

OMC Calendar

September 2015

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday: Worship:10am SundaySchool @ 11:15am		1	2 Worship Comm. Meeting 7:30pm at Lynette's	3 Church Council 7:30pm	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 11:15am Sunday School starts up again. Fantastic Fall Fiesta II at Noon.	14 Congreg- ational Meeting 7:30pm	15	16	17	18	19
20 10am Worship: Sparky & the Plugs	21 Heart to Heart " 7:30pm	22	23	24 Missions & Service Comm Mtg. 7:30pm	25	26
27 OMC Dairy Sunday	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 September 2015 Newsletter

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

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A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR PEACE

Upcoming OMC Events

***Monday, September 14, 7:30pm - Congregational meeting.**
 Everyone is encouraged to attend for important visioning/pastor discussions.

*Upcoming Services:

September/October Sunday Services - A Season of Thanksgiving
 September 6: **Doubting Thomas** John 21:20-24

Sept 13: Giving Thanks for Summer - VBS, Summer Camp and Mennonite World Conference Reports from OMC Children and Youth
Sept 20: Giving Thanks for Music – “Sparky and the Plugs” Music Group

Sept 27: Giving Thanks for Cows - OMC's Dairy History by Dick Braun and Farmers. Please bring dairy photos, awards, memorabilia and please wear black and white brown and clean rubber boots to church: brown, as well as black and white (for the Jerseys and Swiss cows:). Dairy products will be served during coffee time.

October 4 - Giving Thanks for World Communion

October 11 - Giving Thanks for Harvest

October 18 - Giving Thanks for World Food

October 25 - Giving Thanks for Our Heritage

***Sunday, September 13, Noon: Fantastic Fall Fiesta II** The deacons are planning a ‘welcome back’ make-your-own taco lunch and piñata fun on September 13 after Sunday School. **Everyone is asked to bring either a salad or dessert** to share. We will enjoy our picnic Fiesta outside, weather permitting, so please also bring your **lawn chairs**. Taco ingredients and beverages will be supplied.

Patty's Ponderings

In one of my favourite DVD series, Rain Shadow, an Australian female vet moves from the city to serve a rural community. She has vehicle mishaps and sticks her foot in her mouth but falls in love with the landscape and the farm families she serves. She grows into her role as the drought stricken community struggles to find alternative agricultural solutions to survive climate change.

This is a familiar and compelling scenario for me, a city slicker new to a rural community with her vehicular mishaps and foot in mouth disease. And I also have fallen in love with our valley landscape and church families. I feel like I am growing into my role as OMC pastor and hope to continue to serve here as we all find creative ways to follow Christ and form community in the midst of rapid cultural changes.

Patty's Picks - It's been a great summer for reading and watching! Please submit your own recommendations to oslermcoffice@sasktel.net.

Birds Without Wings by Louis Bernier takes us into the exotic Ottoman Empire. *Smoke Gets In Your Eyes* by Caitlin Doughty is a humorous memoir of a crematorium.

11 by Paul Hanley is an important read on climate change from a smart local author.

Every Bite Affects the World by Catherine Verrall is also an important book from a Saskatchewan author.

Wearing God by Lauren Winner is an interesting biblical look at God.

H is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald is a wonderful falconer memoir.

Martin Marten by Brian Doyle is a creative weave of human and animal stories. *The Last Bookaneer* is a fun novel about book sellers.

The Imitation Game DVD is as amazing as everyone says.

Selma DVD is as important as everyone says.

When Calls the Heart DVD is as romantic as everyone says.

Red Army DVD is a fascinating documentary on the world famous hockey team. *Mr. Turner* DVD and *Call the Midwife Season 4* DVD - both for British drama fans. *DCI Banks* DVD is for British mystery fans. *Outlander* DVD is for British fantasy fans - in the vein of Vikings and Game of Thrones. *Top Gear* DVD is for British comedy fans.

