



Welcome to Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church! This Sunday we finish our ten-week worship and teaching series of Anabaptist Essentials. As we strengthen our understanding of core Anabaptist emphases and deepen our commitment to expressing a Jesus-centered faith in daily life, we can't forget the crucial ingredient of the Holy Spirit. The transforming power of the Spirit empowers us to begin living out what we say we believe and connects us with God's movement in the world.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music	<i>I Believe</i> ~Miller	Elbiata Singers
	<i>Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying</i> ~arr. Schrader	
Welcome and Opportunities for Celebration and Service		Pastor Caleb Yoder
Call to Worship & Prayer of Invocation		Psalm 146:1-2, 6-10 CEB
Leader: Praise the LORD! Let my whole being praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with all my life;		
People: I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.		
Leader: God: the maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,		
People: God: who is faithful forever,		
Leader: who gives justice to people who are oppressed, who gives bread to people who are starving!		
People: The LORD: who frees prisoners.		
Leader: The LORD: who makes the blind see.		
People: The LORD: who straightens up those who are bent low.		
Leader: The LORD: who loves the righteous.		
People: The LORD: who protects immigrants,		
Leader: who helps orphans and widows, but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!		
People: The LORD will rule forever!		
Leader: Zion, your God will rule from one generation to the next!		
All: Praise the LORD!		
*Gathering Song	<i>Holy Spirit, Come with Power</i>	VT 57
Children's Story		Rosi Reimer
Morning Prayer		Pastor Lois Harder
Worship Music	<i>Like a River</i> ~Osiek	Elbiata Singers
Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings		First Fruits Giving
Offertory	<i>Hear My Prayer</i> ~Hogan	Elbiata Singers
*Prayer of Dedication		Pastor Lois
Song of Faith	<i>Waterfall</i>	VT 763
	HEARING GOD'S WORD	
Scripture Reading	Luke 3:21-22, 4:1-2, 14-19	Glen Unrau
Message	<i>"Empowered by the Spirit"</i>	Pastor Caleb
Song of Response	<i>As the Wind Song through the Trees</i>	VT 373
Responding to the Gospel	(Open sharing)	

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Sending Song

Move in Our Midst

VT 827

*Benediction

Peace I Leave With You ~Shue

Elbiata Singers

*Please stand if able

+ 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.

We are happy to welcome the **Elbiata Singers** from Goessel High School joining us today:
Soprano -- Adriana Duerksen, Emily Flaming, Cheyenne Sawyer, Emma Schroeder, Miranda Tyler, Jasmine Woelk

Alto -- Alyssa Boden, Kaleigh Guhr, Annalise Miller, Mallory Schroeder, Brooklyn Wuest

Tenor -- Jacob Schrag, Timothy Schrag, Logan Sterk, Jake Wiens, Skyler Wuest

Bass -- Eli Boden, Caleb Burkholder, Dominic Englestad, Jake Flaming, Riley Hartvickson

Song Leader: Braden Unruh

Organist and Accompanist for Elbiata: Marcia Brubaker

Guitar: Kevin Gaeddert and Eric Schrag

Greeters: North – Kim Voth; South – Denise Duerksen

Visual Arts: LaNae Unruh

Nursery Staff: Beth Yoder and Chrystiana Miller

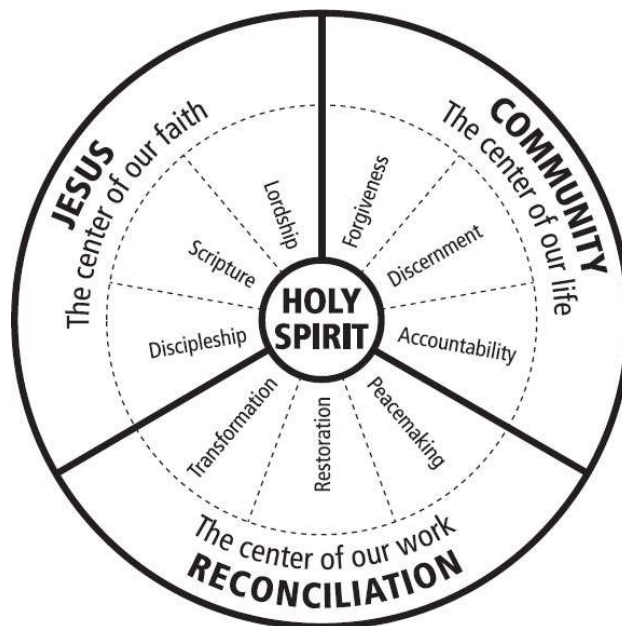
Worship Technology: Myron Goertzen, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth, and Steve Unruh

