

**Welcome to Alexanderwohl!** We welcome Tim Schrag and Jeff Koller today as Tim preaches the sermon and Jeff brings a Moment in Mission. How do we choose which direction(s) to go in life? How did Ruth decide to stay with Naomi in spite of the risks involved? How does Mennonite Disaster Service choose which assignments and projects to be involved with?



**GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

**Gathering Music**

*Psalm 42 ~Fedak*

Jason Peters

*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart ~Hayes/Wagner*  
*From All That Dwell Below the Skies ~Burkhardt*

**Welcome and Opportunities for Celebration and Service**

Pastor Lois Harder

**Moment in Mission**

Jeff Koller

**\*Call to Worship**

Psalm 119:1-8

Leader: Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.

**People: Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart –**

Leader: they do no wrong but follow his ways.

**People: You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed. Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees!**

Leader: Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands.

**People: I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws.**

Leader: I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me.

**Peace Prayer / Lighting the Peace Lamp**

Caiden Duerksen

**\*Gathering Songs**

*The Word of God is Solid Ground*

VT 399

1 - The word of God is solid ground, our constant firm confession, no source of freedom more profound, no purer a profession. All steadfast strength, all breadth and length of truth, from God's word springing shall we employ to speak our joy, this world our witness bringing.

2 - What powers can our faith constrain? What ironclad restrictions? No self deceiving rule can chain our conscience and convictions. Our God alone is on the throne, and we are subjects willing. Our lives obey God's higher way; our love God's law fulfilling.

3 - What God-word brings, may we embrace; success and suffering greet us; confronting evil face to face, as scorn and anger meet us. For freedom's sake we bend, we break, a sign to ev'ry nation that we have found a solid ground; God's word our sure foundation.

*Beautiful Things*

VT 551

1 - All this pain. I wonder if I'll ever find my way; I wonder if my life could really change at all.

2 - All this earth. Could all that is lost ever be found; would a garden come up from this ground at all?

Refrain: You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of the dust. You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of us.

3 - All around, hope is springing up from this old ground. Out of chaos, life is being found in you.

(Refrain and Bridge) You make me new, you are making me new. You make me new, you are making me new.

**Scripture** Matthew 1:1-6 Judy Goertzen  
**Special Music** *Build Your Kingdom Here* VT 393  
Myra, Celia, Jason and Renae Peters

**Morning Prayer**

**Children's Story** Aileen Esau

**Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings**

First Fruits Giving

**Offertory** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* ~Held

Jason Peters

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

*Leader: What will you offer the body of Christ today?* VT 1023

**All: Bring all that you have. Bring all that you are.**

*South: The gifts of silence and the gifts of words are welcome.*

**North: The gifts of leading and the gifts of following are welcome.**

*South: The gifts of doubt and the gifts of faith are welcome.*

**North: The gifts of the head and the gifts of the heart are welcome.**

*South: The gifts of planning and the gifts of spontaneity are welcome.*

**All: May all that we are as individuals come together to strengthen the living body of the church, Christ Incarnate. Amen.**

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Reading** Ruth 1:6-11a; 14-19a

**Sermon** The train of salvation Tim Schrag

**SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**\*Song of Response** *I Will Follow* VT 775

1 - All your ways are good, all your ways are sure; I will trust in you alone. Higher than my sight, high above my life; I will trust in you alone.

(Refrain) Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay; when you move, I'll move. I will follow you.

Whom you love, I'll love; how you serve, I'll serve; if this life I lose, I will follow you. I will follow you (2x)

2 - Light into the world, light into my life, I will live for you alone. You're the one I seek, knowing I will find all I need in you alone. (Refrain)

In you, there's life everlasting. In you, there's freedom for my soul. In you, there's joy, unending joy; and I will follow. (Refrain)

**Benediction**

**Postlude** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* ~Oyer Jason Peters

**\*Please stand if able**

**Song Leader:** Kyle Unruh

**Greeters:** North – Steve Goertzen & Rosi Reimer; South – Darla Banman & Gary Lyndaker

**Visual Arts:** Shari Wiens

**Nursery Staff:** Bryant Miller and Laura Voth

**Worship Technology:** DeAlan Unrau, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth, Steve Unruh

**June 27 Attendance:** 124 in person; 9 Zoom households

**Next Sunday** – We will hear a (recorded) message from Sheryl Wilson, Executive Director of KIPCOR (Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution). Her scripture text is Romans 12:9-21; Sheryl will help us understand the important faith connection between anti-racism and restorative justice.

