

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVII

October 17, 2021

No. 42



Welcome to Alexanderwohl! Accountability is an essential word in Anabaptist vocabulary. But what does it mean? It has become a "buzz word" in our culture in recent times. Palmer Becker believes that accountability happens most effectively in small groups where people know each other well and trust each other deeply. He writes, "...being part of a Spirit-filled small group may be the closest we will come to experiencing the kingdom of God on earth." (pg. 95-96)

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music	<i>Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal</i> ~Martin <i>Prelude on 'Ellacombe'</i> ~Payne	Mary Schmidt
Welcome and Opportunities for Celebration and Service		Ben Schrag
Opening Prayer		VT 861
*Gathering Songs	<i>We Sing to You, O God</i> <i>From the Waters I Will Rise</i>	VT 80 VT 442
Children's Story		Ben Schrag
Congregational Song	<i>Heart with Loving Heart United</i>	VT 813
Morning Prayer		Pastor Caleb Yoder
Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings		First Fruits Giving
Offertory	<i>He Leadeth Me</i> ~Payne	
*Prayer of Dedication		VT 1023

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading	Acts 2:42-47	Tammy Flaming
Message	Accountability – the toughest job you'll ever love	Pastor Lois Harder
Time of Response		

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Song of Response	<i>Help Us to Help Each Other</i>	VT 722
*Benediction		VT 818
*Postlude	<i>Postlude in G Minor</i> ~Smith	Mary Schmidt

***Please stand if able**

Song Leader: Renae Peters

Greeters: North - Jim and Mary Schmidt; South – Kevin and Bonnie Gaeddert

Nursery Staff: Aileen Esau and Laura Unrau

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

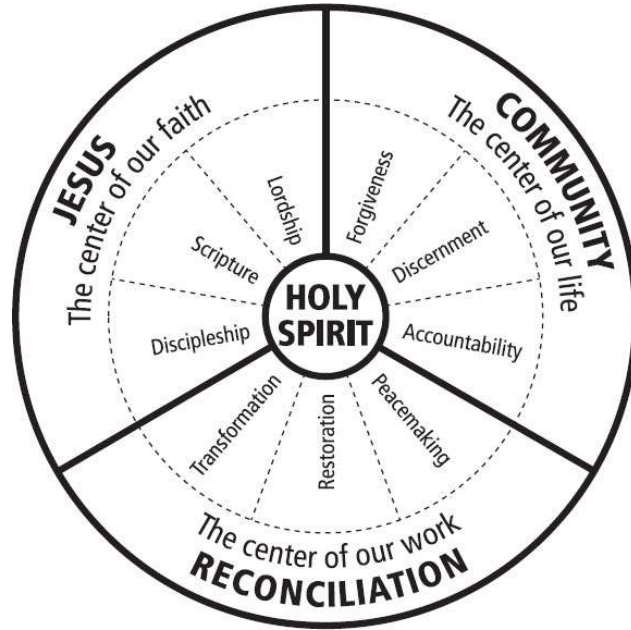
Worship Technology: Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth, Steve Unruh

October 10 Attendance: 115 in person for the outdoor service

Questions for Reflection – Acts 2:42-47

1. Is the kind of church Becker describes (made up of small groups) realistic? Why? Why not?
2. When or where are you experiencing (or have you experienced) Christian community?
3. What steps could you take to seek accountability for yourself?

Anabaptist Essentials: Join us next Sunday as we proclaim the Good News of God’s reconciliation with us. Our scripture reading will be 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. If you are reading *Anabaptist Essentials* by Palmer Becker, we encourage you to read chapter 7.



Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for healing and recuperation. Judy Unruh came home from the rehab unit this past Wednesday and is continuing to heal at home. Thanks be to God!
- ❖ We pray for the people of Lebanon in the midst of unrest, violence, and economic meltdown.
- ❖ We ask for your peace and mercy God, in places where there is fear, violence or unrest. We pray for those who are immigrants, seeking safety. We pray for innocent victims who were killed as they were at Friday prayers. We pray for those who are working sacrificially to care for the earth. We pray for your protection for those who are in abusive, fearful situations and for guidance for those who advocate on their behalf.

Coming Events

Today, Sunday, October 17	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Worship Service in person and on Zoom
	7:00 pm	Peace Committee’s TED Talk – Climate Change
Monday, October 18	7:00 pm	Board of Worship
Wednesday, October 20	6:30 pm	Midweek Activities
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

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, November 19
- Friday, December 17

Mentor/Mentee Fall Gathering is next Sunday, Oct. 24 @ 5pm. Meet at the shelter house for outdoor activities and supper. **Bring a lawn chair.** Please return your 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. Mentor/Mentee pairs- please communicate with each other to plan to attend this event. Activities are planned for pairs.

