

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

October 1, 2023

No. 39



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

This morning we welcome Pastor Tim Schrag as he brings the message. Tim will be preaching the next three Sundays as we continue through the Biblical narrative. Today we'll hear about God's call to Moses to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. We'll also celebrate Holy Communion together along with other Christians around the world.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music**    *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* ~Kerr    Marcia Brubaker  
                                 *Let Us Break Bread Together* ~Wood  
                                 *O, Worship the King* ~Hobby

**Welcome**

Pastor Lois Harder

**Opportunities for Celebration and Service**

**Call to Worship and Invocation+**

Psalm 145:1-4; 21

One: I will lift you up high, my God, the true king.

**Many: I will bless your name forever and always.**

One: I will bless you every day. I will praise your name forever and always.

**Many: The Lord is great and so worthy of praise!**

One: God's greatness can't be grasped.

**Many: One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts.**

One: My mouth will proclaim the Lord's praise.

**Many: And every living thing will bless God's holy name forever and always.**

**\*Gathering Hymns**

*You Are Exalted*  
*We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer*

VT 86

VT 34

**Peace Prayer**

**Children's Story**

John Fast

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Lois Harder

## **Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** *In Christ There Is No East or West* ~Wood Marcia Brubaker

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Lois

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture** Exodus 1:8-14; 3:1-15 Lynel Unrau

**Message** "Some things never change" Pastor Tim Schrag

**Song of Response** *This is My Song* VT 710

## **COMING TO GOD'S TABLE**

**Words of Invitation and Preparation** VT 936

**Celebrating the Lord's Supper**

## **SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**\*Sending Song** *From North and South, from East and West* VT 460

**\*Benediction** Pastor Lois

**\*Postlude** *Sent Forth By God's Blessing* 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.

**Song Leader:** Kyle Unruh

**Greeters:** North – Jared and Laura Unrau  
South – Tim and Judy Goertzen

**Visual Arts:** Tina Schrag

**Nursery Staff:** Susan Nafziger, Laura Unrau

**Worship Technology:** DeAlan Unrau, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth

**September 17 Attendance:** Sunday School – 88; Worship -- 113 in person, 11 Zoom Households

**September 17 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$55.48; First Fruits – \$8,562.29

**September 24 Offering:** First Fruits - \$1,251.00

Next Sunday the story comes from Deuteronomy 5 and 6, "Hear O Israel; Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and might." This will be the focus for Tim's Bible study on Wednesday evening in the conference room.

## **Welcome, Pastor Tim Schrag!**

Tim grew up in Moundridge and attended Bethel College. He served an MCC term in Brazil and is a graduate of AMBS. He pastored at First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE and Mennonite Church of Normal, Illinois. Tim is retired and a member of the Eden Mennonite Church; he is an active volunteer with Mennonite Disaster Service. Lee and Mary Alice Hertzler are the parents of Tim's wife, Sue. Tim will lead the midweek Bible study this Wednesday, October 4 in the Conference room. He'll focus on Deuteronomy 5:1-21 (the Ten Commandments) in preparation for next Sunday's service.

## *Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray God's blessings on Travis Duerksen and Erica Stoltzfus on the birth of their son, Luka Stoltzfus Duerksen, on Saturday, September 23. Luka weighed 6 lb. 4 oz. and is 20.5 inches long.
- ❖ We also pray God's blessings on grandparents Marlin and Sheri Janzen and great-grandmother, Lois Janzen, on the birth of twin girls to Karis and Joel Hill. Ellie Marie and Zoey Anne were born on September 12.
- ❖ We pray for Karen and Duane Unruh, Jim and Mary Schmidt, and Eileen Schmidt and their families as they grieve the passing of Bruce Schmidt on September 15. May they know God's comfort and deep peace as they remember Bruce.

*+This week pray for: Clayton Duerksen, Garrett and Brittany Hiebert family, Dayle Reimer, Radene Unruh, Kimberly Voth*

### **THIS WEEK**

#### **Sunday, October 1**

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship with Communion
- 1:00 pm – Bethesda Chapel and Communion– Pastor Lois

#### **Monday, October 2**

- 4:00 – Prayer Team
- 5:30 pm – Board of Education

#### **Tuesday, October 3**

- 9:00 am – Staff Meeting

#### **Wednesday, October 4**

- Midweek Activities Begin – see schedule on insert

#### **Saturday, October 7**

- All Day – Goessel Harvest Festival

#### **Sunday, October 8**

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

### **COMING EVENTS**

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Oct 1-3 | Serve at New Hope Shelter, Newton                           |
| Oct 7   | Goessel Harvest Festival                                    |
| Oct 9   | Goessel Blood Drive   |
| Oct 15  | Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk, 1:30 pm                   |
| Oct 20  | Senior Coffee   |
| Oct 22  | Area Junior High fall event – Patchwork Farms Pumpkin Patch |
| Oct 29  | Mission Sunday  |
| Nov 5   | Daylight Saving Time Ends                                   |
| Nov 5   | Bethesda Pillar's Banquet                                   |
| Nov 19  | GMA's Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal                   |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Come to the Children's Midweek Kickoff, Wednesday, October 4.**

