

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

May 14, 2023

No. 20



Welcome to our service of worship at Alexanderwohl! God has given us opportunities to form and create families as a way to ensure that we grow and thrive. Today we celebrate God's gift of family and the privilege of nurturing faith as parents dedicate themselves and their child to the love and care of God and the church.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Thanks Be to Thee, O Lord* ~arr. Parks Mary Schmidt
Jubilation ~Payne

Welcome Pastor Caleb Yoder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+ VT 922

All: We are not alone; we live in God's world.

Leader: We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and
make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

People: We trust in God.

Leader: We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,
To live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek
justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our
judge and our hope.

People: In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

Leader: We are not alone.

All: Thanks be to God!

***Gathering Hymn** *O Worship Our God* VT 129

Children's Story Lynel Unruh

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Jewels* ~arr. Spong

Mary Schmidt

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Marilyn Unruh Flaming

Reflection Pastor Caleb

Worship Music *Today Earth Is Singing* [VT 510]
Unrau, Unruh & Siebert family members

Child | Parent Dedication

Mia Noel Unruh-Siebert (b. Jan 9, 2023) daughter of Braden Unruh & Jill Siebert

Cody John Unrau (b. August 21, 2022) son of Jared and Laura Unrau

Rosebud and Grandparent prayer of blessing for Mia

Questions, Response, Blessing for Mia, Cody and their parents

***Congregational Covenant** VT 970

Song of Response *See the Children Here before Us* VT 509

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Sending Song** *I Know Not Why God's Wondrous* VT 590

***Benediction** Pastor Caleb

***Postlude** *Holy, Holy, Holy ~arr. Wyrzten* 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: Kyle Unruh

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

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Ann Hiebert, Natalie Church, Beth Yoder

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

May 7 Attendance: Sunday School – 99; Worship -- 136 in person, 8 Zoom

May 7 Offering: Sunday School -- \$48.79; First Fruits – \$8,124.84

Questions for Reflection – 2 Timothy 1:1-14

1. In what ways was Timothy's faith nurtured by his mother, grandmother, and the mentorship of the apostle Paul?
2. Who has encouraged you in your faith? How have you encouraged and formed others?
3. How might the work of modeling faith and guiding faith development be shared between parents and our congregation?

Next Sunday, we'll focus on Colossians 2:6-19. Pastor Lois will preach. We will also recognize our graduates.

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Kent Sterk, who suffered an NSTEMI heart attack a week ago. We give thanks for his recovery and pray for good future health.

- ❖ We give thanks to God for our families in which we can find love, care, challenge and growth. We give thanks for mothers and those who nurture us in our life and faith.
- ❖ We're grateful for the rain that has come. We ask for safety as field work and other work is done.
- ❖ We give thanks for celebrations of graduation this weekend.
- ❖ We pray for those who are suffering the deadly results of flooding and landslides in Rwanda, Uganda and especially the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- ❖ Pray For Our VBS Churches: Lord, thank you for our churches and giving us a space in which we can gather and praise your name. We pray these walls will be a welcoming space for all who enter. We pray your Holy Spirit will fill this place and the hearts of all who are here. Allow our church to be a place for those who are eager to grow closer to you. Allow our church to be a place for those who don't know you. Transform their hearts through your mighty love. Thank you for the opportunity to pour into the lives of all who enter this place.

+This week pray for: Barbara Duerksen and Steven Goering, Doug and Lisa Duerksen, Travis Duerksen and Erica Stoltzfus, Weston and Courtney Hiebert family, Lois Janzen

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 14

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship | Dedication of Children and Parents

Tuesday, May 16

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

5:30 pm – Board of Worship, Conference Room

Thursday, May 18

6:30 pm – Community JH ice cream social at Goessel Church

Friday, May 19

10:00 am – Senior Coffee with Janet Armstead

Sunday, May 21

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship | Graduate Recognition

1:00 pm – Bethesda Chapel with Pastor Lois

5:00–7:00 pm – Bethesda's fundraiser at White Owl Barn

COMING EVENTS

May 26-29 Goessel Community Junior High at Camp Tawakoni

May 28 Memorial Service, 11:45 am following worship, AMC Cemetery

May 31 Book Study begins

June 5-9 Goessel Community Vacation Bible School at Alexanderwohl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have received Caleb Yoder's letter of resignation as pastor at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church effective August 3, with his final Sunday at Alexanderwohl to be July 30. The church leadership is consulting

with Western District Conference as we discern plans for pastoral transition. We will update you as we have more information to share, and ask for your prayers during this time of discernment. ~John Fast, Church Chair and Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Deacon Chair

The sign-up sheet is posted in the south lobby for volunteer service at New Hope Shelter, May 14-16. Meals will be delivered by the Young Adults, Route 15 and Friends and Followers Sunday school classes. See the Announcement Sheet for the current needs list. Thank you for your support.

In 1821, the Santa Fe Trail became America's first great international commercial highway, and for nearly sixty years thereafter was one of the nation's great routes of adventure and western expansion. Retired teacher **Janet Armstead**, education chairman of the Santa Fe Trail Association, will share her knowledge of the trail at **Senior Coffee, Friday, May 19, 10:00 am.** Plan to join us!

Sheryl Duerksen has graciously agreed to serve on the Board of Christian Education. We appreciate her willingness to serve and the gifts and abilities she brings to the board. Next Sunday, May 21, we will have a vote of affirmation as the first item in the "Opportunities for Celebration and Service" portion of the worship service. ~John Fast, Church Chair

Why KNOT? Because MCC still needs comforters! There are 2 comforters set up in the fellowship hall that need to be knotted. Come anytime the south office door is open (Mon–Fri 8:30 am–4:30 pm) or make arrangements to knot some evening with a group of friends. Anyone can tie a knot, even you!

Thank you for your donations to the Peace Table Book project. The goal of \$500 was met and we will be able to order enough books for each Elementary Sunday School class as well as give each family with young children a book to use at home. Thank you again for your generosity!
~Board of Christian Education

With Kim Funk's retirement at Tabor Mennonite Church, there is a need to gather a team of folks (at least one person from each of the three local congregations) to help administer the Food Pantry. This would involve being available at specified times during which folks could come to pick up food boxes, helping to stock the shelves as donations are brought, and doing minimal record keeping. Required time will be kept to a minimum and shared between the three team members. Please talk to one of the pastors if you are interested or have questions.

Memorial Services

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Cemetery – Sunday, May 28, 11:45 am

Goessel Cemetery – No service

Tabor Mennonite Cemetery – Monday, May 29, 10:00 am