

***MCC Connects:** MCCS is partnering with Str8Up and other community organizations in *10000 Healing Steps: Resilience and Community* on Feb 5 & 6. This 2-day conference in Saskatoon will focus on gang intervention and prevention, community support, and hopeful outcomes. See the bulletin board poster or www.str8-up.ca. Keynote speakers will be Justice Murray Sinclair, chair of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission, Fr Greg Boyle, and Dr. Mark Totten and Father Andre Poilevre of STR8UP. For more information contact Heather Peters at 306.665.2555 or heatherpeters@mccs.org. For tickets go to www.picatic.com.

***Sask Women in Mission** has openings in several committees: secretary, program committee, president elect and nominating. 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

Worship Leader: Jim Dyck
 Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell
 Accompanist: Melanie Boldt
 Scripture reader: Shelley Penner
 This week's Nursery Care: Sarah Guenther
 Next week's Nursery Care: Lucy Friesen
 Sound: Abe Braun
 Ushers: Harold Loewen, Lloyd Sawatzky

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
 Vol. LV January 19, 2014 No. 3
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OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan
 A Welcoming Christian
 Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
 January 19, 2014

Week of Prayer: Christian Unity

Prelude
 Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship (Insert)

Hymn: Blue/HWB #50 “Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah”

Prayers of Repentance (Insert)

LISTENING

Children's Time and collection of loose change Kathryn Janzen

***Hymn: “Fearfully, wondrously made” (Lyrics on Insert)**

Sharing

Prayer of the Church: “Intercessory Prayer” (Insert)

Offering and Offertory music
 Offertory Prayer

Old Testament lesson: Isaiah 57:14-19
 Lesson from the Epistles: I Corinthians 1:1-17

Hymn: Blue/HWB #627 “There is a balm in Gilead”

Sermon: “Making Salt” Gordon Allaby

Hymn: Blue/HWB #472 “I am the Bread of life”

COMMUNION

Sign of Peace: Don de Dieu.

The bread and the cup

Commitment to Unity (Insert)

***Hymn: Blue/HWB #420 “Heart with loving heart united”**

***Benediction**

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: May the love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, may the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service, may the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your spirit, and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever.

Many: Amen.

One: Go in peace, to love and to be loved, to welcome and to belong, to serve and to be nourished.

All: Thanks be to God!

**Please rise*

We welcome all who are worshipping with us today.

To all our visitors: WELCOME. We are delighted that you are worshipping with us.

Nursery care is provided during the worship service for those who desire it (children over 4 years should be accompanied by an adult.)

Children’s Worship Binder, an instrument to help children through the worship hour, is available in the foyer.

***TODAY**

- **Beverages and snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.
- **Open gym** tonight at 7:00pm – Basketball or hockey

THIS WEEK

- **Monday through Saturday, 8pm each day – Winter Study and Prayer Week**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 21, 7:00pm – Heart to Heart”**
- **Thursday, Jan. 23, 6:30pm – Missions & Service** Committee meeting (*note early start time*)
- **Next Sunday, Jan. 26, Noon – Potluck lunch,** followed by a **Bridal Shower** for Chelsea Cox

Remember in Prayer

Sarah Hiebert, at home, recovering from medical treatments.

Please pray diligently for our Youth Ministry. Pray that we will see and grasp God’s leading and pray for all the Youth affected by this ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Winter Study – Week of Prayer, January 18-25:** Monday-Saturday, Jan. 20-25, 8pm. Study guides available in the foyer.

***Blanket Making for MCC** on January 20, 21, 22 and January 27, 28 & 29. MCC sends blankets to hospitals, refugee camps, orphanages and locations experiencing disasters and conflict. We want to do our part by sewing blankets to assist people who live in difficult situations. Everyone is welcome to join us at the church at 9:00 am on the dates mentioned or whenever you are available.

***Ladies:** a brand new year of **Heart to Heart** meetings is starting off on **Tuesday, January 21st**. We will be making blankets; so whether you are an experienced blanket maker or a rookie, come out and join the fun in support of this MCC project! We will start at 7:00 pm and will also have the opportunity to attend the Prayer Week prayer service at 8:00.

***Next Sunday, January 26th:** **There will be a potluck lunch** after the worship service. Immediately following the potluck, there will be a **Bridal Shower for Chelsea Cox;** sponsored by the deacons.

Fearfully, Wondrously made

Glenn Kaiser

Chorus:

You are fearfully, wondrously, gloriously, lovingly made
You are loved, you are wanted, desired.
I tell you again and again.
You are fearfully, wondrously, gloriously, lovingly made.

