

**\*MCC Connects:** Songs for the Sale" will be held on April 13, at the Forest Grove Community Church, Saskatoon, at 7:00pm. Come enjoy an evening of songs and celebration and support the MCC Relief Sale Committee. Offering designated for June sale expenses.

**\*Shekinah Banquet and Fundraiser: April 5, 2014** at Mount Royal Mennonite Church. Doors open-6pm. Supper-6:30. Tickets \$25...call the office or chat with a board member. More details coming soon.

**\*A Buncha Guys Spring Concert** - Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00 at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. Tickets (\$5.00) available at the door, McNally Robinson, MCC SK., Russ Regier (249-3650), & the guys.

\*Tuesday, April 8 - 6:00pm - **Youth Farm Bible Camp Alumni Banquet** at Neuanlage Mennonite Church. Tickets: \$10. Purchase from the camp office 1-855-855-9322 or online: [www.yfbc.ca](http://www.yfbc.ca) All who worked or volunteered at the camp are welcome to come!!

**\*Saskatoon MEDA Supper Event:**Thurs. April 10, Bethany Manor Reception at 6pm Supper 6:30. Marion Good is guest speaker.

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Worship Leader: John Reddekopp  
Song Leader: Kathryn Janzen  
Accompanist: Mark Bigland-Pritchard  
Scripture reader: Margaret Dyck  
This week's Nursery Care: Shelley Penner  
Next week's Nursery Care: Sarah Guenther  
Sound: Chris Buhler  
Ushers: Dick Braun, Karl Martens-Funk

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The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0  
Vol. LV March 23, 2014 No. 12  
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## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan  
A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
March 23, 2014

*Lent Three – Encountering God: What have we witnessed . . .  
through nourishment that meets our needs?*

Prelude  
Welcome & Announcements

### ENCOUNTERING

Chiming to Worship and a silent reflection

### **Call to worship**

One: Dry and thirsty, we look for a drink that will satisfy.  
**Many: God provides us with water from the spring of life.**  
One: Lost and confused, we strive for direction and purpose.  
**Many: God leads us through the wilderness into a land of promise.**  
One: Weary from the journey, we plead for restoration.  
*All: God renews us and grants us new life;  
we make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.*

Invocation

**\*Hymn: Blue/HWB#521 “Come, thou fount”**

### **Confessing our sin**

Leader: When will this journey be over? Where is the end of all our traveling? How long will we wander, thirsty and hungry, strangers in a strange land? Deliver us, Lord, from our misery. You have said that you will give us water that flows from the rock; that you will quench our thirst, that never again will our souls be parched. We do not listen to your

voice. We ignore what we see around us, the evidence of your gift; asking for new signs, we demand proof of your grace. We harden our hearts against you; we draw from wells that run dry; we sip on that which does not satisfy.

Lord, hear our prayer. (silence)

**Claiming our assurance:**

*You have met us at the well and offered us a spring of water gushing to eternal life. Now we have heard for ourselves and we know that you are truly the Saviour of the world.*

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #493 “I heard the voice of Jesus say”**

Sharing

Discipline of silence and Prayer of the Church

WITNESSING

Gospel lesson: John 4: 5-42

Drama

Children’s Time

Lacey Braun

**Hymn: Purple/SS#31 “Jesus be the centre”**

Offering and Offertory music

Offertory Prayer

**Hymn: Blue/HWB#570 “We walk by faith”**

Sermon: “At the Well”

Gordon Allaby

RESPONDING

**\*Hymn: Green/SJ #79 “As I went down to the river”**

\*Benediction: We have encountered God through waters of provision. Go as witnesses to the living water that Jesus offers to us all. In the week ahead, be alert to the surprising ways that God’s work is being revealed all around you.

*\*Please rise*

**Focus Statement:** We encounter God through nourishment that meets our needs. The Israelites drank the water God provided from a rock in the desert, and the Samaritan woman received Jesus’ living water at the well. In our thirst, we witness God’s miraculous provision.

**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.
- **Choir practice for Easter: 11am** in the sanctuary
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.

