

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

May 5, 2024

No. 18



Welcome to worship here at Alexanderwohl! As followers of Jesus, what are we called to when it comes to loving our enemies and forgiveness? Come and learn with us as we worship together!

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Arioso (Thanks Be to Thee)* ~Handel Jared Janzen
Air ~Handel

Welcome Justine Unruh

Peace Prayer Justine and Kyle Unruh

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Invocation+

Leader: Into this world we are born,

All: Into the beauty and sorrow of everyday life.

Leader: Into this day we awake,

All: Into possibility and the unknown.

Leader: Into this church we are welcomed,

All: Into God's grace and each other's truth.

Leader: Let us worship God this day, we who are called and loved.

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

***Gathering Hymns** *Holy, Holy, Holy* VT 76
Could It Be That God Is Singing VT 42

Children's Story Renae Schmidt Peters

Morning Prayer Pastor Luann Yutzy

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Justine Unruh
Luke 6:27-38

Message *I Will Meet You There* Pastor Luann

Song of Response *You Are Salt for the Earth* VT 297

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Andante Espresso* ~Froberger, arr. Cundick Jared Janzen

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Luann

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending** *Go, My Children* VT 830

***Benediction** Pastor Luann

***Postlude** *Toccata in the Style of Scarlatti* ~Young 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: Marcia Brubaker

Greeters: North – Delbert and Janine Peters

South – Duane and Agatha Duerksen

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Tina Schrag, Levi Schrag

Worship Technology: DeAlan Unrau, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

April 28 Attendance: Sunday School – 91; Worship -- 141 in person;
13 Zoom Households

April 28 Offering: Sunday School -- \$19.74; First Fruits – \$7,141.24

Next Sunday is Mother's Day! There will be a child/parent blessing for Tate Miller and his parents, Chrystiana and Bryant, as well as recognition of graduates. Pastor Lois will preach from Psalm 1:1-3, and the Gospel passages in which Jesus blesses the children.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ Thank you, God, for the transitional work and processing that was done here this past Wednesday evening. We pray your blessings on our work together as we continue to seek your guidance moving forward.
- ❖ We pray for our students, their parents and teachers as the school year draws to an end this week. May their efforts and work be rewarded richly as they move into a summer break.
- ❖ O God, the unrest and vitriol all around us and in this world can make us feel fearful and anxious. Help us to be both attentive and faithful, alert and calm; help us to remember that our faith is in you, our help comes from you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

+*This week pray for: Josh and Natalie Ashley, Jeff Boese, Harding and Kathy Duerksen, Travis Duerksen, Erica Stoltzfus and Luka, Weston and Courtney Hiebert family, Jenae Janzen, Lois Janzen, Harry and Gail Lauri, Russ Schmidt and Bart Shulman, Don and Shawn Voth*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 5

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, May 6

7:00 pm – Church Council

Tuesday, May 7

9:15 am – Staff Meeting

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

Wednesday, May 8

7:00 pm – Board of Trustees

Thursday, May 9

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

Sunday, May 12

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship (Parent/Child Dedication and Graduate Recognition)

COMING EVENTS

- May 17 Senior Coffee – Justina Neufeld will be our guest presenter on “Becoming a Refugee in WW II: Escaping from Ukraine”
- May 19 Final informational meeting for youth service trip, 7:00 pm
- May 24-27 Junior High to Camp Tawakoni
- May 26 Talking Tombstones
- June 2 Bethesda Fundraiser at White Owl Barn
- June 2-9 HS Youth Summer Service Trip
- June 3-7 Vacation Bible School
- June 21 Senior Coffee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

At the recommendation of the Board of Deacons, and as part of the transitional work of the congregation, Pastor Lois will take the remainder of her sabbatical time this summer that was not completed last summer. She will be on sabbatical for 8 weeks beginning June 17 through August 11. The Board of Deacons has secured pastoral coverage for this time with Robert Yutzy agreeing to serve with us at .5 FTE. Pastor Luann will continue with us in her Transitional Pastor role, also at .5 FTE.

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.

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.

Thank you for your generous support to the Mennonite College Scholarship Fund during our April campaign. Donations totaled \$4,025. We now know that we have sufficient funds to support our students for fall 2024 semester. Parents & students need this information early as they make plans for next semester. Checks are still welcome anytime. We will have another campaign in fall for the spring 2025 semester. ~Carol Duerksen, Treasurer, Mennonite College Student Ministry Team

Attention students planning on attending a Mennonite College next school year: Applications for the Alexanderwohl Church Mennonite College Scholarship are now open. Please consider filling out an application now before summer activities and travel can make it less convenient. Return completed applications to the church office or Carol L Duerksen, Treasurer, before July 1, 2024. (The form can be found on the AMC website, resources, bulletins & links.)