November 14 Attendance: 156 in person; 8 households on Zoom

Questions for Reflection – Luke 3:21-22, 4:1-2, 14-19 -- Holy Spirit

1. What image of the Holy Spirit speaks the most to you?
2. How do you define a "Spirit-filled" Christian?
3. How might an emphasis on the power and movement of the Spirit help us avoid becoming too focused on our own performance?

This **Advent season** we will look at Old Testament prophecies of hope that model faithful imagination of God. Next Sunday's passage will be from Jeremiah 33:14-16.



Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We continue to pray for Bethesda Home and all nursing home administrators, staff and residents as they struggle to maintain health and well-being.
- ❖ We pray for those in the Northwest of the U.S. and Canada where there have been torrential rains and flooding.
- ❖ We pray for those who have fled their homes and are in need of shelter, food, water... the basic necessities of life.
- ❖ We pray for health and a spirit of gratitude as many of us gather with family over the Thanksgiving holiday this week.

Coming Events

Today, Sunday, November 21	9:30 am	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30am	Worship Service in person and on Zoom
	2:00 – 4:00 pm	Goessel Community JH Event at Tabor Park
Monday, November 22	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
Wednesday, November 24		NO Midweek Activities
Thursday, November 25	9:50 am	Organ Prelude
	10:00 am	Thanksgiving Day Service
		Church Offices Closed
Friday, November 26		Church Offices Closed
Sunday, November 28		First Sunday of Advent
Wednesday, December 1	6:30 pm	Midweek Activities
Thursday, December 2	7:30 pm	Board of Deacons
Saturday, December 4	9:30 am	Daughters of Grace Christmas program/fellowship time
Wednesday, December 8	6:30 pm	Midweek Activities
	7:00 pm	Board of Trustees
Sunday, December 12	7:30 pm	Christmas Brass Concert at Goessel High School

Junior High Event Today: All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders from the Goessel community are invited to a fall afternoon of human foosball, outdoor games, and s'mores this afternoon (Sunday) from 2-4 pm at the Tabor Church Park. This is the first event of the year with more coming in the spring/summer. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thursday is Thanksgiving! There will be a worship service here at Alexanderwohl at 10:00 a.m., based on Psalm 46 – “The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge”. Brief reflections will be offered by Steve Banman, Cambry Duerksen (through her art), a litany written by Judy Unruh and words from the pastors. Between reflections will be hymns and prayers. Organ prelude will begin at 9:50 am.

As of Monday, November 15, the church security system will be disarmed at 8:00 am and reset at 10:00 pm. The south office door will be unlocked Monday through Friday from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. After office hours or on weekends you may enter the church building between 8:00 am – 10:00 pm with your key or keypad number. Please be aware that a breach of the security system may result in alarms being triggered. If you need to enter the church building before 8 am, contact the church office or one of the trustees to make arrangements.

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

- Friday, December 17
- Friday, January 21

The Christmas Giving Tree - Tags will be available on the tree at the Crossroads Credit Union on **Tuesday, November 23**. All gifts need to be wrapped and returned to the Credit Union by **Monday, December 13**. The gifts will be distributed by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. If you have questions, contact one of the pastors.

There will be a Sharing Time for children during the Christmas Eve program. This will be pre-recorded in the church sanctuary on Wednesday, December 8 in the evening. If your child/grandchild would like to participate in this part of the program, please respond to the online sign-up form emailed to families or contact Susan Nafziger (nafziger@mtelco.net or 620-367-4623) by Sunday, November 28. Thank you!

“Dare to Imagine!”, Mennonite Church USA's annual Advent at Home worship guide, is now available. It follows the worship theme, can be printed or read from a device, covers Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, is flexible (use all or some of the activities), and is for all ages, children through mature adults. Download the free guide here <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/advent-at-home/> or pick up a printed copy from one of the lobbies.