**BONUS!** Next Sunday there will also be a hymn sing for our gathering music. Come a few minutes early to join in singing prior to the worship service.

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- We pray for Steve and LaNae Unruh as they grieve the loss and celebrate the life of Steve's mother, Donna Unruh.
- We pray for our High School youth and their sponsors, Rachael and Brian Burkholder, as well as Kevin and Bonnie Gaedert who are also accompanying them, as they prepare for their service trip next week to Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp (July 11-17).
- We pray for Mennonite Disaster Service as its staff and volunteers seek to be faithful in their decisions and work.
- We pray for our nation as we celebrate independence.
- We're grateful, God, for the many people who gave their time, energy and money to make the KS Relief Sale happen successfully.

### **Coming Events**

Today, Sunday, July 4	9:00 – 10:00 am	Donuts, Coffee & Juice for everyone!
Sunday, July 4	9:30 am	Sunday School classes resume for all ages
Monday, July 5		Church Offices Closed
Wednesday, July 7	7:00 pm	Book study
Sunday, July 11	7:15 am	Prayer for Youth before their departure
Monday, July 12	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
Monday, July 12	7:00 pm	Church Council - cancelled
Wednesday, July 14	7:00 pm	Book study
Friday, July 16	10:00 am	Senior Fellowship
Sunday, July 18	11:45 – 12:45	Meeting including survey results and presentation
Monday, July 19	7:00 pm	Board of Worship - Chapel
Wednesday, July 21	7:00 pm	Final Book study
Monday, July 26	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
Saturday, July 31	3:00 – 9:00 pm	Community Junior High Camp at Alexanderwohl Church
Sunday, August 1	11:45 am – 12:45 pm	Meeting including survey results and presentation
Sunday, August 1	7:00 – 9:00 pm	Family Swim Night at Hillsboro Family Aquatic Center

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Memorial services for Donna Unruh** (Steve's mother) will be Tuesday, July 6, 11:00 a.m. at Petersen Funeral Home. Visitation from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 5 with family present from 2:00-4:00.

**Today - The Garden Sharing Table is in the south entryway.** Everyone is invited to either share extra garden produce or come by the table to pick up some garden goodies through mid September.

The **church office will be closed** tomorrow, Monday, July 5. On Monday, July 12 both Ruth Goertzen and Pastor Lois will be out of the office, but Sandy Banman will be available in the office to take calls, answer the door, etc. Thank you, Sandy, for your office coverage! Additionally, Pastor Lois will be on vacation from July 8-15, returning to the office on Friday, July 16. Feel free to contact one of the deacons during that time, if needed. (Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Ruth Goertzen, Sandy Banman, Jim Schmidt, Bryant Miller)

**Senior Fellowship will begin again on Friday, July 16 at 10:00 a.m.** We'll gather in the Fellowship Hall with 5 or 6 to a table rather than 8 (to give ourselves a bit more space) with a cup of coffee, but no goodies yet (we'll reintroduce food later). We'll catch up with one another (no program yet) and get reacquainted! Mark the third Fridays of each month on your calendars and plan to attend!

**A conversation on the topic of sexual abuse** is one of the most difficult to have in the church. All sorts of feelings are elicited and it's hard to know how to respond. A simple, 11-question survey has been created and sent out with the hopes of gaining understanding of church members' thoughts and questions. The response team will be better equipped to help the congregation engage in this conversation if we know where people are starting from and what questions there may be. The survey was **sent on, Tuesday, June 29** – electronically for those on our email list and hard copy, sent in the mail, to those who ordinarily receive information that way. **Please reply to the survey by Wednesday,**

**July 7 at noon.** The survey results will be confidential and will not be able to be traced back to you. There will be **two opportunities** to hear the survey results as well as to hear a general presentation on sexual abuse on **Sunday, July 18 and Sunday, August 1**. Both will be from 11:45-12:45, immediately following the worship service. There will also be a brief opportunity at these events to do some processing about the survey results and the presentation. Please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Lois and/or response team members if you have questions or concerns.

**Book Study** - The Mission Board and Peace Committee book study is well underway! Each session stands on its own, so you're still invited to read and discuss together the book, *Creation & the Environment: An Anabaptist Perspective on a Sustainable World*, a collection of essays written by Anabaptist teachers, writers and thinkers. The remaining study schedule is as follows:

- July 7 – Essay #10, "An Anabaptist Mennonite Theology of Creation", written by Thomas Finger, discussion led by Kris Schmucker
- July 14 – Essay #12, "Toward an Anabaptist/Mennonite Environmental Ethic", written by Heather Ann Ackley Bean, discussion led by John Fast
- July 21 – Essay #13, "The Environmental Challenge Before Us", written by Calvin Redekop, discussion led by John Fast

Each study will begin at 7:00 p.m. either on the yard east of the church (under the trees, in the shade) or in the Fellowship Hall if it's too hot. Bring a yard chair, a bottle of water and your questions and ideas to ask and discuss!

