

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

May 1, 2022

No. 18



A worm welcome to our worship at Alexander's bowl! Today we continue to celebrate Jesus' resurrection with humor. Multiple Christian traditions have emphasized laughter in the season of Easter, because the resurrection is God's last laugh over death. Today we consider God's sense of humor.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Ave Verum* ~Mozart Jared Janzen
Trumpet Tune ~arr. S. Drummond Wolff

Welcome Pastor Caleb Yoder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation (excerpts of Psalm 66 CEB)

Leader: Shout joyfully to God, all the earth!

Sing praises to the glory of God's name! Make glorious his praise!

**People: All the earth worships you, sings praises to you,
sings praises to your name!**

Leader: Come and see God's deeds;
his works for human beings are awesome

**People: All you nations, bless our God! Let the sound of his praise be
heard! God preserved us among the living;
he didn't let our feet slip a bit.**

***Gathering Hymns** *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* VT 348
Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia! CCCXLI

Peace Prayer+ Karl Brubaker

Children's Story Aileen Esau

Wholly Humor Karl Brubaker

Morning Prayer Kris Schmucker

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings First Fruits Giving

Offertory *Consolation* ~Mendelssohn Jared Janzen

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Caleb

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Numbers 11:4-23, 31-33 Matthew Voth

Monologue of Moses Lynel Unrau
Message "Biblical humor" Pastor Caleb
(If you need to leave during the sermon, please do so quietly)
Song of Response *Let There Be Light* VT 714 [Tune of 71]
Responding to the Gospel (Open sharing)

SENT AS GOD’S PEOPLE

***Sending Song** *May the Face of God Shine on You* eight-four-four
Benediction Pastor Caleb
***Postlude** *Lobe den Herren ~Walther* Jared Janzen

*All who are able are invited to stand.

+ 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.

Song Leader: Renae Peters

Djembe: Lynel Unrau

Greeters: North – Josh and Nicole Hein
 South – DeAlan and Alma Unrau

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Aileen Esau, Cambry Duerksen, Beth Yoder

Worship Technology: Steve Unruh, Steve Goertzen, Delton Voth

April 24 Attendance: 178 In person, 14 Zoom households

Questions for Reflection – Numbers 11:4-23, 31-33

1. In what ways does God speak through humor?
2. Do you see humor in Scripture? If so, what is it there for?
3. How can we let the joy and hope of the resurrection be more than a yearly tradition or idea in the head, and penetrate our hearts?

Next Sunday on Mother’s Day, we celebrate the tender lives of young children and dedicate Reagan Laine Hiebert and her parents Brittany and Garrett to the nurture of Christian faith. The sermon will be based on Mark 10:13-16 and Deuteronomy 11:1-2, 18-21.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Mary and Brent Rauh and the Spurlin children as their family experiences some major burdens.
- ❖ We pray for Goessel High seniors as they approach their final weeks of high school, and students of all ages in the stress and busyness of this time of year.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, May 2

5:30 pm Board of Christian Education

7:00 pm Church Council

Tuesday, May 3

9:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 4

6:45–8:00 pm High School Youth

6:30 pm Children's Ministry Team – Chapel

7:00 pm Board of Trustees – Conference Room

Sunday, May 8 – Mother's Day | Child Dedication

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

COMING EVENTS

May 15 Mission Sunday with Joe Sawatzky

May 15 Come and Go Reception for Zane Unrau and Joyanna Henderson

May 22 Graduate Recognition

May 27-30 JH Camp 412 at Camp Tawakoni, Augusta, KS

May 28-31 Serve at New Hope Shelter

May 29 Memorial Weekend service at 11:45 am (following worship), in the cemetery at the kiosk

June 6-10 Vacation Bible School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The post High School group will meet for Sunday school NEXT Sunday, May 8, at 9:30 in the Shelter House. We'll begin a new, four-part denominational curriculum called "Diversity: God's Design", written specifically for young adults. Come check it out and contribute to the discussion!

Pastor Review Process – A review committee of Sandy Banman, Gretchen Schrag, Kevin Gaeddert, Judy Goertzen, and Kyle Unruh have been working with our WDC consultant, Doug Penner, on a pastoral review. Parts of the review will cover each pastor individually and a part will be for them as a pastoral team. Regular attenders will receive the electronic copy on Friday, May 6, or the printed version on Sunday, May 8. Both need to be returned by the evening of Sunday, May 22. This is a chance for the congregation to help build and shape our church. Please take the time to complete the survey. If you have questions, please direct them to a committee member.

If you will have a graduate in your family this spring, high school, college, or grad school, please let the church office know by May 17 so that we can acknowledge and celebrate the graduates! Graduate recognition will be Sunday, May 22.

Pastor Caleb and Beth will be on vacation in Virginia and Indiana from May 6-16. During this time, you may contact Pastor Lois or one of the deacons for any pastoral concerns.

Megan Duerksen, John Fast and Marilyn Unruh Flaming will be our congregation's delegates to the Mennonite Church-USA Special Assembly in Kansas City on May 27-30. Four resolutions will be considered: (1) Clarity of MC-USA Polity and the Role of Membership Guidelines (2) Repentance and Transformation relating to the LGBTQIA community (subject first to a vote on whether it will be considered) (3) MC-USA Accessibility and (4) MC-USA for Justice (to be studied, but not voted on). Written and webinar information on these resolutions can be read at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/special-delegate-session-22/>. This 7-minute video explains the rationale for the first resolution very well: <https://atlanticcoastconference.net/mcusa-delegate-resources/>. Copies of the printed resolutions are also available in the lobbies. The delegates welcome your wisdom and perspectives. We invite you to study the resolutions and then, after reading them, if you wish to offer input to the delegates, submit your written and signed comments to the box in the south lobby. DUE May 16.

Summer Camp Reminder: \$100.00 scholarships are still available from the Alexanderwohl Board of Education. This is for all children Grade 3 - Grade 12 (fall of 2022) who are planning to attend Camp Mennoscah or Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp this summer. Register at the camp you are attending, then let the church office or Janine Peters, know once you have received confirmation from the camp. Please include the name of the child(ren) and the dates of the camp. If you are planning to volunteer at camp, please let the church office know these dates also.

We would like to extend a huge thank you on behalf of all the Goessel Community Junior Highers for your support at our fundraiser meal last Sunday. It was fun to see our junior highers working together and the fellowship among everyone there after a year off. This ministry wouldn't be possible if not for all of you. Please keep us in your prayers as we anticipate and plan for Camp 412 in a month! Thank you for supporting our youth!
~Michelle Unruh & Laura Unruh

 **Pontius' Puddle**

