

**\*MCC Connects:** The refugee crisis in Syria has highlighted the stories of tragedy and desperation of refugee people not only in Syria, but around the world. MCC would like to encourage you to prayerfully consider how you can get involved in helping refugees. Turn compassion to action. Visit our website at [mccsk.ca](http://mccsk.ca) or contact the MCC office at 306-665-2555 to find out how you can get involved.

**\*A Buncha Guys Christmas Concerts** with special guests – the Friesen Family Band. Fri. Dec. 4 7:30 pm at Knox United Church, Saskatoon, Sat. Dec. 12 - 7:30 pm at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Doors open at 6:45 pm. Tickets are \$5.00 ea, available at McNally Robinson Book Sellers in Saskatoon, any of the Guys, or at the door. An offering will be taken to support Shekinah Retreat Centre.

**\*Saturday, December 12, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm: Warman Thrift Shop Christmas Bake sale.** Proceeds going toward MCC Relief kits fund. *Donations of baking are welcome!*

\*Shekinah Retreat Centre just launched their 2015 newsletter and update! Here is the link:

<https://www.shekinahretreatcentre.org/index.php/about-shekinah/2015-shekinah-update>

Worship Leader: Jim Dyck  
Song Leader: Loretta Sawatzky  
Accompanist: Diana Buhler  
Sound: Doug McKinnell  
Ushers: Sarah Hiebert, Dick Braun  
Nursery Supervision: Shelley Penner

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## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

Osler, Saskatchewan  
A Welcoming Christian  
Community for Peace

10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
November 29, 2015

### *First Advent*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship: Lighting of the Advent Candle

L: As quietly as the winter steals upon us, the season of hope approaches.

**C: We wait for our Redeemer, for God's hope to come in fullness.**

L: The day is coming quickly; the God of hope draws near.

**C: Therefore we wait expectantly, attentive to all the signs of God's coming.**

**All: Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

Invocation

**\*Hymns: Blue/HWB #174 “Bless'd be the God of Israel”**

**Blue/HWB #184 “Hark! The glad sound”**

Sharing Joys and Concerns/ Prayer of the Church

Offering/ Offertory Music

Offertory prayer

Children's Time

Lacey Braun

**Hymn: Purple/SS #22 “There were angels hovering round”**

Scripture Lesson: Luke 1:5-25

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #181 “My soul proclaims with wonder”**

Sermon: “Elizabeth and Zechariah”

Patty Friesen

**Hymn: Blue/HWB #318 “Joy to the world”**

\*Benediction

*\*Please rise.*

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

**Scent Free:** We are striving to be considerate of those with sensitivities to scents/fragrances and ask all to avoid wearing scented products.

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

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**TODAY**

- **Centering Prayer** in Classroom 1 at **9:15am**.
- **Beverages and snacks** available after the worship service.
- **Sunday School for all ages** begins at 11:15am.
- **Deacons meeting @ 11:15am**

**THIS WEEK**

- **Tuesday, Dec. 1, 4:30pm – Youth Committee meeting**
  - **Thurs, Dec. 3, 7:30pm - Church Council Meeting**
  - **Sat, Dec 5 – Ladies Heart to Heart Christmas Luncheon**
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**\*Next Sunday: Dec. 6 – Second Advent: Mary and Elizabeth**

**Sermon: Patty Friesen Luke 1:26-45**

Worship leader: Sarah Buhler

Song leader: Loretta Sawatzky Accompanist: Naomi Schellenberg

Children’s Time: Adeline Cox Sound: Dick Braun

Nursery Supervision: Sarah Guenther

Ushers: Russ Friesen, Cornie Guenther, Jadrian Guenther

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**Remember in Prayer**

**Joys** - first snowfalls, memories of our loved ones, Ben and the Joy Singers at Rosthern Nursing Home today, Liam at Volleyball Provincials. **Concerns** - the family of Levi Hiebert, Willard Metzger at Paris Climate Summit.