**The Board of Deacons** is grateful to those who have agreed to serve as **delegates** to represent Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church at the Mennonite Church USA Convention as well as at Western District Conference Assembly. Brian and Nancy Stucky will zoom in to both events. Marj Shoemaker will join them in zoom attendance at the WDC Assembly.

**Children's Sunday School starts today!** The classrooms are as follows; 2 year old class will be in room 18 & 19, Pre-K 3's and 4's will be in room 12, and K-5th Grade will be in the Foundation Room.

**Adult Sunday School** - July 11 will be the official start date that the adult Sunday School will begin meeting in their classrooms. Below is a list of where each class is meeting and what they are currently studying. You are invited to join one of these groups!

**Young Adults** – Fellowship Hall North end. Informal fellowship.

**Upper Room** – Upstairs northwest corner. The Wired Word.

**Seekers & Sojourners** – Upstairs southeast corner. Informal fellowship.

**Friends & Followers** – Fellowship Hall South end. Book study - The Bible Unwrapped.

**Route 15 – Conference Room** . The Denominational Quarterly (Summer 2020)

**Co-Workers of Faith – Chapel.** The Denominational Quarterly (Summer 2020)

#### **Help Needed – Registrar for Sunday School Hour**

Two or more persons are needed to ring the opening and ending bells for the Sunday school hour. Other duties include picking up offering envelopes from Sunday school classes, counting and recording attendance and money. Please let Janine Peters or Lynel Unrau know if you are interested in helping serve in this way. Thank you.

**The High School Youth Group will be going on a service trip to Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp July 11-17!** They ask for prayers for their time at camp and extend an invitation to the congregation to join their sending circle prayer on Sunday morning, July 11 at 7:15 a.m. in the church parking lot. Snack donations are also appreciated and can be left in the box inside the NE doors. Ideas for snacks include granola bars, chips, cookies, marshmallows, popcorn, etc. Thank you in advance for your donations and prayers!

#### **Schedule of Services for July:**

- **July 18** – Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen will preach. The Duerksen family vacation is coming up! And what does that have to do with Micah 6:8, the house built on a rock, and Galatians 5:8?

- **July 25** – Pastor Lois will preach.
- **August 1** – Travis Duerksen will bring the message based on recent podcasts he has produced at Mennonite Mission Network.

**Our total contribution to MCC through My Coins Count was \$269.24.** Thank you and start collecting for next spring!

Dear Alexanderwohl Church family, Thank you for thinking about my 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. Thank you for the new Bible! It meant a lot! ~Colby Nafziger

## CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

### Western District Conference

Pray for delegates, youth groups and others from WDC attending MennoCon21 (Mennonite Church USA convention and delegate assembly) both virtually and in-person this week.

### Mennonite Mission Network

Arloa Bontrager of Mennonite Mission Network has been the servant project coordinator for Mennonite Church USA conventions since 2003! Thank God for her faithful ministry and for the 23,533 volunteers who have contributed to the ministry of 420 local agencies during the past 18 years. Pray that Jesus' love will be shown through this year's Service in a Box projects.

## COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MDS Opportunities

If you need something else to do this summer MDS has these projects:

- Replacing roofs in Mt. Vernon, Alabama
- Interior and exterior housing repairs in Breathitt County, Kentucky
- Building bridges in West Virginia
- Construction after fires in Paradise, California

Call the volunteer coordinator number for more information: 800-241-8111

### Western District Conference

**WDC Assembly Sunday Worship:** How can we join August 1 Assembly worship? Join us in-person at 10:30 am at Faith Mennonite Church, 2100 N Anderson, Newton, KS. Or worship via YouTube Live at 10:30 am wherever you are. Or watch the recording on our WDC YouTube channel at Western District Conference (MC USA) whenever it is convenient for you. Join us for Friday (July 30) worship at 7 pm in any of these ways, too!

**WDC delegates appointed by the WDC Executive Board to the Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly** on July 10 are Lois Barrett, Delon Martens, June Krehbiel, Karen Mascho, Lee Lever, Heidi Regier Kreider, Sandra Montes-Martinez, Kathy Neufeld Dunn, Lilly Garcia (youth delegate) and Andrea Hernandez (youth delegate). Pray for the Spirit's presence and guidance for these representatives, as well as WDC congregational delegates, youth groups and others who gather virtually or in person for MennoCon21, July 6-10.