Humour ~ The Isaac Section

Even More Things I Have Never Done Before Working in Osler
by *Patty Friesen*

1. Did a country wave with one hand while drinking out of a water bottle with the other hand.
2. Led a worship service in the dark.
3. Led a worship service in a barn.
4. Stopped a mother cat from jumping on the communion table.

As long as there is algebra, there will be prayer in school.

During his children's sermon, the pastor asked the kids, "What is gray, has a bushy tail and gathers nuts in the fall?"

One five-year old raised his hand. "I know the answer should be Jesus," he began, "but it sounds like a squirrel to me."

Gandhi walked barefoot everywhere, ate very little, and often fasted, leaving him thin and with very bad breath. Thus he is often thought of as a super callused, fragile mystic plagued with halitosis.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***The Youth Farm Corn Maze** is hosting their annual **Fall Family Festival on September 12th** from 1-8pm. Activities for the day include car show, fall market, kids carnival, and supper food booths including Watermelon & Rollkuchen, BBQ Farmer Sausage, Brazilian Cuisine, and Pulled Pork on a Bun. More information at www.yfbc.com/familyfunday.

*Singing with the Spirit! October 2-4 – A weekend music Workshop for the Congregational Voice with Marilyn Houser Hamn at Nutana Park Mennonite Church, 101 Ruth Street, Saskatoon.

Friday, October 2: 7:30 – 9:00pm – an evening of spirited singing

Saturday, Oct 3 – 10am – 3:00pm – Various workshops on congregational singing, song leading, accompanying
Resources will include HWB, SJ and SS and others.

\$20 registration fee for Saturday workshops includes lunch

Saturday, Oct. 3, 7:30 pm – Coffee House

Sunday, Oct. 4, 11:00am – NPMC Worship Service with Marilyn leading congregational singing

Save the date and phone NPMC office to register: 372-2144

Open to anyone with an interest in congregational singing.



Mennonite Church Canada

***Ride For Refuge** is gearing up! There are already five teams established on our RIDE page at

<https://rideforrefuge.org/charity/mennonitechurchca>

All Mennonite Church Canada congregations are invited to support our Thailand ministry by joining the Ride for Refuge recreational family bike ride on October 3rd. Be a team captain, join a team, and ride in support of Tom and Christine Poovong's (Trinity Mennonite Church, Calgary) work with marginalized and vulnerable people.

Rides occur in cities across Canada. See:

<https://donate.mennonitechurch.ca/project/Poovong> for details. Thank you!

Lectionary Passages for the next 5 weeks

September 6 2015

Waters shall break forth in the wilderness

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalms 146

James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

September 13 2015

Sustain the weary with a word

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 116:1-9

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

September 20 2015

Sow in peace

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalms 54

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

September 27 2015

Anointing them with oil

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalms 19:7-14

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

OMC ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***From: “Something That Brings Joy” Boards in the Lobby...** my kids, dancing, gardens, bike rides, growing, new cousins, answers to prayers, sharing, cats, birthdays, long warm nights, birthdays, getting together, family, dance class with my friends, Rider wins, sunrises, sunsets, rain, kittens, caring friends, campfires and smores, flowers, fresh potatoes, good joke, more flowers.

***The next Friendship Inn Volunteer day is Saturday, September 19th.** To be part of the volunteer team from OMC, please speak to Sandra Grismer or Margaret Dyck.

***Ladies "Heart to Heart" will meet again on Monday, September 21, 7:30pm** and starting a new Book Study. *“Sacred Pauses: Spiritual Practices for Personal Renewal”* by April Yamasaki offers fresh ways to find everyday personal renewal. Copies of the book are now available to purchase in the foyer; cost \$17.00 each. Please read the first 4 chapters before the September 21st meeting.