**THIS WEEK**

- **Monday, March 24, 7:00-8:30pm – “Do Art”** for Grades 4 – 9 students.
- **Friday, March 28, 7:30pm – Youth going to RJC** – see bulletin for announcement details
- **Saturday, March 29: Concert, 7:30pm-** see bulletin
- **Next Sunday, March 30 – 11:15- Discussion time** re: MCC Thrift Stores in the sanctuary, **followed by Potluck Lunch at noon**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*Friday, March 28th - RJC Friday Night Live** - Coffee House - 7:30 pm. **Youth meet at the Church at 6:45 pm.** *If anyone is able to drive the youth to Rosthern for this event, please talk to Shelley.*

\*RJC is including **Spend-A-Day** in this event! Gr. 8-11 Youth are invited to come for some classes, be part of the "behind-the-scenes" activities of Friday Night Live, and stay the night in the dorms.

Email [val@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:val@rjc.sk.ca) or download registration forms at [www.rjc.sk.ca](http://www.rjc.sk.ca)

**"A celebration of music" - Sonrisa Womens Choir** with guests **A Buncha Guys - Sunday March 30, 2:30 pm** at Knox United Church in Saskatoon. Tickets: adults \$10, students & seniors \$8, children free at the door or in advance through choir members.

**\*MDS FAMILY** - MDS is a ministry of Anabaptist churches working together. Give thanks for the collaboration that bring people together to help those affected by disasters. Give thanks for the hundreds of volunteers from Canada who volunteer each year, and consider becoming one of them.



**Prayer Requests: Pray with and for the church for:**

\*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](http://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](mailto: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*. All are welcome.

Visit <http://home.mennonitechurch.ca/event/NativeAssembly2014>

\*Thank you for remembering the people of the Philippines in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan through your support of Mennonite Church Canada workers Dann and Joji Pantoja. Although headlines have faded, the need for restoration and healing will continue for years.

**Remember in your Prayers**

**Those with health concerns, including Abe Braun, Sarah Hiebert, Michelle McKinnell, Haylee Wall and Leslie's father, Mike Myers.**

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**\*Our Lenten theme is: "Encountering God: What have we witnessed?"** Is encountering something *we* do? Or is the word an adjective describing an attribute of *God*? This season invites us to reflect on encounters with the encountering God who changes lives. The second part of our theme, "What have we witnessed?" also has a double focus: both what we have *seen* (been witness of) and what we have *told* others about (witnessed to).

**\*Lent Worship Banners** are being prepared by the Junior Youth. Abstractly, through color and design, the banners explore the spiritual power of the encounters being explored in worship. **Yellow:** a primary color which represents God, Christ and the Holy Spirit. **Blue:** a primary color representing water, breath and wind. **Green:** the resulting encountered color from yellow and blue, it also represents new life, blessings and fertile land. **Lent Three:** Green becomes the rock from which the life giving water bursts forth and the spirit swirls within the living water; available to us when we thirst for and open ourselves to encounter with God.

**\*Next Sunday, March 30, Noon – Potluck lunch.** During the Sunday School hour, the adult Sunday School classes are invited to join Erica Baerwald and Claire Ewert Fisher for a discussion in the sanctuary. Discussion will focus around Mennonite Thrift Stores. The discussion time will be followed by the **Potluck at noon.**

**\*Custodian - The church needs a custodian from now until Sarah is able to return.** The current monthly remuneration and list of duties is available at the office for those interested in applying for the position. We are also open to a group of people doing the work on a schedule. If you are interested in serving the church in this way, please contact one of the Trustee committee members (Dick, Glen, Lyle, Bill, or Doug), who hope to hear from you very, very soon.

**\*"Ring in Spring with a Musical Thing": Saturday, March 29, 7:30pm.** OMC will be hosting an evening full of music and poetry featuring our own Chelsea Cox and her new in-laws, Andrew Hecker, Christine Hecker and Heather Macnab. These 4 classically trained musicians have been singing together for years in Maple Creek and are now going to share their talents with you. This promises to be a fun, intimate evening full of songs and stories. From folk to opera, English to Italian, they've prepared a well varied concert to fill your evening with lighthearted entertainment. *Admission by donation: proceeds toward our piano repairs.*

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

#### John 4: 5-42

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a

prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Lord neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship God in spirit and truth, for the Lord seeks such as these to worship God. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.' <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him. <sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'