

**Welcome** to Alexanderwohl! Discerning God's will in community is one of the essentials of our Anabaptist Christian faith. We seek God's will together as we read and interpret Scripture for how we make decisions about our lives, our church and our community. Anabaptists understand that the Holy Spirit works in our midst as we faithfully gather together for study, prayer and fellowship.

**GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

|  |   |                     |
|--|---|---------------------|
| <b>Welcome and Opportunities for Celebration and Service</b>   |   | Pastor Lois Harder  |
| <b>Call to Worship and Prayer of Invocation</b>  |   | VT 857              |
| <i>All: Holy God, you call us together to reflect on your Word and our life in your world. Be with us now as we sing and pray together, that we may hear your voice and understand your way. This we pray through Jesus, the Christ. Amen.</i> |   |                     |
| <b>*Gathering Song</b>   | <i>Here in This Place</i>                     | VT 10               |
| <b>Children's Story</b>  |   | Delbert Peters      |
| <b>Congregational Song</b>   | <i>Listen in the Silence</i>                  | VT 541              |
| <b>Morning Prayer</b>  |   | Pastor Lois         |
| <b>Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings</b>   |   | First Fruits Giving |
| <b>*Song of Dedication</b>   | <i>For the Beauty of the Earth (vs. 1, 5)</i> | VT 120              |

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

|                          |   |                    |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| <b>Scripture Reading</b> | Acts 15:1-35                                  | Judy Goertzen      |
| <b>Message</b>           | "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us" | Pastor Caleb Yoder |

**SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

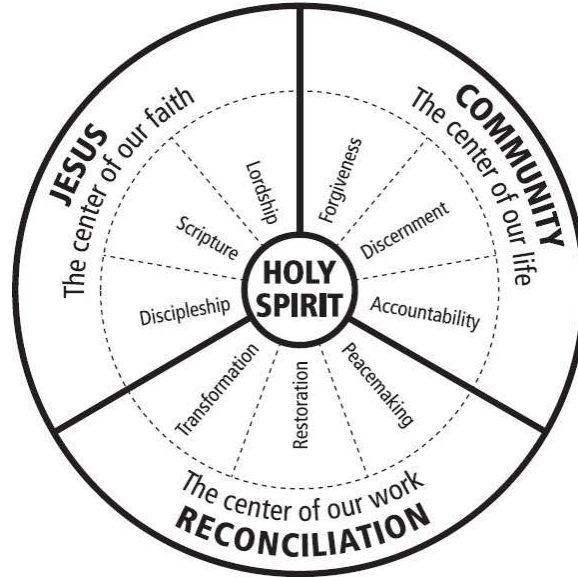
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| <b>*Song of Sending</b> | <i>From the Waters I Will Rise</i> | VT 442 |
| <b>*Benediction</b>     | <i>Seek Ye First</i>               | VT 417 |

**\*Please stand if able**

**Song Leader:** Renae Peters  
**Guitar:** Kevin Gaeddert, Eric Schrag  
**Worship technology:** Delton Voth, Steve Unruh  
**October 3 attendance:** 126 in person; 10 Zoom households

- Questions for Reflection** – Acts 15:1-35 Discerning God's will in community
1. What can we learn from the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15) about how to discern in community?
  2. How could we better discern as a community at Alexanderwohl?
  3. How have you learned to read the Bible better through the insights of others?
  4. How well do you do at giving and receiving counsel?

**Anabaptist Essentials:** Join us next Sunday as we consider how to hold one another accountable in love. Our scripture reading will be Acts 2:42-47. If you are reading *Anabaptist Essentials* by Palmer Becker, we encourage you to read chapter 6.



## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray for farmers in this harvest season, giving thanks for the gifts of the earth and its fruits.
- ❖ For children and youth as well as their teachers as we learn the stories of our faith and how to have a relationship with God in this new midweek season.
- ❖ We pray for Meribeth Schmidt as she is treated for an infection, and extend our prayers to Rannie and the family in their concern for Meribeth.
- ❖ We continue to keep Judy and Darrell Unruh in our prayers as Judy undergoes rehab at the Newton Medical Center. We thank God for the healing she has experienced and ask for God's ongoing grace and mercy for her.
- ❖ We pray for your blessing, God, on the four young men who will receive baptism in the Ninnescah River this afternoon: Caiden Duerksen, Eddie Gaeddert, Jacob Schrag and Timothy Schrag. Be with them, their mentors and families and our congregation as they take this step of declaring their faithfulness to following Jesus.

