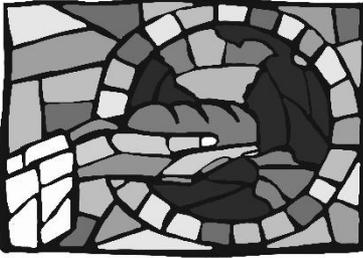


# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIV

October 7, 2018

No. 39



## World Communion Sunday

**Welcome** to our Sunday morning service as we join Christians around the world in sharing the bread and cup of Christ's table. God is calling us to grow in multiple ways toward the likeness of Christ, including speaking about the joys and struggles of faith with authenticity.

### GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music** DJ Freeman

**Welcome** Karl Brubaker

**Opportunities for Celebration and Service**

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

**Peace Prayer** Ruth Goertzen

**Call to Worship** Karl Brubaker

Leader: Come, Alexanderwohl people, and worship the Lord,

**People: God has shown us mercy and love.**

Leader: Come, Alexanderwohl people, and praise the name of Jesus,

**People: In his name, we've found forgiveness and abundant life.**

Leader: Come, Alexanderwohl people, and receive the Spirit's blessing,

**People: The Spirit blesses us with seeds to sow for God's reign.**

(Adapted from *Words for Worship 2*)

### Invocation

**Instrumental Call to Worship** Mary Schmidt

Fantasy on *Foundation* ~arr. Jordan

**\*Hymn of Praise** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* HWB 70

**Scripture Reading** Psalm 34:1-14 Travis Duerksen

**Morning Prayer** Pastor Lois Harder

**Hymn of Faith** *In the Bulb There is a Flower* HWB 614

**Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings** First Fruits Giving

**Offertory** *Simple Gifts* ~Barr Mary Schmidt

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Caleb Yoder

### HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Children's Story** (for children through grade 3) Delbert Peters

**Scripture Reading** Acts 2:42-47 Travis Duerksen

**Message** "Growing Closer to the Vision" Pastor Caleb

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### The Lord's Supper

All who follow Jesus, regardless of denomination,  
are welcome to participate in the bread and the cup.

*Become to us the Living Bread* HWB 475

*Eat this Bread* HWB 471

*Taste and See* Screen

\***Sending Song** *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* HWB 478

\***Benediction** Pastor Caleb

\***Postlude** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* ~arr. Tornquist

\*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 Cindy Erb and Beth Yoder.

**Song Leader:** Kyle Unruh

**Visual Arts:** Janine Peters

**Noon** Youth Group Fish Fry Fundraiser - Fellowship Hall

**1:30 pm** Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk - Goessel Church

**4:00 pm** Bethesda Chapel - Pastor Lois Harder

## PRAYING FOR OUR CONGREGATION AND BEYOND

- ❖ For Shay Hartvickson during a very long road to recovery from botulism. Shay is a younger brother to Robyn. Botulism is a very rare infection that is dangerous and basically paralyzes a person. Shay will be in San Antonio, and will have to relearn almost all physical movement.
- ❖ For Kevin and Bonnie Gaedert and Jeremy and Maggie Schroeder, who became members of our congregation last week at Camp Mennoscah, with Bonnie and Jeremy receiving baptism.
- ❖ For the Spirit to move through our Midweek ministries that have begun this past week.
- ❖ For farmers having to work around a sudden torrent of rains.
- ❖ We give thanks for Merlin Hiebert's return home where he continues to regain strength, after spending time recovering at Kidron-Bethel.
- ❖ For those in Indonesia facing grief and loss after an earthquake and tsunami has taken over 1,400 lives
- ❖ For migrant children who are now suffering effects of trauma from being separated from their parents at the US/Mexico border

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Monday, October 8

2:30 pm Staff Meeting

7:00 pm Board of Worship

7:00 pm Children's Ministry Team

### Wednesday, October 10

5:45 pm Fellowship Meal Served

Menu: Potato pizza bake, salad, French bread, dessert

Midweek Activities

**Thursday, October 11**

Bulletin items and announcements due at noon in church office

**Saturday, October 13**

9:30 am Mennonite Heritage Museum's Fall Heritage Lecture

**Sunday, October 14**

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Message: Pastor Caleb Yoder

Nursery: Laura Unrau and Chrystiana Miller

## COMING EVENTS

- Oct 21** Installation Service for Pastor Lois Harder  
**Oct 21** Fundraiser for Mennonite College Student Scholarship fund  
**Nov 2** Senior Coffee and Conversation  
**Nov 4** Bethesda Home Pillar's Banquet  
**Nov 11** Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY - October 7 - Is the Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk!** You can still sign up to walk (or run) two or six miles and you can still make a donation, payable to Harvest Giving Walk. Find a walker today for your generous giving to help MCC support school mediators in Colombia, as well as the expenses of our local Tabor Food Pantry. Participants from our church are: Karl Brubaker, Dennis Duerksen, David and Aileen Esau, John Janzen, Jared Janzen, Delbert and Janine Peters, Caleb Yoder and Kent Peters. Walkers, please be at Goessel Mennonite Church by 1:15 p.m. to sign in and remember to bring an item for the Food Pantry, as well as your donation envelope. (An indoor option has been arranged this year if the weather deems that necessary. Please check in with your church recruiter Sunday morning for final weather-related details.)