Special guest will be Denise Duerksen, cycle enthusiast, sharing her faith story, "Biking Across Kansas: Mission Impossible—God Possible!" Activities will start with singing: ages 3 through Kindergarten in Room 15 and Grades 1 through 5 in the Chapel. Parents and others are invited to join us in the Foundation Room to hear Denise at 6:45. Children will be dismissed from the Fellowship Hall at 7:45 p.m.

**Wednesday night meals – If you are willing to bring dessert, help serve or clean up** sign up in the south lobby for dates that work for you.

**Attention High School Youth:** You are invited to come on Wednesday, October 4 for a Midweek Eat and Meet. Following the meal on Wednesday, we will meet in the Youth House at 7pm for about an hour to discuss plans and ideas for the next few months. Invite anyone who might want to participate.

**Please fill out the salmon colored Discernment of Congregational Leadership** sheets. Place them in the blue boxes in one of the lobbies by next **Sunday, October 8.** **Apologies to Brendon Nafziger** whose name was inadvertently left off the sheet. Brendon serves on the Board of Trustees and his term expires in 2025.

**Area-wide Junior High students (grades 6-8) - You are invited to our first event of the school year on October 22, from 7-9 p.m.** We will enjoy a hayrack ride out to Patchwork Farms Pumpkin Patch with games, s'mores, and fellowship. Drop off and pick up will be at Tabor Mennonite Church. Contact sponsors with questions: Chelan and Megan Duerksen or Brandon and Kristi Unruh.

**The Co-Workers of Faith Sunday School Class** extends an invitation to come to the table where fellowship, study of the "Salt and Light" Sunday School series, and discipleship principles are served. Life changes have caused a dwindling attendance. Rather than disbanding, the class is seeking growth, including those who might have interest or willingness to teach/lead in our studies and discussions. The location is the chapel on the same floor as the sanctuary. A sound system is in place for better hearing. People who desire a smaller group, full of wisdom and life experience, or have mobility or hearing issues might find a fit here. If interested contact Anita Boese at [dayle4719@gmail.com](mailto:dayle4719@gmail.com) or 620.947.2067 by Sunday, October 22.

**Pastor Lois will be on vacation** from October 4-12, back in the office on Friday the 13th. She will be driving her folks to northern Michigan to her mothers' home place to relax, reminisce and enjoy the autumn colors. Please contact one of the deacons for pastoral concerns. Gail Graber is on-call for emergency situations.

**Blood Drive Monday, October 9:** Blood shortages are making the nationwide news! Let's do our part to donate and help make a difference! Sign up at [recrossblood.org](http://recrossblood.org) to donate between 1-6:00 pm at Goessel Church. For more information, contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.

The **Harvest Giving Walk** will take place at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church on **Sunday, October 15 at 1:30 p.m.** Pick up a Walk envelope today or find someone who is walking and generously support the Tabor Food Pantry and MCC's global projects. Walkers are invited to bring an item for the Tabor Food Pantry on Walk day. Please make checks payable to "Harvest Giving Walk."

**Bethel College Fall Festival Saturday, October 14.** As usual, our church is responsible for selling New Year's cookies and coffee for the BC Women's Association. Volunteers are necessary to help with this exciting event. Please use the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the south lobby! Questions? Contact Bonnie Gaeddert.

**Current needs at New Hope Shelter --** Bring items to the large box in the south lobby by **October 1**. These items include: paper towels, napkins, bathroom cleaner, Pine-sol/all purpose cleaner, plastic food storage bags, sandwich bags, hand dish washing soap, 55 gallon trash bags, and 30 gallon trash bags.

### **MIDWEEK SCHEDULE Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Begins October 4, 2023**

5:45 – 6:30 pm	Fellowship Meal Served
6:20 – 7:50 pm	Supervised Child Care for 0-2 year olds
6:30 – 7:45 pm	Children's Activities & Music (ages 3 years old – 5 <sup>th</sup> grade)
6:30 – 7:45 pm	Jr. High Youth Activities (6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades)
6:45 – 7:45 pm	Chancel Choir
7:00 – 8:00 pm	High School Youth Activities
7:50 – 8:30 pm	Adult Bible Study

*Join us this Wednesday!*