### **Coming Events**

|                           |                |  |
|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| Today, Sunday, October 10 | 9:30 am        | Sunday School  |
|                           | 10:30am        | Worship Service outdoors – weather permitting        |
|                           | 3:00 pm        | Baptisms at Camp Mennoscah                           |
| Monday, October 11        | 1:00 – 6:00 pm | Goessel Community Blood Drive at Goessel Church      |
|                           | 2:00 pm        | Prayer Team  |
|                           | 5:45 pm        | Board of Mission and Service                         |
|                           | 7:00 pm        | Church Council                                       |
| Tuesday, October 12       | 5:45 pm        | Children's Ministry Team                             |
| Friday, October 15        | 10:00 am       | Senior Coffee & Fellowship                           |
| Sunday, October 17        | 7:00 pm        | Peace Committee's TED Talk – Climate Change          |
| Sunday, October 24        | 12:00 pm       | Mennonite College Student Noon Fundraiser Meal       |
|                           | 5:00 pm        | Mentor/Mentee Gathering -- activities & light supper |
| October 27-29             |                | Serve at New Hope Shelter                            |
| November 9, 10, 11        |                | MCC Meat Canning                                     |
| Sunday, November 14       | 5:00 – 6:00 pm | Goessel Community Drive-Thru Thanksgiving Meal       |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Come one, come all** to the **Service of Baptism** this afternoon beginning at 3:30 at Camp Mennoscah. Come to give witness, to fellowship, to support and celebrate this important step with Caiden, Eddie, Jacob and Timothy. This will be a short service involving music, and faith sharing, and, of course, the baptisms in the river as well as a cookie reception. The camp is reserved from 3:00 until 5:00 for our church, so feel free to enjoy the outdoors afterwards.

**From the AMC Peace Committee:** Dr. Katharine Hayhoe says, "Having a real discussion (about climate change) is to connect over shared values like family, community and religion." Hayhoe is the climate ambassador for the World Evangelical Alliance, an atmospheric scientist and an evangelical Christian. She is a professor of Atmospheric Science and Political Science at Texas Tech University. Hayhoe co-authored the book, *A Climate for Change: Global Warming Facts for Faith-Based Decisions*. She is known for her outreach efforts to Christian communities and has been very effective as she delivers lectures that are rooted in scripture and focus on the benefits of collective action to mitigate the effects of climate change. Please join the peace committee to hear her TED Talk on this subject and for a continued discussion about this topic on Sunday evening, **October 17 at 7 pm in the Foundation Room**.

**Everyone is invited to participate in the Fall Fundraiser meal for 7 of our students attending Mennonite colleges.** This will be Sunday, **October 24** and it's the Chicken Enchilada meal, take-out only. Come to either lobby, donate generously, and your noon meal is ready to take! Thank you in advance!

**Senior Fellowship** -- Mark the third Friday of each month on your calendars and plan to attend!

- Friday, October 15 – Jennifer Speer (Newton Medical Center) – end of life decisions
- Friday, November 19

**Mentor/Mentee Fall Gathering will be Sunday, Oct. 24 @ 5pm.** We will meet at the shelter house for outdoor activities and supper. **Please bring a lawn chair.** You'll find information in your mailboxes today, including an order form for a boxed meal, of your choice, from Subway. The forms **MUST** be placed in the blue box in the *south* lobby by **Wed. night, Oct. 20** if you want food.

The **Alexanderwohl COVID-19 task force** continues to meet and discern what is best when our congregation gathers together for worship and fellowship. Our recommendations remain the same for the time being. We appreciate your willingness to wear a mask at church. Our decisions are based on Jesus' teaching to love our neighbor as well as the latest science and local case numbers, hospitalizations and cases in area schools. We hope that our current recommendations are temporary and we expect to ebb and flow with the COVID-19 reality in our area.

**Bloodmobile:** The need for blood products is ongoing. Please sign up to donate on October 11, between 1:00-6:00 pm at the Goessel Church. Make a single unit donation or a Power Red donation (double units for those with type O+, O-, A-, or B-) to help meet the needs. Sign up for your appointment time online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). For more information contact Rosie Reimer 620-367-2418 or Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.

