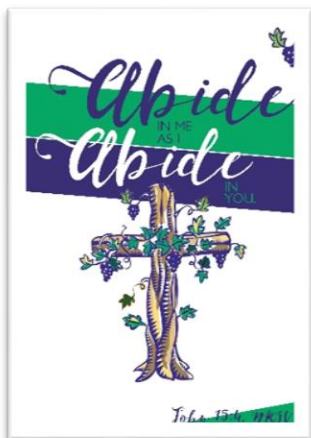


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

April 28, 2024

No. 17



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

We continue with the theme of love in truth and action that Pastor Luann began last week. Today we look at ways that God's love lies at the heart of the life of faith. What are the implications for us of abiding in God - and God abiding in us?

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* ~arr. Bish Mary Schmidt
Fanfare on "Nicaea" ~Cobb

Welcome

Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer+

Psalm 22:25-29

An expression of faith for the community of faith

Leader: From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

North: **The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord.**

All: ***May your hearts live forever!***

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

South: *and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.*

All: ***For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.***

Leader: To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,

All: ***And we shall live for him!***

***Gathering Hymns**

Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing
Jesus Calls Us

VT 7

VT 30

Children's Story

Julianna Schrag

Worship Music

Julianna Schrag and Alyssa Burkholder

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture	John 15:1-8; I John 4:7-19	Nathaniel Schmucker
Message	<i>Every Branch is Pruned</i>	Pastor Lois
Song of Response	<i>Living, Moving, End and Beginning</i>	VT 425
Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	<i>Gothic Minuet on "Kingsfold" ~arr. Walicke</i>	Mary Schmidt
*Prayer of Dedication		Pastor Lois

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Song of Sending	<i>Love Divine, All Loves Excelling</i>	VT 638
*Benediction		Pastor Lois
*Postlude	<i>Amazing Grace ~arr. Bish</i>	Mary Schmidt

*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 – Lynel and Vickie Unrau
South – DeAlan and Alma Unrau

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Maryanne Esau, Myra Peters

Worship Technology: Steve Unruh, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

April 21 Attendance: Sunday School – 98; Worship -- 123 in person;
9 Zoom Households

April 21 Offering: Sunday School -- \$22.39; First Fruits – \$5,931.51

Next Sunday Pastor Luann will look at scriptures about loving our enemies from Luke 6 and pieces of the story of Joseph forgiving his brothers in Genesis 45 as we wrestle with what a journey of forgiveness looks like as followers of Jesus.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Ann Flaming as well as her daughters Cheryl and Jolene and their families as they grieve Les' passing and celebrate his life.
- ❖ We pray for Gary Lyndaker and Darla Banman and their family and friends as they adjust to changes in Gary's health.
- ❖ We are grateful for the recent rains; we pray for safety for those who are planting corn and tending fields and livestock.

+This week pray for: Rick and Sheryl Duerksen, Carol Flaming, Earl and Marsha Goossen, Dylan Lindeman, Dennis and Jan Schmidt, Ed Schroeder, Roy Schroeder, Jim and Connie Wiens, Janet Wright

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 28

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, April 29

RSVP today if you plan to attend the May 1 meeting (see announcement)

Tuesday, April 30

9:15 am – Staff Meeting

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

Wednesday, May 1

6:00 pm – Light meal served before the meeting

6:15 pm – Transitional Meeting with Pastor Luann

Thursday, May 2

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

Sunday, May 5

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

COMING EVENTS

- May 17 Senior Coffee – Justina Neufeld will be our guest presenter
May 24-27 Junior High to Camp Tawakoni
June 2 Bethesda Fundraiser at White Owl Barn
June 2-9 HS Youth Summer Service Trip
June 3-7 Vacation Bible School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, April 29 for the **Wednesday, May 1, transitional meeting** led by Pastor Luann starting at 6:15 and ending by 8:00 pm. A light meal will be provided starting at 6:00. Childcare will be provided by Pastor Lois, Myra and Celia Peters.

Please return donation envelopes for the Mennonite Student Scholarship Fund by April 28 to Carol Duerksen's mailbox or to the church office. Thank you for your support!

From the Board of Mission and Service:
MCC has an immediate need for the following material resources in order to complete various types of essential kits to people in need all over the world:

- ✓ New infant sleepers (6-12 month sizes)
- ✓ Bath towels (dark colored, light to medium weight)
- ✓ Laundry bar soap (such as Fels Naptha or Zote Brands)
- ✓ Shampoo (20 oz. minimum)

- ✓ Spiral notebooks (70 sheets)
- ✓ Hand towels (dark colors)

Items will be collected at church through Sunday, May 5th.

Sunday, May 12, will be Parent/Child Dedication as well as graduate recognition. If you have someone graduating please let the church office know.

The Board of Mission and Service is offering a service opportunity through the Kansas Food Bank in Wichita. New Life Church, 1156 N. Oliver, Wichita, distributes food boxes once a month and needs a group of 6-10 people from our church **to help with food box distribution on May 24th.** Five people from our group will need to be able to carry boxes of produce. Our group should arrive at 3:00 pm on May 24th to help with unloading and sorting. Distribution begins at 4:45 pm and runs till about 6:00 pm or a little later. Sign up is in the south lobby.

The Board of Christian Education is requesting your help in providing snacks for the summer Sunday School program. The elementary children through High School will be meeting together in the shelter house during the Sunday School hour for the months of June, July and August. There could be a total of 30 children/youth/adults. There is a sign up sheet in the south lobby. *Because of allergies, please do not bring anything with peanuts.* Thank you for your help!

Save the Date: “Hello Summer” Bethesda Fundraiser at White Owl Barn. Sunday, June 2, 2024, 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy a fun evening around the creek. Lawn games will be provided! See Friday’s email or flyers on bulletin boards for details.

Vacation Bible School – Scuba Diving into Friendship. June 3-7 from 8:30 – 11:30 am; Preschool – 5th grade; 6th grade – Serve & Learn. Hosted by Alexanderwohl Mennonite and Goessel Church at Alexanderwohl.

“From Russia to Kansas – A Story of the 1874 Mennonite Immigration”, sponsored by the Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum, will be presented on August 2. The pictorial presentation will include first-hand accounts about the journey. Volunteers are needed for reading parts. For more information contact Leann Toews, director, 620-877-0397, or Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081 by May 19.