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) or by calling Bethesda Home 620.367.2291. See flyer on bulletin board for more details.

MCC Meat Canning will be November 9, 10 & 11. The cost of meat has more than doubled in price this year. If you would like to make a contribution for the meat: please make your check payable to MCC, list Hillsboro Area Meat Canning in the memo. Checks may be sent to: Ken Koslowsky, 127 North Main Street, Hillsboro, Ks 67063.

Thank you – Dear Alexanderwohl deacons, pastors, and church family as a whole – I cannot fully express in words how thankful we are for all of the kindness, love and support you have all given us (and continue to give us) during this challenging transition in our lives. It is truly amazing and humbling to see how much kindness there is in this world, and certainly within our local community. Thank you so very much for your part in helping us remember that! Sincerely, Robyn Hartvickson, Ethan Harris, Aida and Riley

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church
1304 K-15 Hwy. PO Box 8 Goessel, KS 67053
Phone: 620.367.8192 email: amc@alexanderwohl.org website: www.alexanderwohl.org

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

CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

Western District Conference

Give thanks for WDC's Resource Library in Kansas, and its Texas branch, and pray that these resources would be used to nurture spiritual growth and vitality for WDC congregations, leaders and members of all ages.

Mennonite Mission Network

Mennonite Mission Network's partner, Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, is meeting with international representatives in Burkina Faso and Congo this month. Pray for wisdom, as church leaders from many countries, including first-time representation from the Angolan Mennonite churches, evaluate their ministries and discern God's direction.

COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tabor Church's Mennonite Men Chicken BBQ

Thursday, November 4 is the date set for the 2021 Tabor Church Mennonite Men Chicken BBQ. Once again, it will be a "Drive-By" from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Donations will be received that evening for our Mission Partners, the Givens family, and Bethesda Home.

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.

Camp Mennoscah

Today -- The dam at Camp Mennoscah will be removed on October 17! The fun will begin at approximately 2pm. All are welcome to help with removing and cleaning the boards or simply to watch. The dam will be removed whatever the weather, unless deemed dangerous. Contact Camp Mennoscah if you have questions.

Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat, November 5-7, at Camp Mennoscah! Register at www.campmennoscah.org! There is only one Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat. Lodging will be in the Retreat Center and cropping/crafting will be in the Main Camp dining hall. Space heaters will be available for both areas since the repairs for the furnaces will not be complete by the beginning of November. Masks encouraged when inside.

Summer is practically tomorrow (plus 8 months)! Camp Mennoscah will be recruiting for 2022 summer staff on Nov. 8 at Hesston, Nov. 9 at Tabor, and November 10 at Bethel College with other Mennonite Camping Association camps. Tables are usually outside or near the cafeteria. We'll be there from mid-morning through lunch.

Send camp up in flames! The brush piles from the month-long tree trimming this past spring are ready to burn! Get a group together and schedule a day to burn (wind speed permitting). We'll keep trying until a day works! Contact Camp Mennoscah at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290.

Thank you for granting wishes! We are grateful for the recent donations of items off the Wish List. Thank you! The list has more wishes and there are more projects to do. 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 or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer. See the Wish List for other ways to support Camp Mennoscah!

Camp Mennoscah has openings for a part-time custodial/housekeeping position (10 hours) and a part-time office/administrative position (30 hours with benefits). Some of the office/administrative tasks can be done from home. Contact Olivia at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org for more information.

Camp Mennoscah is seeking a full-time Director of Development, Marketing & Communications to lead our ongoing operational and advancement needs. This position reports directly to the Board of Directors while taking directive from the Executive Director when related to operational considerations. As a member of a small, very hands-on staff, the role is expected to be highly collaborative. This professional must embrace the mission of Camp Mennoscah, have an established background in coordinating nonprofit donation strategies, possess strong written, interpersonal, leadership and relationship building skills, and work as an independent contributor with good organization and follow-through. Most of the work will commence off campus, however some in-person time at camp is required.

