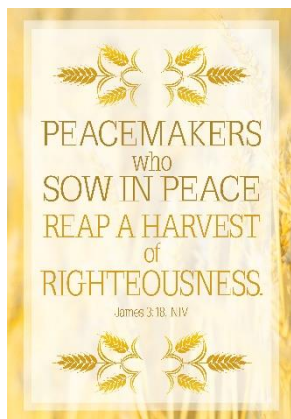


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

August 6, 2023

No. 32



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Today we continue with our *Seeking Peace Together* curriculum and we welcome Gail Graber as she brings the message. The singular story focused only on Isaac (without his father Abraham, or his son Jacob) tells about his response when the "locals" stopped up the wells that had been dug by Abraham.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Rondo Giocoso* ~Douglas Wagner Jared Janzen
 Orison ~Douglas Wagner

Welcome Travis Duerksen

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+

One: God makes room for us here, in this broad space of worship.

Many: Room for our questions and room for our confidence.

One: Room for our joy and room for our grief.

Many: Room for our fear and room for our generosity.

One: Room for ourselves and room for each other.

Many: Let us receive God's blessing of this spacious place.

All: Let us worship together in faith.

Peace Prayer Erica Stoltzfus

***Gathering Hymns** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (vv. 1, 2, 4) VT 88
 Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord VT 131

Children's Story Suzanne Meier

Morning Prayer Bryant Miller

Worship Music *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* ~Mozart Grace Meier, flute
 Karen Unruh, piano

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Genesis 26:12-33 Emma and Mallory Schroeder

Message "God's Wide Expanse" Gail Graber

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings****Offertory**

Jared Janzen

The Lord Our God Alone is Strong ~arr. John Wilson***Prayer of Dedication**

Travis Duerksen

Sending SongFor We Are Strangers No More*

VT 409

***Benediction**

Bryant Miller

PostludeJubilation* ~Gordon Young

Jared Janzen

*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 – Lynell and Vickie Hiebert

South – Jason and Renae Peters

Visual Arts: Shari Wiens

Nursery Staff: Chrystiana Miller and Jayley Schmidt

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

July 30 Attendance: Sunday School – 90; Worship -- 149 in person, 6 Zoom Households

July 30 Offering: Sunday School -- \$22.50; First Fruits – \$4,297.00

Questions for Reflection – Genesis 26:12-33

1. What does "blessing" mean to you?
2. How do you know when to walk away?

Next Sunday the theme will be "Beauty". ElRoy Wiens will bring the message from Genesis 9:12-16 and Revelation 22:1-5.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Matthew Voth and his family as they grieve the passing of his mother, Linda. May God grant comfort and peace to Matt and his family in the coming days and weeks.
- ❖ We are thankful for the successful celebration of the 50th year of Threshing Days! Thank you God, for the gifts of time and energy given to this event.
- ❖ We pray for safety and rejuvenation for all who are traveling.

- ❖ We pray for those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. We think especially of the Nikkel/Voth families as they gathered this weekend in memory of Melvin and Arzella (Nikkel) Dirksen.
- ❖ We pray for final preparations being made for the Western District Conference Assembly next weekend.
- ❖ We pray for those who have sustained life-altering losses in the wake of typhoons, fires and other storms this past week.

+This week pray for: John and Jenny Fast, Evelyn Matz, Jay and Sherilynn Roberts, Timothy Schrag, Robert Schmidt

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 6

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Tuesday, August 8

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

Sunday, August 12

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship – ElRoy Wiens will bring the message

COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Aug 7 | Goessel Community Blood Drive |
| Aug 11-13 | WDC Annual Assembly at Tabor Mennonite Church |
| Aug 18 | Senior Coffee |
| Aug 27 | Discussion/Potluck in Shelter House - Youth ministry at AMC |
| Aug 27 | Regular fall Sunday school classes begin |
| Oct 15 | Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Lois is on vacation this week and will return to the office on Monday, August 14. We welcome Gail Graber as she brings the message this morning! Gail is also the pastor “on call” for emergency situations. Please contact the deacons for other pastoral needs.

BREAKFAST POTLUCK on Sunday, August 27 for High School youth, their parents, teachers and anyone who is interested in the faith formation of our youth! ***Come to the Shelter House at 9:00 a.m.*** with your breakfast treats to share. ***We'll meet until 10:15*** to sing, pray, talk about what we feel God calling us to do and be as a youth group in this congregation. We'll discuss leadership, (both youth and adult) ideas for midweek youth group, hopes and goals for youth ministry in our setting, shape and scope of our times together, the gifts and passions brought by each one at this time and in this place, etc. Come with yummy food, “out-of-the-box ideas” and mostly open hearts and minds. Contact any Board of Christian Education member or Pastor Lois with questions.

The worship schedule for the month of August will be:

- **Sunday, August 13** – ElRoy Wiens will bring the message from Genesis 9:12-16 and Revelation 22:1-5 about focusing on the beauty that surrounds us. The theme is “look for beauty to find hope. God has promised us beauty now and in the afterlife”.
- **Sunday, August 20** – Pastor Lois will bring the message from I Samuel 25:1-35, the story of Abigail and David. The theme is “Peacemakers act creatively to prevent violence”.
- **Sunday, August 27** – Eric Schrag will bring the message from 2 Kings 6:8-23. This is the story of Elisha and the soldiers. The theme is “Peacemakers eat with their enemies”.

Join us for Senior Coffee on Friday, August 18, at 10:00 am when Nancy Stucky will present a program about the history of the church membership records, and share stories about work to digitize the current membership and cemetery records.

The garden sharing table is in the south lobby. Everyone is welcome to bring extra garden produce to share with others.

Junior Lee Janzen, 90, of Hesston, KS passed away Thursday, July 28, 2023 at Pine Village, Moundridge. Junior was the son of Otto and Irma Janzen; brothers Maynard and Stuart, and sister Sharon. A celebration of Life service will be held at 10:30 am on Saturday, August 12, at Kingdom Life Ministries, 505 S. Ridge Rd., Hesston, KS.

We have received several notes of thanks in response to the quarterly disbursement of offerings to our mission partners (First Fruits Beyond AMC). These notes are posted on the south lobby bulletin board.

Blood Drive: Between your summer activities and vacations, please make time to donate blood on August 7, between 1:00-6:00 pm at the Goessel Church. Give a single unit or Power Red double unit donation. Help those who can't take a vacation because of health reasons. Sign up at redcrossblood.org. For more information contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.