



**Welcome** to worship here at Alexanderwohl! This Sunday we begin the Advent season where we wait in hope for Christ to come, and for God to shake things up. As we wait, we feel impatient with God, but at the same time, we wonder if we are really ready for God to break into our world. Our challenge is to wait, not passively, but in bold prayer and action.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music**

Worship Team

**Welcome**

**Opportunities for Celebration and Service**

(Please sign, pass, and return the friendship registers.)

**Call to Worship**

Worship Team

Leader: Wake up! God makes the mountains tremble and the foundations shake. God invites us to carry light.

**All: O God, your expectations terrify us. How can our small selves hold your blazing presence?**

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

**All: Lead us past our stubborn resistance. Let your way prevail.**

**Invocation**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** Jeremy, Denise, Mackenzie & Mason Voth

(Taken from *Candles & Conifers* by Ruth Burgess)

**Instrumental Call to Worship**

Jason Peters

*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying* ~Behnke

**Worship Music**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Sonshine Singers

**\*Songs of Praise**

Worship Team

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 80:1-7

Lynel Unrau

<b>Morning Prayer</b>		Pastor Linda Ewert
<b>Hymn of Advent</b>	<i>O Come, O Come, Immanuel</i> (vs. 1, 3, 5, 6)	HWB 172
<b>Peace Prayer</b>		Kyle and Justine Unruh
<b>Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings</b>		First Fruits Giving
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Prepare the Royal Highway</i> ~Behnke	Jason Peters
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		Pastor Linda

### HEARING GOD'S WORD

<b>Children's Story</b>	(for children through grade 3)	Pastor Caleb Yoder
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Isaiah 64:1-9	Lynel Unrau
<b>Message</b>	"Yearning for restoration"	Pastor Caleb

### SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

<b>Song of Response</b>	<i>Lord, I am Fondly, Earnestly</i>	HWB 514
<b>*Benediction</b>		Pastor Caleb
<b>*Postlude</b>	<i>Hark the Glad Sound</i> ~Leavitt	Jason Peters

\*All who are able are invited to stand.

HWB - *Hymnal A Worship Book* (Blue)

SWJ - *Sing With Joy* (Red)

### TODAY

**A Supervised Nursery** is available for children ages 3 and under during worship. Attendants are Brittany Hiebert and Delica Ewert.

**Song Leader:** Marcia Brubaker

**Visual Arts:** LaNae Unruh

**4:00 pm** Bethesda Chapel - Pastor Caleb

### PRAYING FOR OUR CONGREGATION AND BEYOND

- ❖ For the Jackson family, as Tina continues to recover from surgery at her mother's home in Hillsboro. Tina's mother, Karen Petross, is also caring for Tina's three sons.
- ❖ For Craig Abbas as he continues his long road of recovery. We give thanks to God that Craig is now able to continue recovery at home.
- ❖ For college students as the semester's end approaches and for recent high school graduates exploring their gifts and opportunities in work or service.
- ❖ For those struggling with loneliness, whether through loss of a spouse, or significant change of pace and relationships in life.
- ❖ Brian Burkholder's grandmother, Verda Burkholder, passed away. The service was November 20 at Salem Mennonite Church in Tofield, Alberta. Brian and Rachael and children were there to help celebrate and remember their grandmother. We give thanks for God's protection, care and comfort for them as they traveled and spent time with family.
- ❖ For Pastor Juan and our sister church friends at Luz del Evangelio as they journey through Advent and celebrate Christmas.

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Monday, December 4

9:00 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm Board of Worship

### Tuesday, December 5

AMC serves at the MCC Center, N Newton

### Wednesday, December 6

5:45 pm Fellowship Meal Served

Menu: Sausage, scalloped potatoes, green beans, roll and dessert

Midweek Activities

Note: This is the final midweek session before Christmas

### Thursday, December 7

Bulletin items and announcements due at noon in church office

6:30 pm Prayers for Our World and Letter Writing - Chapel

### Sunday, December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Message: A Service of Lessons and Carols

Nursery: Kim Voth and Bonnie Gaeddert

6:30 pm Community Christmas Concert with McPherson Brass and  
Goessel High School Elbiata Singers

## COMING EVENTS

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|------------------|--|
| <b>Dec 15</b>    | Senior Coffee and Conversation             |
| <b>Dec 24</b>    | Christmas Eve Service                      |
| <b>Dec 25</b>    | No Christmas Day Service                   |
| <b>Dec 28-30</b> | Serve at New Hope Shelter                  |
| <b>Jan 8</b>     | 2017 Year-End Reports due at church office |
| <b>Jan 10</b>    | Midweek Classes and Activities Resume      |
| <b>Jan 28</b>    | Annual Meeting                             |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY -- December 3, 6:30 p.m.**, Bethel College Mennonite Church – All are invited to a Hymn Sing to introduce the new hymnal. It will be led by Bradley Kauffman, project director and editor for the new hymnal.