November 30, 2021 is #GivingTuesday, A National Day of Giving (following #BlackFriday, a National Day of Spending). Representatives of the Goessel Community Foundation, Bethesda Home, and Mennonite Heritage & Agriculture Museum will be available from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Goessel Community Building to accept your year-end donations.

Belia Goossen writes: “Greetings from Southwestern Kansas! Thanks for all the cards, prayers and contributions to the Lucinda Goossen Memorial Fund. I was very moved.” She is happy to be living near both Carmelita and Alexander and she exhorts us to keep the faith, keep praying and keep in touch!

The Christmas Brass Concert will take place Sunday, December 12, at 7:30 pm at the Goessel High School gymnasium. This event is sponsored by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance.

As the end of 2021 approaches, we want to say Thank You for your partnership throughout the year. As of 9/30, New Hope Shelter had already served more than 200 men, women and children this year. The loving support of our church volunteers and supporters enables us to serve those in crisis for short windows of time as they find stability and start anew. A recent quote from a former resident who is employed full-time in a steady job since New Hope: *“Through the small group opportunities that were offered, the many one on one encounters with staff and volunteers, I experienced the love of God in new and powerful ways. The holidays could have been very sad and depressing. Instead, they were some of the most meaningful times I have experienced in recent years.”* We invite your continued prayers and support as we continue to serve, love and equip in the months ahead. ~New Hope Shelter, 900 W. Broadway, Building 7, Newton. 316-283-7711

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church
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Deacons: Sandy Banman, Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Ruth Goertzen, Bryant Miller, Jim Schmidt

CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

Western District Conference

Give thanks for God's faithfulness, goodness and generosity, and the many ways that WDC congregations share these gifts so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

Mennonite Mission Network

Liz Breckbill and Erin McWilliams are participants in Mennonite Mission Network's Alamosa, Colorado, Mennonite Voluntary Service unit. Pray for them as they extend the ministry of the Anabaptist Fellowship of Alamosa, through educating local youth on environmental issues in their community and contributing to environmental restoration.

COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Mennoscah

Giving Tuesday is November 30. There aren't any gimmicks this year to encourage you to give, just stories. Remember the camper who stayed after campfire to talk to counselors about faith and life struggles. Think of the awe-filling trips in inner tubes down the river at night and the campfires with the starry heavens above. Spend a moment with your own memories of Camp Mennoscah. Encourage everyone to follow Jesus Christ by supporting the faith formation ministry of Camp Mennoscah here. Checks can be sent to Camp Mennoscah, PO Box 65, Murdock, KS 67111.

We are grateful for you! We continue to get calls from volunteers and receive gifts of items off the Wish List. These items and projects help with the faith formation that happens at Camp Mennoscah. 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! and support camp's ministry. Email office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer. See the Wish List for other ways to support Camp Mennoscah!

Bethel College

Mon., Nov. 22 – Bethel College Wind Ensemble Winter Concert, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing and mask-wearing indoors with groups of 10 or more.

Sat., Dec. 4 – Five Places of Christmas, the annual holiday open house, includes Kauffman Museum and Goerz House on the Bethel College campus, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. No charge for admission. The Bethel College Women's Association (BCWA) is the host at Goerz House, where there will be baked goods and other items for sale. Please plan to wear a face covering indoors and follow all COVID-19 protocols requested by the venue. (Other locations: Warkentin House, Harvey County Historical Museum and Carriage Factory Gallery, all in Newton.)

Hesston College

The Peacing It Together Foundation and the Wichita Global Faith In Action Organization invites you to the I Go On Singing Show featuring Anthony Brown on Sunday Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. This event will take place at the Iasis Christian Center, 1914 E. 11th St. North, an African American congregation in the Wichita community. Anthony Brown, internationally acclaimed baritone singer, will present an original tribute to Paul Robeson, a towering figure in 20th century American History. –

Music and Theatre Present: Home For Christmas, Hesston Mennonite Church, Dec. 4, 7 pm. You are invited to a theatre and music performance that explores what coming "home for Christmas" means for a diversity of people and cultures. All performers fully vaccinated for COVID-19 will perform without masks. Audience members are required to wear masks. No tickets are required, but a free-will offering will be accepted following the performance. Program and livestream available at www.hesston.edu/music.