**Bethesda Home's Annual Pillar's Banquet** will be held on Sunday, November 7 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. This will be a drive-thru event. Meals will be picked up at Tabor Church. Suggested donation is \$150/plate for adults and \$25/plate for children 12 and under. RSVP by October 31 to Sara Hiebert ([shiebert@bethesdahome.org](mailto:shiebert@bethesdahome.org)) or by calling Bethesda Home 620.367.2291. See flyer on bulletin board for more details.

**The 2021 Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk took place on Sunday, September 26** beginning and ending at Goessel Church. Thirty-two participants enjoyed the warm fall afternoon and completed a route in town between 1 and 6 miles. \$5,450 was raised for this event and will be dispersed to MCC's Haiti earthquake relief and the Tabor Church Food Pantry. Additionally nearly 50 food items were collected for the Tabor Food Pantry. Thank you for your support of this annual community event – by walking, donating money or non-perishable items, and praying for us! ~Kevin & Yvette Nickel, area coordinators

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Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church  
1304 K-15 Hwy. PO Box 8 Goessel, KS 67053  
Phone: 620.367.8192 email: [amc@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:amc@alexanderwohl.org) website: [www.alexanderwohl.org](http://www.alexanderwohl.org)

Pastors: Caleb Yoder 319.930.7754 ([calebyoder@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:calebyoder@alexanderwohl.org)) Lois Harder 316.617.3497 ([loisharder@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:loisharder@alexanderwohl.org))  
Deacons: Sandy Banman, Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Ruth Goertzen, Bryant Miller, Jim Schmidt

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## CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

### Western District Conference

Give thanks for gifts received by WDC's Hope Fund, bringing encouragement to congregations and leaders impacted by the pandemic and natural disasters.

### Mennonite Mission Network

Today is Indigenous Peoples Day. Pray that the descendants of White settlers and the descendants of the inhabitants of Turtle Island (North America) will listen to each other and work together for justice. Pray also for the mission workers who join with Indigenous peoples who are reclaiming their lands and their cultures.

## COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Marion County Core Communities

**Change the world with one dollar a day challenge.** Marion County Core Community is looking for 100 brave and generous people who will pledge \$1 a day or \$30 a month for one year. \$1 a day can solve poverty by inviting families experiencing poverty to a safe place where their voices are heard, they are treated with honor and dignity as they unpack their lives, gain new relationships and build resources. Text or call Mark Rogers @ 620-877-0899. All gifts are tax deductible.

### Newton Et Cetera Shop

**Newton Et Cetera Shop is getting ready for the holidays!** Our **Christmas Shop will open on Wednesday, November 3**, and we'll continue putting out new holiday items throughout the remainder of the season. Please consider decorating your home or workplace with secondhand decor! We also have many gift items for sale during the holidays, including some extra special items such a diamond ring, local railroad memorabilia, and vintage German, Italian and American Christmas decor.

If the holidays have you in a sharing mood, you might consider purchasing **\$10 Newton Et Cetera Shop gift cards for one of our many community partners!** We regularly donate \$10 gift cards to Safehope, Newton USD 373, New Hope Shelter, Salvation Army, Peace Connections, EmberHope, Mirror, and New Jerusalem Missions. If you'd like to give our gift cards to any of those organizations, you can deliver them yourself or leave them with us to deliver. These gift cards support community members in urgent need AND support the mission and vision of the Newton Et Cetera Shop!

If you're interested in **becoming a volunteer at the Shop**, we're holding new volunteer orientations on Thurs. 10/16/21 6-7 PM and Thurs. 11/11/21 6-7 PM. Join us to learn more about volunteering at our shop!

Newton Et Cetera Shop employees and volunteers are **available to speak** with your Sunday school class or your small group, and our general manager will even preach at your church! We welcome invitations to learn about us, and we **welcome your prayers** for our faithful service as a Christian resource for meeting human needs.

Newton Et Cetera Shop is a nonprofit thrift shop at 619 N. Main in Newton, Kan., supporting Mennonite Central Committee and local partners. The Shop aims to **share God's love with all creation--inside our thrift shop, in the local community, and around the world.**

### Camp Mennoscah

**There are volunteer opportunities for you (and a Wish List)!** Camp Mennoscah has year-round work to support the maintenance and upkeep of the campus and facilities. We can accommodate every group size, skill set and length of project you would like to tackle. Check out these ways to **Get Involved!** Email [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org) or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer. **[See the Wish List for other ways to support Camp Mennoscah!](#)**

### Bethel College

**In the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College: "Roots and Wings: Our Gift from Mother Nature," a group exhibition by the Springdale Arts and Nature Center, Halstead, including sculpture by Beth Vannatta, through Oct. 22.** Gallery hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun, 2-4 p.m. *Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing and mask-wearing indoors regardless of vaccination status.*

**Sun., Oct. 31 – Bethel College fall choral showcase, “Bethel Sings,” featuring small and large groups, 4 p.m.**  
NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION to the Ad Building steps, or Memorial Hall in case of rain.

