

NUTANA PARK MENNONITE CHURCH  
PASTORAL STAFF

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**December 13, 2015**  
**Advent 3**

Vol. L **10:30 a.m.** No. 50

Worship Leader: Valerie Epp  
Accompanists: Joanne Ewert, Charlene Sorensen  
Song Leader: Lynn Driedger  
Advent Candle Lighters: Jocelyn & Patrick Fleury  
Greeters: Teresa & Garlin Koop-Hunter  
Ushers: Donna & Ernie Epp

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Prelude  
Welcome and Announcements  
Opening Prayer  
Youth video Sarah and Youth  
Hymn **Fling Wide the door, unbar the Gate!** HWB No. 186  
  
Lighting of the Advent Candle Jocelyn & Patrick  
Prophecy **Every Valley** Choir  
Lighting of the Peace Lamp  
Anticipation **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** Choir  
Preparation **Advent Carol** Choir  
Joys and Concerns  
Congregational Prayer  
  
Hymn **Gloria** HWB No. 204  
The Christmas Story Intergenerational  
Children's Time/Song **Mary Had a Baby** insert  
*Child care is provided for young children*  
Christ's Birth **Calyпсо Carol**  
**Christmas Song of the 14th Century** Choir  
Offering  
  
Scripture Matthew 1:18-25  
Reflection **The Long Story of Salvation** Anita Retzlaff  
Hymn **Hark! The Glad Sound!** HWB No. 184  
Spoken Benediction  
Benediction **Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts** Choir

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Please join us for the potluck following the church service.

### Spotlight on Community Life

The time of the arrival is nigh. We wait in the hope of the renewed arrival of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Let us receive with joy our life companion, Jesus. So we celebrate His coming with rejoicing and singing, and through that proclaim the amazing story of Jesus come among us.

### Spotlight on Mennonite Church Canada

As of Oct 31, 2015 Mennonite Church Canada has experienced a donation shortfall approaching \$300,000. It had planned on projected donation income of almost \$3.4 million for the current fiscal year. So as of Dec. 1 five national home office staff have been released, with corresponding reductions in programming that relate to Christian Formation, Human Resources, and the Finance Department. Staff being released will receive severances as per personnel policies in place. National church ministries are almost entirely funded by congregational giving and individual donations. Additional changes and adjustments to program and staff can be anticipated in 2016 as more detailed implications of the Future Directions Task Force's recommendations become clearer.

### This Week

<b>Today</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	Choir rehearsal for all ages in the sanctuary.
	<b>10:30 am</b>	3 Advent Worship: Choir program; Anita Retzlaff speaking. <b>Potluck</b> -- A-H, bring salad and dessert, help with set-up; I-Z, bring casserole, help with clean-up.
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>1:30 pm</b>	Caring & Visitation meeting at the church.
	<b>6:00 pm</b>	Care Group 3 gathering at the church.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	Intergenerational Activity – baking treats for banquet.
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Rosthern Junior College Christmas Concert</b> in the school auditorium. Everyone is welcome.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Station Singers</b> presents <i>Sing We Now of Christmas</i> at Station Arts Centre, Rosthern.

### Coming Up

<b>Next Sun.</b>	<b>8:55 am</b>	Contemplative prayer in the sanctuary.
	<b>9:45 am</b>	Adult Ed: <i>Advent Reflections: Learning about Incarnation from Eastern Christianity.</i>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	4 Advent Worship: Patrick Preheim speaking.
	<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Banquet</b> at NPMC - Social at 4:30 pm, supper at 5:30 pm.
<b>Dec. 24</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve service.</b>
<b>Dec. 25</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Christmas Day service.</b>
<b>Dec. 31</b>	<b>5:30 pm</b>	<b>Activity at church;</b> bring finger food snacks.

Saskatoon Food Bank: Fruit juice; peanut butter

### 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

### Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him

Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' <sup>24</sup>When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup>but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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**“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.

## Announcements

For those who need an updated photo for our directory, Howard Giles will be taking photos **today** in the Sunday School rooms next to Sarah's office.

### Christmas Collections:

**Friendship Inn:** needs **300 gifts for children; food, clothing.**  
Please see the poster on bulletin board or visit [www.friendshipinn.ca](http://www.friendshipinn.ca).

**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.**



**From Earthkeepers:** For your calendar: Boxing Day, Dec. 26 is the chief Saskatoon area Christmas Bird Count. The Clark's Crossing Count is held on Saturday, Dec. 19. The Pike Lake Count goes on Saturday, January 2. Check the Saskatoon Nature Society webpage for details.

**MCC Connects:** Please join us for a Brown Bag Lunch at 12:00pm on December 17 at the MCC Centre in Saskatoon. Students who attended MCC's United Nations Office Student Seminar "Palestine: A Time for Peace" will share about their experiences.

**Rosthern Junior College TOURNAMENT OF MEMORIES - January 8 & 9, 2016** - Basketball and Hockey are waiting for you! Alumni, family and friends should register by January 1st by email ([deneldafast@hotmail.com](mailto:deneldafast@hotmail.com)) for basketball and hockey. Basketball will include a friendly skills competition in addition to the usual fast paced court action! This will be the second year for our STREET HOCKEY tournament. The games will be played on campus with teams of four. Reconnect with old classmates and friends and exercise your mind, body and spirit at the same time! Your alumni bulletin "RJC CONNECT" will be in the mail soon (and is already on the RJC website) with more details. If you have questions contact Denelda at 306-221-2846 or RJC office at 306-232-4222.

**Rosthern Junior College WINTER THEATRE** - Sunday, January 17, 2016, 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm. The Theatre Arts Class will present "The Fearsome Pirate Frank" in the RJC School Gymnasium. The play is a child appropriate (and adult friendly!) pirate adventure/comedy. Tickets are \$10 (rush seating) and will go on sale in the New Year. *Call or email the office starting January 4, 2016 to reserve your tickets.* 306-232-4222 ; [office@rjc.sk.ca](mailto:office@rjc.sk.ca)

## Refugee Assistance Opportunities

Two weeks ago 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.