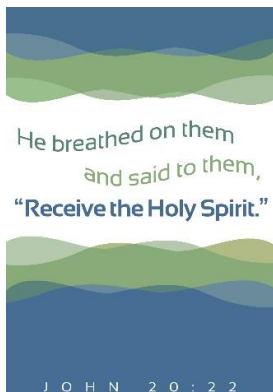


# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

April 7, 2024

No. 14



**Welcome to worship here at Alexanderwohl!** Behind the locked door we join the followers of Jesus in their fear and struggle on this side of the resurrection. In the story from John 20:19-31 we step into a space that takes courage to receive the peace only Jesus can give.

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

### Gathering

Gabriel's Trumpets

*Alleluia, Alleluia* ~Beethoven/arr. Chidester

*If Thou Be Near* ~J.S. Bach/arr. Ford

*Thine Be the Glory* ~Handel/arr. Chidester

### Welcome | Peace Prayer

Pastor Luann Yutzey

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

#### Call to Worship and Invocation

Leader: Joy, wonder, delight --

**All: *Doubt, peace, restlessness* --**

Leader: Sorrow, contentedness, anxiety --

**All: *Confidence, hope, pardon:***

Leader: We lay our hearts, full of these things, before our God.

**All: *Unburdened and waiting***

Leader: Let us worship God.

(Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'.  
Used with permission.)

### \*Gathering Hymns

*Low in the Grave He Lay*

VT 333

*Here in This Place*

VT 10

### Children's Story

Delbert Peters

### Morning Prayer

Pastor Luann

### Worship Music

Gabriel's Trumpets

*Down By the Riverside* ~Jenkins/ed. Olcott

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### Scripture

John 20:19-31

Nancy Stucky

<b>Message</b>	<i>Into the Great Unknown</i>	Pastor Luann
<b>Song of Response</b>	<i>Joys Are Flowing like a River</i>	VT 375
<b>Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Berceuse ~Delbruck</i>	Jared Janzen
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		Pastor Luann

### SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

<b>*Song of Sending</b>	<i>Go, My Children</i>	VT 830
<b>*Benediction</b>		Pastor Luann
<b>*Postlude</b>	<i>Passacaglia ~Gordon Young</i>	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.

**Gabriel's Trumpets:** Eric Schrag, Jacob Schrag, Braden Unruh, Kyle Unruh, Aaron Ratzlaff, Evan Koch, Arlin Buller; Karen Unruh, accompanist

**Song Leader:** Marcia Brubaker

**Greeters:** North – Dwight and Tammy Flaming  
South – John Janzen

**Visual Arts:** LaNae Unruh

**Nursery Staff:** Gretchen Schrag, Julianna Schrag

**Worship Technology:** DeAlan Unrau, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

**March 31 Attendance:** Sunday School – 114; Worship -- 196 in person; 13 Zoom Households

**March 31 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$30.05; First Fruits – \$3,277.39

Next Sunday come and hear Mitch Stutzman, Director of Development and Partner Engagement for Menno Media, draw from Matthew 28, the "Great Commission" text, to talk about WHY Christian Education/Faith Formation is part of Jesus' call to discipleship.

## *Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray for Linda and Morris Ewert and their family as they grieve the loss and celebrate the life of Linda's mother, Elva Penner. Elva passed away March 29. A Celebration of Life service was held Friday at the Mennonite Brethren Church in Hillsboro.
- ❖ We pray for discernment and openness to have transitional conversations at Alexanderwohl on identity and congregational health, gifts and vision, leadership needs and a plan to move forward together. May we hear the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our work in this liminal time.
- ❖ God, may you grant strength and patience to teachers, administrators and students as they come to the end of another school year.