Bethel College

Last week to see "Roots and Wings: Our Gift from Mother Nature," a group exhibition by the Springdale Printmakers with sculpture by Beth Vannatta (all associated with the Springdale Arts and Nature Center, Halstead), in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College through Friday, Oct. 22. The gallery is closed Mon.-Tues., Oct. 18-19, for Bethel's fall break, and open 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. *Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols recommend physical distancing and mask-wearing indoors.*

Sun., Oct. 31 – Bethel College fall choral showcase, "Bethel Sings," featuring the Concert Choir, Women's Ensemble, Woven and Open Road, 4 p.m. NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION to Memorial Hall. *Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing and mask-wearing indoors for groups of 10 or more people, regardless of vaccination status.*

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 on an evening or weekend outside regular hours**. Contact her at 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, 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!](#)

Hesston College

Bel Canto Singers Fall Concert: [Deep Peace](#) – Oct. 24, 2 p.m. at Hesston Mennonite Church

The program is inspired by this year's theme verse at Hesston College, Ephesians 4:2-3, in which Paul calls Christians to lift each other up in community. Masks required for audience; all performers are fully vaccinated and will sing without masks. www.hesston.edu/livestream 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.

Mennonite Disaster Service

Mennonite Disaster Service Region 3 Annual Meeting November 12-13, Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S. Main St, Hesston KS. Keynote speaker Friday evening: Kevin King Registration online or via phone – see postcard on south lobby bulletin board.

First Mennonite Church – Halstead Hog Roast

On Sunday, October 24 from 5-7pm, First Mennonite Church of Halstead, KS will be having a Hog Roast. This pulled pork meal will be by donation with proceeds going towards the WDC Hope Fund. This fund provides financial support for WDC congregations affected by Covid-19 and other disasters. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs and enjoy music provided by the Smokey Valley Bluegrass Band. This event will be at the South Park Gazebo located at 3rd and Locust Street in Halstead. We look forward to seeing you there!

WDC Final Thursday Book Discussion

The October 28th WDC Library Zoom discussion will be on *Who Are Our Enemies and How Do We Love Them?* by Hyung Jin Kim Sun. What did Jesus demonstrate and teach about loving enemies? How is nonviolence connected to Christian faith and spirituality? Isn't violence sometimes necessary? This book leads toward a deeper faith as we consider how to live with enemies in a violent world. See more about the book from Herald Press. Email crlib@mennowdc.org to borrow a copy of the book and to register for the discussion.

The Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty Event

The Kansas Coalition Against the Death Penalty invites you to its 2021 Abolition Conference: “United Against the Death Penalty: All Roads Lead to Repeal”. This virtual event will be held on Saturday November 6, 2021 from 1 to 3 p.m. on Zoom.

Panelists are:

Mary Head, murder victim family member;

Dalton Glasscock, former Chair Sedgwick County Republican Party;

Kevin Willmott, award winning director and screen writer, KU Department of Film and Media Studies;

Rev. Willmar Harder, pastor Buhler Mennonite Church; and

Julia Spainhour, chief attorney of Kansas Capital Habeas Office.

This event is open to KCADP members and the general public. To register and get your Zoom link, send an email to info@ksabolition.org and include your name and address.

WDC delegates approved a resolution against the death penalty on August 8, 2009. In this resolution it states “We call upon the congregations of the Western District Conference to support efforts to change the public policy toward the elimination of the death penalty.” WDC's statement on the death penalty can be found [here](#).

We Sing to You, O God

VT 80

1 – We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth. Let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth. To you, O God, let songs be raised, in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

2 – We wandered far from home out in a desert land. You shielded with your love our fearful pilgrim band. You kept us safe within your arms, and sheltered us against the storm.

3 – You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young, who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun. We ride the vaults of light and air, and trust in your unfailing care.

4 – O God, eternal God, we hide within your wings, the everlasting arms to whom our praises ring. Your word is true, your way is just, you are the God in whom we trust.

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.

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, sing with me.

4 – From my death I'm born anew – born anew, I live. Come and see what God will do – live with me, dream with me in Christ, live with me in Christ.

Heart with Loving Heart United

VT 813

1 – Heart with loving heart united, met to know God's holy will. Let this love, in us ignited, more and more our spirits fill. He the head, we are his members, we reflect the light he is. He the master, we disciples, he is ours and we are his.

2 – May we all so love each other and all selfish claims deny, so that each one for the other will not hesitate to die. Even so our Lord has loved us, for our lives he gave his life. Still he grieves and still he suffers, for our selfishness and strife.

3 – Since, O Lord, you have demanded that our lives your love should show, so we wait to be commanded forth into your world to go. Kindle in us love's compassion so that ev'ryone may see in our fellowship the promise of a new humanity.

Help Us to Help Each Other

VT 722

1 – Help us to help each other, Lord, each other's load to bear, that all may live in true accord, our joys and pains to share.

2 – Help us to build each other up, your strength within us prove. Increase our faith, confirm our hope and fill us with your love.

3 – Jesus, united by your grace, and each to each endeared, with confidence we seek your face and know our prayer is heard.

4 – Drawn by the magnet of your love, we find our hearts made new. Nearer each other let us move, and nearer still to you.