

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

March 5, 2023

No. 10



Jesus Talks With Nicodemus

Welcome to our service of worship at Alexanderwohl! On this second Sunday in Lent we'll look more deeply into the story of Nicodemus, the Pharisee who came to Jesus under the cover of darkness. Nicodemus was not someone outside the faith! He was struggling to understand how to be transformed by faith - what does that mean? How can it be?

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering *Adagio from Violin Sonata Op. 2, No. 2 ~Vivaldi* Jared Janzen
Largo from Violoncello Sonata No. 6 ~Vivaldi

Welcome Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Gathering Hymn *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* VT 126
(verses 1, 2 and 4)

Call to Worship (*Melody Zimmerman, The Soil and the Seed Project*)

Leader: I am on a journey and the road is rough.
Where can I look for help?

People: Our Help comes from the Lord!

Leader: When I am afraid, who can I trust?
The maker of heaven and earth.

People: Our Help comes from the Lord!

Leader: For the Lord will watch over you. You are safe and secure.
You can rest in God's care.

People: Our Help comes from the Lord!

Leader: In your comings and in your goings, all day and all night
now and forever.

People: Our Help comes from the Lord!

Peace Prayer+ Karen Unruh

***Hymn of Praise** *Like a Rock* VT 63

Children's Story Laura Voth

Worship Music Sonshine Singers

Old Testament Reading Genesis 12:1-4a Nancy Stucky

Prayer of Confession Pastor Caleb Yoder

All: Break in with your creating Spirit, O God. Send forth your fresh wind and open the way to real life, eternal life, life that is transformed by your love. Amen.

Morning Prayer		Pastor Caleb
Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings		First Fruits Giving
Offertory	<i>Soliloquy ~Wagner</i>	Jared Janzen
*Prayer of Dedication		Pastor Caleb

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading	John 3:1-17	Nancy Stucky
Message	<i>"Transformed in the image of Jesus"</i>	Pastor Lois
Song of Response	<i>True Evangelical Faith</i>	VT 439

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Responding to the Gospel	(open sharing)	
Sending Song	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	VT 419
*Benediction		Pastor Lois
*Postlude	<i>Holiday ~Young</i>	Jared Janzen

*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 service made use of resources from *Leader*, Winter 2022-23; and *The Soil and The Seed Project*, Vol.6.

Song Leader: Kyle Unruh

Guitars: Kevin Gaeddert and Eric Schrag

Greeters: North – Anita Boese

South – DJ and Marilyn Unruh Flaming

Visual Arts: LaNae Unruh

Nursery Staff: Aileen Esau, Cambry Duerksen, Susan Nafziger

Worship Technology: Myron Goertzen, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth

February 26 Attendance: Sunday School – 110; Worship -- 140 in person, 7 Zoom households

February 26 Offering: Sunday School -- \$46.91; First Fruits – \$3,483.61

Questions for Reflection (John 3:1-17)

1. Have you – or someone you know – experienced being reborn in the Spirit of Jesus? What did that experience look like or mean to you?
2. If a person has been reborn as Jesus described it to Nicodemus how might their worldview change? How might they view wealth, success, family, competition, etc.?

Next Sunday will be the third Sunday of Lent. Pastor Caleb will preach from John 4:5-42 (the woman at the well).

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Blake and Kris Schmucker, for Kara, Jordan, Nathaniel and Lizzie as they grieve the loss of Blake's mother, Marge Schmucker who died on Wednesday at Schowalter Villa.
- ❖ We are grateful for the generous donations received by the Junior High students at Wednesday's supper; we pray for their safety and for your blessing God, as they shop this week for supplies for the New Hope Shelter.
- ❖ Thank you God that we are made in your image and our worth is found in receiving your love.
- ❖ Thank you God for the work of caring for and guiding our congregation done by the Board of Deacons.
- ❖ We give you thanks and praise God for the ways your Spirit moved in the midst of those who gathered for the Leadership Retreat; may you continue to bless that work and produce good fruit from it!
- ❖ We pray for the Goessel Community JH Ministry as they prepare for Camp 412 in May. We pray for new leadership to emerge that will carry the ministry forward in coming years.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 5

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Noon JH Fundraiser for Camp 412 at Goessel High School

1:00 pm – Bethesda Chapel – Pastor Caleb

Tuesday, March 7

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 8

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal

Midweek Activities

Sunday, March 12

Daylight Saving Time Begins – Move clocks ahead 1 hour

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

COMING EVENTS

- Mar 6-8 MCC Comforter Blitz - Yoder
Mar 17 Senior Coffee, 10:00 am, Susan Mayo – Flint Hills Counterpoint
Mar 26 Mennonite College Student Fundraiser Meal
Mar 31 Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum's Heritage Dinner
Apr 9 Easter Sunday
Apr 14-15 Kansas MCC Sale – Hutchinson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, March 5 -- Camp 412 Fundraiser Meal at Goessel High School. 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 appreciate your support!

We have a group of 5 people that will work together during the months of March, April, and May to write reflection notes for the margins of three passages in the forthcoming Anabaptist Community Bible. If you are interested in joining this group or another group, contact Pastor Caleb.

Don't forget to register for summer camps! As soon as you have your child(ren) registered and have received your confirmation, let the church office know what dates your child(ren) will be attending. You will be reimbursed from the Board of Education. If you have questions, please contact Janine Peters at petersjd@mtelco.net or 316-284-4170.

New Hope Shelter -- The list of items currently needed at the shelter is on the announcement sheet. You may leave items in the large box in the south lobby designated for the shelter. Thank you for your support!

Join us for lunch March 26! The Mennonite College Student Ministry Team will prepare and serve your noon meal. It will be a delicious pulled pork meal served in the fellowship hall. Come to support our eight students attending Mennonite colleges.

Freezer meals are always a thoughtful way to offer care and concern; the freezer is currently empty! 8x8 aluminum pans of casserole meals and/or crock pot meals that are in zip-loc bags are particularly helpful. Thank you! ~The Pastors and Deacons

Pastor daytime office hours:

	Pastor Caleb (.9 FTE)	Pastor Lois (.75 FTE)
Monday	--	1:00-5:00
Tuesday	9:00-5:00	9:00-5:00
Wednesday	11:00-8:30	11:00-8:30
Thursday	9:00-5:00	9:00-1:00
Friday	9:00-5:00	9:00-5:00

Office hours are subject to change and don't include evening meetings, visitation, or work from home. Consider calling ahead to ensure a pastor is available.