

***MCC Connects:** Give peace for Christmas. Your gift of peace helps communities build understanding and resolve conflicts. \$45 helps to support peacemakers as they share stories of past conflicts. Give at donate.mcccanada.ca or call 306.665.2555.

***RJC Tournament of Memories** - January 9 & 10, 2015 - Basketball and Hockey are waiting for you! Alumni, family and friends should register by January 1st by email (deneldafast@hotmail.com) for basketball and hockey. Basketball with a skills competition and Street hockey. This is something new and will be played in the parking lot in front of the school. Reconnect with old classmates and friends and exercise your mind, body and spirit at the same time! Your alumni bulletin "RJC CONNECT" will be in the mail soon (and is already on the RJC website) with more details. If you have questions contact Denelda at 306-221-2846 or RJC office at 306-232-4222.

Worship Leader: Dave Feick
Song Leader: Michelle McKinnell
Accompanist: Mark Bigland-Pritchard
This week's Nursery care: Sarah Buhler
Next Week's Nursery care: Lucy Friesen
Sound: Stephanie Siemens
Ushers: Carl MartensFunk, Steve Rowan

The Osler Mennonite Church, Box 129, Osler, Saskatchewan S0K 3A0
Vol. LVI January 4, 2015 No. 1
Church Office – 306-239-2133
Fax – 306-239-2279
oslermc@sasktel.net oslermcpastor@sasktel.net
website: <http://omchurch.org>



OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan
A Welcoming Christian
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
January 4, 2015

Epiphany Sunday *"Your saving mystery revealed"*

Prelude
Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us worship in faith the God who is here and desires our worship. Incarnate God, work in our hearts, that our worship would be filled with the awe that comes from remembering your saving mystery.

All: *In a little child, God is revealed to us.*

Leader: The mystery, kept hidden in ages past, has been made known.

People: **We, who were once outsiders, now share in the inheritance.**

Leader: All of us, part of the same body, share the same promise,

People: **through the gospel of Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

Leader: Throwing light on the inner workings of this mystery was God's plan from all eternity.

People: **God's gift of grace is a gift to be received by all.**

All: *In thankfulness we treasure the immeasurable riches of Christ.*

Confession of faith:

Leader: The glory of the Lord has risen; the Light of God has come.

People: You are gathering your people, all peoples, those far away and those close at hand.

Leader: The mystery, long hidden, has been revealed to all. Our hearts are jubilant!

People: This mystery, until now, was revealed to the apostles and prophets.

Leader: But now, in Jesus, all people are heirs to this mysterious promise.

People: So grace is our rich inheritance, more precious than gold, frankincense, or myrrh.

All: We praise you, O God, for revealing your saving mystery. We will proclaim your promise with gratitude.

***Hymns: Blue/HWB #218 “As with gladness men of old”
Blue/HWB #200 “Where is this stupendous stranger?”**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns and Prayer of the church

LISTENING

Children’s Time

Lacey Braun

Hymn: Purple/SS #32 “O beautiful star of Bethlehem”

Offering and Offertory Music
Offertory Prayer

Scripture Lessons: Matthew 2:1-12

Hymn: Blue/HWB #219 “Bright and glorious is the sky”

Meditation: “Rooted in Scripture, Following the Star” Patty Friesen

RESPONDING

***Hymn: Purple/SS #91 “Star of the Morning”**

*Benediction

**Please rise.*

To all our visitors: WELCOME. We are delighted that you are worshiping 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.

The blank, coloured papers in the pew are for **thank-you notes to God or someone in the church**. Place the note in the offering bag. Notes with names will be delivered to that person. The rest will be saved. Share your thankfulness as an offering.

An Epiphany Prayer: Lord, be a bright flame before us, be a guiding star above us, be a smooth path beneath us, be a kindly shepherd behind us.

TODAY

- **Beverages and snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.

THIS WEEK

- **Tuesday, January 6, 7:30pm – Worship Committee Meeting**
 - **Wednesday, Jan 7, 7:30pm – Winter study: “Good God, Good Sex” with Joel Heikman, WMC**
 - **Thursday, January 8, 7:30pm – Church Council meeting**
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Next Sunday:

Sermon: Patty Friesen - “Jesus’ Baptism, Our Calling”

Worship leader: Tony Funk

Song leader: Kevin Boldt

Pianist: Melanie Boldt

Children’s time: Kathy Braun

Sound: Doug McKinnell

*TiM (Transitioning into Ministry) is an online coaching and mentoring program to help new Canadian pastors through the fast waters of their first two years of active ministry. A Duke University study shows that up to 85% of seminary graduates leave the ministry after their first 5 years. Your investment in new pastors would be a great encouragement:

<https://donate.mennonitechurch.ca/project/MentorPastors>

*Mennonite Church Canada is seeking an Educational Childcare Worker for two children ages six and three until summer 2016. Parents Norm and Lillian Nicolson are engaged in a Bible translation and vocational training ministry in Burkina Faso, West Africa. The successful candidate will have a spirit of adventure and a desire to relocate to Africa. For more information, visit <http://home.mennonitechurch.ca/node/481> or email Tany at twarkentin@mennonitechurch.ca.

