## **Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church**

Volume LXIX

October 15, 2023

No. 41



Welcome to Alexanderwohl! This morning we'll look at the story of Ruth and how this remarkable Moabite woman changed the course of the entire Israelite people. God's love is steadfast and God's ways are surprising!

## **GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

Gathering Music

Jesus, Still Lead On ~Weber God of Grace and God of Glory ~Helman

Welcome

Pastor Lois Harder

Psalm 46:1-2, 7-11

Marcia Brubaker

#### **Opportunities for Celebration and Service**

#### Call to Worship and Invocation+

One: God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

- Many: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.
- One: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- Many: Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.
- One: He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth.
- Many: God breaks the bow and shatters the spear; burns the shields with fire.
  - One: He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
- Many: I will be exalted among the nations,
  - One: I will be exalted in the earth."
    - All: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

\*Gathering Hymns

Children's Story

Be Still and Know VT 37

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (omit vs. 3) VT 421

Ann Hiebert

#### **Child/Parent Dedication**

Luka Stolzfus Duerksen, son of Travis Duerksen and Erica Stoltzfus Rosebud and Grandparent Prayer of Blessing Questions, Response, Blessing

*Congregational Covenant		VT 970
*Song of Response	Child of Blessing, Child of Promise	VT 508

Morning PrayerPastor LoisWorship MusicLet Us Go Together ~Gwyneth WalkerChancel ChoirHEARING GOD'S WORDScriptureRuth 1:1-17; 4:13-17Laura VothMessage"Many meanings from one small story"Pastor Tim SchragSong of ResponseHow Many Times We Start AgainVT 553

#### Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

OffertoryJust a Closer Walk with Thee ~HobbyMarcia Brubaker\*Prayer of DedicationPastor Lois

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Sending Song	Be Thou My Vision (omit vs. 4)	VT 549
*Benediction		Pastor Lois
*Postlude	A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ~Held	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 | Chancel Choir Director: Renae Schmidt Peters

Greeters: North – Jim and Mary Schmidt

South - Matthew and Laura Voth

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Tina Schrag, Levi Schrag

Worship Technology: Myron Goertzen, Steve Goertzen, Delton Voth October 8 Attendance: Sunday School – 93; Worship -- 131 in person, 7 Zoom Households

October 8 Offering: Sunday School -- \$33.14; First Fruits - \$2,826.88

Next Sunday the text is 2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150. Pastor Lois will lead the Bible study on these passages on Wednesday evening. Pastor Tim Schrag will bring us the message next Sunday; this will wrap up his time with us here at Alexanderwohl.

# Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- We are grateful for the gift of family, both given and chosen, and the bonds of love that bind us to one another and to you, our God.
- We pray for the health and well-being of the most vulnerable among us as we head into these autumn months of flu (and other illness) season.
- We pray for wisdom and mercy as ferocious battles rage in Israel/Palestine. Oh God, we proclaim the hope we have in Jesus' difficult message of peace and nonviolence as the only way to lasting justice.

+This week pray for: Donley and Carol Duerksen, Sandy Duerksen, Matt and Trissa McCabe family, Tamera Stucky, James and Shari Wiens family

## THIS WEEK

#### Sunday, October 15

9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 1:30 pm – Harvest Giving Walk, Alexanderwohl's Shelter House 5:30 pm – HS Youth meet at Ben and Tina Schrag's place <u>Tuesday, October 17</u> 9:00 am – Staff Meeting

5:15 pm – Board of Worship

#### Wednesday, October 18

5:45 pm – Fellowship meal served

## Midweek Activities

#### Friday, October 20

10:00 am - Senior Coffee

#### Sunday, October 22

9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 7:00–9:00 pm – Area Junior High Fall Event – Meet at Tabor Church

# **COMING EVENTS**

- Oct 26-27 MCC Meat Canning
- Oct 29 Mission Sunday
- Nov 4 Campus-wide Work Day at AMC
- Nov 5 Daylight Saving Time Ends Set clocks back one hour
- Nov 5 Bethesda Pillar's Banquet
- Nov 19 GMA's Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal
- Nov 26 Thanksgiving Service (no Thanksgiving Day service)
- Dec 3 First Sunday of Advent
- Dec 9 Daughters of Grace Christmas Brunch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today – October 15 is the Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk!** You can still sign up to participate and you can still make a donation, payable to "Harvest Giving Walk." Find a walker today for your generous giving to help MCC's clean water initiatives, as well as the expenses of our local Tabor Food Pantry. Participants from our church are: Steve Goertzen & Rosi Reimer, Dave & Aileen Esau, John Janzen, and Tim & Judy Goertzen. Walkers, please be at the Alexanderwohl shelter house by 1:15 p.m. to sign in and remember to bring your donation envelope, all money raised, and an item for the Food Pantry.

All high school youth (invite your friends!) are invited to Ben and Tina Schrag's house (715 29th Ave) TODAY at 5:30 for supper and more. Questions? Text or call Tina: 316.217.3171.

Senior Coffee – Friday, October 20, 10:00 am – Brian Stucky will present "Mennonite Flour Mills of Central Kansas". Join us for an interesting morning!

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. If you are interested in joining us in the chapel, contact Anita Boese at <u>dayle4719@gmail.com</u> or 620.947.2067 by Sunday, October 22.

**MCC Meat Canning** – Workers are needed October 26 and 27. Sign up in the south lobby.

The Trustees are planning a campus-wide work day on Saturday, November 4, starting at 8:00 am. Projects that will be included: residing the shelter house, tree trimming, and campus-wide clean up. All ages from junior high and up are encouraged to come help. A hamburger and hot dog lunch will be provided. Please sign up by October 29 in the south lobby.

The Board of Mission and Service would like to thank everyone who supported or was involved in the Community Service Day on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Due to your generous donations, Alexanderwohl Church contributed \$1600 to Camp Mennoscah's M and M Project. As of October 9<sup>th</sup>, Camp Mennoscah had \$85,000 of the \$100,000 needed to receive a matching grant.

We are so grateful to be part of a caring church community. A heartfelt thank you for the prayers, cards, words of encouragement, and the meals provided during our recovery time. May God bless you! ~Dennis and Norma Duerksen

My dear friends, few words come as I try to grasp ALL THE KINDNESS shown to me (also to Bruce's and my family) during these past four weeks. Your prayers, hugs, texts and phone calls - bring smiles and tears. Thank you for your words of comfort during Bruce's Visitation and Celebration of his Life - I'm humbled by the outpouring of your love. As I navigate how to live alone (with my kitties Marti and Elliot), I ask for your continued prayers. Psalm 23 - the Lord's shepherding care - He leads His sheep, comforts and protects them. Let us hold each other up as God's people - as we heal together. We all loved my precious Bruce so much. ~Eileen Schmidt