

NUTANA PARK MENNONITE CHURCH
PASTORAL STAFF

Anita Retzlaff 373-3472
Patrick Preheim 955-2928
Sarah Unrau – Youth Leader 291-8604
374-2144 e-mail:npmc@npmc.net web page:www.npmc.net

November 29, 2015
Advent 1

Vol. L **11:00 a.m.** No. 46

Worship Leader: Kelly Winder
Accompanist: Teresa Koop-Hunter
Advent Candle Lighters: Sarah, Lee and Ethan Warkentin
Greeters: Marilyn & Peter Guenther
Ushers: Hedio & Ross Borne

~~~~~

**Gathering as Friends**

Welcome, Greetings and Announcements  
Financial Update Bert Klassen  
Invocation  
Call to Worship **Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus** HWB No. 178

**Gathering Around Light**

Lighting of the Peace Lamp  
**Longing for Light** StJ No. 54  
Lighting of the Advent Candle  
**Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem** StS No. 32

**Gathering in Community**

Children's Time/Song **Mary Had a Baby** insert  
*Child care is provided for young children*  
Offering  
Joys and Concerns  
Congregational Prayer  
**I Will Come to You in the Silence** StS No. 49

**Gathering at the Word**

Scripture Zechariah 8:3-8; 9:9,16-17  
Sermon **Coming home again this Advent** Anita Retzlaff  
Hymn of Response **Comfort, Comfort, O My People** HWB No. 176  
Spoken Benediction

~~~~~

Spotlight on Community Life

Our Spiritual Lifeline - Hebrews 6: 13-19. As we enter the time of Advent let us grab the spiritual lifeline, because God has given us His word and His promise. It is unbreakable. So, let us walk through each day with an attitude of greater hope -- expectancy, anticipation, and trust. This is what everyday life in the Kingdom of God looks like. Grab that lifeline and hold on tight. The promise is for everyone.

Spotlight on Station 20 West

Station 20 West continues its work with providing affordable housing, primary health services and healthy food programs. Station 20 West employs and empowers youth to run the Boxcar Café with the guidance of volunteer youth mentors. The longterm viability of the Boxcar Café depends on these youth and upon financial support from the community.

This Week

Today	8:55 am	Contemplative prayer in the sanctuary.
	9:25 am	Choir rehearsal for all ages in the sanctuary.
	9:45 am	Adult Ed: <i>What does a good death look like?</i>
	11:00 am	1 Advent Worship; Anita Retzlaff speaking on the Book of Zechariah. Creative church will be sculpting advent wreaths using clay.
	Noon	Care Group 5 -- visitors are invited to join us for lunch.
Monday	7:00 pm	Theatre of the Beat presents <i>This Will Lead to Dancing</i> at Wildwood Mennonite Church. Doors open at 6:30. Donation (\$15/person suggested).
	2:00 pm	Ecumenical Bible Study.
Tuesday	6:00 pm	Careers group potluck and sanctuary tree decorating.
	10:00 am	Women's Bible Study Tea.
Wed.	7:30 pm	Candle Light Service at Knox United Church; light a "Memorial Candle" and place a ribbon on the "Tree of Remembrance" in memory of your loved ones.
Friday	7:30 pm	Musical Jam Session; lounge. Bring your instruments and voices for an evening of singing popular songs.
	7:30 pm	<i>A Buncha Guys</i> Christmas Concert with the Friesen Family Band at Knox United Church, Saskatoon.

Coming Up

Next Sun.	8:55 am	Contemplative prayer in the sanctuary.
	9:25 am	Choir rehearsal for all ages in the sanctuary.
	9:45 am	Adult Ed: <i>Advent Reflections: Learning about Incarnation from Eastern Christianity.</i>
	11:00 am	2 Advent Worship: Patrick Preheim speaking on the Book of Malachi.
Next Sun.	2:30 pm	The Saskatoon Men's Chorus will be presenting its Advent Concert, <i>Carols Everywhere</i> at Grace Westminster United Church. General admission is \$20; seniors and students \$15; and free for children under 12. Guest musicians are Louella Friesen and Audrey Falk Janzen. See Lynn Driedger for tickets.
	7:30 pm	Rosthern Junior College Choir Concert ; Knox United Church. Admission is free; a collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone is welcome.

Dec. 8	1:30 pm	Women's Coffee & Conversation time; lounge.
Dec. 12	7:30 pm	A Buncha Guys Christmas Concerts with the Friesen Family Band at Shekinah Retreat Centre.
Dec. 13	10:30 am	Worship – note time change. Potluck -- A-H, bring salad and dessert, help with set-up; I-Z, bring casserole, help with clean-up.
Dec. 18	7:00 pm	Rosthern Junior College Christmas Concert in the school auditorium. A time of refreshments will follow the concert. Everyone is welcome.
Dec. 19	7:30 pm	Station Singers presents <i>Sing We Now of Christmas</i> at Station Arts Centre, Rosthern. Tickets (\$20 adults, \$10 students, \$5--12 & under) from Station Arts - 232.5332.
Dec. 20	4:30 pm	Christmas Banquet at NPMC - Social at 4:30 pm, supper at 5:30 pm. Cost: \$20-18 yrs & up; \$10-ages 10-17; Free-10 & under. Sign up in foyer by Dec. 10.

