

## **NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH**

204 Francis Street, Drake, SK S0K 1H0

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Pastor: Lisa Martens Bartel Phone:(306) 360-7867

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Pastoral office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

### LAST SUNDAY

Offering – Budget \$ 5270.00 Non-Budget \$150.00 Attendance – 47

Thank you for generous giving throughout the year.

Budget in good standing. - Treasurer

### NEXT SUNDAY (Advent 4)

10:00 a.m. – Christmas brunch potluck in the church basement.

Meditation – Lisa Martens Bartel Worship Leader – Floyd Bartel

7:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve service.

**TODAY:** 7:00 p.m. – North Star Christmas party. Bring snacks to share & board games.

### **THIS WEEK AT NORTH STAR:**

#### Tuesday, December 19

2:00 p.m. – Koinonia meets at church. Bring snacks to share. Beverage provided.

### **COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:**

#### Sunday, December 31

3:00 p.m. – Joint service with PLCF followed by potluck, games and sharing. There will be no morning worship.

#### Monday, January 15

7:30 p.m. – Council of Boards meeting.

#### Monday, January 22

7:30 p.m. – NSMC Annual Meeting. Please have reports handed in or emailed to the office by January 10. There are a number of positions open so please consider volunteering your time to serve on these positions as well as for sound, visuals, camera, worship leader, song leader, accompanist, etc. We need to have more volunteers trained for these positions. Contact the office if you want more information.

### **NORTH STAR NOTES:**

- “Thank you to everyone who has shown support for our mom [Elma Epp], as she is going through some challenging transitions at the Lodge in Lanigan. We are most grateful for your love and care, as we are both far away and wish we could be there ourselves.” - Joanne and Tim Epp

- If you are interested in being on a planning committee for the MC Sask Annual Delegate Session to be held at North Star on March 8 & 9, 2024, please contact the office **ASAP**.

### **BEYOND NORTH STAR:**

#### Tuesday, December 19

7:00 p.m. – RJC Christmas Concert. Join us in celebrating the Christmas season with the RJC Christmas Concert in the RJC Auditorium. Admission by donation. Live-stream option will be available.

#### Friday, January 19-Sunday, January 21

Mega Menno Winter Retreat at Shekinah, partnering with RJC High School and Mennonite Church Alberta!

### **MINUTE FOR MISSIONS**

**MC Sask Connects:** This Season of Giving, a portion of your donations are going to support our schools. 30 donations of \$167 will cover our contribution to RJC High School for one month; 30 donations of \$139 will cover the monthly contribution to CMU. Donations to MC Sask spread your generosity locally, nationwide and globally. Donate at <https://mcsask.ca/giving>

The Youth Farm Bible Camp is inviting you to a Drive Through event this Christmas season. Lights, hand painted billboards, Bethlehem town, and much more. Check online for hours. Purchase tickets at the gate or online at [www.youthfarmcornmaze.com](http://www.youthfarmcornmaze.com). (\$22 online or \$25 at the gate)

**MCC Connects:** Looking for ways to be creative this holiday season? MCC Thrift has put together a free resource called 12 Days of Christmas Crafting. Visit this link for twelve crafts that you and your loved ones can create together: <https://mccthrift.com/christmas-crafting>

Consider giving the gifts of comfort and joy this Christmas season. You can help meet the basic needs of people around the world by choosing from unique gifts such as goats, gardens, wells, and more. Visit MCC's Christmas Giving page to learn more: [mcc.org/Christmas](http://mcc.org/Christmas)

**CMU Connects:** The 2024 John and Margaret Friesen Lecture Series begins Thursday, January 18. Titled “Revisiting the Mennonite Experience in Ukraine,” the two presentations will feature Dr. Nataliya Venger, Professor of History and Chair of the World History Department at the Dnipropetrovsk University of Ukraine. Visit [cmu.ca/friesenlectures](http://cmu.ca/friesenlectures) for more information.

FOR PASTORS AND CHURCH LEADERS

renew 2024 – Registration is now open for CMU's annual pastor and church leader conference addressing the topic “Leading with Hope in Anxious Times.” Four keynote speakers with diverse ministry leadership experience will offer biblically grounded theological perspectives on hope. In person at CMU and online February 5–6. Visit [cmu.ca/renew](http://cmu.ca/renew) for more information.

**NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH**

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Advent 3 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

***How will we know ... what's next?***

Welcome and Announcements

*O come, all ye faithful*

*HWB #212*

Call to worship (based on 2 Peter 3:8-15)

**Leader:** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

**Women:** For the Mighty One has done great things for me,

**Men:** and holy is God's name.

**Leader:** God has brought down the powerful and lifted up the lowly.

**People:** **What will God do next?** (pause)

**All:** ***Together we wonder.***

Opening Prayer

*A Little like yours*

Offering Prayer – Talia and Tristan Lehr

*Silent night, holy night*

*HWB #193*

Advent Candle lighting

*Away in a Manger* (verse 1) (Sunday School for ages 3-12)

Scripture: Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Meditation: “Advent wondering”

*What Child is this*

*HWB #215*

Congregational prayer

*Go tell it on the mountain*

Benediction

Meditation – Lisa Martens Bartel

Worship/Song Leader – Tami-Lynn Lehr Accompanists – Worship Team

Sound – Steven Lehr Visuals – Kyle Toporchak

Ushers – Myrven Kline, Amy Wildeman