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**Announcements**

**\*Patty's Week:** Tuesday: sermon, youth meeting, Thrift Store banquet. Wednesday: RJC's Pastors' Day. Thursday: council. Friday: office 8-12. Saturday: Heart 2 Heart Christmas lunch.

**\*Thanks** to all the people who helped decorate the church for Christmas on Wednesday evening and participated in our Hanging of the Greens! ~ Worship Committee

**\*On Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am** at OMC – our annual **Ladies Christmas Luncheon** will feature wonderful Indian food from the Osler Café, including rice, spring rolls, broccoli cauliflower carrot cooked vegetable, green salad, naan, chocolate and vanilla flapper pie and their special Butter chicken! **The cost per person is \$15 .00 and guests are welcome.** If the cost is prohibitive, please come anyway. *Please sign up on the bulletin board today so we can confirm plates needed for the Café.* Come and enjoy the fellowship and celebration of the Advent season.

**\*Christmas Choir practice starts Sunday, December 6 at 9:00am.** The choir will be singing during the December 20<sup>th</sup> worship service. If you love to sing songs of the season, please come out and join the choir!

**\*Next Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm** - Anyone interested is invited to **join Patty to sing Christmas songs for John Wall** in his room at Saskatoon City Hospital. Just ask at the front desk for the room number.

**\*Stuart Murray and Membership Conversations:** Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>: 11:15 Sanctuary: We'll be discussing *“Belonging/Believing/Behaving in Church after Christendom”* - copies on lobby table.

**\*Thursday, December 10, 9:30am – Osler School concert** here.

**\*Friendship Inn: Final opportunity to serve this year: December 12<sup>th</sup>.** Sign up on the bulletin board if that date work for you!

**\*Forever in Motion Walking** at OMC has begun – Every **Wednesday and Friday till December 18**, come and walk anytime between 9 am and Noon. Any questions? Please speak to Susan Braun or Patty Friesen.

**\*The Youth Farm Bible Camp** is fundraising for their annual trip to Mexico in March. Once again **Frozen Food Packages** are available for purchase before December 9th. The cost is \$100. Details and online ordering can be found at [www.yfbc.com/foodpackfundraiser](http://www.yfbc.com/foodpackfundraiser).

**\*RJC Christmas Concert - December 18**, 7:00 pm in the school auditorium. Join us as we celebrate the Christmas season with music and fellowship. A time of refreshments will follow the concert. Everyone is welcome.

**\*RJC Choir Concert at Knox - December 6**, 7:30 pm at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. RJC Chorale and Women's Choir will present a Christmas Concert in Knox United, 838 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone is welcome.

## Mennonite Church Canada

\*Your gift to Mennonite Church Canada this Advent season is an extra special expression of generosity to those around the world whose lives are being transformed by biblical literacy for peace building in the way of Jesus. Visit [www.mennonitechurch.ca](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca) to give.

\*Last year some congregations shared Advent and Christmas photos from their congregations with us. Thank you! Mennonite Church Canada is using them in a variety of ways this year: online, on Christmas cards, etc. We'd love to receive more images of this joyous season from our congregations. Please email hi-resolution images to [office@mennonitechurch.ca](mailto:office@mennonitechurch.ca) – and then watch for appearances in 2016!

**\*Featured prayer request from the wider church.** Relationships are the heart of ministry. Pray for Witness worker Nhien Pham as he connects with our brothers and sisters in the church in Vietnam and the Vietnamese Mennonite Church in Cambodia through his role with Mennonite Church Canada and North American Vietnamese Mennonite Fellowship.

**\*Christmas Hampers** - Mission & Service Committee will be distributing Christmas hampers **on December 19th** and are looking for participation from OMC. The box in the foyer labelled Christmas Hampers will be used to collect non-perishable food items. Other items that would be appreciated are baking, homemade jams, pickles etc. Baking and perishable items should be brought to the church on December 18th or 19th. These hampers will be assembled and distributed at 10:00am in the Youth room on December 19th. If you have any questions please talk to a member of the M&S Committee.

\*On November 30th, the crucial COP21 **Conference on the Climate starts in Paris**. This is possibly the last opportunity for international leaders to commit to policies which can prevent runaway climate change and build a positive clean-energy future.