**At the front of the sanctuary there is a prayer bowl and slips of paper to be able to write any prayer requests.** These will be shared with pastors and deacons. This is available anytime the church is open.

**On Wednesday, October 31, the Children's Midweek department will be hosting a Fall Harvest Party with a "Trunk or Treat" event.** The high school youth group will be leading this event where kids can come trick or treating here at the church. The youth will be decorating their car trunks and having the kids come by to receive goodies and play carnival games. **We would like to invite the congregation to help us by donating candy, trinkets, scripture cards, fruit, pencils, etc. for the youth to use to pass out to the kids.** We are planning on 60 kids. Please place your donations in the box in the SS office by Sunday, October 21. If you have questions, contact Susan Nafziger, Aileen Esau or Ann Hiebert.

Pastor Caleb is planning to attend the "**Telling the Jesus Story**" event the last weekend of October at our sister church **Luz del Evangelio** in Dallas. This event is part of the Western District Year of Evangelism. If you are

interested in visiting our sister church and taking in this event, contact Caleb. The event begins Friday evening 10/26, and we would want to stay for the Sunday morning service at Luz as well (10/28). For more information see: [mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism](http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism)

**The Fall 2018 Heritage Lecture will feature Peggy Goertzen.** The Lecture will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2018, 9:30 a.m. at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall (1 mile north of Goessel on Hwy K-15). She will speak about Dr. Peter Richert - Migration, Ministry and Medicine - a man that had a big influence on the history of Goessel. Peggy Goertzen is the director and archivist of the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies, Tabor College, Hillsboro, KS. This event is sponsored by the Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum and is free and open to the public.

## Our Purpose Statement for 2018

This year we will...

- ❖ Be present with one another across ages
- ❖ Be present in our community, sharing life with neighbors
- ❖ Be in prayer for our community and our church
- ❖ Be authentic in worship and witness

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### Sunday, September 23

|             |               |            |
|-------------|---------------|------------|
| Attendance: | Sunday School | 160        |
|             | Worship       | 189        |
| Offerings:  | Sunday School | \$45.48    |
|             | First Fruits  | \$4,492.57 |

### Sunday, September 30 - Camp Mennoscah

|           |              |            |
|-----------|--------------|------------|
| Offering: | First Fruits | \$1,767.00 |
|-----------|--------------|------------|

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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)

Lois Harder  
(316) 617-3497  
[alexlois@mtelco.net](mailto:alexlois@mtelco.net)

**Deacons:**  
Marilyn Unruh  
Flaming  
Judy Goertzen  
Ruth Goertzen  
Linda Peters  
Brian Stucky  
James Voth

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

**Save the Date:** The 6th Annual Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal will be on Sunday, November 11 in the Goessel Elementary School Gymnasium. Come anytime between 5-6:30pm. This is a free event. Invite your neighbors, family, and friends! There will be an opportunity to donate to the ministries of the Goessel Ministerial Alliance if you desire. If you would like to contribute to the meal, a sign-up sheet is posted in the south lobby. If you have any questions, please contact your pastor. ~Goessel Ministerial Alliance

**Bethesda Pillars Banquet – November 4 at Cross Wind Conference Center.** Punch bowl and informal social time begins at 5:30 p.m. and banquet begins at 6:00 p.m. Entertainment will feature Earnest Alexander, internationally known inspirational performer through music and word, challenging both the young and mature in age to strive for a closer walk with Christ and to answer the question: "How would you like to be remembered". For more info see the flyer on the bulletin board. All proceeds go toward the Resident Life Enrichment campaign. Reservation deadline is October 21. Your attendance and generosity are appreciated and you will be rewarded by the inspiration of the evening. Call 367-2291 for reservations or contact Karl Brubaker, Pat Flaming, Duane Unruh, or Verney Voth.

**Everence** will have a two-day course "Cultivating Generous Congregations" starting at 5 pm Friday, November 9, and ending Saturday, November 10 at 4 pm. Several persons from our congregation will attend. If you have interest talk to Pastor Caleb before Wednesday.