*On January 5, 2015 the Resource Centre officially becomes CommonWord: Bookstore and Resource Centre, a new collaboration between Mennonite Church Canada and Canadian Mennonite University. All the usual family and congregational materials and more – for loan and download – will remain available from www.commonword.ca and through the new physical location at 2299 Grant Avenue in Winnipeg. This merger with CMU Bookstore expands our services to include retail products, extended hours of operation and residence in a beautiful public venue. We look forward to continuing to serve you! New contact information: Toll-free: 1-877-846-1593 T: 204-594-0527; E: info@commonword.ca Web: www.commonword.ca

*Featured prayer request from the wider church: Mike and Cheryl Nimz work with the Mennonite Trust and the Anabaptist Network in the UK. Their work brings them in contact with many different Anabaptist communities. Pray that they will be sustained in this diverse ministry by a strong sense of personal community.

Remember in Prayer

Thanksgivings:

Family members home for the holidays, the blessing of community

Announcements

***Patty's Week:** Tuesday: sermon, worship meeting. Wednesday: office 8:30-12:30, winter bible study. Thursday: council meeting. Friday: office 8:30-12:30.
Please feel free to call Patty at home: (306) 955-2928.

*Upcoming Sunday services:

Sunday, Jan. 18 - Claire Ewert-Fischer, MCC Ukraine
Sunday, Jan. 25 - Saskatune Singers.

*The total giving for this year's Sunday School Giving Project; the "*Gift of Water*" through Mennonite Central Committee was \$1,768.80. Thank you for your generosity.

***Found: set of keys**, two of which appear to be house keys and two that are GM vehicle keys. See church office.

***Winter Walkers:** OMC gym will be open for walking Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, 9:00 a.m. beginning Monday, January 5th. *Forever in Motion Senior Fitness Class* will meet Wednesdays and Fridays 10:00-10:45 a.m. starting Wednesday, January 21st. Walkers and all ages welcome to join us. Contact Patty with questions.

***Blanket Making for MCC** at the church on January 19, 20, 26, 27. Please come and help us make blankets for people in the world who live in refugee camps, children in orphanages and people living in locations experiencing disasters. A warm blanket is something that can help people who live in difficult situations to hope for a brighter future.

***OMC Winter Wednesdays Bible Study "Good God, Good Sex"**
led by Joe Heikman, Wildwood Mennonite Church

Wednesday, Jan. 7, 7:30 p.m.

1. "Sexuality for Everyone" - Sexuality is about more than sex: it's about our longing for connection and the many ways that we go about fulfilling that need. What is it that we're longing for, and what is the connection between sexuality and spirituality?

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m.

2. "We are all Eunuchs" - All of our expressions of sexuality, even within marriage, are imperfect and incomplete. What does it mean to pursue healthy sexuality in light of our broken humanity?

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m.

3. "Sexual Tensions" - Freedom vs. Boundaries. Individual Rights vs Community Values. Our sexual choices, for better or worse, have real-world outcomes. How do we stay faithful to God, each other, and ourselves, in light of the realities of our broken world?

***OMC Visioning Process will continue in January. Watch for opportunities to sign up for** with 30 minute interviews with wonderful listeners from MC Sask at OMC and Saskatoon.

“Your congregation is invited to **join us at Zoar Mennonite Church, Waldheim** on Jan 16-18, 2015 for Spiritual Enrichment Days: *"Biblical Resources for Healing"* with Dan Epp-Thiessen, professor of New Testament at Canadian Mennonite University.

Friday 7:30 pm: “Do bad things happen to good people?”

Sat 9:00 A.M. (Breakfast) “Living faithfully in the midst of pain and struggle.”

Sat 7:30 P.M. “Suffering and pain transformed.”

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 A.M. “Bringing our woundedness to the Cross.” Any questions call 306-945-2271.”

TODAY’S SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Matthew 2:1-12

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.