Mennonite Church USA

Are you looking for a meaningful Christmas gift for friends or family? Give a gift of peace and inspiration with the "Pause: Play, Breathe, Pray" card deck! Developed by Mennonite Church USA Faith Formation leaders, each card has a different image on one side and a prayerful pause on the other. Learn more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/pause-play-breathe-pray>

Holy Spirit, Come with Power

VT 57

1 -- Holy Spirit, come with power, breathe into our aching night. We expect you this glad hour, waiting for your strength and light. We are fearful, we are ailing, we are weak and selfish too. Break upon your congregation, give us vigor, life anew.

2 -- Holy Spirit, come with fire, burn us with your presence new. Let us as one mighty choir sing our hymn of praise to you. Burn away our wasted sadness and enflame us with your love. Burst upon your congregation, give us gladness from above.

3 -- Holy Spirit, bring your message, burn and breathe each word anew deep into our tired living till we strive your work to do. Teach us love and trusting kindness, lend our hands to those who hurt. Breathe upon your congregation and inspire us with your Word.

Text: Anne Neufeld Rupp (USA), © 1970 Anne Neufeld Rupp, trans. Barbara Mink (USA), © 1988

O my Savior, I give you glory, my Redeemer, my God and Friend. There is no one, oh so holy, and this love will never end.

1 – I can't think of anywhere, anywhere I would want to be more than with you. I can't think of anything, anything I would rather do than give you glory. Come, my Savior, on the clouds; Holy Spirit, speed the hour. I will shout out loud the message: "Freedom is coming and the moment is now."

Refrain: Let your rain come down all around. Let the thunder sound, shake the ground. Let the waterfall pound, breaking down all the lies you found under me. Let the sightless see, let them see. Set the bound ones free, set them free. Water fall on me, waterfall, I have sought your heart, hear me call. Reveal who you are; set things right in this world. Reveal who you are; teach us how to rebuild.

2 -- See the power of evil injustice: captive people, fam'lies, and dreams. See the city in the desert, vacant now without a stream. God will come in a whisper; love and hope the water God brings. Watch the stream become a river bringing life where death has been. (Refrain)

3 -- I am here to speak a message, tell the truth that will set you free. I proclaim, "Freedom to the captives, freedom to you in Jesus' name!" By the power of the Spirit, comfort comes to the people who mourn. In the Jubilee that's rising, good news comes to the suffering poor. (Refrain)

O my Savior, I give you glory, my Redeemer, my God and Friend. There is no one, oh so holy, and this love will never end.

Text: Jonathan Reuel (USA), 1995, 2013 rev. 2019, © 1995 Jonathan Reuel

As the Wind Song through the Trees

VT 373

1 -- As the wind song through the trees, as the stirring of the breeze, so it is with the Spirit of God; as the heart made strangely warm, as the voice within the storm, so it is with the Spirit of God. Never seen, ever known where this wind has blown, bringing life, bringing pow'r to the world, as the dancing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep desire, so it is with the Spirit of God.

2 -- As the rainbow after rain, as the hope that's born again, so it is with the Spirit of God; as the green in the spring, as a kite on a string, so it is with the Spirit of God, making worlds that are new, making peace come true, bringing gifts, bringing love to the world; as the rising of the yeast, as the wine at the feast, so it is with the Spirit of God.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray (Aotearoa New Zealand), 2004, © 2005 Hope Publishing Company

Move in Our Midst

VT 827

1 – Move in our midst, thou Spirit of God. Go with us down from thy holy hill. Walk with us through the storm and the calm. Spirit of God, go thou with us still.

2 – Touch thou our hands to lead us aright. Guide us forever, show us thy way. Transform our darkness into thy light. Spirit of God, lead thou us today.

3 – Strike from our feet the fetters that bind. Lift from our lives the weight of our wrong. Teach us to love with heart, soul, and mind. Spirit of God, thy love makes us strong.

4 – Kindle our hearts to burn with thy flame. Raise up thy banners high in this hour. Stir us to build new worlds in thy name. Spirit of God, O send us thy pow'r!

Text: Kenneth I. Morse (USA), 1942, 1949, *The Brethren Hymnal*, 1951