

Welcome!

Last Sunday Pastor Caleb introduced us to the series on the "seven deadly sins" and the "seven holy virtues". We begin today with the corresponding pair of Pride and Humility. Let us worship and learn together!



HWB 648

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Welcome – Pastor Lois Harder

Gathering Hymn

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing, praise for the morning, praise for them, springing fresh from the word.

Morning has broken

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play. Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning, God's recreation of the new day.

Call to Worship

(lighting of the peace lamp)

Psalm 34:1-10 (CEB)

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise will always be in my mouth.

I praise the Lord – let the suffering listen and rejoice.

Magnify the Lord with me! Together let us lift his name up high!

I sought the Lord and he answered me. He delivered me from all my fears.

Those who look to God will shine; their faces are never ashamed.

This suffering person cried out; the Lord listened and saved him from every trouble.

On every side, the Lord's messenger protects those who honor God; and he delivers them.

Taste and see how good the Lord is! The one who takes refuge in him is truly happy!

You who are the Lord's holy ones, honor him, because those who honor him don't lack a thing.

Even strong young lions go without and get hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Hymn of Praise

I will call upon the Lord

SWJ 45

I will call upon the Lord, (I will call upon the Lord)

Who is worthy to be praised. (who is worthy to be praised)

So shall I be saved from my enemies, I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted; the Lord liveth, and blessed be the rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted.

Children's Story

Chrystiana Miller

Morning Prayer

Jim Schmidt

Worship Music

Laura Unrau and Elaine Unruh

Prayer for Graduates

NAMING THE SIN

Scripture Reading

Luke 16:19-31

Tammy Flaming

Reflection on Pride

ORIENTED TOWARD GOD'S LOVE

The practice of listening prayer

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we are people who like to be right.

We like to do things right, give the right answer, be in the right place at the right time.

Help us to remember, God, that our pride can prevent us from remembering that we are your children, your beloved, your created and we aren't always right.

Forgive us, gentle God, when we lose sight of you.

Draw us closer to you, remind us of how you see us.

Words of Assurance

“God leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble God's way.” Psalm 25:9

Hymn of Gratitude

The steadfast love of the Lord

SWJ 2

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;

They are new every morning, new every morning,

Great is thy faithfulness, O Lord, great is thy faithfulness.

EMBRACING THE VIRTUE

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

Tammy Flaming

Reflection on Humility

Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings

First Fruits Giving

Song of Response

The love of God

SWJ 15

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell; it goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell. The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave his Son to win; his erring child he reconciled, and pardoned from all sin.

When hoary time shall pass away, and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall; when folks who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call; God's love, so sure, shall still endure, all measureless and strong; redeeming grace to Adam's race the saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill and were the skies of parchment made; were every stalk on earth a quill, and everyone a scribe by trade; to write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry; nor could the scroll contain the whole, through stretched from sky to sky.

Refrain

O love of God, how rich and pure!
How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure the saints' and angels' song.

Benediction

+ The peace lamp serves as a visual reminder for us that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God's shalom will prevail.

Special thanks to Eric Schrag, Renae Peters, Kevin Gaeddert, Chrystiana Miller, Jim Schmidt, Tammy Flaming, Laura Unrau, Elaine Unruh, Steve Unruh, Delton Voth for their help with making this worship service possible.

Questions for Reflection (Luke 16:19-31 and Philippians 2:5-11)

1. How were you taught to think about pride? How do you think about it now?
2. How can you live out genuine humility, following the examples of Jesus?

