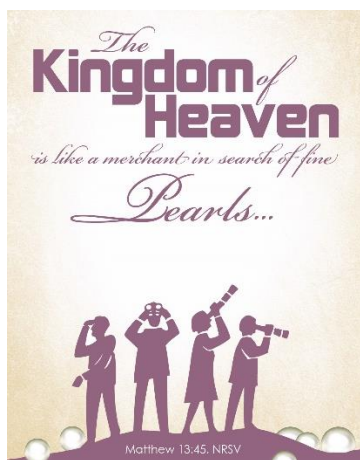


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

February 5, 2023

No. 6



Welcome to our worship service at Alexanderwohl! Jesus taught that there is nothing more valuable than to discover the treasure of God's reign, and to seek to live in it. In order to lay claim to that treasure, we have to be willing to surrender all else. We are no longer the owners of our possessions or time, but rather are entrusted with them to manage them for the sake of God's reign.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering *Take My Life and Let It Be* ~Diemer Marcia Brubaker
My Shepherd, You Supply My Need ~Hobby
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name ~Burkhardt

Welcome EIRoy Wiens

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship (VT 294, from Matthew 13:44-46)

Leader: The reign of heaven is like a treasure
that a person discovered hidden in a field.

**People: In excitement, the person hid it again and sold everything
to get enough money to buy the field.**

Leader: The reign of heaven is like a merchant
on the lookout for choice pearls.

**People: Upon discovering a pearl of great value,
the merchant sold everything and bought it!**

Invocation Prayer+

***Gathering Song** *We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer* VT 34

Children's Story Aileen Esau

Psalm Reading Psalm 119:129-136 EIRoy Wiens

Worship Music *Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring* (VT 639) Chancel Choir

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings First Fruits Giving

Offertory *The Gift to Be Simple* ~Wood Marcia Brubaker

***Hymn of Dedication** *God, We Pause This Moment* VT 756

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading	Matthew 13:44-52	EIRoy Wiens
Message	"The costly treasure"	Pastor Caleb Yoder
Song of Response	<i>Take My Life, and Let It Be</i>	VT 759
Responding to the Gospel	(open sharing)	

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Sending Song	<i>I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table</i>	VT 801
*Benediction		Pastor Caleb
*Postlude		Marcia Brubaker

*You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

+ 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.

This series uses the Everence curriculum by Beryl Jantzi, "But it's only a story: What Jesus' stories teach us about money," adapted in *Leader Spring* 2020. See everence.com/resources/stewardship-education

Song Leader: Renae Peters

Greeters: North – Radene Unruh
South – Duane and Karen Unruh

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Tina Schrag, Levi Schrag, Laura Voth

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth

January 29 Attendance: Sunday School – 114; Worship -- 192 in person, 14 Zoom households

January 29 Offering: Sunday School -- \$34.86; First Fruits – \$2,841.57

Questions for Reflection (Matthew 13:44-52)

1. What were some of your first experiences of money? What were you taught about money when you were growing up? Do you still have the same beliefs about money?
2. Who are the models in your life of good stewardship?
3. Why do we find it difficult to talk about money?
4. What does it mean in practical terms to "sell everything" in order to purchase the treasure that Jesus speaks of?

Next Sunday, we continue our focus of stewardship and generosity, with the topic of faithfulness with wealth. Our scripture focus will be Mark 10:17-27 and Luke 12:15-21. Pastor Caleb will preach.

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for our congregational meeting that will take place after our lunch, and for the Spirit's inspiration for the year ahead.

- ❖ We pray for the pastors and our high school students who have begun a 12-week Faith Exploration class in Sunday School.
- ❖ We pray for those who are suffering with mid-winter colds and viruses. We ask for God's healing and wholeness.
- ❖ We pray for Mennonite leaders who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color as they have been meeting this weekend in Atlanta, Georgia for worship, Bible study, networking and mutual support. Their biblical focus has been the story of Queen Esther as they seek the courage to act for justice in troubled times.
- ❖ We pray for the junior high students who gathered on the Hesston College campus for the Know Jesus conference this weekend. The Hesston College Bible Department works with South Central and Western District Conferences to host a meaningful weekend for youth to grow in their faith. Myra Peters and Delaney Duerksen are attending with the Tabor Mennonite Church group.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 5

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship
- 12:30 pm – Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary following lunch
- 2:00 pm – Bethesda Service led by Pastor Lois

Monday, February 6

- 1:00-6:00 pm – Blood Drive at Goessel Church

Tuesday, February 7

- 9:30 am – Staff Meeting
- 5:15 pm – Deacon Visioning Meeting

Wednesday, February 8

- 5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal
- Midweek Activities
- 7:30 pm – Board of Trustees

Saturday, February 11

- 2:00 pm – Alexanderwohl Women's Event – Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 12

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship
- 5:00 pm – Friends & Followers Super Bowl Party – Fellowship Hall

COMING EVENTS

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| Feb 17 | Senior Coffee |
| Feb 26 | We will observe Communion during the worship service |
| Mar 5 | JH Fundraiser Meal for Camp Tawakoni – High School |
| Mar 6-8 | MCC Comforter Blitz |
| Apr 14-15 | Kansas MCC Sale – Hutchinson |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for Senior Coffee on Friday, February 17, at 10:00 a.m. We'll hear from Carol and Donley Duerksen about their recent trip to Antarctic. Their presentation will include a slide show and time for questions and responses.

February is Black History Month. Go to mennoniteusa.org/resource/black-history to see Mennonite Church USA's timeline that tells about "Black History in the Mennonite Church".

Goessel Community Junior High will be hosting Camp 412 at the Disciple Center at Tawakoni again this year! The dates are May 26-29, 2023 and the cost is \$70 per camper. Scholarships are available upon request. While at Camp, we get to enjoy a variety of activities, including swimming, group games, input sessions, and campfires. Registration can be found here: <https://forms.gle/tywYcnRL56sUgpFZ8>

Goessel Community Junior High will be hosting Camp 412 at the Disciple Center at Tawakoni near Augusta. In order to help cover the costs of camp, we will once again be having our **fundraiser meal on March 5** at Goessel High School. We're changing up the menu this year! We will be serving pancakes, sausage, applesauce and dessert beginning at 11:30. The meal is by donation with \$8 per person being the suggested amount. We're excited to be able to go to camp again and appreciate your support!

To our Alexanderwohl friends: Thank you for welcoming Elbiata Singers and Bel Canto this past Sunday. It was such a pleasure to be part of the worship service and to make music together. Also, a big thank you for providing such a fantastic potluck meal afterwards. We look forward to the next time we can join you! ~Elbiata and Bel Canto members and directors

The children's midweek department appreciated your support and help with our service night on January 25. Special thanks to Dwight M. Flaming and his crew for sharing about the work of Mennonite Disaster Service. As one of our service projects, the 1st-4th grade class randomly placed letters in some of the *Voices Together* hymnals in the sanctuary pews. If you find one, please note the opportunity to write back to one of the children. If you would be willing to write a short note, the children would love to hear from you! Please return your message during the month of February to the church office. Thank you for considering this opportunity to interact with the children. ~Aileen Esau

Thank you church family, for your support during Norman's rehab after hip surgery. We appreciated your prayers, phone calls, cards, and transportation for Leona. Also thanks for pastoral visits and calls. We couldn't have done it without all of you. ~Norman and Leona Schroeder