

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

June 18, 2023

No. 25



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Today we celebrate the baptisms of five young people who are choosing to embrace God's love and call in their lives as disciples of Christ. Today we each are also reminded that we are intimately known and loved by a God who is near.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Marcia Brubaker

*Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing ~Hobby*

Welcome

Tammy Flaming

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+

(based on VT 931)

Leader: God of grace, creator of waters, your Spirit hovered over the deep.

**People: We remember that you separated the land from the waters and provided rain to freshen the ground.**

Leader: We remember that you parted the waters as your people fled from bondage in Egypt.

**People: We remember Jesus your Son, who, like all of us, arrived in the waters of childbirth.**

Leader: We remember John baptizing in the waters of the Jordan and the Spirit descending like a dove.

**All: Living Water, pour your Spirit upon us.**

**Wash us and free us from sin, make us fruitful in every way, and renew your world with showers of blessing.**

\*Gathering Hymn

*Summoned by the God Who Made Us*

VT 1

Children's Story

Renae Peters

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory** *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry ~Hobby* Marcia Brubaker

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Caleb Yoder

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Worship Music

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus  
As I Went Down to the River to Pray*

Eric Schrag &  
Kevin Gaedert

## Celebration of Baptism

Pastors Caleb and Lois

**Cambry Duerksen** – *“The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.”* ~Zephaniah 3:17 **Mentor: Aileen Esau**

**Javin Schmidt** – *“I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws. I hold fast to your statutes, Lord; do not let me be put to shame. I run in the path of your commands, for you have broadened my understanding.”* ~Psalm 119:30-32 **Mentor: Jared Unrau**

**Noah Schrag** – *“Therefore, if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility - value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests - but each of you - to the interests of the others.”* ~Philippians 2:1-4 **Mentor: Kevin Gaeddert**

**Emma Schroeder** – *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”* ~Jeremiah 29:11 **Mentor: Tina Schrag**

**Mallory Schroeder** – *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”* ~Galatians 5:22-23 **Mentor: Karen Unruh**

**\*Song of Response** *From the Waters I Will Rise* VT 442

**\*Congregational Covenant** VT 932

**Scripture** Psalm 139 Youth

**Reflection** “Known and Loved” Pastor Caleb

## SENT AS GOD’S PEOPLE

**\*Sending Song** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* VT 182

**\*Benediction** Pastor Caleb

**\*Postlude** *Praise to the Lord* ~Rinck Marcia Brubaker

\*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* from the Shine Curriculum, written by Joanna Harader

**Song Leader:** Renae Peters

**Greeters:** North – Denise Duerksen

South – Garrett and Brittany Hiebert

**Visual Arts:** Anita Boese

**Nursery Staff:** Maryanne Esau, Myra Peters, Susan Nafziger

**Worship Technology:** Myron Goertzen, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth  
**June 11 Attendance:** Sunday School – 98; Worship -- 134 in person, 11 Zoom Households  
**June 11 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$38.09; First Fruits – \$2,128.00

**Questions for Reflection – Psalm 139**

1. Is it comforting or disconcerting to you to be so fully known by God as expressed in the psalm?
2. What difference does it make in our relationship with God when we discover God to be near us rather than watching from a distance?

Next Sunday Pastor Lois will preach on letting go of worry (Matthew 6:25-34), which is part of what it means to have peace within.

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray for Cambry, Javin, Noah, Emma, and Mallory as they continue their faith journey after the milestone of baptism.
- ❖ We pray for Peter Voth as he is a counselor at Camp Mennoscah this week and for all campers as they spend this week at Camp.

*+This week pray for: Preston, Brianna & Silas Combs, Dean and Kris Franzen, Ryan & Jamie Giles family, Tim & Judy Goertzen, June Hiebert*

## **THIS WEEK**

### **Sunday, June 18**

9:30 am – Sunday School  
10:30 am – Worship | Baptisms

### **Tuesday, June 20**

9:30 am – Staff Meeting  
5:30 pm – Board of Worship, Conference Room

### **Wednesday, June 21**

5:00-6:00 pm – USDA Commodities distribution at The Citizens State Bank (see announcement sheet for details)  
7:00-8:30 pm – Book Study *East of Liberal* (Read Ch. 13-15), Chapel

### **Thursday, June 22**

7:00 pm – Board of Deacons

### **Sunday, June 25**

9:30 am – Sunday School  
10:30 am – Worship

## **COMING EVENTS**

June 28	Final Book Study in the Chapel with Raylene Hinz-Penner
July 4	Church Offices Closed for 4 <sup>th</sup> of July holiday
July 3-6	MennoCon23 at the Kansas City Convention Center
July 21	Senior Coffee
July 19-22	Serve at New Hope Shelter, Newton
July 30	Pastor Caleb's farewell Sunday   Noon potluck meal

Aug 11-13 WDC Annual Assembly at Tabor Mennonite Church

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**For the month of July**, children ages 3 years through high school will meet all together at the shelter house for Sunday school to have a time of inter-generational learning. Along with at least two adults, most of our high school and jr hi students have agreed to spend this time interacting with the younger children. If you could provide snacks for this group of 20-25 people, please contact Pastor Lois. The 2-year olds will meet for Sunday School in Room 18 as usual.

**Scholarship applications for all full-time students attending a Mennonite College for the 2023-24 school year are due JULY 1, 2023.** The application form is on the church website (under resources). Please return to the church office or Carol Reimer Duerksen.

**The Board of Deacons and Pastor Lois met with Heidi Regier Kreider**, Conference Minister at Western District Conference, again this week to discuss options for interim pastoral coverage when Pastor Caleb concludes his ministry with our church. Please pray for this ongoing process. We will keep the congregation informed as plans take shape.

**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! If you have questions contact DeLora Funk 316.727.9763.

**The Fourth Monday Family History & Genealogy Group will meet on Monday, June 26, 2023, 7:00 p.m., in the Goessel City Building Community Room**, 101 So. Cedar St., Goessel, Kansas. Join Kris Schmucker as she shares about her recent trip to trace her ancestors' journey through the Netherlands and Poland with her daughter Kara. The meeting is free and open to the public.

**Thank you!** It takes a village to pull off a successful week of Vacation Bible School, so whether you gave time, money, or prayers, used your gifts of making meals or working with children or another capacity, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you for being part of this ministry! VBS is making an eternal difference in the lives of the 52 children who attended as they hide the Bible truths and songs in their hearts, and as they learn about and praise God. The children, community, and congregations were generous, and we raised a total of \$1,882.09 to split between our two offering projects--the Mennonite Disaster Service Cabinet Shop in Goessel, and the scholarship fund at Echo Ranch Bible Camp near Juneau, Alaska. You all are part of our long list of God Sightings from our week of VBS! Thank you!  
- VBS Directors: Chrystiana Miller, Bri Combs, Raechel Boese