Scripture reading for Next Sunday:

- Envy: Genesis 4:1-16; Genesis 37; Luke 11:53-54
- Contentment: Matthew 20:1-16; Philippians 4:11; Isaiah 43:1-4; I Corinthians 13:4-7

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We thank you, God, for our graduates this weekend; they (along with their teachers and families) worked hard to see this last semester through to completion under unusual and difficult circumstances. Thank you for their perseverance and for the hope and inspiration they give us as we support them into their next endeavors.
- ❖ We pray for teachers, school staff, students and their families as they make difficult plans about school for the fall.
- ❖ We continue to pray, God, for the elderly and residents of care homes who are suffering isolation and loneliness as this pandemic continues to rage. Let your love and comfort be near them.
- ❖ We continue to pray for wise and courageous leadership in the coming weeks and months.
- ❖ We pray for your safety and blessing on Pastor Caleb, Beth, Austin and Josiah as they visit family in Iowa this week.
- ❖ Thank you, God, for those in our congregation who have agreed to serve as delegates to the Western District Conference on-line Assembly meeting on August 1. They are: Pastor Caleb Yoder, Dwight M. Flaming, Karen Unruh, Arlin Buller, Kris Schmucker and Elroy Wiens.
- ❖ We pray for Margie Young as she deals with additional health concerns.
- ❖ We pray for the family of Shirley Banman who died on July 15 at a care facility in the Houston area, near her daughter. Willard and Shirley attended Alexanderwohl for many years. No services are planned at this time.

1304 K-15 Hwy, Box 8
Goessel Kansas 67053
Office: (620) 367-8192
email: alexmenno@mtelco.net
website:
www.alexanderwohl.org

Pastors:
Caleb Yoder
(319) 930-7754
alexcaleb@mtelco.net

Lois Harder
(316) 617-3497
alexlois@mtelco.net

Deacons:
Sandy Banman
Marilyn Unruh Flaming
Ruth Goertzen
Cindy Hastings
Bryant Miller
Jim Schmidt

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

Coming Events

Tuesday, July 21	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
Wednesday, July 22	6:30 pm	Wednesday Prayer Meeting on Zoom
Thursday, July 23	7:00 pm	Board of Deacons
Sunday, July 26		Online Worship Service
	11:15 am	Congregational Sharing on Zoom
Monday, July 27	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
Monday, August 10	1:00 – 6:00 pm	Goessel Community Blood Drive

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Caleb and Beth will be on vacation in Iowa from July 15-22nd. During this time, you may contact Pastor Lois or one of the deacons for any pastoral care concerns. Immediately upon returning, Caleb plans to mostly work from home as an expression of caution, but will otherwise be available.

Congratulations to our High School graduates! They are: Alyssa Burkholder, Luke Freeman, Emmalyn Gaeddert, Dylan Lindeman, Brooke Nafziger, Jerah Schmidt and Brody Schroeder.

Congratulations as well to those promoted on from the 8th grade! They are: Cambry Duerksen, Jake Flaming, Riley Hartvickson, Brandon Moore, Javin Schmidt, Noah Schrag, Wade Spurlin and Miranda Tyler.

Update on in-person worship from the AMC COVID-19 Task Force: Based on the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases in the area, the task force believes it would be prudent to push back the date of in-person worship. Worship will continue as it has throughout summer, with a mix of online and outdoor services. The task force has nearly completed the re-opening plan for Alexanderwohl that we will use to guide us when the time is right for in-person worship in the sanctuary. We will update the congregation as we continue to monitor the situation.

Use of building for meetings: The COVID-19 task force continues to allow the church building, specifically the Chapel, to be available to boards/committees to use for in-person meetings if they so choose. Zoom continues to be an option for meetings, as well. If meetings happen in person, the following guidelines should be followed: maintain 6 feet distance throughout the meeting, masks should be worn and please limit the use of bathrooms to the ones on the main level of the church. Meeting organizers should be sure to communicate with the church office so that custodial staff are aware of spaces that need cleaning.

Dig into the book "White Fragility" by Robin Diangelo! The Board of Mission & Service and the Peace Committee are inviting everyone in the congregation to join us in finding out why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism. Books can be ordered through Ruth in the church office by July 26 for \$11.20/book (thanks to a discount offered to us by Faith & Life Bookstore). Please make checks out to AMC. We will aim to meet for our first discussion about the book on Wednesday, August 12 in the evening. More details to come.

