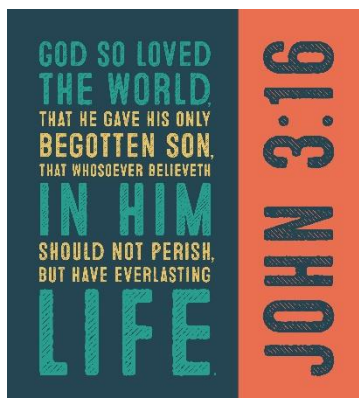


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

June 4, 2023

No. 23



Welcome to Alexanderwohl! The Gospel message is about finding peace with God, peace within, peace with others, and peace with creation. Over the next number of weeks, we want to discover what it means to seek God's peace, beginning with our relationship of trusting the love of God shown in Jesus as we are born anew of the Spirit.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Jason Peters

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ~Burkhardt

Welcome

Pastor Caleb Yoder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

VBS Staff Dedication

Call to Worship and Invocation

Leader: Jesus says we must be born from above.

People: God promises to give us a new heart!

Leader: Jesus says we must be born of the Spirit.

People: God promises to give us a new spirit!

Leader: Jesus says that God loves the world,

People: that God desires to save the world.

Leader: So we come now to worship our God,

All: For we are God's people.

***Gathering Hymn**

Holy Spirit, Come with Power

VT 57

Peace Prayer+

Delaney Duerksen

Children's Story

Aileen Esau

Congregational Song

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

VT 638

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Jason Peters

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart ~Hayes

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture

John 3:1-21

Megan Duerksen

Message "Born of the Spirit" Pastor Caleb
Song of Response *As the Wind Song though the Trees* VT 373
Responding to the Gospel (open sharing)

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Sending Song** *The Love of God* VT 162
***Benediction** Pastor Caleb
***Postlude** *All Hail the Power/To God Be the Glory* –Ellor/Holden Jason Peters
***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.

This service used resources from *Current: Seeking Peace Together* by Shine Curriculum, written by Joanna Harader.

Song Leader: Marcia Brubaker
Greeters: North – Kevin & Bonnie Gaeddert
South – Jim & Mary Schmidt

Visual Arts: Lois Harder

Nursery Staff: Brittany Hiebert, Delaney Duerksen, Kim Voth

Worship Technology: DeAlan Unrau, Steve Goertzen, Delton Voth

May 28 Attendance: Sunday School – 88; Worship -- 127 in person, 5 Zoom Households

May 28 Offering: Sunday School -- \$34.41; First Fruits – \$3,550.00

Questions for Reflection – John 3:1-21

1. What does it mean to you to "believe in Jesus"? How is belief related to faith or trust?
2. Is there something we do to be born of the Spirit? Or does the Spirit do this work in us?
3. (Share joys and concerns in your own life)

Next Sunday we continue reflection on what it means to have peace with God in Jesus' image of the vine and the branches in John 15:1-17, as part of our worship series "Seeking Peace Together." Pastor Caleb will preach.

Praying for our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We think of Lynell & Vickie Hiebert in the passing of Vickie's step mother, Maxine O'Neill on Saturday, May 27.
- ❖ We pray for Margie Young who has pain and discomfort in her legs. We pray for the doctors as they seek ways to offer relief for her.
- ❖ We give thanks for needed rain.

- ❖ Prayer for Our VBS Volunteers: Lord, thank you for our volunteers and their willingness to serve. Give them energy, strength, and excitement as they get ready to pour into our kids. Allow them the opportunity to go deeper with their crews and find the boldness to share your love with all they encounter. Let your Holy Spirit guide their words, thoughts, and actions throughout the week. We pray that they will connect with their position and their kids, and we thank you for the lives that will be changed through them.

+This week pray for: Alexander Goossen, Nicole Hein and family, Robin and Susan Lehrman, Brooke Nafziger, Lloyd and Marlene Voth

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 4

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, June 5

8:30-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, June 6

8:30-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

1:30 pm – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, June 7

8:30-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

7:00-8:30 pm – Book Study *East of Liberal* in the Chapel (Read Ch. 5-8)

Thursday, June 8

8:30-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

Friday, June 9

8:30-11:30 am – Vacation Bible School

6:00 pm – VBS Program and Meal at Goessel City Park

Sunday, June 11

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

COMING EVENTS

June 12 Goessel Blood Drive, 1:00–6:00 pm at Goessel Church

June 16 Senior Coffee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for our Vacation Bible School Program at Goessel City Park on Friday, June 9 at 6:00 p.m. to hear the children share all about what they learned at VBS! Bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on. We will collect a free will donation towards our VBS offering projects. After the short program, there will be a free hot dog meal with sides and root beer floats served. Table service will be provided; donations will be graciously accepted towards the cost of the meal. Sunday, June 11 will be a regular service at both Goessel Church and Alexanderwohl, with any children present invited to come up and share some VBS songs for special music.

Reading Under the Stars! AMC summer reading program June 1 – August 31 for preschool through adult. How many AMC library books can you read this summer? Let's see who reads the MOST books in each age group to qualify for a grand prize! Look for a flyer in your mailbox with more information. Questions? Contact DeLora Funk 316.727.9763.

Blood Drive: Start your summer with plans to donate blood on June 12, between 1:00-6:00 pm at the Goessel Church. June is a busy month, so extra effort will be needed for a successful drive. Make a single unit donation or a Power Red donation to help meet the needs. Sign up online at redcrossblood.org for an appointment. For more information contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081 or Rosi Reimer 620-367-2418.

Join us for Senior Coffee on Friday, June 16, at 10:00 am. Glen Ediger will be our guest speaking on "Leave No Threshing Stone Unturned" -- The unique story of this antiquated farm implement that was used for threshing wheat.

Exciting things continue to happen at our church library! We have several new titles and recently received a donation of a number of new commentaries!

- J. Nelson Kraybill, *Stuck Together: The Hope of Christian Witness in a Polarized World*
- Kate Boyd, *An Untidy Faith: Journeying Back to the Joy of Following Jesus*
- Melanie Springer Mock, *Finding Our Way Forward: When the Children We Love Become Adults*
- Zack Hunt, *Godbreathed: What It Really Means for the Bible to Be Divinely Inspired*

Commentaries: (italics were already in collection) *Genesis; Exodus; Leviticus; Deuteronomy; Joshua; Judges; Ruth/Jonah/Esther; 1 & 2 Kings; 1 & 2 Chronicles; Psalms; Proverbs; Ecclesiastes; Isaiah; Jeremiah; Lamentations/Song of Songs; Ezekiel; Daniel; Hosea/Amos; Joel/Obadiah/Micah; Matthew; Mark; John; Acts; Romans; 1 Corinthians; 2 Corinthians; Galatians; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossians/Philemon; 1 & 2 Thessalonians; 1 & 2 Timothy/Titus; 1 & 2 Peter/Jude; 1, 2, 3 John; Revelation*