Verse 1:

I was there when you turned your face to the wall.
I was there when you felt ten feet tall
I was there when nobody knew your name.
I'll be there and I'll tell you again and again:

Verse 2:

There were times when you wondered if I was around.
There were times when you stumbled and fell to the ground.
There were times when you tried to avoid every test.
But everything works for your good when you love.,
When you trust, you find rest.

***God has blessed the ministry of MCC for over 94 years.** In Saskatchewan we are celebrating **50 years** of faith in action. Join us in thanksgiving by submitting your personal or family's MCC story. These stories should be no longer than 1000 words and will be posted online at <http://mhss.sk.ca/MCCsk/> & stored in a binder at the MCCS office. Please send your submissions to leonarddoell@mccs.org.

***Jan. 31 – Feb. 2: SMYO Sr. High Retreat** for Grades 9- 12 students at *Shekinah Retreat Centre*. It will be a great weekend of fun, fellowship, and learning. *Senior Youth –Please speak to Leslie if you are interested in attending.*

Coming OMC events:

Friday, Feb. 7th, 7:30pm: Congregational discussion
Saturday, Feb 8th: Annual Business Meeting, 9:30 am to noon

***A Sign up sheet** on the bulletin board lets you know what weeks are available for you to **bring snacks for Sunday School and Gathering Time**, and another Sign-up sheet for **taking a turn making coffee and washing cups for the Gathering Place**. Please consider taking a turn – you are welcome to sign up!

***Criminal Record Checks:** As part of our Safe Church Policy, all those who supervise the nursery, and work with youth and children in the church are asked to have a criminal record check done. Just take your identification to the Warman RCMP detachment and ask them to complete the check, and then bring the completed form to Gordon. There is no cost when such checks are done for volunteers.

***The Student Bursary fund** was started by a donation from the Estate of Rev. Corney Boldt for students who will be attending one of our church schools. A once in a lifetime bursary of \$500.00 per student will be made available for as long as there is money in the fund. To qualify the applicant or its parents must be members of Osler Mennonite Church or must have been active in the church program for the past three years. If you feel you qualify this year, please fill out the application form available from the office.

***The 2014 church directory** will be compiled soon. If you have any **address changes, or phone number and email changes**, please let the church office know. It would be appreciated if contact information for students and other members and adherents who live “away” could also be provided to the church office.

*Starting January 27th, Mark Bigland-Pritchard and Jan Bigland-Pritchard will be presenting a **6 week Academy of Discipleship course on Christian responses to the climate crisis**. The course will look at the science, the policy and biblical material on the impending crisis, on care for creation, repentance, hope and more. See the Course Programme on the bulletin board. To register by Jan. 15th, email janbp.ststepens@sasktel.net or phone: 306-374-4066

***Shekinah Retreat Centre “Winter Fun Day” Feb. 17, 10am-6pm:** Skating, broomball, curling, snow sculpting/painting, tubing, sleigh rides, snowshoeing, hiking, skiing. New this year: Meet and adventure with the “Shekinah Snow Dummy” and live entertainment in the timberlodge! Shekinah has hotdogs, dessert and hot chocolate. See the bulletin board poster to see what you can bring or check out www.shekniahretreatcentre.org or FB.

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Isaiah 57:14-19

¹⁴ It shall be said, ‘Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people’s way.’ ¹⁵ For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite. ¹⁶ For I will not continually accuse, nor will I always be angry; for then the spirits would grow faint before me, even the souls that I have made. ¹⁷ Because of their wicked covetousness I was angry; I struck them, I hid and was angry; but they kept turning back to their own ways. ¹⁸ I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will lead them and repay them with comfort, creating for their mourners the fruit of the lips. ¹⁹ Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the Lord; and I will heal them.

I Corinthians 1:1-17

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹⁰Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, ‘I belong to Paul’, or ‘I belong to Apollos’, or ‘I belong to Cephas’, or ‘I belong to Christ.’ ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for those who practise international solidarity and global partnership. As we favour a fair trade of goods and cancel debt in the poorest countries, may we also strive for justice. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: As we strive to realize these goals, may we discern your voice, O Lord, and journey together towards the Kingdom for which you prayed. And so we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

Commitment to Unity

One: Paul challenged the Christians in Corinth to know in their hearts and to show in their actions that Christ has not been divided. He challenges us as well, to realize more fully the unity we already have in Christ. With all those in every place who call on the Lord Jesus Christ,

Many: Together, we are called to be saints.