**Fri., Nov. 5 – Although the 2021 Worship and the Arts Symposium at Bethel College, “Joining Voices Together,” has been postponed** due to COVID precautions, **the “Voices Together” art exhibition will still take place as planned**, with original artwork from the *Voices Together* hymnal on display Oct. 29-Nov. 19 in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center on campus. With the cooperation of the Menno Simons Lecture endowment, **Jan Kraybill, Kansas City, will be speaking twice on the Bethel campus on Nov. 5, at 11 a.m. (regular Friday convocation in Memorial Hall) and at 7 p.m. in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.** A reception for the exhibit will follow the evening lecture.

IN ADDITION, Rachel Epp Buller, professor of visual arts and design at Bethel and gallery and exhibit coordinator, is **available to church groups who would like to visit the “Voices Together” exhibit in the evenings or on weekends outside regular hours.** Contact her at [rebuller@bethelks.edu](mailto:rebuller@bethelks.edu) to set up a time between Oct. 29-Nov. 19.

### **Mennonite Central Committee**

**MCC in North Newton currently has over 800 sets of comforter tops and backs that need to be tied**, as well as kits of fabric that can be sewn into more tops. MCC’s partners all around the world value these handmade comforters as useful, beautiful and tangible expressions of love. If you or your sewing group would be interested in tying or sewing for MCC, or if you have questions and are curious about how to make a comforter, please contact Kate Mast at the MCC Material Resources Center at [katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org), or 316-283-2720.

**Take action to advocate for Haitian asylum seekers** by urging President Biden to immediately halt deportation flights to Haiti. Following the biblical call to welcome the stranger, MCC is asking that all deportation flights to Haiti be halted immediately and is seeking respect for basic human rights at the U.S./Mexico border. [Take action today!](#)

### **Dyck Arboretum of the Plains**

You are invited to join the staff, board and members of the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains on Sunday, October 10 from 4 to 6 pm for a celebration of 40 years in Hesston! Hot dogs, hamburgers, beans, chips and birthday cake and ice cream will be served from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Some seating will be available - but feel free to bring other picnic goodies you might need to comfortably spread out around the grounds! A scavenger hunt and other self-guided activities will be set up and each family will get to take home a free tree to plant! The Flannelbacks will be making music on the Pavilion patio AND...Amy Sharp Photography will be there to take portraits.

### **Hesston College**

Bel Canto Singers presents “Deep Peace”, a concert for community. Sunday, October 24, 2:00 pm Hesston Mennonite Church. See poster on bulletin boards for more info.

Sunflower Performing Arts at Hesston College presents *Sunflower Soiree*, Sunday, October 31, 3:00 pm, Hesston Mennonite Church. See flyer in lobby for more details.

*Here in This Place*

VT 10

1 – Here in this place, the new light is streaming; now are the shadows vanished away. See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, our spirits inflame. Call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 – We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry. We are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong. Give us a heart so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

3 – Here we will take the wine of compassion; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here we become the people you fashion: children of God, to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine ever flowing, give us to eat the bread that is you. Nourish us well, and guide us in growing lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 – Not just in buildings, dim and confining; not in some heaven, light-years away: here in this place, the new light is shining; now is the dawning and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own. Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Listen in the Silence*

VT 541

Listen in the silence; listen in the noise; listen for the sound of the Spirit's voice.

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

VT 120

1 – For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

5 -- For each perfect gift and sign to this world so freely giv'n; graces human and divine, love uniting earth and heav'n: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

*From the Waters I Will Rise*

VT 442

1 – From the waters I will rise – I will rise and walk.

Wipe the water from my eyes – walk with me in Christ, walk with me.

2 -- From my kneeling I will stand – I will stand and sing.

Reach for me and take my hand – sing with me, walk with me.

3 -- From my wond'ring I will know – I will know and dream.

Sharing wisdom, we will grow – dream with me, dream with me.

4 -- From my death I'm born anew – born anew, I live.

Come and see what God will do – live with me in Christ, live with me in Christ.

*Seek Ye First*

VT 417

1 – Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

2 – Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!