

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

November 6, 2022

No. 45



“YOU CANNOT SERVE
GOD AND MONEY.”

Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

We continue learning from Jesus' parables about how to live within God's kingdom. Today we consider one of the most puzzling of the parables about a manager who cheats his master and is rewarded for it.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering *Earth and All Stars ~Hobby* Marcia Brubaker
Now Thank We All Our God ~Hobby
I Sing the Mighty Power of God ~Kerr

Welcome Travis Duerksen

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation (Menno Simons; VT 921)

Leader: True evangelical faith cannot lie dormant but spreads itself out in all kinds of righteousness and fruits of love;

People: it clothes the naked;

Leader: it feeds the hungry;

People: it comforts the sorrowful;

Leader: it shelters the destitute;

People: it serves those who harm it;

Leader: it binds up what is wounded;

All: it becomes all things to all people.

***Gathering Hymn** *Come, Thou Fount* VT 563

Peace Prayer+ Brian Stucky

Children's Story Suzanne Meier

Worship Music *All Things Bright and Beautiful* [VT 117] Chancel Choir
~arr. John Ferguson Myra & Celia Peters, xylophones

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings First Fruits Giving

Offertory *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* ~Rice Marcia Brubaker

***Song of Dedication** *There's Enough for All* VT 757

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Luke 16:1-13 Travis Duerksen

Song of Confession *Come Now, O God* VT 143

Message *"The problem of mammon"* Pastor Caleb Yoder

Song of Response

Blessed Are You

VT 290

Responding to the Gospel

(open sharing)

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending**

For the Healing of the Nations

VT 705

***Benediction**

Pastor Caleb

***Postlude**

Now Thank We All Our God ~Behnke

Marcia Brubaker

*All who are able are invited to stand.

+ The peace lamp is 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 – Carol & Donley Duerksen

South – Lee & Mary Alice Hertzler

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Myron Hiebert, Ann Hiebert, Beth Yoder

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

October 30 Attendance: Sunday School – 119; Worship -- 131 in person, 8 Zoom households, 12 YouTube views

October 30 Offering: Sunday School – \$51.73; First Fruits – \$4,159.51

Questions for Reflection

1. What lesson do you think Jesus meant for us to take from this parable?
2. Is money good or bad or neither?
3. How do we know when we are serving mammon instead of God?
4. How would the world look different if God's will were done in the realm of economics?

Next Sunday, we continue with the parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14:15-24). Pastor Caleb will preach.

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We give thanks for positive results in Steve Banman's recent scan and pray for ongoing health and strength as he begins a maintenance chemo pill.
- ❖ We pray for strength and comfort for those dealing with difficult medical diagnoses.
- ❖ We are grateful for the successful surgery for Norman Schroeder last week and we continue to pray for recovery.
- ❖ We are grateful for rain.
- ❖ We pray for peace during the election season and for God's guidance for our Christian witness.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 6

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

5:30 – 6:30 pm Bethesda Pillar's Banquet – Tabor Church

Monday, November 7

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education

Tuesday, November 8

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, November 9

5:45 – 6:30 pm Pizza Fundraiser Meal for Menn Heritage & Ag Museum

Midweek Activities

7:30 pm – Board of Trustees

Sunday, November 13

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

5:00 – 6:30 pm GMA Thanksgiving Meal at Goessel Elementary School

COMING EVENTS

Nov 13 5-6:30 pm – Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal

Nov 18 10:00 am – Senior Coffee

Nov 24-25 – Church Offices Closed for Thanksgiving

Nov 26 Advent Retreat with Pastor Lois – Shelter House

Nov 26 Erin Brubaker | Dylan Slabach Wedding in Virginia

Nov 27 First Sunday of Advent

Dec 3 Lucas Hiebert | Michelle Schrag Wedding

Dec 4 AMC hosts the Newton Community Children's Choir Concert

Dec 11 7:00 pm -- Christmas Brass Concert at AMC

Dec 16 2:00 pm – Senior Coffee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Menno Brothers Pizza is back! Please join the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum's board and staff for a fundraiser meal this Wednesday, November 9, from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Along with pizza, there will be fresh tossed salad, delicious cookies, and, of course, your good company! Your contributions will be gratefully accepted and will provide a boost to our general operating budget as we finish the year.

Adult Bible Study led by Pastor Caleb will continue this Wednesday, as we delve deeply into one of Jesus' parables. We will gather in the conference room at 7:50, just after the dismissal of choir. You may also join on Zoom.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner! The Goessel Ministerial Alliance is planning a sit-down Thanksgiving Dinner in the Elementary school gym on **Sunday, November 13 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** It takes a community to make a

community dinner happen! Please check the church bulletin board for food sign ups as well as sign ups to help with other tasks. If you are donating a turkey or ham, they are needed by Sunday, November 6.

“Bucket Of Thanks” -- Let’s show our gratitude to God and help give hope to others by participating in MCC’s “Bucket of Thanks.” The Board of Mission and Service is encouraging the Alexanderwohl congregation to bring essential hygiene items (as many or as few as you want) to church by Sunday, November 20. MCC anticipates needing approximately 24,000 relief kits in the coming year. The goal for this Thanksgiving season is 1800 kits. Relief kits will be sent to places such as Ukraine, Iraq, and Syria. Working through MCC is a terrific intergenerational project; our children’s Sunday school classes are gathering items and offerings this fall for school kits! See the list of items on the announcement sheet or bulletin boards.

Sunday, November 20 our worship service will center around the theme of gratitude and thanksgiving. There will not be a separate service on Thanksgiving Day.

Expecting Emmanuel: Eight Women Who Prepared the Way is a new Advent devotional book by Joanna Harader, pastor of Peace Mennonite Church in Lawrence. Pastor Lois will offer an **Advent Retreat on Saturday, November 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** using this resource. Sign up on the south bulletin board if you would like to participate.

Thank you for your generous support of our College Scholarship Fund Raiser last Sunday. Your contributions totaled \$3,320 and are greatly appreciated. ~Mennonite College Student Ministry Team

Thank you to everyone who has generously given to the Tabor Church Food Pantry in recent weeks. The donations of groceries, meat, and cash have helped to keep the pantry stocked and add a nice variety to the choices when people come to shop. Those who visit the pantry are so grateful for the help that we can provide. Thanks to the Harvest Giving Walk for the donation we received, The Mennonite Heritage and Ag Museum for their donation, and thanks to Goessel Grocery & Deli for their recent matching of grocery purchases! Your continued support is important and very much appreciated, as this is an ongoing ministry in our community.