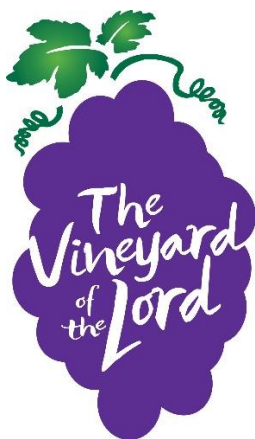


# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

November 19, 2023

No. 46



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

This morning Pastor Brett will wrap up his time with us as we study the prophet Isaiah. In these passages Isaiah used the images of a vineyard. God is the loving gardener using all the necessary tools to produce the best fruit. God tends the vines and the soil lovingly. He also prunes and uproots.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music**     *Now Thank We All Our God* ~Behnke Marcia Brubaker  
                                  *We Plow the Fields and Scatter* ~Burkhardt  
                                  *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ~Kerr

**Welcome**     Pastor Lois Harder

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

**Call to Worship and Invocation+**     Isaiah 11: 6-9 CEB

One: The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;

**Many: the calf and the young lion will feed together,**

**All: and a little child will lead them.**

One: The cow and the bear will graze.

**Many: Their young will lie down together, and a lion will eat straw like an ox.**

One: A nursing child will play over the snake's hole; toddlers will reach right over the serpent's den.

**Many: They won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain.**

**All: The earth will surely be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, just as the water covers the sea.**

**\*Gathering Hymns**     *O Day of Peace*     VT 787  
                                  *Hear the Turmoil of the Nations*     VT 201

**Children's Story**     Rosi Reimer

**Morning Prayer**     Pastor Lois

**Worship Music**     *A Song of Praise* ~Gwyneth Walker     Chancel Choir

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

<b>Scripture</b>	Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5	Travis Duerksen
<b>Message</b>	"A Song About a Field"	Pastor Brett
<b>Song of Response</b>	<i>We Dream of a Turning</i>	VT 209
<b>Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Dona Nobis Pacem</i> ~Behnke	Marcia Brubaker
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

<b>*Song of Sending</b>	<i>Go Now in Peace, Worship Continues</i>	VT 829
<b>*Benediction</b>		Pastor Lois
<b>*Postlude</b>	<i>Now Thank We All Our God</i> ~Behnke	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 and Chancel Choir Director:** Renae Peters

**Greeters:** North – Arlie and Kay Schroeder

South – Kim Voth

**Visual Arts:** Anita Boese

**Nursery Staff:** Brittany Hiebert and Delaney Duerksen

**Worship Technology:** Steve Unruh, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth

**November 12 Attendance:** Sunday School – 97; Worship -- 128 in person; 11 Zoom Households

**November 12 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$21.54; First Fruits – \$3,919.80

Next Sunday will be a Thanksgiving service of gratitude and praise. Pastor Lois will preach. Since there will not be a service on Thanksgiving Day, this will be our opportunity to worship and give generously. There will be no mid-week meal or activities on Wednesday, November 22.

## *Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We thank you God for this season of gratitude and thanksgiving. May we incorporate and reflect that attitude all year round.
- ❖ We pray for our friends and loved ones who live at Bethesda, Schowalter Villa, Kidron-Bethel and other care facilities. Let them know your love and care each day.
- ❖ We pray for those who are experiencing illness; may they return quickly to the fullness of health.
- ❖ We pray for those caught in the horrors of war and hatred. May the nonviolent, peace-making power of Jesus find a way.

+This week pray for: Lester and Susan Banman, Steve and Sandy Banman, Kara Burkholder, John and Kathryn Mathews, Greg, Suzanne and Grace Meier

## THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, November 19**

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

5:00-6:30 pm – GMA's Community Thanksgiving Meal

6:00 pm – HS Youth bowling at Bluejay Lanes in Hillsboro

### **Monday, November 20**

4:00 pm – Prayer Team

### **Tuesday, November 21**

9:00 am – Staff Meeting

5:30 pm – Board of Worship

### **Wednesday, November 22**

8:00 am – Bulletin items for Nov 26 bulletin due in church office

NO Midweek Activities

### **Thursday, November 23**

Church Offices closed for Thanksgiving

### **Friday, November 24**

Church Offices closed for Thanksgiving

### **Sunday, November 26**

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship -- A Service of Thanksgiving