Have you noticed **WDC's website** has a new look? Check it out at <https://mennowdc.org>. While it is still a work in progress, the refreshed website is now THE place to go for all things WDC! Beginning in July, the *WDC Sprouts* weekly newsletter email will be discontinued. WDC articles, announcements, and other information will be posted exclusively on the website.

**Join us in saying thanks to WDC Administrative Assistant Nancy Funk!** If you would like to share an expression of appreciation for Nancy in anticipation of her retirement at the end of August, you are invited to stop by to visit with Nancy at the WDC office (2517 North Main Street, N. Newton, KS) over the next several weeks, or to send a note to her at WDC, PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117, or [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org).

### Camp Mennoscah

**Family Weekend at Camp Mennoscah on July 17-18!** If you're looking for a weekend to escape, this retreat offers a smorgasbord of camp activities for you to choose from and plenty of time to be with your family and friends. Register at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) and contact 620-297-3290 with questions!

**Extra help needed for summer youth camps!** Camp Mennoscah has paid and volunteer positions for grounds, maintenance and custodial positions. For college age folks, there is a weekly stipend position for a lifeguard, grounds, or custodial position. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) for details. You will make camp an amazing experience for everyone!

**August 28 is the next Work Day at Camp Mennoscah!** We'll remind you again, but save the date. You make camp great!

### **Mennonite Church USA**

**Want to be an integral part of a young adult's life?** Become a unit leader for Service Adventure, a gap-year program for ages 17-20 from Mennonite Mission Network. Unit leaders, who are at least 24 years of age, serve as mentors to the young adults in the Service Adventure household. Leaders are needed in Johnstown, PA. Learn more by contacting [SusanN@MennoniteMission.net](mailto:SusanN@MennoniteMission.net).

**Serve with the Immigrant Resource Center through MVS in Alamosa, Colorado!** Serve others by connecting them with educational and legal resources. Visit [MennoniteMission.net/MVS](http://MennoniteMission.net/MVS) to learn more.

**Mennonite Church USA has released a new Bible-based curriculum, entitled "Laboring Toward Wholeness: A Training on Dismantling Patriarchy."** It addresses the history and impact of systemic patriarchy — and looks at how God calls followers to respond through an intersectional lens. Learn more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/dismantling-patriarchy-curriculum/>

**For the first time, Mennonite Church USA is hosting a hybrid convention on July 6-10, 2021.** MennoCon21 participants may choose between attending in person in Cincinnati, Ohio, or virtually via Pheedloop, an interactive, online event platform. Learn more about MennoCon21 virtual offerings here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/mennocon21-virtual-opportunity/>

**Jon Carlson will be the July 9 worship speaker for MennoCon21, Mennonite Church USA's biennial convention.** Carlson reflects on his conference topic, "Trust the Peace," through his experience with trust in the Mennonite church, in this blog: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/trust-the-peace/>

### **Mennonite Central Committee**

**The MCC Central States office in North Newton, KS will be open to the public starting Tuesday, July 6.** Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm. Masks are respected but not required for fully vaccinated adults. We look forward to welcoming you back at MCC! Contact us at 316-283-2720 or [centralstates@mcc.org](mailto:centralstates@mcc.org).

**Iglesia Buenas Nuevas, a Mennonite Church USA congregation in San Juan, Texas,** has a long-standing history of being a welcoming, multicultural community, with Black, Latino and white congregants. Learn more about this dynamic church here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/profile-iglesia-buenas-nuevas> En español: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menoticias/iglesia-buenas-nuevas>

**Sarah Augustine, author of "The Land is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery,"** discussed her new book in a webinar presented by Mennonite Church USA and MennoMedia. Watch the webinar recording here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/webinars/>

**What does peace have to do with Jesus?** Or, maybe, what does Jesus have to do with peace? Dr. Meghan Larissa Good explores these questions in her blog, "Jesus and the Work of Peace," and will speak on this during the July 7 worship service at MennoCon21. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/jesus-work-of-peace>

### **Everence to hold Medicare webinar: Tuesday, July 13**

Everence will host its popular workshop, *Make Medicare an easy step*, as a webinar on Tuesday, July 13 at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will learn about the various Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and deadlines. This webinar is free. Please register by contacting our office at 877-467-7294, 316-283-3800 or [central.kansas@everence.com](mailto:central.kansas@everence.com).