
Rosthern Mennonite Church

Craig Neufeld, Pastor 232-5414
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Worship Service - Fourth Sunday in Lent

Encountering God: What have we witnessed ... through illumination?
March 30, 2014 - No. 13

Worship and Song Leader Ted Janzen
Pianist Kathy Luitjens

Encountering

Call to Worship

Leader: God does not see as mortals see
We look on the outward appearance;
God looks on the heart.

People: Jesus, Light of the World,
Give us eyes to see as you see!

Leader: Once we lived in darkness, but now -
As children of light, we are called
To what is good and right and true.

People: Jesus, Light of the World,
Give us eyes to see as you see!

Opening Prayer

Gathering Song Longing for light (v. 1,2,5) StJ #54

Welcome and Announcements

Congregational Singing Blessed Jesus, at your word HWB #13

Children's Time Drama

Confession and Assurance Insert

Witnessing

Scripture Reading John 9:13-41 Pew Bible p. 759

Congregational Singing I sought the Lord (v. 1,3) HWB #506

Message "I was blind, but now I see" Craig Neufeld

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer

My Favourite Scripture Merla Dyck

Tithes and Offerings

Sending Blessing

Sending Hymn Let there be light (v. 1-3) HWB #371

For younger children - activity folders may be picked up from the table in the foyer. Return your folder to the table after the service.

PRAISE AND CONCERNS:

Bible study group members are presenting a program at Goodwill Manor, Duck Lake, this afternoon. Please pray for God's blessing on this monthly ministry of our congregation.

A big Thank you to everyone who made soup for the youth group's Soups 'n' Sweets. And thank you to the Hospitality Committee for helping us in the kitchen. We raised just over \$2200!! Thank you for the support! Jon Epp and the youth

This week, a number of RJC students and teachers begin ALSO (Alternative Learning and Service) by travelling to their place of service. Please remember them in prayer.

In March, the Rosthern Ministerial reminds us to pray for St. Paul's Evangelical Missionary Church. In April, please pray for St. Odilon Roman Catholic Church, and the upcoming ecumenical Good Friday service, which will be held here at RMC.

News from Mennonite Church Canada:

Henry and Erna Funk of Hague have been working in Israel through SERVE Nazareth as hospital chaplains from January 5 to April 1, 2014. Erna is also teaching English. Thank you for your support of the Funks in this Mennonite Church Canada assignment.

EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Today - Following the service, all are welcome downstairs for coffee, followed by Sunday School.

2:30 p.m. - "A celebration of music" - Sonrisa Women's Choir with guests A Buncha Guys - Knox United Church in Saskatoon. Tickets: adults \$10, students & seniors \$8, children free; available at the door or in advance through choir members. See the poster.

Tuesday, 3:15 p.m. - Pastoral committee meets

Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. - Willing Helpers meet at church. Bible verse is "hope", offering is designated for missions

Thursday, 7:00 p.m. - Youth meet at church for Bible study

Friday, 7:30 pm. - Station Singers of Rosthern and a Blue Grass Ensemble present "The World Beloved - A Bluegrass Mass," at the Station Arts Center (Rosthern) and again on Saturday April 5th, 7:30 at Nutana Park Mennonite Church (Saskatoon). Ticket prices: Adult - \$20, Students - \$10, Children under 12 - \$5. Tickets available from choir members, Station Arts Centre or McNally Robinson, or at the door.

Saturday, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. - To recognize 50 years of faith in action with MCC Sask, all are invited to Ten Thousand Villages (Ave C & 45th St, Saskatoon). A short programme at 3:00 will tell how Ten Thousand Villages has grown with MCC over the years. For more information call 306.665.7525 or go to tenthousandvillages.ca/store/3003 or mccsk.ca.

6:00 p.m. - Shekinah banquet and Fund-raiser, at Mount Royal Church, Saskatoon. Tickets are \$25, see a board member or call the Shekinah office to reserve.

Next Sunday, 9:15 a.m. - Prayer Time

10:00 a.m. - Worship service

11:00 a.m. - Coffee time and Sunday School - during the Sunday School time, Delilah & Brian Roth will tell us about their recent trip to Mexico as part of their recent MCC Learning Tour.

7:00 p.m. - A Buncha Guys concert at Knox United Church, Saskatoon. Tickets (\$5.00) are available at McNally Robinson, Russ Regier (249-3650), any of the guys or at the door. **An offering will be taken to support the Appleby Kids and Youth Club in Saskatoon.** (A Mennonite Central Committee Saskatchewan program in the Meadowgreen neighbourhood)

Welcome to:

Rosthern Mennonite Church

Followers of Jesus Christ

Called by God

Empowered by the Spirit

To Grow as a Community of Grace, Joy and Peace

So that God's Healing and Hope Flow through Us to the World

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

11:15 a.m.

Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.- Noon

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March 30, 2014, Number 13

COMING EVENTS:

April 8, 6:00 p.m. - YFBC welcomes all former camp volunteers + workers to their Alumni Banquet, at Neuanlage Mennonite Church. Tickets \$10, from the camp office 1-855-855-9322 or online at www.yfbc.ca

Apr. 10, 6:00 p.m. - MEDA Banquet at Bethany Manor, Saskatoon, with guest speaker Marion Good. Cost \$22 - see the poster.

