

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

May 15, 2022

No. 20



Welcome to Alexanderwohl! We are blessed to welcome Joe Sawatzky this morning. Joe works for Mennonite Mission Network as a Training and Resource Specialist in Mission Education. Using the story from Acts 11, Joe will help us think about immigrants and those who've been displaced from their homes as "a source of blessing to the existing citizens of a place."

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Take the Name of Jesus With You* ~arr. Parks Mary Schmidt
Fanfare on "Nicaea" ~Cobb

Welcome Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation VT 107

***Gathering Song** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns* VT 101

Children's Story Renae Peters

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois

Worship Music *The Commission* ~Cain Bryant and Chrystiana Miller
Eric Schrag, guitar

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings First Fruits Giving

Offertory *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me* ~Behnke

***Prayer | Song of Dedication** *Grant Us, God, the Grace* VT 746

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Acts 11:19-30 Justine Unruh

Message "Crisis, Community, Collaboration" Joe Sawatzky

Song of Response *God Loves All His Many People* VT 767

Responding to the Gospel (Open sharing)

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Sending Song *Use Us, God* VT 811

***Benediction** Pastor Lois

***Postlude**

Mary Schmidt

*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: Marcia Brubaker

Greeters: North – Marlin Janzen
South – Myron and Pat Schmidt

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Kim Voth, Emma Schroeder, Laura Unrau

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

May 8 Attendance: 158 In person, 5 Zoom households

Questions for Reflection –

1. Where have you seen God's provision in the midst of crisis?
2. Where have you seen community forming across cultures?
3. How have you seen people working together to build the body of Christ?

Next Sunday will be a continuation of the theme of mission. We'll hear from Brian Bisbee, Executive Director of the New Hope Shelter. We'll recognize our graduates and also celebrate with Lee and Mary Alice Hertzler as they formally bring their membership to Alexanderwohl.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We are grateful, God, for opportunities to meet and interact with those who are different than ourselves; grant us grace to embrace the gifts they offer.
- ❖ We give thanks for the process of planting and nurturing crops in this springtime.
- ❖ We pray for our students, teachers, support staff and all who are involved with school as the school year comes to an end.
- ❖ We pray for our brothers and sisters in rural areas where derecho winds have created dust storms and damage.
- ❖ We pray for those who are ill – recovering and continuing to struggle. Bless these with your healing and comfort.
- ❖ We pray for places around the world where there is fear and violence; may your Spirit move to bring peace and light into that darkness.
- ❖ We pray for leaders and teachers of Vacation Bible School and Junior High Camp as they plan and prepare for coming events.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, May 16

7:00 pm Board of Worship

Tuesday, May 17

9:30 am Staff Meeting

Friday, May 20

2:00 pm Senior Coffee

Saturday, May 21

9:00 pm Playground Clean-up Service Project

Sunday, May 22 – Graduate Recognition

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

2:00 – 4:00 pm Come and Go 90th Birthday Celebration for Lois Janzen

5:00 – 7:00 pm Bethesda Home Spring Fundraiser at White Owl Barn –

For more information check Friday's email or flyers on bulletin boards

--May 22 is the deadline for submission of written and electronic surveys for Pastor Review Process--

COMING EVENTS

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

May 27-30 Mennonite Church USA Special Assembly in Kansas City

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 following worship and a light noon luncheon

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

June 25 or 26 Guess Who's Coming to Dessert – more info coming soon!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plan to join us for Senior Coffee this Friday, May 20, at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Lee and Mary Alice Hertzler will share their life stories focused on the churches they have participated in.

The Board of Mission and Service is sponsoring a church playground service project on Saturday, May 21st for approximately 1 hour starting at 9 am. Come help pull weeds so that the church playground is clean and ready for Vacation Bible School. Eating cinnamon rolls together will be a part of the "work" that is planned for all who attend. Please contact Judy Goertzen at 620-367-2240 or at tjgoertzen@mtelco.net if you can help.

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.

The pastor review committee encourages you to **complete the pastoral survey**. It needs to be returned by **next Sunday, May 22**. Thank you to those that have already turned it in.

The family of Lois Janzen invites you to a birthday celebration in honor of Lois' 90th birthday! Sunday, May 22, 2:00–4:00 pm – Come and Go – Alexanderwohl Shelter House. No gifts please.

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 on offering input to our delegates.

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.

Reading Colors Your World! AMC summer reading program June 1 – August 31 for preschool through adult. How many AMC library books can you read this summer? Let's see who reads the MOST books in each age group to qualify for a grand prize! Look for a flyer in your mailbox with more information. Questions? Contact DeLora Funk 316.727.9763.

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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Deacons:
Marilyn Unruh
Flaming
Ruth Goertzen
Jim Schmidt
Kris Schmucker
Sandy Banman