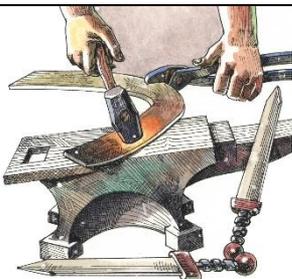


# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

September 18, 2022

No. 38



THEY WILL BEAT THEIR SWORDS  
INTO PLOWSHARES  
AND THEIR SPEARS INTO  
PRUNING HOOKS

**Welcome to Alexanderwohl!**  
We believe that following Jesus means that another way of life is possible. We imperfectly witness to the love of Christ that leads us to seek to live at peace with all people, and use all the gifts God has given us well.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering** *A Mighty Fortress* ~Cherwien Mary Schmidt  
*Come, Thou Fount* ~Payne

**Welcome** Pastor Caleb Yoder

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

**Call to Worship and Invocation+** (Isaiah 2:3-4 CEB)

Leader: "Come, let's go up to the Lord's mountain,  
to the house of Jacob's God

**People: so that he may teach us his ways  
and we may walk in God's paths."**

Leader: Instruction will come from Zion; the Lord's word from Jerusalem.

**People: God will judge between the nations,  
and settle disputes of mighty nations.**

Leader: Then they will beat their swords into iron plows  
and their spears into pruning tools.

***All: Nation will not take up sword against nation;  
they will no longer learn how to make war.***

**\*Gathering Song** *Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah* VT 95

**Children's Story** Chrystiana Miller

**Morning Prayer** Pastor Lois Harder

**Worship Music** Eric, Julianna, Timothy, and Jacob Schrag

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings** First Fruits Giving

**Offertory** *Larghetto* ~Franck Mary Schmidt

**\*Song of Dedication** *God of the Fertile Fields* (v. 1-2) VT 750

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Scripture Reading** Romans 12:1-2, 9-21 Matthew Voth

**Message** "A map of transformation" Pastor Caleb

**Song of Response**

*I Bind My Heart This Tide*

VT 556

**Responding to the Gospel**

(Open sharing)

**SENT AS GOD’S PEOPLE**

**\*Song of Sending**

*O Day of Peace*

VT 787

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Caleb

**\*Postlude**

Mary Schmidt

\*All who are able are invited to stand.

+ The peace lamp is as a visual reminder that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God’s shalom will prevail.

**Song Leader:** Renae Peters

**Greeters:** North – Delbert & Janine Peters;  
South – Brian & Rachael Burkholder

**Visual Arts:** LaNae Unruh

**Nursery Staff:** Brody Schroeder, Emmalyn Schroeder, Kim Voth

**Worship Technology:** Steve Unruh, Steve Goertzen, Delton Voth

**September 11 Attendance:** Sunday School - 105; Worship - 137 In person, 11 Zoom households

**September 11 Offerings:** Sunday School - \$27.03; First Fruits - \$2,859.00

**Summary Statements ++**

21. We believe that everything belongs to God, who calls the church to live in faithful **stewardship** of all that God has entrusted to us, and to participate now in the rest and justice which God has promised.
22. We believe that **peace** is the will of God. God created the world in peace, and God’s peace is most fully revealed in Jesus Christ, who is our peace and the peace of the whole world. Led by the Holy Spirit, we follow Christ in the way of peace, doing justice, bringing reconciliation, and practicing nonresistance, even in the face of violence and warfare.
23. We believe that the church is God’s holy nation, called to give full **allegiance** to Christ its head and to witness to every nation, government, and society about God’s saving love.



**Questions for Reflection**

1. What does “being transformed by the renewing of your mind” mean to you?
2. How is a peace witness connected to our spiritual life or relationships?
3. Do you have a story of improbable peacemaking?

Next Sunday, we will worship at Camp Mennoscah. Our series on the Confession of Faith will finalize Sunday, October 2, which is also World Communion Sunday.

++ You can find the entire text of the *Confession of Faith* here:  
<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/who-are-mennonites/what-we-believe/confession-of-faith/>

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray for Cindy Hastings and for other family and friends of Gene in their time of grief. Gene passed away Friday, September 9.
- ❖ We pray for Steve Banman as he has been hospitalized this past week.
- ❖ We celebrate with Lois and Tom Harder on the birth of their grandson, Neil Thomas, born to Eric and Madeline Harder Crawford on Saturday, September 10, Neil is welcomed by his sister Rosie. Congratulations to all!
- ❖ O God, on this International Day of Peace we pray for your Spirit to descend on the Earth in ways that lead us and all your children in the ways of righteousness and love.
- ❖ We pray for the people of Pakistan as they continue to suffer with flood waters and the displacement of many people.
- ❖ We pray for the people of Afghanistan as they cope with shortages of food and water.