Apr. 10, 7:00 p.m. - Christian Counselling Services Spring Celebration Event, Elim Church, Saskatoon. For more information and tickets, see www.saskatoonccs.com or call 306.244.9890. See the poster.

Apr. 13, 7:00 p.m. - Songs for the Sale, an evening of songs and celebration at Forest Grove Community Church, Saskatoon - the offering will go toward MCC Relief Sale Expense Fund.

Apr. 16, 7:30 p.m. - *Were You There?* Cantata by a mass choir with representation from St. John's Lutheran, Laird, Tiefengrund, Eigenheim and Rosthern churches, at Tiefengrund Mennonite Church - see the poster

Apr. 17, 7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday service of communion

Apr. 18, 10:00 a.m. - Community Good Friday service, here at RMC

Apr. 22-23 - SMYO 'Honouring the Earth' event - see the poster, or talk to Kirsten for more information.

Apr. 26, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Sask Women in Mission Enrichment Day, "Hearing the Voices of Young Women," Nutana Park Church, Saskatoon. All women welcome for the SWM annual meeting and a day of inspiration and fellowship. Bring a bag lunch for the noon meal; beverages provided. For more information, see the posters or the MCSask Web site.

Apr. 28, 6:30 p.m. - Church cleaning bee, sponsored by the Good Samaritan Club - everyone is invited to come and help out, and enjoy pie and coffee afterward!

May 10 - Touring Mission Fest - this year visiting Shekinah Retreat Centre; Zoar Mennonite, Waldheim; Menno Home, Waldheim; and Zoar Mennonite, Langham - registration forms available in the foyer

May 30 - June 1 - Church Family Camp, at Camp Kadesh

July 3 - 6 - Mennonite Church Canada Assembly 2014 in Winnipeg: *Wild Hope: Faith for an unknown season*. For more information and to register, go to home.mennonitechurch.ca/events/Winnipeg2014 All are welcome! - Children's Assembly is in need of additional volunteers, particularly male volunteers. Please contact erempel@mennonitechurch.ca about this short term service opportunity.

July 28 - 31 - Native Assembly in Winnipeg - Join with Indigenous and non-Indigenous Christians from across North America. The theme is *Ears to Earth and Eyes to God*. For info and registration, go to <http://home.mennonitechurch.ca/event>. All are welcome!

Lent Visuals to Aid in Encountering God:

God meets us in the things we can touch and see, but also meets us in less physical ways, through spirit and thought. To represent the physicality of encountering God and Jesus in specific times and places see --- the grounding imagery of stones and rocks in the Old Testament and Gospel stories combined with the abstract concepts of Living Water (blue), the Breath of God (yellow) and new Life (green).
Lent 4 --- a small pottery bowl of mud, to call to mind Jesus placing mud on the eyes of the blind man.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Are you thinking about baptism? Church membership? Child dedication? Please talk to Pastor Craig, or call the church office, for more information.

Are you concerned about poverty issues in Saskatchewan? If you would like to add to a petition that will be presented to the government of Sask, please take one of the forms posted in the foyer.

Shekinah Retreat Centre has is still seeking employees:

1. **Food services assistant** - Year-round part-time, depending on bookings, mostly weekend work.

2. **Maintenance/Assistant School Group Programmer/Kitchen Coordinator**. May-August, full time work (15 weeks total). Start date: May 5th. Please apply as soon as possible if you are interested!

Canadian Mennonite University is constructing a new library, learning commons and bridge. CMU alumni (CMBC, MBBC, Concord, MSC, and CMU), are invited to connect with CMU's mission by purchasing a floor tile on the bridge with your name or other wording on it. A donation of \$500 will create a lasting witness to your support of the CMU vision. Visit cmu.ca/connect for details.

Rosthern Mennonite Church Financial Report

Mar. 23, 2014	Worship service #12		Year to Date			
	Actual	Weekly Budget	Weekly Surplus/Deficit	Actual	Budget	Surplus/Deficit
Budget	\$ 726.10	\$ 4,039.00	\$ (3,312.90)	\$ 54,955.60	\$ 48,468.00	\$ 6,487.60
TOTAL	\$ 726.10	\$ 4,039.00	\$ (3,312.90)	\$ 54,955.60	\$ 48,468.00	\$ 6,487.60

Attendance last Sunday: 98

Confession & Assurance

Leader: Gracious God,
We are people who still love darkness
rather than light.
We keep shameful deeds secret,
But flaunt our occasional acts of virtue.
We see ourselves as blameless,
But pass judgment on others.
We do not stand firmly enough
with those who are vulnerable,
But step back, protecting ourselves.
Forgive us, we pray.

**People: Bring us into your light
that we may see ourselves rightly.
Bring us into your light
that we may know ourselves loved.
Bring us into your light
that we may live more fruitful lives.
Keep raising us, we pray,
from the deadness of sin,
And shine upon us with your grace.**

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Silence

*All: The Lord is our shepherd,
We shall not want.
In grass meadows, the Lord makes us lie down,
By quiet waters the Lord guides us.
The Lord brings our life back.
The Lord leads us on pathways of justice.
Though we walk in the vale of death's shadow,
We fear no harm,
For You are with us.
Your rod and Your staff ---
It is they that console us.
You set out a table before us
in the face of our foes.
You moisten our heads with oil,
Our cup overflows.*