

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 February 18, 2024

Offering – Budget \$1695.00 Non-Budget \$2100.00 Attendance – 51

NEXT SUNDAY (Lent 3) March 3, 2024

Meditation – Lisa Martens Bartel Worship Leader – Peter Nicholson

There will be a child dedication service for Eliza Toporchak during the worship service. Remember to support Kyle, Vicky and family in your prayers.

COMING EVENTS AT NORTH STAR:

Tuesday, March 5

10:00 a.m. – Koinonia will meet at church for spring cleaning before the ADS on March 8-9. Anyone interested in helping with the project is welcome to join. Come for as much time as you can manage. Bring a bag lunch and cleaning supplies of your choice.

Friday, March 8 & Saturday, March 9

Everyone is invited to the MC Sask Annual Delegate Session to be held at North Star. We will be exploring the theme of Rekindling Relationship. A working copy of the report book is now available and Registration is open! ***If you are planning to attend any of the sessions you must register even if you are not a delegate.*** Go to <https://mcsask.ca/event/11596> for details and to register!

NORTH STAR NOTES:

- Please check the sign-up sheet on the Educ. Wing bulletin board to see where you can help with the tasks and food items needed for the MC Sask delegate session. There may be a few changes (more or less needed) when we find out how many are registered.
- You are welcome to join Lisa and others for a time of quiet reflection and prayer for our church at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster on April 22-23. Come for a few hours or overnight. If you would like overnight or meal accommodations, please let Lisa know asap so she can make arrangements.

BEYOND NORTH STAR:

Sunday, March 3

3:00 p.m. – Forest church at Shekinah explores themes of Lent in outdoor worship with guidance from Ric Driediger. All are welcome!

Friday, March 8-Sunday, March 10

SMYO leadership event for gr. 10-12, in Drake, SK. Partnering with this year's Annual Delegate Sessions, this is a weekend for senior youth to learn more about the church, get involved, and share their gifts in worship on Sunday morning at North Star Mennonite. Accommodations, food, and transportation are provided. Registration via email is required, ideally no later than March 1. All youth in gr 10-12 are welcome.

Sunday, March 10

7:00 p.m. – RJC Songs & Sweets. Join us in celebrating the legacy of music and the arts at a fundraising concert and cake auction at RJC High School. Featuring performances by RJC Singers & Bass Choir, RJC Alumni & Friends Choir, with special guests Elixir Ensemble: chamber music for piano & strings. The evening will include coffee, tea, desserts, a live cake auction and a cupcake lottery. YOU are invited to sing in the alumni & friends choir. One rehearsal will take place at RJC the afternoon before the event on March 10. Email Alex at development@rjc.sk.ca if you would like to participate in the choir. Rush table seating, no tickets required. More information available at rjc.sk.ca/sweets.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

MC Sask Connects: The Shekinah board is pleased to announce that Sharon Murugiah will be starting as permanent full time Executive Director on March 4. Sharon worked for many years in Sri Lanka with World Vision's child sponsorship program. He has an MBA, a Project Management certificate and a diploma in IT networking. His skills will be well used at Shekinah. We are grateful for this answer to prayer. Please join the board in welcoming and supporting Sharon to this important role in our church community.

MC Canada Connects: Join MC Canada Climate Action and Indigenous Relations for a joint nationwide, online book study – Thursdays, March 7-April 11, 7 p.m. CDT (8 ET / 6 MT / 5 PST). More info and registration (<https://www.mennonitechurch.ca/article/31851>).

MCC Connects: Are you curious about how MCC helps refugees with our refugee sponsorship program? Listen to our podcast How Do I Sponsor a Refugee? You can tune in on either Spotify or Apple Podcasts to hear about the experience of bringing people to Canada and how they are supported and empowered in their first year here.

MCC is looking for fabric, as well as sewists, to sew essential items for material resources like comforter tops, kit bags, baby gowns, t-shirts, and reusable menstrual pads. If you have a passion for sewing and have some time or fabric to spare, or know someone who does, join us in stitching together for a cause! For more information on how you can contribute to this rewarding initiative, please contact Karla Koehn at 306-665-2555.