**There is a sign-up sheet in the south lobby to help provide meals for Tina Jackson and her family** while she is recovering from surgery at her mother's home in Hillsboro. Meals may be brought to the church kitchen by 3:00 p.m. on the date for the meal. If you forget to sign up while at church, you may call or email the church office. Questions, talk to Pastor Linda.

**Next Wednesday, December 6:** Our final fall adult midweek Bible study class will conclude looking at how the Early Church priority of a patient way of life changed.

**Prayers and Letter Writing:** One of the possible action steps discussed in the Radical Hospitality class was to write letters to elected officials. This **Thursday (Dec 7) from 6:30-7:30 pm**, there will be an opportunity to write hand-written letters using provided templates, witnessing to our

government for compassionate and humane immigration reform. We will begin from 6:30-6:45 with prayer. You are welcome whether or not you were a part of the class on a come-and-go basis.

**Tags for the Goessel Ministerial Alliance Christmas Giving Tree project** are available on the tree at the Crossroads Credit Union. Gifts should be wrapped and brought back to the Credit Union by Friday, December 15.

**Brass Christmas:** Come join us at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church on Sunday, **December 10 at 6:30 pm** for an evening filled with Christmas music! The evening will feature the McPherson Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews along with the Elbiata Singers from Goessel High School under the direction of Andrew Voth. A freewill offering will be received to support the ministries of the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. We hope to see you there!

~Goessel Ministerial Alliance

## *Our Purpose Statement for 2017*

This year we will...

- ❖ Be rooted in Jesus' way
- ❖ Renew relationships with each other
- ❖ Listen with respect to one another
- ❖ Relate to our community in loving ways
- ❖ Reclaim our Gospel hope over fear

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<b>Thanksgiving Day, November 23</b>	105
Offering:	\$9,147.58
<b>Last Sunday, November 26</b>	
Attendance: Sunday School	138
Worship	196
Offerings: Sunday School	\$49.03
First Fruits Giving	\$6,788.43

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Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.  
1304 K-15 Hwy, Box 8  
Goessel Kansas 67053  
Office: (620) 367-8192  
email:  
[alexmenno@mtelco.net](mailto:alexmenno@mtelco.net)  
website:  
[www.alexanderwohl.org](http://www.alexanderwohl.org)

**Pastors:**  
Caleb Yoder  
(319) 930-7754  
[alexcaleb@mtelco.net](mailto:alexcaleb@mtelco.net)  
Linda Ewert  
H – (620) 367-3882  
C – (316) 204-4896  
[alexlinda@mtelco.net](mailto:alexlinda@mtelco.net)

**Deacons:**  
Judy Goertzen  
Delbert Peters  
Linda Peters  
Brian Stucky  
James Voth  
Tim Voth

If you would like a visit or a phone call from one of the pastors or deacons, please feel free to contact us.

**All older adults are invited to a special Christmas event for our Senior Coffee and Conversation on Friday, December 15, at 9:00 a.m.** JoAnn Nickel will give a program telling the Christmas story with scripture reading, congregational singing and piano solos with visual images on a power point. We will begin with the program at 9:00 in the sanctuary, followed by a time of fellowship and food in the Fellowship Hall. It promises to be a wonderful morning of Christmas inspiration and sharing with one another. Sign up in the lobby by Monday, December 11. An invitation has been extended to the older adults at Tabor and Goessel churches, as well. You are welcome to invite others to join us--just don't forget to sign them up too!

**2017 Year-End Reports:** Annual reports are due on **January 8, 2018**. Please submit your report in electronic form to the church office. Email: alexmenno@mtelco.net

**As you have changes for the 2018 Yearbook** (addresses/phone numbers/email addresses, etc.) turn them in to the church office. All changes are **due January 29**. This includes new board positions for the coming year.

**The Board of Trustees is accepting applications for the position of groundskeeper and maintenance technician.** Duties include mowing and trimming of the church grounds, repair and maintenance of the church buildings, cleaning of the shelter house and youth house, and snow removal on sidewalks and entrances. Applications may be picked up at the church office. If you have questions, contact Marlin Janzen.

**Read this new book at the church library!**

*You Carried Me: A Daughter's Memoir* is the true story of Melissa Ohden, who is fourteen when she learns she's the survivor of a botched abortion. In this intimate biography she details her search for her biological parents, and her own journey from anger and shame to faith and empowerment.

**Address Change:**

Lloyd and Marlene Voth  
Residence: 317 Meadowlane  
Mailing: PO Box 37, Goessel, KS 67053

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to the Junior Sunday School department for your generous donations to the Tabor Food Pantry. Funds have been running lower than usual in recent months, so this donation was very much appreciated. Thanks goes out to everyone at Alexanderwohl who continue to donate food items for the pantry. The individuals who find the need to use our services are always very grateful that this service is available in the Goessel community. Your gifts are used well and offer hope to many.