

OMC Calendar

May 2015

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday: Worship:10am SundaySchool @ 11:15am					1	2 Youth Family Game Challenge 7 - 8:30pm
3	4	5	6 Youth: Discussion Nite with Stephanie 7 - 8:30pm	7 Church Council 7:30pm	8	9
10	11	12	13 Youth: Discussion Nite with Stephanie 7 - 8:30pm	14 Deacons Meeting 7:30pm	15	16 Youth (and others) Serve at Friendship Inn 10:50am
17 Loose Change Sunday	18	19	20 Youth: Discussion Nite with Stephanie 7 - 8:30pm	21 Missions & Service Comm & Education Committee Mtg: 7:30pm	22	23
24 Pentecost / 31	25	26 Worship Committee Meeting Blumenheim 7:30pm	27	28	29	30

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

The Osler Mennonite Church May 2015 Newsletter

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

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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE



Upcoming OMC Events

***Saturday, May 2: Youth Family Game Challenge night 7:00 – 8:30pm** No skill required! Everyone can play!
 Bring your favourite snack to share, beverages will be provided.
 Those who like to play life-sized Clue
 in the dark are welcome to stay later with the youth!

***OMC Worship Services in May:**

May 3 - Nicodemus, John 3 by Patty Friesen

May 10 - The Samaritan Woman, John 4 by Patty Friesen

May 17 – Loose Change Sunday

May 17 - Person to Person Ministry by Ryan Siemens,
 Grace Mennonite, Prince Albert

May 24 - John 6, Jesus the Bread of Heaven - Pentecost Reflections
 and Communion

May 31 - John 7, Jesus the Living Water by Patty Friesen

***Be sure to check out our Facebook page and the Saskatchewan Mennonite Youth Organization (SMYO) Facebook page for pictures and videos of our Youth at SMYO's Honoring the Earth" event.**

Patty's Ponderings

Pastor Patty's Pizza and Pop Party for Pensioners at Bethany Manor.

“Where’s the Papsi?” pouted the pensioners, protesting the pastor’s forgetting their preferred pop. “Perhaps some pineapple pizza,” Patty proposed and they promptly participated following prayer from Pastor Bill Kruger. Playfully pondering the past in Plaut Deutsch, and puzzling the perplexed pastor, the people pronounced the party perfect. That is until one person piped up,

“Where’s the Platz?”

We are so thankful for our seniors and how they have literally built our new church with their donations but also built the church spiritually with their faith and prayers and we continue to need their wisdom, experience and prayers as we move into the future.

-Patty Friesen

Patty's Picks:

Things Hidden by Richard Rohr - Rohr never ceases to amaze and inspire.

Toxin Toxout by Bruce Lourie ruined my life. I had to get rid of my fav Teflon roaster and deodorant. I hope no one notices!

Hand to Mouth by Linda Tirado was another life changer on poverty.

Reconcile by John Paul Lederach was helpful to see the positive things that can come from conflict.

Ru by Kim Thuy - a must read from Canada Reads.

Guardians of the Galaxy DVD - enjoyed this Marvel Comics playful flick.

Easy Virtue DVD for lovers of British drama.

Nanny McPhee DVD fun for families.

The Theory of Everything DVD with the brilliant Eddie Redmain.

Wild DVD with Reese Witherspoon - a little rough but gorgeous West Coast trail scenery.

More Things I Have Never Done Before Working in Osler

by Patty Friesen

1. Listened to country music.
2. Worked a hot dog booth.
3. Shoveled manure in Italian leather.
4. Sold indulgences - the forgiveness of sins in exchange for manure, wine and garden produce.
5. Spoken unintentionally in a Low German accent.

My city friends laugh at me because they say I sound like I am from Osler. To which I reply, "That's because I am from Osler, you urban snobs." I am trying to be country cool as a rural pastor but that hasn't been working out very well. I cause more work for farmers with my vehicular mishaps. Thank you all for your patience:)

Humour ~ The Isaac Section

Pastor Patty was driving along one day and saw a little boy trying to reach a doorbell. She stopped the car and got out to help the boy. She pressed the doorbell for him and said, “Now what do we do?”