## COMING EVENTS

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Dec 3   | First Sunday of Advent                                     |
| Dec 3   | Newton Community Children's Choir Concert at AMC - 3:00 pm |
| Dec 6-9 | Serve at New Hope Shelter                                  |
| Dec 9   | Daughters of Grace Christmas Brunch - 9:30 am              |
| Dec 10  | A Service of Lessons and Carols                            |
| Dec 10  | Christmas Brass and Elbiata Community Concert              |
| Dec 15  | Senior Coffee - 3:00 pm                                    |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today -- High school youth will meet at the Youth House at 6:00 pm to go bowling at Bluejay Lanes in Hillsboro!** Bring \$5-10 for snacks. We'll be back around 9 pm. Bring your friends!

**The high school youth group will be collecting monetary donations on Sunday Nov. 26 and Dec. 3 to go shopping for supplies for the New Hope Homeless Shelter.** Thank you for your generous support!

**All items for the November 26 bulletin** are due in the church office by 8:00 am on Wednesday, November 22. The church offices will be closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving.

**Here are three opportunities to serve at the New Hope Shelter in**

**December:** First, sign up on the south lobby bulletin board to be an evening volunteer on Dec. 6-9. Second, give grocery items on the current needs list. Deposit them in the big grocery box in the lobby. Third, give money for small Christmas gifts for each resident at the shelter. Please send your check (with a notation for Resident Christmas) to 900 W. Broadway St., Bldg.7, Newton, KS 67114 or donate online at [www.newhope-shelter.org](http://www.newhope-shelter.org). Thank you for your generous support and prayers!

**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.

**Roots of Justice anti-racism training** is an intense 20-hour, 2.5 day opportunity to learn about racial and cultural identity, white privilege, systemic racism and more. This training will be offered on January 12-14 in Newton. The Board of Mission and Service has scholarship funds available. Talk to Pastor Lois if you're interested.

**Thanks to the generosity of friends and family who contributed to the memorial funds for Mary Lou Unrau and Elva Plett plus the bequest gift from Andy and Elva Plett,** we have been able to purchase a like-new Yamaha piano for use in the Foundation Room/Fellowship Hall. We are grateful for the musical legacy of these individuals that continues to impact the life of our church.

**"How can we thank God enough for you..."** (I Thessalonians 3:9) From the museum's earliest beginnings, this congregation has been a cornerstone of faithful support and continues to do so today. We were again blessed by your generosity at our recent pizza fundraiser meal on November 8. Contributions of over \$1,900 were received and will be used as vital operating funds and additions to our endowment fund as we close the year. ~With sincere gratitude, the board and staff of the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum

**The 2024 commemorative 150 Years of the Mennonite Migration calendars have arrived!** Filled with Mennonite historical tidbits and dates for events in 2024 to celebrate Mennonites coming to America, these calendars make great Christmas gifts! Today there is a table in the south lobby where the calendars are available for \$15 plus tax. They are also available at the Museum in Goessel. Contact is Sandy Duerksen for more info 620.386.4434.

## The Christmas Giving Tree

Jesus' love was the greatest gift that God has ever given to humanity. That love continues to inspire us to gift each other with God's grace and love. The Goessel Ministerial Alliance and the Citizens State Bank are sponsoring a "Christmas Giving Tree" to do just that. This tree endeavors to help with some of the expenses of Christmas for those families in need. We invite all parents who feel they could use a little help to fill out an application listing their children by name, age, and some gift suggestions with clothing sizes. Besides parents, other people that are aware of needs for children should also fill out the application form.

Applications will be available at the Goessel Elementary and High School offices, the Goessel City Office, the Crossroads Credit Union and the Citizens State Bank. All applications will need to be turned in by Friday, November 17 to the Elementary School office or in a sealed envelope marked "Christmas Giving Tree" at the Citizens State Bank. Each child's name turned in will get 1 tag on the tree with their age, sex and gift description. The names of the children will not be on the tag.

The tags will be available on the tree at the Citizens State Bank on Tuesday, November 21. All the gifts will need to be brought back to the Bank by Monday, December 11. The gifts should be wrapped and the bank personnel will assist with the "checking in" process. The gifts will then be distributed by the Ministerial Alliance.

It is our goal that everyone has a blessed and happy Christmas, both the giver and the receiver. We hope that each of our congregations may enter into this ministry opportunity.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the one of the pastors.

