given Creativity", the study Guide for Mennonite Women Canada and USA.

This retreat provides the opportunity to say "good-bye" to SWM and to consider women's ministry in the future. Lois Siemens asked that each group bring one item that celebrates who you are as a group. If no one from your women's group or congregation is attending, please send your item with someone else or directly to a committee member for display. Contacts: Ruth Heppner, Box 1292, Rosthern S0k 3R0, or Lois Siemens, Box 873, Kerrobert S0L 1R0, or Frieda Rempel, Box 174, Osler S0K 3A0. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board.

All women are welcome! Cost is \$120 for the weekend, \$70 per day. Registration forms can be found online at www.mcsask.ca or on the bulletin board. Contact Lois Siemens at pastorlois@sasktel.net for further information. NB: **The retreat deadline for registration is Friday, October 2.**

Lectionary Passages for the next 5 weeks

October 4, 2015

It is to such as these

Genesis 2:18-24, Psalm 8

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16

October 11, 2015

Treasure in heaven

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15, Psalm 90:12-17

Hebrews 4:12-16, Mark 10:17-31

October 18, 2015

His life an offering

Isaiah 53:4-12, Psalm 91:9-16

Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

October 25, 2015

Take heart; get up, he is calling you

Jeremiah 31:7-9, Psalm 126

Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52



From “Bringing it to the Table” – by Wendell Berry

Why do farmers farm, given their economic adversities on top of the many frustrations and difficulties normal to farming? And always the answer is: “Love. They must do it for love.” Farmers farm for the love of farming. They love to watch and nurture the growth of plants. They love to live in the presence of animals. They love to work outdoors. They love the weather, maybe even when it is making them miserable. They love to live where they work and to work where they live. If the scale of farming is small enough, they like to work in the company of their children and with the help of their children. They love the measure of independence that farm life can still provide.

The Cows by Parker J. Palmer

Heads slumped between their shoulders

The cows stare as I pass –

Not curious and not quite mean:

Stupid is the only word that fits.

Is that how I look

Contemplating God

To God?

Then laugh

My God

I pray!

Laugh thunder loud and jolt me

From my bovine ways!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*As a *Canadian Mennonite* subscriber you can receive the latest complete issue of the magazine by e-mail. This is a good option if you change your mailing address regularly, if you want to save paper, if you're moving overseas, or if you prefer to read your magazines online. Send your e-mail address to office@canadianmennonite.org to subscribe to the digital version.

***The CommonWord Curator:** If waiting a month for the next *Curator* seems long – why not join our social media conversation? Like us on Facebook! Receive timely notices of seasonal materials and new resources. Join a wider network of resourcing sharing and conversation. Learn of our online sales promotions and unique product lines. CommonWord is your place to borrow, buy, or download Anabaptist and related resources. Make the most of the *Curator* - pass it along to friends, leadership folks and anyone who loves to read!

*The **Mennonite Heritage Centre is seeking WWII conscientious objectors** who performed alternative service for the production of a documentary, funded by a grant from the Canadian Department of Heritage. If you are or know of a person who performed alternative service and is willing and able to be interviewed, or if you have photos, correspondence, or diaries on this theme, please contact archivist Conrad Stoesz at cstoesz@mennonitechurch.ca. The Mennonite Heritage Centre is a ministry of Menn. Church Canada.

*Paul Plett is an independent film maker passionate about the faith formation of younger generations. Paul retells familiar Bible stories in a contemporary setting in collaboration with Mennonite Church Canada. His latest production, *Sam and the Thief*, is available for **Sunday School classes now**. Access whole series with teaching aids at <http://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/54/17169>

***The MCCS Encounter & AGM** will be held at Parliament Community Church in Regina on November 7, 2015 from 10:00am-5:00pm. Visit mccsk.ca for more details and plan to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Friday, October 2, 7:30-9:30 a.m. 50+ Seniors Breakfast** at the Osler Pioneer Center.

***MCC is urgently looking for sponsors for refugees** from Syria, Eritrea, Myanmar and other places around the world. If you are interested in learning more about refugee sponsorship and current sponsorship needs, please contact MCC Saskatchewan at 306.665.2555 or email elaineharder@mccsk.ca. Help share God's love and compassion by extending a welcome to those who have been displaced from their homes.

***The Micah Mission Annual General Meeting** will be held on Monday, October 5, 7:00 pm at the Micah Mission office building (Kinsmen Activity Place) at 226 Avenue V So., Sktn Please join us.

***Fall Supper - Tuesday, October 6** from 5:00-7:00 at the **Youth Farm Bible Camp**. Menu includes Roast Beef, Turkey, Potatoes, Stuffing, Vegetables, Salads, Pies and more. Admission by Donation.

***Mennonite Disaster Service is holding an Awareness and Fundraising Supper** on October 30th, 6:30pm at West Portal MB Church in Saskatoon. Call 206-342-4344 by Oct. 13th to reserve your seat.

***Thursday, November 5th: Lord of the (Sausage) Rings fundraiser** for Osler town rink. Tickets are \$45/ticket, available from the town office.

***MCC Sask Remembrance Day Service**, Wednesday, November 11, 11:00 am at OMC. Speaker: Ramiz Shama, MCC Lebanon

* **November 24 – 26, “This Will Lead to Dancing,”** a new play by Theatre of the Beat that addresses LGBTQ inclusion, at Wildwood Mennonite Church, Saskatoon. All shows at 7 p.m. RSVP in advance to production@theatreofthebeat.com to ensure a seat.