In a fast-paced world full of distractions, *“Sacred Pauses: Spiritual Practices for Personal Renewal”* offers fresh ways to find everyday personal renewal. Each chapter explores a different spiritual practice—from classic disciplines of Scripture reading and prayer to less conventional approaches like having fun and living simply. Through personal stories, scriptural insights, historical examples, and practical suggestions, April Yamasaki guides us into new connections with ourselves and others, with creation, and with God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

***MCC is urgently looking for sponsors for refugees** from Syria, Eritrea, Myanmar and other places around the world. If you are interested in learning more about refugee sponsorship and current sponsorship needs, please contact MCC Saskatchewan at 306.665.2555 or email elaineharder@mccsk.ca. Help share God's love and compassion by extending a welcome to those who have been displaced from their homes.

***RJC Opening Program** will be held on Sunday, September 13th at 2:30 pm in the RJC gymnasium. We would be delighted to have you join us as we gather to give thanks and ask God's blessings for the new school year.

*Shekinah Retreat Centre presents a **“(Not just a) Quilting & Scrapbooking Retreat”** on September 25-27. Whether you are a quilter, scrapbooker, knitter, calligrapher, painter – whatever your favourite pastime – Come! Registration Deadline: September 5th. Brochures on the bulletin board or at: www.shekinahretreatcentre.org

***October 16-17 Friday, 5:30pm- Saturday 4pm. Sask Women In Mission annual retreat at Shekinah.** “Igniting Our Creativity: Looking Back, Moving Forward.” Mel Harms, Pauline Steinmann & Sharon Schultz will lead us. ALL women invited. More details to follow.

✿ Pieces of Peace ✿

Give me the money that has been spent in war and I will clothe every man, woman, and child in an attire of which kings and queens will be proud. I will build a schoolhouse in every valley over the whole earth. I will crown every hillside with a place of worship consecrated to peace.

Charles Sumner
US Senator from Massachusetts

An Ode to a Milk Cow
By Patty Friesen

Eva: Harry, it's time to sell the dairy.

Harry: Eva, my little heifer, I don't know how we can sell the cows,
To sell the gals who have been such pals.

Eva: We have to face the marketplace
And finally sell the dairy, Harry.
But don't cry – they've been dry
And there are flies in their eyes
And lumps on their rumps the size of humps!

Harry: Now, now, there is no need for a row over our lovely milk
cows.

I made them a vow in the haymow to always endow
Their milk as smooth as silk
And bring no harm to this dairy farm.

Eva: Oh, how you do prattle about the cattle, but can't you see my
nerves are in a rattle. I know it has been my fate to be your helpful
milking mate but I would be a liar if I said I didn't want to retire.

Harry: Oh my lands – what would we do with so much time on our
hands?
Every morning and night, milking has been our plight.
And it wouldn't be right, from the cows to take flight.
How I wish with all my might, that they would forever be my delight
For how I love my Milky Whites.

Eva: Holy cow, Harry – it's the dairy or me. Can't you see? This is
the way it has to be. Freedom from cows is the key.

Harry: Well, Eva – I tell you the score, as much as I love cows, I love
you more – so we'll sell the bossies and hope for the best, and look
forward to retirement and a nice long rest.

Sing: Farmer Martens had a farm.

A Story of Love

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son....” John 3:16

gather round
I have a story to tell
of one who reached inside himself
and took a handful of love
like a pile of stardust
and said: this is for you
it is all you need
it is all you will ever need
there is enough here
to change the whole world
take it

many laughed at him
mocked him
and ignored the invitation

but some dared to take it
and those who did
noticed something about this love
they found they could do what the gift-giver could do
they could stand with the lost
welcome the traveler
eat with the hungry
they found themselves doing what the man first did to them
give something of themselves to others
they became like the man
offering themselves
and as they offered themselves
others took the invitation
and many still do
and many still trust
it is enough to change the whole world

~ written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on **Listening to the Stones.**
<http://newkilpatrickblog.typepad.com/nk-blogging/mucky-paws/>