### THIS WEEK

#### **Today, September 18**

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Worship Service
- Noon – Teacher Appreciation Meal
- 1:30 pm Harvest Giving Walk – Begins at Tabor Church

#### **Monday, September 19**

- 5:30 pm Board of Christian Education - Chapel
- 7:30 pm Board of Worship - Chapel

#### **Tuesday, September 20**

- 4:30 pm Prayer Team

#### **Wednesday, September 21**

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting
- 6:30 pm Children's Ministry Team – Conference Room
- 7:00 pm Laurie Hesed presentation – Fellowship Hall

#### **Saturday, September 24**

- 2:00 pm Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah

#### **Sunday, September 25**

- Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah
- 8:30 – 10:00 am Breakfast
- 10:30 am Worship
- 11:30 am Lunch

## COMING EVENTS

- Sept 21 Peace Committee guest speaker Laurie Hased will present "Political Idolatry and the Rise of the Religious Right"
- Sept 24-25 AMC Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah
- Sept 28 Midweek Staff Orientation – Fellowship Hall
- Oct 1 Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum's Heritage Lecture
- Oct 5 Midweek Begins
- Oct 21 10 am Senior Coffee – Deputy Kaylin Miles from the Marion Co. Sheriff's Office will bring us a presentation on scams, particularly those directed at the senior citizen population.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today (September 18) is the Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk!** You can still sign up to participate and you can still make a donation, payable to Harvest Giving Walk. Find a walker today for your generous giving to help MCC's response to the Ukraine crisis, as well as the expenses of our local Tabor Food Pantry. Walkers, please be at Tabor Church by 1:15 p.m. to sign in and remember to bring your donation envelope, all money raised, and an item for the Food Pantry.

**First Fruits and Local Church Ministries Update --** With 2/3 of the year behind us, the expenses for our local church ministries remain within the budget of our spending plan. However, the money from our First Fruits offerings to fund these ministries is running behind budget. **For the year to date, the amount coming in is short by \$25,750 to meet all of our expenses.** Thank you to those that have faithfully been supporting our local church ministries with your First Fruits offering. Everyone is encouraged to consider how to respond during the next 4 months so that we can meet all of our expenses by the end of the year. Thank you.

### The AMC Peace Committee invites you!

- **Laurie Hased**, peacemaker and member at Shalom Mennonite will be the guest speaker of the Alexanderwohl Peace Committee on **Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. She will present a teaching sermon that she gave at Shalom some weeks ago called "Political Idolatry and the Rise of the Religious Right". Come to listen and learn, to dialogue and discern. The presentation will be available on Zoom for those who cannot come in person. A link will be sent out via church email this week.
- Professor Dwight Krehbiel of Bethel College, will bring a presentation on climate changes and Earth care. Zach Kennell, student of Dr. Krehbiel, will share about his senior project on the En-ROADS climate simulator. **Sunday, October 30.** Stay tuned for more details.

### **Children's Midweek Kickoff for all children ages 3 years old-5<sup>th</sup> grade.**

You are invited to be part of our audience! Premiering Wednesday, October 5, a live broadcast of the V-A-L-U TV Show on Station K.15 will be hosted by Travis Duerksen with special Alexanderwohl guests of high value and Christian character. Please join us from 6:45–7:45 pm in the Foundation Room for a lively evening of faith story interviews, audience participation, games, and snacks! Music time will take place prior to this from 6:30-6:45 pm—SonShine Singers (ages 3-kindergarten) in Rm #15 in the lower level and Kids Praise (grades 1-8) in the Chapel. Invite your friends!

**Children's Midweek Staff Needed:** 1 Bible story leader (FOR THE FALL SEMESTER ONLY) and 1 activity leader are still needed for the elementary midweek class. These positions involve planning and leading activities during the midweek season for 5 times and assisting with special activities. Midweek runs from October 5 to March 29. Contact Nicole Hein, Aileen Esau or Susan Nafziger.

**Midweek Meals:** Midweek begins Wednesday, October 5. Fellowship meals will be served. We would like to get a count of how many plan to eat. Please sign up on the lobby bulletin boards, online through the church email, or call the church office – 620.367.8192. **RSVP by Monday, September 26** to be included in the count for the fall semester.

**The Midweek Schedule** is on the purple posters in each lobby and on Friday's church email. Be sure to scroll down to the end of the email each week.

**Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah** is next weekend -- September 24-25 (2:00 on Saturday to 2:00 on Sunday). We anticipate a great time of fellowship, laughter, and spiritual renewal! The retreat is funded by First Fruits giving, so there will not be a registration fee. See the Friday email or office for registration information.

**Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah - Survey for Saturday Night:** The Saturday evening activity is "Family Fueled" (like Family Feud), accenting that the church is "fueled" as we gather together. A survey is in your mailbox to assist with this effort. Each member of your family may complete a survey. **Please return to the designated lobby box today!**

**Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.**  
**Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.**  
1304 K-15 Hwy, Box 8  
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[amc@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:amc@alexanderwohl.org)  
[www.alexanderwohl.org](http://www.alexanderwohl.org)

**Pastors:**  
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[calebyoder@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:calebyoder@alexanderwohl.org)

**Lois Harder**  
(316) 617-3497  
[loisharder@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:loisharder@alexanderwohl.org)

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