## THANK YOU

Sandy and I want thank everyone for all the prayers, financial gifts, food, cards, phone calls, and so many other things! The cards were very encouraging as were your prayers! We were (and continue to be) very aware of God's peace and presence from the diagnosis through our travel home a month ago. It hasn't been without a few human-made struggles but we praise God for his care. My doctor in Phoenix declared me cancer free but this status will be monitored by a local oncologist – Dr. Mattar of the Cancer Center of Kansas. I have made good progress since surgery but now my goals are to gain back weight I have lost and slowly get back the energy I need to do everyday activities. I returned to work on October 1 and that is going well. I do want to express a very special thanks to Sandy for her love and patience with my recovery – she has had a lot on her plate! She did so much work with details of communicating with family and friends to helping me with a variety of needs to now helping care for her dad. Her brothers, Myron and Lynell, did a lot of care for their dad while we were in Phoenix, which we appreciated so much. Also, a big thanks to our pastors, Caleb Yoder and Linda Ewert for their care, prayers, and communication with us during this time! ~Steve and Sandy Banman

The family of Phyllis Unruh wishes to thank all who helped celebrate her homegoing. Thanks for the well wishes and prayers. Thank you to Pastor Caleb Yoder for his calls and visits and to Ruth Goertzen and the faspas servers. ~Radene Unruh, Annette Quiring, Merrill Unruh, Lyle Unruh and their families

## GETTING TO KNOW ...

**Maggie Schroeder** - I was born and raised in Newton and grew up in the Catholic Church. I've been married to Jeremy for almost 20 years and we have 3 children. Brody is a junior and Emma and Mallory are in 8th grade. Our kids have attended VBS here since they were very small, and Midweek for the last 5 years. Having wonderful youth programs here was a priority in my decision to join. I appreciate that myself and my family are important and welcome here. I look forward to strengthening my relationship with God through this church community.

**Jeremy Schroeder** - I grew up and currently live 4 miles north of the church and I attended school in Goessel. I am married to Maggie and we have 3 teenagers. I work for Fensky Harvesting near Moundridge. We have been attending here for almost 2 years and have always felt welcome. I enjoy the church service and always leave feeling inspired for another week. It has been great having the kids so involved in the church and youth groups. I look forward to growing in my faith and church community.

**Bonnie Gaeddert** - I was born in Wichita and then my family moved to Goessel when I was 3 years old. I attended Kinder Haus and school in Goessel through the first grade. At the age of 8, I then moved to Missouri and was adopted by Darla Banman and Gary Lyndaker. I graduated from Versailles, MO and then moved back to Kansas where I attended Bethel College. I earned an Elementary Education and Early Childhood Special Education degree. After graduation Kevin Gaeddert and I got married and we now have four wonderful children ages 7-17. Two years ago we moved back to Goessel, KS. I now work at USD411 Kinder Haus teaching preschool. We are so blessed to be a part of this wonderful community and church. Finally, we are so thankful to this wonderful church community for making us feel so welcome and supportive of our family.

**Kevin Gaeddert** - I was born in Denver, Colorado but moved to Newton when I was 1-year-old. I was raised in Newton and graduated Newton High in 1991. I then attended Bethel College and graduated with a bachelor's degree in social work. Shortly after graduating, I married Bonnie Bandaker and we moved to her family farm near Gravois Mills, Missouri; raising our four amazing kids where we lived for nearly 20 years. My occupation history has mostly been in the area of social work. In 2010, I worked with a local political sub-division/County Board to develop a case management agency for persons with developmental disabilities and was named their Executive Director in 2011. I continue to work at that agency, working remotely from Goessel most days, and going back to Missouri every other week to complete office duties on those days. We are so happy that we made the move to Goessel and then began our journey with the Alexanderwohl community.

## GETTING TO KNOW ...

### Pastor Lois Harder

Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus! I am grateful to be here with you as your “bridge” pastor for the coming months. My first several days have been spent meeting with Pastor Caleb, Ruth, and Les getting some ideas about how things work around here! I’ve wandered around in this beautiful, historic meeting house trying to talk myself out of being intimidated by it! But as I’ve gradually begun to meet you – the people who **are** the church – I’m less intimidated all the time; what a warm and welcoming bunch you are. Thank you!

I come to you most recently from a co-pastorate (with my spouse, Tom) at the Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita where we served for 22 wonderful years. When we came there in the fall of 1996 our daughters were 3 years (Hillary) and 18 months (Madeline) old. Our third daughter (Anna) was born in 1999 while we were living in Elkhart, IN, fulfilling the requirement of one year of residency on campus as we worked on our MDiv degrees. We finally finished those in 2006 taking one or two classes at a time through the Great Plains Seminary program.

Some of you might recognize me in the context of our family band, “Five Times Harder”. As our girls were growing up they sang and played stringed instruments; we were blessed to make music together as a family during those years! Hillary is now teaching music in Elkhart IN, Madeline is married to Eric Crawford and is teaching middle school strings in Wichita (and had a baby girl, Rosie Marie Sue on July 22!) and Anna has just started her first year at Goshen College. Tom is now the pastor at First Mennonite Church of Hillsboro, where we are living.

I am eager to meet each of you, to learn to know you, and to love and follow Jesus together!

Lois Harder, October 7, 2018

**Address:**

Lois and Tom Harder  
PO Box 112  
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