We invite you to a weekly Zoom prayer meeting Wednesday at 6:30 pm using the *Take our Moments and Our Days: an Anabaptist Prayer Book*. This format includes scripture readings and guided prayer, while offering space for inserting our own specific prayers. The prayer guide will show up on screen, but we also will share it as a PDF. The link to our next Wednesday prayer meeting will be sent by email.

Current and upcoming devotionals (*Upper Room, Rejoice!, Purpose*) are available in the NE entryway for purchase.

Pastor Caleb is continually updating our **Faith Formation** resource page (<http://alexanderwohl.org/resource-page/> or click the button from home page). Feel free to make suggestions of resources you are finding helpful.

CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

Western District Conference

Pray for all WDC congregations, as they discern what it means to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God in their local communities and today's world.

Mennonite Mission Network

Praise God for Mennonite Mission Network's short-term service programs that help young people deepen their faith and broaden their cultural perspectives. Pray for program directors as they plan for the coming year with so many unknowns.

COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blood Drive in Goessel

Red Cross blood drive – Aug. 10, 1-6 pm, at Goessel Mennonite Church. For a limited time, the Red Cross is testing ALL donated blood for COVID-19 antibodies. Donors will be notified of their results, which will indicate if they have been exposed to the COVID-19 and therefore developed antibodies. (Red Cross is not testing to diagnosis illness.) In addition to the extra need for blood during this pandemic, 25% of the nation's blood supply helps people receiving treatments for cancer. Every minute 5 units of blood are needed to help someone going through cancer treatments. Sign up to donate at redcrossblood.org or call Rosi (356-2418) or Nancy (367-2610) for assistance. There are only 11 spots still open so act soon.

Camp Mennoscah

You are welcome to visit! Camp Mennoscah is open to families, individuals, and groups for days and overnights. The number of groups on campgrounds is limited and each family/group will have their own bathroom. Canoes are available for use; paddles and lifejackets are checked out and disinfected after use. Contact us at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. Spend some time at the river, on the trails, or simply enjoying this sacred space!

Thank you to the First Mennonite Youth Group of Newton, Kansas! 18 people spent a masked and socially distant week working on improvements on campgrounds. The new swing sets were installed and work began on both the trail bridge and amphitheater renovations. There was a lot of work done by the youth and sponsors, both to keep everyone safe and to make Camp Mennoscah the beautiful and fun place we know it to be. We are overflowing with gratitude!

Camp in a Box from Camp Mennoscah--The vast majority of Camp in the Boxes and tee shirts have been distributed. If you have not received yours (and we have not been in touch), please contact Camp Mennoscah at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. We'll get it figured out!

Camp Mennoscah's Family Weekend has been cancelled due to the low number of attendees. The annual Camp Sing scheduled for August 8 has also been cancelled. Staff will continue to brainstorm options for events that can be done safely!

Western District Conference

WDC (Virtual) Annual Assembly is coming up on August 1-2! See Assembly information at: <https://mennowdc.org/2020-wdc-annual-assembly/>. The delegate session will be held August 1 at 9 am. Delegates, please register by July 17 to receive a Zoom link for the delegate session (link will be sent prior to August 1). Anyone (no registration required) can participate in the August 1 afternoon webinars - links to those will be posted on WDC's website prior to August 1.

WDC Assembly Worship on August 2: God will be praised through wonderful music with Texas flair, a story of God's presence by a first-generation immigrant (Sue Park-Hur), a sermon by Danny Carroll R (biblical scholar who specializes in stories of God's people on the move) and a blessing of WDC ministers. The prerecorded worship (in separate English and Spanish versions) will go live on the WDC Facebook page via Facebook Live on Sunday, August 2 at 10 am CT. The link for this special time of worship will also be available before then by emailing kathynd@mennowdc.org. After Sunday morning, the worship video will be available for viewing on the WDC YouTube channel.