***From Nate and Taryn in Botswana: “Walls fall Down” and a request for prayers:**

“We felt God reminding us of the story in Joshua 5: 13-6:20 in which Joshua leads the Israelites at God’s command to walk around the city of Jericho for 7 straight days, after which God leveled the walls at God’s command to walk around the city of Jericho for 7 straight days, after which God leveled the walls for the Israelite army. Their faithfulness in displaying that battle belongs to God allowed God to display his control of a seemingly impossible situation. So, we felt that we should do the same thing, ignoring everything in relation to our project for 7 days, and simply walking around the Bontleng site for those 7 days, dedicating the site to God and the project to his will, and asking him to tear down the spiritual walls surrounding all of the sites in question.”

Mennonite Church Canada Young Church leaders, Nathan and Taryn Dirks, work in Gaborone, Botswana, with youth and young adults from local African Initiated Churches (AICs). Their focus is on community development and Bible teaching. Through their local partnerships they volunteer in local prisons, a school for special needs children, and coordinate development projects in urban agriculture and sports. They emphasize the local sustainability of these projects through the efforts of their young adult AIC partners.

✿ **Pieces of Peace** ✿

Peace cannot be kept by force.
It can only be achieved by understanding.

Albert Einstein

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*There will be **Youth Discussion Nights with Stephanie** on Wednesday, October 7th and Wednesday, October 21, from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

*Our next opportunities to **serve at Saskatoon’s Friendship Inn** will be: October 24, November 21 and December 12. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. (The kitchen staff told Amy, the volunteer coordinator, how much they enjoy having OMC volunteering!!)

***Blanket Making for MCC on November 2 - 6, 2015** starting at 9:00am each morning. There are millions of refugees and displaced people in the world and MCC provides material aid assistance to these people. Usually OMC makes blankets in Jan/Feb but this year there is the desire to add another week in fall and help the many needy people in the world. Please come out and spend the day, a few hours or the week making blankets.

***Ride for Refuge:** Sign-up sheets are now in the foyer. There is the opportunity to sponsor rider Art Zacharias, or perhaps you would like to bike ride as well? All riders (and sponsors ☺) are welcome!

Celebrating October birthdays of our Children & Youth



Natalia – October 3
Lanae – October 6
Jadrian – October 6
Bree – October 27

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Rosthern Junior College Corporation Day meeting** October 24, 5:00pm in the RJC Chapel.

***RJC Homecoming Appreciation and Fundraising Event on Saturday, October 24th** at 6:00pm at RJC. We will celebrate achievements in Athletics featuring Arnold Boldt, Team Canada 7 time Paralympic medalist, Men's Volleyball and the impact RJC had on Husky Athletics 1990-2015 and current provincial track gold medalists Austin Grismer and Jade Peters. Call or email to reserve your seats – 306-232-4222; office @rjc.sk.ca. Tickets are complimentary; seating is limited. Reserve tickets by October 16th.

***Laudato Si! - Praise Be! Pope Francis' encyclical**, published in May this year, addresses matters of creation care and social justice, and has inspired a great deal of interest among both Christians and non-Christians. Some local Mennonites have been talking about how best to respond, and decided to start regular meetings to pray for the planet and discuss appropriate action.

Our initial meeting will be from 8 to 8:30am on Thursday, October 1 (also the day set aside by an international movement to fast for the climate) **in Gabriel Dumont Park**, Saskatoon (by the river if sunny, in the handy pergola-type structure if it's raining). We will use the time to pray and to talk a little about how to go forward. To participate, or for further details, please contact one of:

Mark Bigland-Pritchard (Osler MC) [306 249 4101](tel:3062494101)
mark@lowenergydesign.com, Joe Heikman (minister, Wildwood MC) joe@wildwoodmennonite.org, Josh Wallace (minister, Warman MC) pastorjoshwallace@gmail.com

***Equipping Day 2015 “Engaging Anabaptism Today”** is being held at Eigenheim Mennonite Church on October 24. Come and enjoy workshops such as Confession of Faith: Source of Unity or Division with Karl Koop or Anabaptist Response to the TRC by Cheryl Woelk. Registrations forms are now on the bulletin board and also at www.mcsask.ca under the registrations tab.

Reflections on “Cow Sunday”, September 27, 2015

"It was our life."

"Cows kept us alive during the dry years."

"It was good to work together as family."

"I'd rather be milking cows than doing dishes."

"I liked milking if the cows behaved."

"I didn't shed a tear when we sold them."

Impressions from OMC Dairy Slideshow:

- how many babies were in their portable cribs in the barn while both parents milked

- how milk was dumped in the fields during the milk strike

- how many prize-winning cows were bred

- how many dairy jobs were created for youth, unemployed and guys out of prison

People appreciated remembering our agricultural history and learning how faith and work come together for those in dairy farming. One person commented, "being relatively new to the church, it was good to hear from people who don't ordinarily share and learn why they chose farming and how faith intersects with work in a real way." I think people feel a greater connection now. And isn't that what Sunday morning is all about?

*If you would like a copy of the **Dairy Sunday slide show**, just bring a USB stick to the office and copies of the pictures will be added to the stick for you.

