

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXV

September 8, 2019

No. 36



Welcome!

Welcome to worship here at Alexanderwohl! We continue to explore different ways to encounter God while offering our full and true selves. Today we explore the pathways of nature, silence, and contemplation.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *If Thou Art Near* ~J.S. Bach Sherie Klassen, flute
Karen Unruh, piano

Welcome Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

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

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 63)

Leader: God, our God! It's you—we search for you!
We thirst for you in a dry and tired land.

People: **Your faithful love is better than life itself!**

Leader: We will bless you as long as we're alive; We'll lift up our hands in your name.

People: **Your faithful love is better than life itself!**

Leader: May we satisfy ourselves as with a rich dinner.

All: *May our mouths speak praise with joy on our lips.*

Invocation

Instrumental Call to Worship

Earth and All Stars ~Hobby (HWB 47)

Marcia Brubaker

*Hymn of Praise

O Worship the Lord

HWB 124

Worship Music

Jenna Flaming

Morning Prayer

Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Fairest Lord Jesus ~Leavitt

First Fruits Giving

Marcia Brubaker

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Caleb Yoder

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Naturalist Pathway

Scripture Reading

Psalm 104:1-4, 10-24

Ben Schrag

Meditation

"Loving God in nature"

Pastor Caleb

Song of Response

For the Beauty of the Earth (v.1-3)

HWB 89

Ascetic Pathway

Scripture Reading	1 Kings 19:4-13	Ben Schrag
Meditation	"Loving God in silence"	Pastor Caleb
Song of Response	<i>O Lord, Hear My Prayer</i>	HWB 348
Time of Silence		

Contemplative Pathway

Scripture Reading	Psalms 63:1-8	Ben Schrag
Meditation	"Loving God in daily life"	Pastor Caleb
Responding to the Gospel	(Open Sharing)	

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Song of Response	<i>You Are the God Within Life</i>	HWB 537
*Benediction		Pastor Lois
*Postlude	<i>I Want Jesus to Walk With Me -arr. Hamm</i>	Sherie Klassen

*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 Laura Voth and Kim Voth.

Song Leader: Mary Schmidt

Visual Arts: LaNae Unruh

Greeters: North - Nicole and Josh Hein
South - DeLora Funk

Noon - Potluck Meal and Congregational Meeting

PRAYING FOR OUR CONGREGATION AND BEYOND

- ❖ We pray for those living with ongoing health challenges.
- ❖ We pray for the family of DJ Freeman and Janine Peters as their sister Linette is cared for on hospice.
- ❖ We pray for a rewarding time of fellowship in our meal and may God be at work in our congregational meeting.
- ❖ We pray for those making plans for midweek activities which will kick off in October.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, September 9

- 3:00 pm Staff Meeting
- 5:15 pm Board of Worship
- 5:45 pm Board of Mission and Service
- 7:00 pm Church Council

Wednesday, September 11

- 7:00 pm Youth Ministry Team

Thursday, September 12

- Bulletin items and announcements due at noon in church office
- 7:00 pm Bethesda Program - West Fellowship Hall Class

Sunday, September 15

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship

Message: Pastor Caleb Yoder

Nursery: Ann Hiebert and Liz Schmucker

Greeters: North - Eric and Gretchen Schrag

South - Kevin and Bonnie Gaeddert

COMING EVENTS

Sept 18	CPR/AED Training
Sept 18-20	Serve at New Hope Shelter, Newton
Sept 20	Senior Coffee and Conversation
Sept 22	80's and Over Lunch at Church
Sept 25	Daughters of Grace Bunco Game Night
Sept 29	Community Service Day
Oct 2	Midweek begins
Oct 5	Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum's Fall Heritage Lecture
Oct 6	Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk
Oct 27	Fall Mentor/Mentee Event

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reflection Questions for Today:

1. Does one of these "inner" temperaments -- encountering God through nature, disciplined freedom from distractions, or contemplation -- resonate with you?
2. What do you do to feed your soul, or what new idea would you like to try?
3. What are ways that our congregation could benefit from the gifts of those with these temperaments?

Please consider picking up an inventory to learn about your spiritual temperament(s) in one of the lobbies. These are for your personal use.

Today -- Garden Sharing Table (south entrance)

Children's midweek (ages 3- grade 5) registration forms are in church mailboxes and are due back by Wednesday, September 11. Please turn them in to the Midweek church mailbox or the church office. Feel free to invite a friend to join you this year! Midweek kicks off on October 2!

Volunteers needed to help with Wednesday night meals!

The midweek meal ministry began 20 years ago! Several long-time faithful workers are retiring. In order for this ministry to continue, the following volunteers are needed:

- Someone to be in charge of planning a meal once a month
- Someone to help prepare the meals
- People to help serve
- People to clean up afterwards
- Someone to run the dishwasher
- People to make desserts

If you or a group are willing to help in any of these areas, please contact Janice Voth (Verney) or Darla Banman. All help is appreciated!

All Sunday School and Midweek teachers, ushers, nursery staff, and anyone else interested are encouraged to attend an AED/CPR awareness evening on Wednesday, September 18 at 7:00 pm. Lisa Bartel from Newton will facilitate. This session will be held in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in knowing what to do if someone in our church has a health emergency, plan to attend! Child care will be provided so please sign up in the south lobby by Sunday, September 15.

Our Purpose Statement

- ❖ 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

Sunday, September 1

Attendance:	Sunday School	133
	Worship	180
Offerings:	Sunday School	\$72.69
	First Fruits	\$4,944.00

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
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Pastors:
Caleb Yoder
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Lois Harder
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Deacons:
Marilyn Unruh
Flaming
Judy Goertzen
Ruth Goertzen
Bryant Miller
Jim Schmidt
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.

Join us for Senior Coffee and Conversation on Friday, September 20, at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Amy Jantz, Clinical Liaison for Newton Medical Center, will be our guest. Come for food and fellowship! Invite your friends but be sure to sign up on the blue sheets in the lobby by Monday, September 16.

You're Invited to a Daughter's of Grace sponsored Bunco Game Night! All women ages high school and up are invited to the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, **September 25 at 7 p.m.** to play this fun, low-key game; no experience necessary! Bring finger food to share. Come to relax, laugh, and connect with other women!

New Hope Shelter sign-up sheets are on the south lobby for you to help those in need. Our times are **September 18-20.** Lets fill all of our slots! Upper Room, Young Adult, and Friends & Followers Sunday school classes will provide the meals. If you have questions, ask Janice (Delton) Voth.

Adult midweek Bible Study will begin Wednesday, October 2, meeting from 5:15-6:00 pm in the conference room. Pastor Caleb will lead discussion on stories of women in the Old Testament, which will also be our upcoming worship series in October and November. Invite a friend!

The 7th annual Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk is less than a month away. This year's route (between 1 and 6 miles) will begin at Tabor Mennonite Church on **Sunday, October 6 at 1:30 p.m.** Find your HGW recruiter today (Kent Peters) to get a donation envelope and start fundraising. Donations this year will go to support MCC's immigration programs and the local Tabor Church Food Pantry.

"TIME to Celebrate Russian Mennonite Clocks and more" at the Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum -- On display will be three clocks from the museum collection and 4 owned by Jerry and Leann Toews (that are operating). Also on display are several Kitchen/mantel clock from the 20's and 30's along with four clocks handcrafted by Orie D. Voth. This special exhibit will be going until the end of September. Regular admission applies. Free admission to Museum members. Hours are Tues. - Sat. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.