

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor: Dan Graber Phone: (306) 363-0011

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Pastor's office hours: Tuesday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon

December 10, 2017

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Advent 2: Let it be so

Gathering...

Welcome and Announcements

Call to worship:

Leader: Awake! The invitation to carry light comes from the voice who cries out for a smooth way through wild places.

All: O God, your call is uncomfortable. How can we who are weak remove the rough and rugged places?

(pause for silence)

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: Lead us into your presence so all can see your way.

Leader: Let it be so.

Lighting of Advent candle

Longing for light

STJ #54

Comfort, comfort, O my people

HWB #176

Opening prayer

Praising...

My soul cries out

Insert

Offering

Let the children come to me v.3 (while children leave)

Hearing God's Word...

Wisdom & Wonder Drama

Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Meditation: "Active Waiting"

Responding...

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

HWB #178

Confession: (Unison)

O God of blazing heavens, you come to us gently and tenderly, speaking peace and comfort into our fear. We long for you, we yearn for your promise of a new heaven and earth. Yet we confess that though we know how to get busy and prepare for this season, we do not know how to slow down or wait and make space for your presence. May our ordinary lives intersect with the power of your Word and the transforming presence of your grace. Empower us to "let it be so."

(pause for silence)

Words of assurance: (Worship Leader)

O God, Emmanuel, in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us. You have given us life, and we are restored.

Sharing and Congregational Prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer

HWB #348

Sending...

Jesus came – the heavens adoring

HWB #297 verses 1-4

Benediction

Meditation – Donna Friesen

Song Leader – Leona Ewert

Sound – Ivan Bartel

Worship Leader – Irene Bartel

Pianist – Chris Bergen

Ushers – Amy Wildeman, Willis Jantz

LAST SUNDAY

Attendance – 62

Offering – \$1120.00 (\$920.00 for budget)

NEXT SUNDAY (Third Advent)

Meditation – Lisa Martens Bartel

Worship Leader – Jim Ewert

TODAY: 2:30 p.m. – Saskatoon Men's Chorus presents "And On Earth Peace" at Grace Westminster United, Saskatoon. See poster.

THIS WEEK AT NORTH STAR:

Thursday, December 14

2:30 p.m. – North Star service at Lanigan Lodge. Everyone welcome.

COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:

Sunday, December 24

11:00 a.m. – Norman Doromal will be the guest speaker.

7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve service.

Sunday, December 31

11:00 a.m. – Rose Graber will be the guest speaker. There will be a potluck lunch following the morning service.

NORTH STAR NOTES:

- Anyone who has a musical number (child, adult, guest) to share during the Christmas Eve service, please contact Mary Jean as soon as possible.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Sunday, December 17

8:00 p.m. – Sonrisa Women's Choir and A Buncha Guys concert at Shekinah Retreat Centre. Donations will go to support Shekinah.

Wednesday, December 20 & Friday, December 22

RJC Choir Christmas Concerts - Wednesday, December 20, 7:30 p.m. at Knox United Church, Saskatoon and Friday, December 22, 7:00 p.m. at RJC. Admission free; collection will be taken in support of RJC. Everyone welcome.

Sunday, January 28

4:00 p.m. – Join us for a visit to China without leaving Saskatchewan! You are invited to an afternoon of fun, learning and inspiration with international ministry workers George and Tobia Veith at Mount Royal Mennonite Church, Saskatoon. Try your hand at Chinese brush calligraphy. Learn to skip rope the Chinese way. Hear updates from and interact with the Chinese pastors hosted in Saskatchewan in 2014. Be inspired and challenged by stories of your brothers and sisters on the other side of the world and hear about the work of Mennonite Partners in China. There will be a pot luck supper. Bring cold or hot dishes, Chinese/Asian food if possible.

Friday, February 9-Saturday, February 10, 2018

The Mennonite Disaster Service All-Unit Meeting is being hosted by Region 5 (Canada) in Winkler, MB. This event is open to all who are interested in the work of MDS. For more information or to register for the event see our website mds.mennonite.net/all-unit-meeting or call Winnipeg office at 1-866-261-1274.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

Prayer request: Hippolyto and Miriam Tshimanga (Bloemfontein, South Africa) invite prayers for brick making in order that houses of worship may be constructed. In an email recently, Hippo indicated that, “only one of our small congregations has a house of worship. Other churches pray in garages or rent classrooms. We believe that having visible structures will give them visibility and help with the church growth.”

Dann and Joji ask for prayer concerning the ongoing violence throughout the Philippines and in particular in Mindanao where President Duterte has imposed martial law. The Pantoja’s peace building base of operations is also in Mindanao. Please pray that the Pantojas and their peace building partners will continue to courageously advocate for peace in this period of unrest. Dann and Joji have posted a prayer “For National Peace and Reconciliation in the Philippines” on their website - Waves.ca through which you can join with them in prayer: <http://waves.ca/join-us/pray/>

MC Sask Connects: Advent at Home. It’s not too late to start Advent family worship. Just go to www.anabaptistfaithformation.org and download “Yes! Let It Be!” a free guide for family worship from December 3 to January 6.

Over the last year, the Listening & Discernment has been pleased to offer a workshop on living together and loving another even when we disagree. If your congregation would still like us to bring the workshop to you, please schedule a date soon! Feb. 18 will be the last available date for holding the workshop.

MCC Connects: Is your church interested in sponsoring a refugee family? MCC is urgently looking for sponsor groups for four families who are currently in vulnerable situations. For more information call Dana or Evangeline at 306.665.2555 or email DanaKrushel@mccsk.ca