Zechariah 8:3-8; 9:9,16-17

³Thus says the Lord: I will return to Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts shall be called the holy mountain. ⁴Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age. ⁵And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. ⁶Thus says the Lord of hosts: Even though it seems impossible to the remnant of this people in these days, should it also seem impossible to me, says the Lord of hosts? ⁷Thus says the Lord of hosts: I will save my people from the east country and from the west country; ⁸and I will bring them to live in

Jerusalem. They shall be my people and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁶ On that day the Lord their God will save them, for they are the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. ¹⁷ For what goodness and beauty are his! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

Used by permission
National Council of Churches

Announcement from Mennonite Church Saskatchewan:

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 multi-church group is meeting weekly on Thursdays at 8am at Wildwood Mennonite Church
- joining an international day of praying and fasting for the climate on December 1, alone or by dropping in to join others in prayer at Wildwood MC throughout the day
- walking and rallying for the climate in Saskatoon on Nov. 29 at 1:00 pm starting at the Vimy Memorial (rally will be indoors at Oskayak High School)
- praying for MC Canada ED Willard Metzger as he prepares to represent the National Council of Churches in Paris.

More details from Mark Bigland-Pritchard (mark@lowenergydesign.com, 306 249 4101) or Joe Heikman (joe@wildwoodmennonite.org)

“Creative Church” is an intergenerational, multisensory, participatory worship alternative to the formal sermon during the second half of our worship service. Anyone, ages 4 to 94 is invited to participate.

Nutana Park Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, income, education, ability, and other factors that give rise to discrimination and marginalization.



Please help yourselves to the Advent devotional materials in the foyer.

Intergenerational Activity Nights

December Theme is Christmas. Activities will take place on Thursday nights. There is a sign-up sheet in the Education Wing.

- Dec. 3:** Create decorations for church Christmas banquet on December 20.
- Dec. 10:** Create a Christmas production to include in the choir Christmas program on December 13. Young Families-- sign up to participate.
- Dec. 17:** Baking treats to share at the Christmas banquet on Dec. 20.

Mary had a baby

Mary had a baby (My Lord)
Mary had a baby (Oh My Lord)
Mary had a baby (My Lord)
Sing Glory Hallelujah to the new born King.
Where did she lay him?
Laid him in a manger
What did she name him?
Named him King Jesus
Who heard the singing?
Shepherds heard the singing
Star keeps shining

Saskatoon Food Bank: Fruit juice; peanut butter

Announcements

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 or contact the MCC office at 306-665-2555 to find out how you can get involved.



From Earthkeepers: The 80/20 rule implies that we spend 80% of our time utilizing 20% of our possessions. You likely spend 80% of your time in 20% of your house, and wear 20% of your wardrobe 80% of the time. Could you reduce your environmental impact and simplify your life by downsizing?

Christmas Collections:

The Bridge: see items listed on the bulletin board.

The Lighthouse: needs socks, underwear, mitts, toques and jackets for both men and women. They also appreciate cash donations.

EGADZ: needs toques, gloves, mini mitts, deodorant, razers, toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, boxers, socks, etc.

Engage Difference! *Deepening Understanding for Intercultural Ministry* is a 6 day interactive and engaging program at Queens House; to register see the bulletin board or www.cforum.ca/duim.

L'Arche Saskatoon, an ecumenical organization supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities, has recently started a creative workshop with a vision of "Making art, making friends, making peace." If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact Wyndham Thiessen, Community Leader, at 306-262-7243 or wthiessen@larchesaskatoon.org.

Ronald McDonald House Gift Wrap Program needs volunteers to help wrap gifts at Midtown Plaza from November 27 to December 24. Sign up by contacting Marlene Froese at 306-668-4793 or dmfroese@sasktel.net.

Nutana Park Mennonite Church October 31, 2015

	Actual	Budget	Difference
	Jan - Oct	Jan - Oct	Jan - Oct
Revenue	298,419.86	333,700.00	-35,280.14
Expenses	<u>324,637.06</u>	<u>333,700.00</u>	<u>-9,062.94</u>
Surplus (loss)	<u>-26,217.20</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-26,217.20</u>

Refugee Assistance Opportunities

Last week the RAP committee presented in an insert the proposed sponsorship of the Syrian family of five and the financial assistance of another group sponsored by St Phillip Neri church. In this insert we want to present opportunities of involvement of our church community in these two very worthwhile projects.

There are basically two ways to participate; financial assistance, volunteering in the settlement process, or both. Financial help can either be a single contribution or a pledge of money over a period of a year. For example \$50 to \$150 a month over a year is manageable and in the end results in a considerable donation of \$600 - \$1800. Donations should be designated 'refugee fund'.

Ad hoc volunteerism in refugee settlement is short term and rewarding. There are about thirteen different jobs required as follows:

- co-ordinator- involves overall supervision. Duration - 1 year
- treasurer - fund distribution, family banking, etc. duration 1 year
- documentation - assist in document processing, e.g. health cards. duration, busy for two weeks then occasionally for a year.
- clothing - collection and purchase. needed for one month.
- furniture - collection , purchase and moving...duration one month
- health - medical appointments and support depending on needs - one year
- education and language - English testing appts, school and language placement, duration 1 - 2 months
- domestic support- shopping and household orientation. duration 1 - 2 months
- housing - house rental and moving duration 1 - 2 weeks
- transportation - conveyance as necessary, bus passes etc. duration 1 - 2 weeks
- social - social and community activities - duration - one year
- counselling - depending on emotional needs - duration one year
- employment - job search. intensity depends on worker skill sets and English language ability - duration 3 months

The intensity and duration of the assignments vary according to the needs of the family. A volunteer opportunity sign up sheet will be posted in the foyer. A reminder that the family will not be arriving for 9 to 12 months, so we should plan for mid 2016.

Thank you for considering to become involved.