+This week pray for: Lawrence and Teresa Banman, Alyssa Burkholder, Brian and Rachael Burkholder, Duane and Agatha Duerksen, Janell Hawk, Chet and Jeanette Roberts, Bradley Schroeder, Troy Unruh, Mike and Amy Wedel

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, April 7

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship
- 4:00 pm – KMMC Concert, Memorial Hall, Bethel College

### Monday, April 8

- 1:00-6:00 pm – Goessel Community Blood Drive, Goessel Church
- 4:00 pm – Prayer Team
- 5:45 pm – Board of Mission and Service
- 7:00 pm – Church Council

### Tuesday, April 9

- 9:15 am – Staff Meeting
- 9:30 am – Stay Strong Stay Healthy class meets in the Chapel
- 1:00 pm – Tie comforter tops for MCC, Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, April 10

- 7:00 pm – Chancel Choir

### Thursday, April 11

- 10:30 am – Stay Strong Stay Healthy class meets in the Chapel

### Friday and Saturday, April 12-13

- Kansas MCC Sale – Hutchinson

### Sunday, April 14

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship with Mitch Stutzman

## COMING EVENTS

- Apr 15 Meeting with Mitch Stutzman (see announcement)
- Apr 17 Daughters of Grace Spring Salad Supper
- Apr 19 Senior Coffee
- Apr 21 KMMC Concert, 4:00 pm, Tabor College
- Apr 24-27 Serve at New Hope Shelter, Newton
- May 1 Transitional Conversation with Pastor Luann (see announcement)
- June 3-7 Vacation Bible School

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Christian education and formation at Alexanderwohl and the reimagining that has happened in more recent years has been named in transitional conversations as a "life spark," something that has energy and is going well.** I hope you all will come and hear more about education and faith formation when Mitch Stutzman represents MennoMedia on **April 15**, hosted by the Board of Christian Education. Finger foods will be served starting at 6:00 and the meeting will begin at 6:15. **Please RSVP to the church by Friday, April 12. Childcare will be**

**available.** Transitional times are an excellent time to have more education and conversations on faith formation! - Luann, Transition Pastor

**A second meeting will be hosted by Pastor Luann on Wednesday, May 1** as she continues her transitional work with us. Mark your calendars and plan to attend! **RSVP to the church office by Monday, April 29. Childcare will be provided.** A light meal/finger foods, will be served from 6:00-6:15. The meeting will run from 6:15-8:00 p.m.

**The Daughters of Grace salad supper will be Wednesday, April 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m.** Featured speaker is Diana Schunn sharing her heart transplant story. Alyssa Burkholder and Julianna Schrag are providing the music. Sign up in either lobby by **Sunday, April 14.** Invite your friends, and please bring a salad.

**Pastor Lois is on vacation April 1-8.** She will be back in the office on Tuesday, April 9. Pastor Luann and Gail Graber are available for emergencies.

**In your mailbox today, you will find a letter from the Mennonite College Student Ministry Team regarding our spring fundraiser.** With increasing food costs, the expense of the meal is taking away a significant amount of money from the Scholarship Fund. Our desire is to have more money available for students to use for tuition rather than covering meal costs. Therefore, we are asking that you donate to the Scholarship Fund via the envelope provided in your church mailbox. **Your donations are so appreciated by our students** and are matched by the colleges. Thank you for your support!

**Congratulations to Denise Duerksen** on receiving a state-level award for her work as the Newton City Clerk! See the article on the south bulletin board.

**First Fruits Offering Update.** Thank you for your support of our local church ministries through our weekly First Fruits offerings. After the first quarter, we are right on track with 25% of our annual giving goal received. Our local church expenses are running slightly below budget for the first quarter. If you would like to set up automatic recurring donations, there are several options for that. Please let our treasurer Dwight M. Flaming know or visit our church website and set one up through the giving portal [Donate Online to AMC](#) . Thank you for your generosity.

**New Hope Shelter opportunities to serve are coming April 24-27.** The sign-up sheet is on the south lobby bulletin board for evening shift volunteers. The evening meals will be provided by Route 15, Upper Room, Friends & Followers, and our Young Adult Sunday school classes. Thank you all for your prayers and support!