Join MCCS for Transformation Tuesdays, a free monthly opportunity to learn peace practices for everyday life. This month, Training Active Bystanders (TAB) will be facilitated on Tues., Feb. 27 from 7-9 pm at the Main Office. All are welcome to experience a training that helps participants interrupt harm-doing to help people in need. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. For more info. and to register, visit: <https://mcc.org/events/transformation-tuesdays>

CMU Connects: Xplore – CMU's Xplore extended education program begins Feb. 20 with courses available both in person and online beginning Feb. 15. Register as an individual or host a church watch party. Visit cmu.ca/xplore.

CommonWord - CMU Discover Day – Full- or half-day options available on March 8. Tour the CMU campus, visit a class, meet professors and current students, learn about financial aid, ask questions, and have treats on us! Visit cmu.ca/discover-days.

Midwinter Together: An Evening Fundraiser with Food, Music, and Books for CMU-era alumni (2000-present) on Friday, March 1 from 6:00–8:00 PM. Support student bursaries and reconnect with friends old and new. CMU faculty are hosting a banquet down the first floor of the castle building, followed by visiting in the Blaurock Café with music from CMU alumni Jesse Krause, Thomas Krause, and friends. Space is limited. For information and to purchase tickets visit cmu.ca/midwinter-together.

CommonWord virtual launch of the Together in Hope resource collection for facing the climate crisis. On Thursday, February 29, 7:30 PM (CST) join members of the MCCCanada Climate Action group as they launch a new collection of resources designed to help face the climate crisis in hope. Register for the Zoom event at commonword.ca/go/3801.

NORTH STAR MENNONITE CHURCH
Sunday, February 25, 2024
Lent 2 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

God of the Bible STJ #27

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 22:23–31)

Opening Prayer

Longing for light STJ #54

Offering

Prayer of Confession

Scripture: Genesis 17:1-17, Romans 4:13-25

Jesus, be the center STS #31

Let the Children Come to Me (Sunday School for ages 3-12)

Meditation: “Walking Blind”

Will You Come and Follow Me VT #540

Blessing for Prairie Light Christian Fellowship

Congregational prayer

Healer of our every ill HWB #377

Benediction

Meditation – Rose Graber

Song Leader – Leona Ewert

Sound – Ivan Bartel

Ushers – Carolyn Bartel, Ben Martens Bartel

Worship Leader – Floyd Bartel

Pianist – Heather Kroeker

Visuals – Tami-Lynn Lehr

There will be a potluck lunch immediately following worship this morning.
Everyone is invited to join in the fellowship.

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 22:23–31)

Leader: Come, you who seek God, proclaim God's glory!

People: All you descendants of Jacob and Rachel,

Leader: come.

People: All who are isolated and feel alone,

Leader: come.

People: All who are hungry,

Leader: come.

People: All who wander,

Leader: come.

People: Come, from all ends of the earth.

All: *Come, you who seek God, proclaim God's glory, and walk in faith.*

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Trustworthy God, we want to live with faith, yet we worry there will not be enough. We want to believe in your promises, yet we lose hope. We want to follow you, but sometimes the road is too hard.

People: We confess before you our unbelief, our worry, our hopelessness.

Leader: Shape us into a people who will live in faith. Strengthen us so we can deny ourselves, take up your cross, and follow you.

People: In your grace, Lord, give us faith to believe that you will call into existence the things that do not exist. Amen.

Blessing for PLCF

Prairie Light Christian Fellowship, we offer our thanks to God for the blessing of your congregation.

We are privileged to have shared this space with you over the past 7 years, and have been blessed with your presence in many ways.

We are honoured to have our lives overlap and relationships built over the years, as we joined each other in joint worship services, picnics, and being part of the local congregations.

We thank you for the years that we have journeyed together, as brothers and sisters in Christ.

We will miss having you in this space, and hope to continue our relationship with future shared times together.

May you know that you are always welcome here, and that you are much more than renters of our building, but special brothers and sisters in Christ.

Congregational Litany:

Leader: Give thanks to God, who is good

People: God's love is everlasting.

Leader: For the church universal, and for the congregation of Prairie Light,

NSMC: We thank you, God.

Leader: For all the places we gather for prayer and praise, witness and worship

People: We thank you, God.

Leader: For all those who have been nurtured in faith here in these walls,

People: We thank you, God. May God's love flow through us into all we meet and into every place we gather.

Leader: Give thanks to God, who is good.

People: God's love is everlasting.