

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

May 8, 2022

No. 19



Welcome to our service of worship at Alexanderwohl! Today is Mother's Day - a time to celebrate the gift of family. God has given us opportunities to form and create families as a way to ensure that we grow and thrive. Let's celebrate as parents dedicate themselves and their child to the love and care of God and the church.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *All Things Bright and Beautiful* ~Wood Karen Unruh
 Children of the Heavenly Father ~Hobby
 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good ~Behnke

Welcome Bryant Miller

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+ (verses compiled by Pastor Caleb Yoder)

All: God, we praise you, for you have created and loved each of us as your own children. 1 John

Leader: Your steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting for those who keep your covenant and remember your commandments. Ps. 103

People: You are our shepherd and the light of our salvation; the stronghold of our lives. Psalm 23; Psalm 27

Leader: You are our healer, who binds up our wounds. You give us good things. You are a stronghold to the poor, a shelter from the storm.
Psalm 147; Matthew 7; Isaiah 25

People: We bless you, God, for you are the Father who is full of mercy, the God of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1

Leader: Like a mother comforts her child, so God comforts us. Isaiah 66

All: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. Psalm 36

***Gathering Hymn** *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing* VT 7

Children's Story Delbert Peters

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois Harder

Worship Music Alyssa Burkholder and friends
Go Rest High On that Mountain

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Worship Music | Offertory

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Lois

Graduation Recognition for Alyssa

Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Deuteronomy 11:1-2, 7, 18-21 and Mark 10:13-16 Bryant

Sermon *Teach this to your children* Pastor Lois

Hymn of Response *O Little Children, Gather* VT 515

Child | Parent Dedication

Reagan Laine Hiebert (b. 03.09.22), daughter of Garrett and Brittany Hiebert

Haydin Rose Hiebert (b. 05.02.22), daughter of Weston and Courtney Hiebert

Rosebud and Grandparent Prayer of Blessing

Questions, Response, Blessing

***Congregational Covenant** VT 970

***Song of Response** *Today Earth is Singing* VT 510

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Sending Song** *For the Beauty of the Earth* (omit vs. 3) VT 120

***Benediction** Pastor Lois

***Postlude** *A Rejoicing* ~Fedak Karen Unruh

*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.

Thank you to the vocal trio providing worship music this morning:

Alyssa Burkholder; Luke Huyard (Harrisonburg, Virginia); and Sadie Oesch (Caldwell, Idaho). All are students at Hesston College.

Song Leader: Kyle Unruh

Greeters: North – Brian and Rachael Burkholder

South – Delbert and Janine Peters

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Tina Schrag, Levi Schrag, Liz Schmucker

Worship Technology: DeAlan Unrau, Steve Goertzen, Delton Voth

May 1 Attendance: 148 In person, 4 Zoom households

Next Sunday we'll focus on Mission; **Joe Sawatzky from the Mennonite Mission Network** will bring our morning message. **Scripture will be Acts 11:19-30, "People on the move"**. Joe will also be here for a congregation-wide Sunday school presentation from 9:30-10:20.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Pastor Caleb, Beth, Austin and Josiah as they travel and spend time with family and friends in the coming days. God, grant them safety, energy and blessings as they fellowship.
- ❖ We pray for Irvin Goertzen and his family as they grieve the loss and celebrate the life of Irvin's sister, Edna Ruth Graber who died on April 25 at Schowalter Villa as well as his daughter-in-law, Arylis Goertzen (Dick's wife) who died on April 29 at the Good Samaritan Center in Beatrice, NE. We also pray for Arylis' brothers, Ted, Kermit and sister-in-law Karen Nikkel.
- ❖ We pray for Greg Washmon (husband of Donna Spoonemore, son-in-law of Lois Janzen) as he recovers from a broken knee. Grant him and Donna patience as he heals.
- ❖ We thank you, God, for the families that will be a part of VBS. May your Spirit bring growth and transformation to all, with Jesus at the center of the experience.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, May 9

2:00 pm Prayer Team

5:45 pm Board of Mission and Service

Tuesday, May 10

9:30 am Staff Meeting

Sunday, May 15 – Mission Sunday with Joe Sawatzky

9:30 am Sunday School with Joe Sawatzky (High school and all others)

10:30 am Worship Service

2:00 – 4:00 pm Come and Go Reception for Zane and Joy Unrau

COMING EVENTS

May 22 Graduate Recognition

May 22 Deadline for submission of written and electronic surveys for review process

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 5 Finalized pastor review summary report to congregation

June 6-10 Vacation Bible School – Register online at www.alexanderwohl.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. **Everyone should have received the email on Friday with the electronic version of the pastoral review or a paper copy in your**

mailbox today. If you received the electronic version, but would prefer to complete it on paper, you may pick up a paper copy in the church office. Deadline to return is May 22.

If you 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 are 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. See the announcement in Friday's email for further details.

First Fruits and Local Church Ministries Update - After completing the first 4 months of 2022, our expenses for our local church ministries have been running slightly under budget. At the same time, our First Fruits offerings have also been running under budget which has created a year to date budget shortfall of almost \$13,000. Your continued support, with your First Fruits offerings, provides the necessary funds for continued effective local church ministries. Your support is appreciated. Thank you.

You're invited to celebrate the marriage of Zane and Joy Unrau at a come and go reception Sunday, May 15, from 2:00 - 4:00 in the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall. Kindly RSVP to Alma by May 11 by calling 620.345.6849 or email: unrau@gmail.com.

WANTED: Yard Games for the VBS Program/Children's Day on Sunday, June 12! We are looking for a variety of yard games to use for afternoon activities for children of all ages. Ideas might include: Croquet, Ladder Ball Toss, Bocce Ball, Spikeball, Giant Jenga, Frisbee Golf, etc. Please contact Susan Nafziger by Sunday, May 22, if you have something you are willing to share with us!

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
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