“Now,” the boy said, “we run!”

-from Coffee Perks (slight name change ☺)

After starting a new diet I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and as I approached, there in the window were a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed ... "Lord, it's up to you, if you want me to have any of those delicious goodies, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery."

And sure enough, on the eighth time around the block, there it was! God is so Good!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*Everyone is invited to a **Spring Jazz Coffee House** with the Warman Community Band and Diamond Jazz Band - **Sunday, May 3, 2pm:** Warman's Brian King Centre. Admission by donation.

***Truth & Reconciliation** – What are the next steps? Join wonderful speakers at Rosthern Eigenheim Mennonite Church on **Friday, May 1: 7-9 pm and Saturday, May 2 – 10am – 4pm.** Hear the stories of Indian residential schools from those who lived it. Share ideas and insights that will lead us toward becoming more faithful instruments of reconciliation in Treaty 6. See the bulletin board for details. Please contact MC Sask Office to indicate your intention of participating. 306-249-4844; mcsask@mcsask.ca

*Rosthern Youth Farm Complex Auxiliary is holding a **May Day Tea and Cake Walk on Thursday, May 7, 2014** from 2-4pm in the Mennonite Nursing Home Auditorium. Admission by donation. Proceeds from the Tea go towards purchasing a new cupboard unity for the West Tub room. Everyone welcome!



Mennonite Church Canada

***Featured prayer request from the wider church:** Please pray for Shim Beack and Joon Park of Emmanuel Mennonite Church (Abbotsford, BC). The couple had planned to serve in a long term assignment in China with Mennonite Church Canada, but Shim was recently diagnosed with cancer. Pray for wisdom as they make decisions about the future, treatment plans, and implications for their potential assignment.

*Anabaptists from around the world are coming to the United States for Global Assembly this July ... but first, they need to get visas! Please join with Mennonite World Conference in praying for our Visa Task Force as they work with our global brothers and sisters on getting approval from the US government to travel to Pennsylvania this summer.

Lectionary Passages for the next 5 weeks

May 3, 2015—Easter 5 Future generations will be told
Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 (30) 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8

May 10, 2015—Easter 6 Abide in my love
Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17 (9)

May 17, 2015—Easter 7 Bearing fresh fruit (The Message)
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 (3) 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19

May 24, 2015—Day of Pentecost Send out your Spirit (The Message) Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (30) Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 31, 2015—Trinity Sunday All the earth is filled with God's glory (CEB) Isaiah 6:1-8 (3) Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17

I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

Martin Luther King Jr.

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***Our warmest greetings to Nutana Park Mennonite Church** on the celebration of 50 years of ministry in Saskatoon. We are thankful for our mutual relationships - especially the romantic ones.

- Osler Mennonite Church

***Our warmest greetings to Superb Mennonite Church** on your celebration of 70 years of ministry in the Kerrobert area. We are especially thankful for the gift of the Stefanuk family and for your baptizing Vanessa and Matthew. - Osler Mennonite Church

***Sunday School Picnic Sunday, June 21 at Pineview Farms**

-Worship starts at 10:00 a.m. (including the Grade 6 Bible presentation and New Members sharing).

A weiner roast and potluck will follow worship.

***For those wanting to come campout at Pineview Farms with tents and RVs on Saturday for Summer Solstice Campout (June 20):**

- Enjoy a BBQ supper at 6:30 p.m. (\$10 per family for meat). Bring beverages and salads and, desserts to share.

-There will be yard games, a nature scavenger hunt and a Summer Solstice Campfire Singalong at 8 p.m. for anyone who wants to join just for the evening!

-For those attending the evening event, RSVP to Melanie Boldt at [306-239-4763 ext 2](tel:306-239-4763) or email melanie@pineviewfarms.com to assist with meal planning and setting up camp. Please also bring campfire snacks any cooking utensils (wiener sticks, bushpie plates etc.), lawn chairs, and games that you might need.

