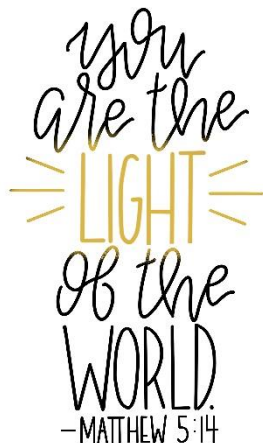


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

October 29, 2023

No. 43



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Today is Mission Sunday and the Alexanderwohl Board of Mission and Service has invited Delbert Peters and Tim Goerzen to share about their experiences working with Mennonite Disaster Service locally and further away from home. We'll hear how they have responded to Jesus' mandate to serve others in order to bring glory to God.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified* ~Hayes Marcia Brubaker
Be Thou My Vision ~Bober

Welcome Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship | Invocation+ VT 857

One: Holy God, you call us together to reflect on your Word and our life in your world.

Many: **Be with us now as we sing and pray together, that we may hear your voice and understand your way.**

All: *This we pray through Jesus, the Christ. Amen*

***Gathering Hymns** *Mountain of God* VT 11

Life-Giver, Maker, God of All VT 38

Children's Story Suzanne Meier

Morning Prayer Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Matthew 5:13-16; 25:31-40 Laurien Berger

Message Experiences with MDS Delbert Peters
Tim Goertzen

Song of Response *You Are Salt for the Earth* VT 297

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

I'm Gonna Let it Shine ~Bober

Marcia Brubaker

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Lois

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Sending Song** *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound* VT 392

***Benediction** *As You Go Out From Here* VT 841

***Postlude** *Rain Down* ~Cortez 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 – Carol and Donley Duerksen

South – Denise Duerksen

Visual Arts: Tina Schrag

Nursery Staff: Chrystiana Miller, Jayley Schmidt

Worship Technology: DeAlan Unrau, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

October 22 Attendance: Sunday School – 83; Worship -- 113 in person, 14 Zoom Households

October 22 Offering: Sunday School -- \$24.88; First Fruits – \$2,924.00

Next Sunday Brett Klingenberg will bring the message. The text will be 1 Kings 18:17-21 – we need to choose who we will follow.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Lois Janzen as she heals from a fall last Sunday afternoon. God grant healing and relief from pain.
- ❖ We pray for our students and teachers as they work hard to keep up with busy schedules and many activities.
- ❖ We pray for Palestinians and Israelis as they continue to battle. God be with the citizens as they suffer and with the leaders as they make decisions and bear responsibility. We pray for your peace.
- ❖ We're grateful for the rain, dear God. May it moisten the dry earth and bring abundance and goodness.

+*This week pray for: Bob Boese, Dennis and Norma Duerksen, Luetta Duerksen, Murray and Ama Reimer, Glen Unrau*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 29 – Mission Sunday

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, October 30

7:00 pm – Children's Ministry Team, Conference Room

Tuesday, October 31

9:00 am – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, November 1

5:45 pm – Fellowship meal served

Midweek Activities – Fall Harvest Party (see announcement)

Saturday, November 4

8:00 am – Campus-wide work day at AMC (see announcement)

Sunday, November 5

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

5:30-6:30 pm – Bethesda Pillar's Banquet

COMING EVENTS

- Nov 5 Daylight Saving Time Ends – Set clocks back one hour
- Nov 8 Pizza fundraiser meal for Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum
- Nov 19 GMA's 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

Pastor Lois will be away next weekend. Her youngest daughter, Anna, will be married in Winfield, KS. Pastor Gail Graber will be on call for emergency situations. For other pastoral needs please contact a deacon.

The Trustees are planning a campus-wide work day on Saturday, November 4, starting at 8:00 am. Projects that will be included: re-siding 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 today (October 29)** in the south lobby.

The children's midweek will have a fun time together at our Fall Harvest Party on Wednesday, November 1, from 6:30-7:45 pm. The evening will feature a hayrack ride in the country and fall activities planned by the Junior High Students and assisted by the High School students. Each child must bring a signed permission slip to participate, which were passed out on 10-25. Extra forms are available in the Sunday school office. Children will meet and be dismissed from their regular class locations: 3s, 4s, Kindergarten—Rm #15, 1st-5th grades—Foundation Room, 6th-8th grades will meet with Kevin and Bonnie as usual. Please have your child dress warmly! If you have questions, contact Maryanne, Chrystiana, Justine, Kevin or Bonnie. We hope to see you there!

Going, going...almost gone: Plans are to remove the shelter house piano on November 1. If you would like to give this piano a new home or repurpose it, it is free for the taking (that means YOU get to move it!). Let Karen Unruh know (620-755-0211) if you are interested. It must be spoken for and removed by November 1.

Fifty years ago, the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum, then known as the Mennonite Immigrant Historical Foundation, was in its early beginnings as community members were concerned that the stories of those that immigrated to this area in 1874 be preserved and shared. **In celebration and with gratitude, museum board members will be serving Menno Bros. pizza, along with fresh tossed salad and delicious cookies, between 5:45 and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 8.** All proceeds from the meal will benefit the museum; your donations will be gratefully accepted. Please join us!

Community Thanksgiving Meal -- Sunday, November 19 between 5:00-6:30 pm at the Goessel Elementary gym. There are signup sheets on the bulletin board in both lobbies to help bring food and to be a worker.

Daughters of Grace are planning a Christmas brunch on December 9 and are looking for volunteers to decorate a Christmas-themed table for that morning. If you are willing to share your creative talents in this way, please sign up in the south lobby.

As families begin to make plans for the upcoming holiday season, we wanted all to be aware of the schedule for Thanksgiving and Christmas services. We will celebrate **Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 26**, with no service on Thanksgiving Day. This service will include a special offering time where we are encouraged to symbolically express our thanks to God through gifts of money, grains, creative work, tools, and any other ways that are unique to us. On Sunday, December 24, we will meet as usual for Sunday School and worship service at the regular times. The Christmas Eve program and Candlelighting Service will be held that evening, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. There will be no service on Christmas Day.

Thank you so much for the expressions of appreciation offered to me during this "pastor appreciation month" of October; I feel appreciated, cared for and grateful! ~Pastor Lois

Thank you notes from Bethel College, Mennonite Church USA and Western District Women in Mission are posted on the south bulletin board from our 3rd quarter distributions to our mission partners.