One: Graced by God in every way,

Many: Together, we give thanks for one another.

One: Rich in the many blessings God has given us through our union in Christ,

Many: Together, we are not lacking in any spiritual gift.

One: Confident in the God who strengthens us for love and service,

Many: Together, we affirm that God is faithful.

One: Embraced by Jesus Christ,

Many: Together, we are called into fellowship.

One: United in the same mind and purpose,

Many: Together, we seek to be in agreement.

One: Overcoming our quarrels about the One who was crucified for us,

Many: Together, we belong to Christ.

One: Has Christ, then, been divided?

All: No! Together, we go into the world to proclaim his good news!

Call to Worship

One: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This worship service was prepared here in Canada. The word "Canada," in the language of some of the country's first people, the Iroquois, means "village." As members of the household of God, Christians around the world indeed inhabit one "village." When Christians worship, they link themselves to this vast global village, so full of beauty, of struggle and of hope. Dear friends, we welcome you to join together in prayer through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

One: Loving God, you call all of us: from our homes and our offices, from our mines and our factories, from our fields and our shops, from our fishing boats and our herds, from our schools and our hospitals, from our prisons and our detention centres, to be one in fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many: Make us one in Christ.

One: The indigenous peoples of Canada honour an ancient ritual of praying while facing in different directions. With them, let us unite in prayer, facing each of the directions as indicated:

Facing East

One: From the East come peace and light and wisdom and knowledge.

Many: We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

Facing South

One: From the South come warmth and guidance and the beginning and the end of life.

Many: We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

Facing West

One: From the West comes the rain, purifying water, to sustain all living things.

Many: We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

Facing North

One: From the North come the cold and mighty wind and the white snows, giving us strength and endurance.

Many: We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

Turning towards the front, and looking upward

One: From the heavens we receive darkness and light and the air of your breath.

Many: We are grateful for these gifts, O God.

Looking downward

One: From the earth we come and to the earth we will return.

Many: We are grateful, O God, for your good creation, our earthly home.

One: May we walk good paths, blessed God, living on this earth as brothers and sisters should; rejoicing in one another's blessing, sympathizing in one another's sorrows, and together with you, in the name of Jesus, and with the Spirit's awakening breath, renewing the face of the earth.

All: Amen.

Prayers of Repentance

One: Inspired by Paul's appeal to the community of Corinth, let us confess our sins. Gracious God, through our union with Christ Jesus you have made us rich in speech and in knowledge of every kind. In our pride, we attribute these gifts to ourselves and do not recognize their true source. Forgive us, Lord.

Many: Lord, have mercy.

One: Gracious God, in Christ we are not lacking in any spiritual gift. Yet, often we are too timid or self-absorbed to share the marvels of this life-giving message with those around us. Forgive us, Lord.

Many: Lord, have mercy.

One: Gracious God, you call us to fellowship in your Son, Jesus Christ. For our lack of enthusiasm to be united in one mind and one purpose, and for readily allowing divisions and quarrels to persist among us, forgive us, Lord.

Many: Lord, have mercy.

One: Gracious God, you remain faithful even while seeing our weakness. Forgive our sins of mediocrity and our easy acceptance of divisions among us. By the grace of your Holy Spirit, rekindle our zeal to take concrete steps to honour our covenant of unity with you, one another and all of creation.

All: Amen.

Intercessory Prayers

Together, Canadian churches have embraced the United Nations' Eight Millennium Goals. The following prayers lift up these goals.

One: We pray for all people who suffer day to day in poverty and hunger. Their precarious state often causes divisions; may Christ's love restore justice and peace. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for all those striving for universal education. May their thirst for knowledge build bridges between our churches and restore respect in our differences. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for those striving for equal dignity and rights of man and woman. May the image of God be honoured in all women and men. We remember especially the need for equal access to jobs, goods and services. As we become one in Christ Jesus, may we fully receive the gifts of both men and women. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for the young who are sick and those who seek to improve child health. As we take care of children, we welcome Jesus himself. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for women who bear children, and for their maternal health. May we take care of these mothers who carry new life and whose love for their children reminds us of God's uniting love for us. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for those who combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. May we hear the voices of those denied a life of dignity, and work to create a world in which all people are respected and cared for, and where no one is excluded. Gracious God, hear our prayer,

Many: And in your love, answer.

One: We pray for all who suffer the consequences of the poor stewardship of creation, and for all endangered species. Guide us to environmental sustainability so we can be reconciled with creation. Gracious God, hear our prayer,