WDC Assembly Virtual Kidz Kamp! There will be craft ideas, snack suggestions, music, stories and more available for elementary-aged kids via a pre-recorded video as part of our virtual WDC Annual Assembly August 1-2. We also ask our kids and youth to take a picture of any artistic responses (poem, drawing, song) to our Assembly scriptures (Jeremiah 29:4 and following; 1 Peter 2: 11-12) for use during the delegate session. Please email them to kathynd@mennowdc.org.

WDC Assembly Video Snapshots - To learn more about WDC congregations, Commissions, Committees and Task Forces, watch their video snapshots at: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6aO7e884ZT5d9gHzyrfAucccOFYYd_M5, More are added as they become available.

Mennonite Church USA

Melanie Neufeld and her husband are pastors of Community Ministry at Seattle Mennonite Church, **seeking justice, change and protection for unsheltered people.** Get a first-hand look at their ministry in Melanie's blog, "The prick of compassion." <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/compassion/>

Imagine **planting a peace church** amid a pandemic and nationwide protests – that was the backdrop for Mennonite Church USA's newest church plant in New York. Read more about the Brooklyn Peace Center: <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/nyc-peace-witness/>

Catch up on all the news, blogs and events from Mennonite Church by subscribing to **PeaceMail**, a weekly e-newsletter. Check out the latest issue and subscribe here: <http://ow.ly/K5Z150Afsnm>

Service Adventure only has five spots remaining for the 2020-2021 term beginning this fall. If you are interested in taking a gap year to serve, live in community, and grow spiritually, contact SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or apply online at MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure.

Mennonite Mission Network

Mennonite Mission Network is seeking a full time Network Systems Administrator located in the Newton, KS office. This position will ensure the stable operation of the organizations Local Area Network (LAN), wide area network (WAN), Internet systems and software applications. The ability to analyze and resolve end user hardware and software computer problems in a timely and accurate fashion is essential. Ability to provide excellent customer service is a must. Committed to denominational and agency goals of anti-racist action. Degree in computer science / information technology or 3-5 years' experience is preferred. View the complete position description at www.MennoniteMission.net. Submit cover letter and resumé to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net for consideration.

Mennonite Central Committee

Grounded in the words we read in Philippians 2: 3-4, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others," **MCC Central States offices and material resources center is closed to the public indefinitely.** The realities of COVID-19 continue to change but the dedication of MCC staff to work for relief, development and peace in the name of Christ continues on. Essential workers will continue to work at MCC, but the rest of the staff will work from home. Your material resource donations (school, hygiene or relief kits and comforters, details at mcc.org/kits) are needed at this time and can be shipped directly to MCC when ordering online or dropped off in the 24-hour donation room towards the east end of the building (121 E. 30th North Newton, KS 67117). In spite of the challenges from COVID-19, the global work of MCC continues. Your financial donations are needed to keep this work going. Give now at mcc.org/donate or by sending checks to MCC PO Box 500 Akron, PA 17501. To contact staff with questions please email us at centralstates@mcc.org or call the office 316.283.2720.

MDS Opportunity

MDS is opening a project in the small town of Willow, Alaska, where a wild fire destroyed their homes. This disaster did not receive a presidential disaster declaration so individual assistance was not available. Many took the first steps to build foundations, but now face a shortage of resources and time to build a safe place to live. Winter is fast approaching when temperatures drop and this area could get snow by mid-Sept. So we need to act now! Willow is about 70 miles from Anchorage. Alaska is open to travelers and is one of the first MDS projects since the pandemic, having a very low number of infections. Volunteers will get a COVID-19 test before they leave and then while on location. Because of the closed border between Canada and the U.S. only volunteers from the U.S. will be able to participate. Volunteers will be staying at LaDaSa Camp in Willow.