-For those camping overnight, you are welcome to arrive any time after 5 p.m. to set up. Please bring your own cooking utensils and breakfast supplies. There is a campfire and BBQ available for cooking plus washrooms to freshen up on Sunday morning!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***MCC: URGENT!** The unusually high number of international emergencies this winter has put a strain on MCC's resources and ability to respond to disasters. **We are low on funds and out of relief kits, hygiene kits and blankets.** For more information contact Del Lennea at MCCS at 306.665.2555 or dellennea@mccsk.ca

Dear Co-workers in Christ,

MCC is responding to the needs of victims of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Nepal.

You probably have already heard of the devastating earthquake which struck Nepal with its epicentre between the capital Kathmandu and the city of Pokhara. The earthquake has also affected people in India, China and Bangladesh.

Early reports indicate a death toll of over 1,900 people. The number is expected to rise as assessment of damage continues.

Communications in Nepal at this time is very difficult.

All MCC staff, both local and international, are reported safe.

MCC has a history of responding to numerous disasters in Nepal including flooding just this last year and work with local associations on disaster preparedness. We are currently assessing the situation, accepting donations and we will respond to the needs of people affected by the earthquake.

Please pray for the people in Nepal. We are accepting donations for disaster response. Please contact our office at (306) 665-2555 or go online at mccsk.ca to make your donation.

Yours in Christ,
Claire Ewert Fisher
Executive Director
MCC Saskatchewan

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*MCSask Ministries Commission invites you to join the **Touring Mission Fest 2015** on **Saturday, May 9, 2015**. The *Tour* this year will take you to Warman Mennonite Church and 4 sites in Rosthern – including the Youth Farm Bible Camp – Mennonite Nursing Home – Home for the Aged in Rosthern – and Rosthern Mennonite Church. The cost is \$50 per person, which includes bus fare as well as all *full-course meals*. Registration forms and more information are posted on the bulletin board. Come join us and see what God is doing – through whom – for whom and how – in Warman and Rosthern.

*Mennonite Church Canada presents the following webinars:

All you need is a phone and an internet connection to attend the following online seminars – please contact Ardent Group for the link: Christine Sass (204)953-5533, (866) 943-5658 option 1, ext. 7

*Turning your Mennonite Church Canada Pension Plan savings into income: How to plan for a smooth transition into retirement
Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 12:30 CST

*My Mennonite Church Canada Pension Plan, RRSPs, TFSA's, and RESP's - *Find out how the many types of available accounts are different from each other, and how you can use them to create a strategy for financial security.* Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 12:30 CST

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

What can you do to promote world peace?

Go home and love your family.

-Mother Teresa

The Lord is John's Shepherd

by Patty Friesen

Louise Buhler and I had such a good time having pizza with our OMC seniors at Bethany Manor a couple of weeks ago. I've written a little report about that titled Pastor Patty's Pizza and Pop Party for Pensioners.

"Where's the Papsi?" pouted the pensioners, protesting the pastor's forgetting their preferred pop. "Perhaps some pineapple pizza," Patty proposed and they promptly participated following prayer from Pastor Bill Kruger. Playfully pondering the past in Plaut Deutsch, and puzzling the perplexed pastor, the people pronounced the party perfect. That is until one person piped up,

"Where's the Platz?"

We are so thankful for our seniors and how they have literally built our new church with their donations but also built the church spiritually with their faith and prayers and we continue to need their wisdom, experience and prayers as we move into the future. One of the things our elders remind us of is their high regard and memorization of scripture, especially the 23rd psalm. Let's repeat that together...

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

I know Psalm 23 is used a lot at funerals but I'm using it today because it speaks so powerfully to the presence of God through the entirety of our life and when you are 100 years old, like John Bueckert, you are acutely aware of the presence of God through all kinds of life experiences and you are not afraid of death. In fact, the elders at the nursing home I worked with at the Mennonite Nursing Home in Rosthern often said they were sorry they were going to miss their own funerals. They want to hear what people are going to say about them.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters. Psalm 23 is popular with farmers because it begins with the wonderful image of God taking care of us like a farmer, providing food, water and safety for us. John was a farmer, of course, having grown up north of Neuhorst...

John is rooted in the fields, sloughs, and sky and the God who created the beauty of creation. His farm and garden has been a sanctuary and provided spiritual and physical sustenance for his family for decades and we are thankful he has been able to remain on the farm as long as he has.

God restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. John's faith is very important to him. We have all known that is his greatest testimony to those who follow after him. From memorized scripture to faithful church attendance for 100 years to the love of people and nature; he recognizes the goodness and presence of God all around him.

Yea, thou I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. This verse about tough times is right in the middle of the psalm. For thou art with me is at the very core of the psalmist faith.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. God prepares a table for us of safety and protection in the midst of hard times and anoints our heads with the oil of healing. Only God can do that. Only God can help us make peace with our conflicted relationships and bring us healing so that we are not bound by life's disappointments and resentments. Only God can help our cups run over so we are not hindered by the past but living life to the fullest in the present and into the future.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. John, you have been gifted with 100 years of physical and mental health to the delight and strength and inspiration of your family and all the rest of us in the Osler Mennonite Church clan. Every day with you is a gift. We wish you would live forever, and it is looking like you just might but when your time comes and I know you are ready, you will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Let's pray... Gracious God, thank you for this time of celebration of life and faithfulness. Thank you for John – for giving him health and strength and comfort for 100 years. Thank you for Susie and their children and grandchildren. Bless each of our elders richly today and every day given to them for the rest of their lives. Bless their families and all of us as extended family and congregation that the gifts of faith, hope and love continue into the next generations. The greatest of these being, love. Amen.

- Message and prayer shared by Patty at John Bueckert's 100th Birthday party and Seniors Appreciation Faspa, April 12, 2015



***Pentecost Photos** - in preparation for Pentecost, May 24, **please send a favourite photo to oslermcoffice@sasktel.net** with written or oral thoughts on *What is your eye drawn to in this photograph...Where do you notice the influence of a Creator...Where do you notice life and vibrancy in this photo...Where is the Spirit of God in the ordinary acts of the day...*You may also consider the photos on www.leaderonline.org on Pentecost resources, username: Easter15 and password: rhe7534.

***Camperships are available** for youth and children to attend Mennonite Church Saskatchewan camps. If you know of children from our congregation or community who are interested in going to camp, please review the Guidelines and submit an application. The Guidelines and application forms are posted on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact any member of the Mission and Service Committee(Mark, John G, Sandra G, Wilf, Margaret D)

***A new article from John Neufeld** has been shared on our church website (www.omchurch.org) under the Sermons - 2015 tab. It is entitled: *"The Church, the Bible and Same-sex issues - Disagreement, Unity and Process"*



May Calendar of YOUTH EVENTS

Saturday
May 2

Family Game Challenge Night at OMC – 7– 8:30 pm

The youth are hosting this event and invite everyone from the congregation to attend.

- Everyone is asked to bring a snack to share, beverages will be provided.
- There will be time after 8:30pm for the youth to do their own thing.

Wednesday
May 6

Youth Discussion Nite with Stephanie – 7:30 - 9pm

Wednesday
May 13

Youth Discussion Nite with Stephanie – 7:30 to 9pm

Saturday
May 16

Friendship Inn Service Project

- Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at least one week prior
- Leaving the Church at 10:50 am and returning at about 2:45 pm

Wednesday
May 20

Youth Discussion Nite with Stephanie – 7:30- 9pm

***The Mission and Service Committee** has extended OMC's commitment to **servicing Friendship Inn** clients for an additional six months. Please consider helping by: **Serving lunch and providing friendship on: May 16, June 20, July 18 and/or Aug.15.**

Poetry Corner

I am the one whose praise echoes on high.
 I adorn all the earth.
 I am the breeze that nurtures all things green.
 I encourage blossoms to flourish with ripening fruits.
 I am led by the spirit to feed the purest streams.
 I am the rain coming from the dew
 that causes the grasses to laugh with the joy of life.
 I am the yearning for good.

-Hildegard von Bingen

i thank You God for most this amazing
 day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
 and a blue true dream of sky, and for everything which is natural
 which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today, and this is the sun's birthday;
 this is the birth day of life and of life and wings: and of the gay great
 happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
 breathing any - lifted from the no
 of all nothing - human merely being
 doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
 now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

-e.e.cummings