

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

February 4, 2024

No. 5



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

As we gather together, may we be reminded of the God who renews our strength as we look at Isaiah 40:28-31 and Mark 1:29-39.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Prelude on a Welsh Tune* ~Young Jared Janzen
Arioso ~Wagner

Welcome Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+

One: To know the warmth of love,

Many: To have the assurance that someone cares,

One: To be confident of our worth,

Many: To be bold to love in return,

One: To be washed over with grace,

Many: To be accepted as we are:

One: This is to know a bit of God.

All: Then let us worship our God.

~Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'.

Used with permission.

Peace Prayer Laird Goertzen

***Gathering Hymns** *A Wonderful Savior Is Jesus* VT 626
All Who Are Thirsty VT 49

Children's Story Karl Brubaker

Worship Music *Come Flood This Heart of Mine* ~Lanz Chancel Choir
Julianna Schrag, solo; Mary Schmidt, violin

Morning Prayer Pastor Luann Yutzey

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Isaiah 40:28-31; Mark 1:29-39 Gretchen Schrag

Message *Offering Healing and Salvation* Pastor Luann

Song of Response *Far Above the Noise of Life* VT 625

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* ~arr. Wilson Jared Janzen

***Hymn of Dedication** *God, Whose Giving* (vs. 1) VT 745

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending** *They That Wait Upon the Lord* SWJ 68

***Benediction** Pastor Luann

***Postlude** *In the Sweet By and By* ~arr. Wilson Jared Janzen

*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

Guitar: Eric Schrag and Kevin Gaeddert

Greeters: North – Radene Unruh

South – Duane and Karen Unruh

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff:

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

January 28 Attendance: Sunday School – 108; Worship -- 168 in person; 15 Zoom Households

January 28 Offering: Sunday School -- \$75.79; First Fruits – \$2,608.00

Next Sunday Tammy Duvenal-Unruh from Camp Mennoscah will be here. Her sermon will be on "Foundation Work: The Importance of a Firm Foundation".

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Justine Unruh, her mother Cindy Erb and their family as they have travelled to AZ this weekend for a memorial service for Cindy's father (Justine's grandfather) George Brenneman. We pray for safe travel mercies and meaningful family time together.
- ❖ We pray for Sheri and Marlin Janzen and their family as they grieve the death of her father, Elvin McIntosh. "Mac" passed away on Saturday, January 27, at his home at Presbyterian Manor in Newton. Service arrangements are pending.
- ❖ At the beginning of this month designated "Black History Month" we thank you, God, for the diversity and depth of gifts and contributions made to The Church and to this country by people of color. May our eyes and hearts be open as we continue to learn and be aware of the realities of Black people.

+*This week pray for: Craig and DeVon Abbas, Patrick & Amy Flaming family, Kenny & Elaine Schmidt, Myron & Pat Schmidt, Roger and Teresa Strain, Peter Voth*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 4

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship
- Annual Meeting following noon lunch
- 1:00 pm – Worship at Bethesda led by Pastor Lois
- 5:00-8:00 pm – Area-wide JH Progressive Supper

Monday, February 5

- 1:00-6:00 pm – Goessel Blood Drive
- 5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education, Conference Room

Tuesday, February 6

- 9:15 am – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, February 7

- 5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal Served
- Note: This is a fundraiser for Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum
- Midweek Activities

Thursday, February 8

- 1:00 pm – Meet & Greet Pastor Luann for residents at Bethesda

Saturday, February 10

- 1:00-5:00 pm – MCC Comforter Tying at Tabor Church Hospitality Hall

Sunday, February 11

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

COMING EVENTS

- Feb 16 Senior Coffee – 10:00 am
- Feb 18-20 Serve at New Hope Shelter
- Feb 24 Leadership Retreat – 8:00 am - noon
- 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

Today -- Annual Meeting in the sanctuary following worship and a light lunch (provided). Please come and participate in the decision-making process of your congregation!

Today – Area-wide Junior High Event -- Meet at Goessel Church at 5 p.m. Pick up students at 8 p.m. at Tabor Mennonite Church.

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!

Leadership Retreat - Saturday, February 24, from 8:00 a.m. - noon in the Fellowship Hall. Rolls and coffee served at 7:45 am. 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!

Office Hours for Pastor Luann:

Tuesday – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Thursday – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Office Hours for Pastor Lois:

Monday – 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Tuesday – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Wednesday – 10:30 am – 8:30 p

Thursday – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Friday – 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

On March 6th, the Elementary, Junior High, and High School Midweek classes will be working on several joint service projects, one of which is making care packages for our college students as they prepare for finals season. We are asking for donations of money and shoe boxes to aid our efforts. Money will be used for purchasing snacks, gas gift cards, and other goodies. If you would like to contribute, Jr Hi and HS students will be in each lobby on the Sundays leading up to the project, and shoeboxes can be placed on the table in Sunday School Room #14. The last Sunday to contribute will be February 25. Thank you for your support of this multi-age service project!

We've received Lent/Easter/Pentecost devotional materials from *The Soil and The Seed Project*. The booklet and CD are bundled together and available in the lobbies.

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. We hope to see you then!