

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

June 25, 2023

No. 26

Look at the BIRDS of the air;  
they neither SOW nor REAP  
... your heavenly FATHER  
feeds them. Are YOU not of  
more value than they?



Matthew 6:26, NRSV

## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

In the early part of the Gospel of Matthew Jesus was teaching his disciples about the kingdom of God and how to enter. This morning's text is a familiar one - and much easier to say than to do! "...do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music**     *Piano Selections* ~Felix Mendelssohn     Karen Unruh

**Welcome**     Pastor Lois Harder

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

#### Call to Worship and Invocation+

**Leader:** Jesus says, "Do not worry about your life."

**People:** **And so we come to worship.**

**Leader:** Jesus asks, "Is not life more than food and the body more than clothes?"

**People:** **And so we come to worship.**

**Leader:** Jesus says, "Look at the birds of the air...consider the lilies of the field."

**People:** **And so we come to worship.**

**Leader:** Jesus says, "Seek first the Kingdom of God."

**People:** **And so we gather, now, to worship.**

**\*Gathering Hymns**     *Seek Ye First*     VT 417

*Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*     VT 365 | SWJ 24

**Children's Story**     Laura Voth

**Receiving New Members** – Rick and Sheryl Duerksen     VT 960-961

**Leader:** God of covenant, your steadfast love endures forever. In Christ, we belong to you and your people.

*Rick and Sheryl: Today, through the Spirit, we renew our commitment to fellowship and worship, service and witness, as partners in your mission. God, give us grace, in this place and for this time, to live this covenant.*

Leader: We have witnessed your commitment to Christ, and we recognize you as members in this congregation.

**Congregation:** *We welcome you with joy as companions on the journey of faith. We commit ourselves to fellowship and worship, service and witness, as partners in God's mission. We receive you as Christ has received us.*

**Worship Music**      *Hold You Dear*      Julianna Schrag & Alyssa Burkholder

**Morning Prayer**      Pastor Caleb Yoder

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**      *Morning Has Broken* ~Dengler

Karen Unruh

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Caleb

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Scripture**      Matthew 6:25-34      Susan Voth

**Message**      "Letting Go of Worry"      Pastor Lois

**Song of Response**      *My Lighthouse*      VT 597

**Responding to the Gospel**      (open sharing)

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*Sending Song**      *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*      VT 419

**\*Benediction**      Pastor Lois

**\*Postlude**      Karen Unruh

\*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:** Kyle Unruh

**Greeters:** North – Weston and Courtney Hiebert

South – Carol and Donley Duerksen

**Visual Arts:** Anita Boese

**Nursery Staff:** Chrystiana Miller, Jayley Schmidt, Laura Unrau

**Worship Technology:** Steve Unruh, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

**June 18 Attendance:** Sunday School – 89; Worship -- 150 in person, 8 Zoom Households

**June 18 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$38.10; First Fruits – \$3,953.09

**Questions for Reflection – Matthew 6:25-34**

1. What do you worry about the most?
2. How might you move toward releasing those worries?
3. (Share joys and concerns in your own life)

Next Sunday we will continue the theme of peace within as Pastor Caleb preaches on peace of heart and mind from Philippians 4:4-13.

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray for the intergenerational Sunday school time for 3-year olds through high school students as they grow and learn together starting next Sunday.
- ❖ We pray for Tim Goertzen as he goes to Dawson's Creek, KY to serve with Mennonite Disaster Service for the month of July.
- ❖ We pray for the family of Joyce Duerksen Unruh who died peacefully at Bethesda Home on Thursday. Joyce is the sister of Donley and Dennis Duerksen.
- ❖ We pray for Ted Nikkel, Kermit Nikkel, and Alice Jantz at the passing of Joanne Klassen on June 15. Joan was a sister to Ted and Kermit and sister-in-law to Alice (married to Alice's brother Harold). Joanne died at Kidron-Bethel. The memorial service was held yesterday at Kidron-Bethel.
- ❖ We pray for Rebecca Hein as she goes to Camp Mennoscah June 25-29 and for Timothy Schrag, Jacob Schrag, Peter Voth, Nathaniel Schmucker and Lizzie Schmucker as they work at Camp Mennoscah. We pray for Rosie Gaedert as she goes to Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp June 25-30.

*+This week pray for: Dwight M. and Tammy Flaming, Robyn Hartvickson, Ethan Harris, Riley and Aida, Herb and Pat Penner, Lee and Di Suderman, Tom and Martha Szambecki*

## THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, June 25**

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

### **Monday, June 26**

4:15 pm – Prayer Team

### **Tuesday, June 27**

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

### **Wednesday, June 28**

7:00-8:30 pm – Final Book Study *East of Liberal* with Raylene Hinz-Penner, Chapel

### **Sunday, July 2**

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

1:00 pm – Bethesda Chapel with Pastor Caleb

## COMING EVENTS

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 junior high 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 Alexanderwohl Board of Christian Education is looking for someone to head up our Mentor/Mentee Program.** The Mentor/Mentee Program Coordinator helps to match up junior high youth with adult mentors and provides overall support to all mentor/mentee pairs. There are many resources available to draw from in the coordinator book that will be passed on to the next coordinator, including timelines, previous forms used, and activity ideas. At the same time, in this role, there is freedom to shape the program as you would envision it! Contact Gretchen Schrag or anyone on the Alexanderwohl Board of Christian Education if interested. We hope to have this position filled by September.

**The garden sharing table will be back in the south lobby, beginning the first Sunday of July.** Everyone is welcome to bring extra garden produce to share with others - just leave it on the table when you come each Sunday morning. See Megan Duerksen for more information.

**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 South Cedar Street.** 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.