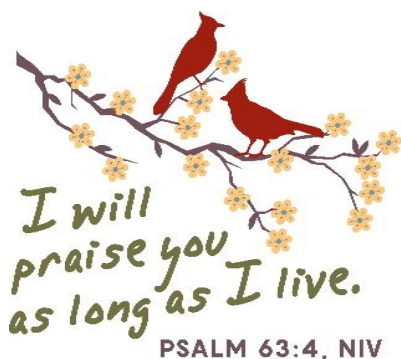


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

January 28, 2024

No. 4



Welcome to Alexanderwohl

We especially welcome and thank Mr. Unruh and the Elbiata Singers for being here to lead us in worship with their music. Our scriptural focus is on Psalm 63:1-8, a psalm of "comfort and assurance in God's presence".

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music		Elbiata Singers
Welcome		Ben Schrag
Opportunities for Celebration and Service		
Call to Worship and Invocation+		VT 1003
*Gathering Hymns	<i>Life-Giver, Maker, God of All</i>	VT 38
	<i>We Praise Thee, O God</i>	VT 91
Children's Story		Laura Voth
Worship Music	<i>I'll Be on My Way ~ Kirchner</i>	Elbiata Singers
Morning Prayer		Pastor Lois Harder

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture	Psalm 63:1-8 (NRSV)	Ben Schrag
Message	<i>Trusting in God's Love</i>	Pastor Lois
Song of Response	<i>Peace, Be Still ~ Kirchner</i>	VT 202
Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	<i>It's Gonna Be Alright ~ Wise</i>	Elbiata Singers
*Prayer of Dedication		Pastor Lois

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Song of Sending	<i>Light Dawns on a Weary World</i>	VT 205
*Benediction	<i>Peace I Leave With You ~ Shue</i>	Elbiata Singers
*Postlude	<i>Love, Peace, and Joy ~ Leavitt</i>	Jason Peters

*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.

Elbiata Singers: Soprano – Adriana Duerksen, Jenna Flaming, Janessa Garcia, Cheyenne Sawyer, Miranda Tyler. Alto – Isabelle Alderfer, Isabelle Eckert, Abbigail Funk, Aimee Funk, Jessica Wright, Brooklyn Wuest. Tenor – Eli Gaeddert, Riley Hartvickson, Jackson Hiebert, Noah Schrag, Adam Wonser. Bass – Anthony Boden, Eli Boden, Jake Flaming, Levi Schrag, Luke Stucky.

Song Leader and Elbiata Singers Director: Braden Unruh

Greeters: North – Duane and Agatha Duerksen
South – Jared and Laura Unrau family

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Gretchen Schrag, Julianna Schrag

Worship Technology: Myron Goertzen, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth

January 21 Attendance: Sunday School – 95; Worship -- 117 in person; 17 Zoom Households

January 21 Offering: Sunday School -- \$10.37; First Fruits – \$3,771.00

Next Sunday our text is from Mark 1:29-39. Pastor Luann will preach. We'll have a light lunch together following the service. Shortly after lunch we'll gather again in the sanctuary for our Annual Meeting.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Meribeth Schmidt, Cindy Hastings, Russ Schmidt and Bart Shulman as well as extended family and friends who are grieving the loss and celebrating the life of Rannie Schmidt whose services were yesterday. Thank you God for Rannie's life!
- ❖ God, we pray for church leaders in congregations and denominational leaders, who are walking with and leading your people as we strive together to be faithful.
- ❖ We're grateful for the moisture that is soaking into the earth. We pray for safety as the yards and roads are treacherous and impassible at some points.
- ❖ We pray for families that struggle to pay the bills or to keep everyone in the household healthy; may they be shown your provision and love.

+*This week pray for: Alvin Banman, Ilene Franz, Jerold and Herminia Franz, Jamey and Cindy Ratzlaff, Sid and Carol Sprunger, Chad and Mindy Unrau*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 28

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Noon Potluck Meal

2:00 pm – Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum's Annual Meeting --
(See Announcement Sheet for details)

Monday, January 29

7:00 pm -- Fourth Monday Family History & Genealogy Group,
presentation by Arlin Buller "Roots and Fruits" (See
Announcement Sheet for details)

Tuesday, January 30

9:15 am – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, January 31

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal Served
Midweek Activities

Sunday, February 4

9:30 am – Sunday School
10:30 am – Worship
Annual Meeting following noon lunch
5:00-8:00 pm – Area-wide JH Progressive Supper

COMING EVENTS

Feb 5	Goessel area Blood Drive – 1:00-6:00 pm
Feb 7	Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum Pizza Fundraiser Meal
Feb 10	Comforter tying at Tabor Church
Feb 16	Senior Coffee – 10:00 am
Mar 3	Camp 412 Fundraiser at the HS cafeteria beginning at 11:30 am
Mar 13	No Midweek – Spring Break
Mar 20	Final Midweek Session

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Meeting - Next Sunday, February 4 - There will be a light lunch together (provided) in the Fellowship Hall followed immediately by the Annual Meeting in the sanctuary. Your Annual Report is either in your email or your mailbox here at church. Please come and participate in the decision-making process of your congregation!

Church Council along with Pastor Lois and Pastor Luann have identified Saturday, February 24 as the date to host a Leadership Retreat from 8:00 a.m. - noon in the Fellowship Hall, beginning with coffee and rolls at 7:45. This interactive retreat will be led by Pastor Luann focusing on questions and conversation for where we are now as we look toward a Pastoral Search. We would like to invite anyone who: is on a board or committee, lay leadership and anyone who is simply interested in the process to save this date and plan to attend. It would be good to have an idea of how many will attend. Please let Ruth in the church office by Wednesday, February 21, if you plan to attend.

Please see the sign-up sheet in the south lobby for specific dates and assignments to help with Midweek meals. Your help is greatly appreciated!

For 50 years, the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum has been telling the migration story and sharing the faith of the Mennonites who settled in the Goessel area. **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, February 7.** All proceeds from the meal will benefit the museum; your donations will be gratefully accepted. Please join us!

Last call for changes for the 2024 yearbook, including Board updates. Please turn them in to the church office by January 31, 2024.

The next area-wide jr. high event will be Sunday, February 4 from 5-8 p.m. Plan to meet at the Goessel Church at 5 p.m. We will enjoy a progressive supper - each course will be at a different location! We will end the evening with some table games. Jr. high students can be picked up at 8 p.m. at Tabor Mennonite Church. Please note the two different locations for drop-off and pick-up.

All women and girls are invited to the Tabor Church Hospitality Hall on Saturday, February 10 for a comforter-tying event for MCC. This will be from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. If you are interested in piecing a top, contact Ruth. More details will be coming.