### **You can help by:**

- praying for the earth: a small group currently meets on Thursday mornings (talk to Mark about location)
- joining an international day of praying and fasting for the climate on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

### **-TODAY @ 1:00pm - Come Rally & Walk for Climate Change:**

Meet at the Vimy memorial to walk across Broadway Bridge to Oskayak for an indoor rally. Speakers to include (RC) Bishop Don Bolen, Nina Wilson (Idle No More), Jenna Gall (home organiser for Canadian youth delegation to COP21)

- **praying for MC Canada Executive Director Willard Metzger** as he prepares to represent the National Council of Churches in Paris. More details from Mark Bigland-Pritchard 306 249-4101 [mark@lowenergydesign.com](mailto:mark@lowenergydesign.com).

\*  **Tonight at 7:00pm –A Community Carol Fest** will be held at the Brian King Center in Warman. Everyone is welcome.

**\*Council has formed a staffing committee** to work at developing a job description for an additional **part-time pastoral staff person** as agreed at our September congregational meeting. The committee consists of Patty Friesen, George Janzen, Matthew Braun, Naomi Schellenberg, Lyle Stucky and Christy Martens-Funk. One of them will be contacting you in the next couple weeks to get your input for their work. Please also feel free to talk with any of them.

## OMC CALENDAR

**Today: Nov 29 - First Sunday of Advent**

**Sun Nov 29 9:15am Centering Prayer** in Classroom 1  
**10:00am Worship Service**  
**11:00am Beverages and snacks** after worship service.  
**11:15am Sunday School** for all ages  
**11:15am - Deacons Meeting**  
**1pm** – Rally for Climate Change – Vimy Memorial, Sktn  
**Sun Nov 29 7:00pm - Carol Fest at Warman Brian King Center**

**Tues Dec 1 4:30pm - Youth Committee Meeting**  
Tues Dec 1 6:30pm - Warman Thrift Shop Volunteer Supper  
**Thur Dec 3 7:30pm - Church Council Meeting**  
**Fri Dec 4 7:30pm - A Buncha Guys @ Knox United Church**  
**Sat Dec 5 11:30am – OMC Ladies Christmas Luncheon**  
**Sun Dec 6 9:00am – Christmas choir practice**  
**Sun Dec 6 9:00am – Staffing Committee meeting**  
**Sun Dec 6 11:15am – Membership Conversations: OMC Sanctuary**  
**Sun Dec 6 2:00pm – Sing for John Wall at City Hospital**  
Sun Dec 6 7:30pm – RJC Choir Concert at Knox United Church  
**Thur Dec 10 9:30am – Osler School concert at OMC**  
**Sat Dec 12 5pm - Youth & Young families OMC Christmas Party**  
**Sat Dec 12 7:30pm - A Buncha Guys concert @ Shekinah**  
**Sun Dec 13 9:00am – Christmas Choir practice**  
**Sun Dec 13 11:15am – Membership Conversations: OMC Sanctuary**  
**Mon Dec 14 7pm - Warman Community Band at Warman MC**  
Fri Dec 18 7pm - RJC Christmas Concert at RJC  
Sat Dec 19 10am – Assemble Christmas Hampers in Youth room  
**Sun Dec 20 9am – Christmas choir practice**  
**Thur Dec 24 7:00pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Program**  
**Sunday, Dec 27 – No Sunday School this Sunday.**

## 2016

**Sat Jan 2 7:00pm - Youth Movie Night at Ben & Diana's**



## **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 1:5-25**

5 In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. <sup>8</sup>Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, <sup>9</sup>he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. <sup>10</sup>Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. <sup>11</sup>Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup>When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. <sup>14</sup>You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup>for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>16</sup>He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup>With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' <sup>18</sup>Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' <sup>19</sup>The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup>But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.' <sup>21</sup>Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. <sup>22</sup>When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. <sup>23</sup>When his time of service was ended, he went to his home. <sup>24</sup>After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, <sup>25</sup>'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favourably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'