

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

This year during Advent, we will be collecting donations for the children staying at the Crisis Nursery. They are in need of: toilet paper, liquid hand soap, bleach, kleenex, pasta, canned food, crackers, baking supplies, kitchen garbage bags, large garbage bags. These items can be dropped off at the church building on weekday mornings or Sunday mornings beginning Nov. 15th and we will be making a delivery to Crisis Nursery. Thank-you!

You are invited to spend A Very Shekinah Christmas with Shekinah Retreat Centre! Join us online for 12 Days of Christmas, starting December 13 and ending Christmas Eve. Enjoy stories, music, and singing with the Shekinah board, with Friends of Shekinah, and with the Shekinah staff. And maybe a little "dummheit" (silliness in English). See our website for more information: <https://shekinah.ca/events/2020/a-very-shekinah-christmas>

Automated Potato Peeler. Several Mennonite Churches are working together to purchase an automated potato peeler for Friendship Inn. Pre COVID-19 NPMC helped serve meals there. Mennonite Disaster Service has contributed \$2000.00 of the \$7000.00 cost. There are three giving options:

1. Cheque, payable to the Saskatoon Friendship Inn and mailed/dropped off at 619 20th Street W, S7M 0X8 (include a note in the memo line about the Potato Peeler)

2. By phone at 306-242-5122, select option 7 to give your credit card number (again, please just mention the gift is intended to support the potato peeler during the call)

3. Online at <https://friendshipinn.ca/donate-online/> In the comments section, please add a note about the potato peeler. Charitable receipts will be issued for gifts above \$5.00.

Looking to donate to other Saskatoon non-profits? Visit <https://onesmallstepsk.ca>

RJC Christmas Program: There Is Still Hope - This online event will be held on Thursday, December 17, 7:30pm (SK CST) at <https://rjc.sk.ca/christmas>. The program will feature music, art, and other items of hope and celebration by RJC students and staff.

RJC Drive-In Christmas Carol Festival - December 9, 2020 at 7:30pm in the RJC front parking lot. Come enjoy RJC students singing popular Christmas carols on the lawn from the comfort and safety of your own vehicle.

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.



PASTORAL STAFF

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Gathered to Worship on Treaty 6 Territory

**December 6, 2020
Advent 2**

Vol. LV

No. 49

In-Person and Live Stream Worship Service

Worship Leader: Geraldine Balzer

Accompanist: Sue Schellenberg

Song Leader: Nicole Tiessen

Advent Candle Lighters: Dionne Miazdyck-Shield and Luther Shield

Tech Support: David Weiler-Thiessen, Don Froese, Jeff Olfert

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Gathering:

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

HWB No. 178

Advent Reading

Dionne & Luther

Advent Song:

Come, Light Of The World

STS No. 3

Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

Hymn:

Comfort, Comfort Oh My People

HWB No. 176

Children's Time

Hymn:

No Wind At The Window

STS No. 11

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 9:2-6

Luke 1:26-38

Sermon:

Do Not Fear, The Beginning is Near

Susanne

Sending Hymn:

Fling Wide The Door

HWB No. 186

Spoken Benediction



Peace - Second Advent Candlelighting Litany

By: The Salt Project (thesaltproject.org)

Because of war, because of violence in our communities, because there is still so much unrest in Jerusalem, we light a candle of peace...

Because hatred is still so strong, because so many swords have not yet been beaten into ploughshares, we light a candle of peace...

(Light the second candle in the Advent wreath.)

May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

May the light from this candle say to all that God's peace is coming on earth as it already is in heaven.

Friends, be not afraid, God's peace is at hand!

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Advent Devotionals: a list of links to various Advent devotions and resources can be found on the "Sermons" page of our church website: <http://www.npmc.net/2020-sermons.html> Additional intergenerational Advent resources can be found on the "NPMC Kids" page as well.

The church office will no longer be ordering the devotional booklets from Upper Room or Rejoice, but those who wish are welcome to subscribe directly to those. Upper Room: <https://bookstore.upperroom.org/Products/CategoryCenter/URM/The-Upper-Room-Daily-Devotional-Guide.aspx> and Rejoice: <https://store.mennomedia.org/Rejoice-C1272.aspx> There are also free alternatives that our pastors would recommend, including a Bible-based prayer app called Lectio-365 (<https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>) and daily meditations by Richard Rohr (<https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>).

As the weather becomes colder we have some additional information for those attending worship in person.

- Plan to keep your coats and boots with you in the sanctuary.
- At this time we ask you to please leave directly after the service.

Thanks to the children of NPMC for painting the stars on our Advent banner and to Lori Weiler-Thiessen for putting it together; to Nicole Tiessen and Brent Guenther for our Christmas decor in the sanctuary; and to Vic Krahn, Hamilton Fast, and Denelda Fast for stringing lights on the tree outside this year. Thanks for making our church look beautiful and festive. Much appreciated!

NPMC Virtual Potluck on Zoom -- Sunday, Dec 6 at 5 pm.

Much of the joy of Christmas is found in the sharing of food. While this cannot happen physically this year because of COVID-19, we can still enjoy each other's company online. Everyone is invited to dine at home with a menu of their choice. While we eat, participants are invited to share their stories. If you are dining on a Christmas favourite, please "Show & Tell". If you have a family tradition involving food, we'd love to hear about it. If certain special foods evoke memories at Christmas, please share the story.

An email was sent out to join the Zoom potluck meeting.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call Bonnie Ramage 306 850-6443 or Denelda Fast 306 221-2846. We hope you will join us on December 6!

Coming soon: limited-edition NPMC masks. If you're wanting a reminder of our church community that you can wear to keep yourself and others safe, you will soon be able to purchase a mask with the NPMC logo on it for \$25 each. Proceeds will go to support Prairie Harm Reduction. Details about how to order will be coming soon.

CONTINUED UPDATES FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT! Please take note of the updated photos of Emily and Luke's wedding under the Wedding & Babe tab on the private side of our website.

Advent tidings! As MC Sask, we have seen many new and remarkable things this year as our congregations, camps, and schools have gone above and beyond during this unusual season. New technologies have been learned, and heroic efforts have been made to keep us connected with one another, and with the Peace of Christ. As we continue to support and uphold this good work, we invite you to consider MC Sask in your year-end giving. Visit www.mcsask.ca/donations.



