

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXX

May 19, 2024

No. 20



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Today we celebrate Pentecost - the sending of the Holy Spirit! In the Gospel of John, Jesus explained to his confused and frightened disciples that after he left them, he would send the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth to be with them.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music *Variations on Kum Ba Yah* ~Behnke Marcia Brubaker
1. *Someone's Praying, Lord*; 2. *Someone's Crying, Lord*; 3. *Someone's Singing, Lord*

Welcome Karl Brubaker

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer+ Romans 8:22-27 CEB

Leader: We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now.

People: And it's not only the creation.

Leader: We ourselves who have the Spirit as first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free.

People: We were saved in hope.

Leader: If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope.

People: Who hopes for what they already see?

All: But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience.

Leader: In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray,

People: but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans.

Leader: The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks,

All: because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will.

***Gathering Hymns** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* VT 737
 Life-Giver, Maker, God of All VT 38

Children's Story

Laura Voth

Morning Prayer

Marilyn Unruh Flaming

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 NRSV Karl Brubaker

Message *The Holy Spirit is a First Responder* Pastor Lois

Song of Response *As the Wind Song through the Trees* VT 373

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* ~Carter Marcia Brubaker

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Lois

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending** *As You Go Out from Here* VT 841

***Benediction** Pastor Lois

***Postlude** Marcia Brubaker

*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 that God's shalom will prevail.

Song Leader: Braden Unruh

Greeters: North – Tim and Judy Goertzen

South – Sandy Duerksen

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Chrystiana Miller, Jayley Schmidt

Worship Technology: Myron Goertzen, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth

May 12 Attendance: Sunday School – 113; Worship -- 154 in person;

14 Zoom Households

May 12 Offering: Sunday School -- \$55.32; First Fruits – \$3,208.42

Next Sunday is Memorial Day weekend – Norma Peters Duerksen will bring the message from John 3:1-17. God makes things possible through the great love of sending Jesus not to condemn but to save the world. There will not be a Memorial Day service in the cemetery this year.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for the Goessel Community Junior High students who will be on their annual retreat at Camp Tawakoni from May 24-27. Pastor Lois will be the resource/input person for the weekend; Lizzie and Nathaniel Schmucker will be on staff. We pray God's blessings and guidance on the group!
- ❖ We are grateful for the incredible growth and "green-ness" all around us!
- ❖ We continue to pray for Braxton and his family as he undergoes many tests and consultations. We pray for your Holy Spirit to grant wisdom to the medical folks and comfort to Braxton and his family.
- ❖ We believe that you are the God of Peace; we pray for your Shalom in our homes, our communities and around this world.

+This week pray for: Denise Duerksen, Elaine Duerksen, Evan and Maryanne Esau family, Clyde and Jane Flaming, Belia Goossen, Madeline Meier, Kylie and Alanah Nikkel, James Ratzlaff, Mike and Dawn Voth

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 19

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

7:00 pm – Final informational meeting for youth service trip

Monday, May 20

7:00 – Church Council

Tuesday, May 21

9:15 am – Staff Meeting

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

5:00 pm – Board of Worship

Thursday, May 23

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

5:30 pm – Board of Deacons

Friday, May 24

Noon – JH students, sponsors and Pastor Lois leave for Camp 412

Saturday, May 25

10:00 am – Funeral service for Harold Duerksen

Sunday, May 26

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

3:00 pm – Talking Tombstones Tour (see Announcement Sheet)

COMING EVENTS

- May 24-27 Junior High to Camp Tawakoni
May 29 Bethesda Home's Annual Meeting
June 2 Bethesda Fundraiser at White Owl Barn
June 2-9 HS Youth Summer Service Trip
June 3 Goessel Community Blood Drive
June 3-7 Vacation Bible School
June 9 MDS Cabinet Shop Open House & Dedication
June 9 Heritage Talk – "Roots & Fruits"
June 17-Aug 11 Sabbatical time for Pastor Lois
June 21 Senior Coffee with Brian Stucky, "Goessel rural graves"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Church family left yesterday for Braxton's appointments at the Children's Hospital of Colorado. They'll be there for the duration of this week.

For emergency pastoral care needs over the Memorial Day weekend, Pastor Karen Andres will be on call on Friday and Saturday, May 24-25. She may be reached at 316.212.1029. Pastor Gail Graber will be on call on Sunday and Monday, May 26-27. Contact her at 620.386.0376.

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.

Help Needed for VBS: We need a leader for two areas – music and recreation. If you are interested and are available June 3-7, text Brianna Combs at 620.345.6737.

Applications for students planning on attending a Mennonite College next year are due July 1, 2024. Return completed applications to the church office or Carol L Duerksen, Treasurer. (The form can be found on the AMC website, resources, bulletins & links.)

The Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum invites everyone to remember the immigrants of 1874 and the sacrifice they made coming to America. The immigrant flags are back in the church cemeteries recognizing the FAITH, COURAGE, and ACTION of the 1874 immigrants. The flags will be displayed in the Alexanderwohl, Tabor, Goessel, and Lehigh church cemeteries from May 23 - June 5. Come and listen to their voices flutter in the breeze!

Bethesda Home's Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 29 at 7:00 p.m. in Bethesda's Chapel. An update of Bethesda, election of board members, financial report, AND a piece of pie – you won't want to miss! It's a time to celebrate the ministry of Bethesda. We hope you can join us!

Mark your calendars for Bethesda's Annual Summer Fundraiser which will be held from 5p-7p on Sunday, June 2, 2024 at the White Owl Barn. We will be serving pulled pork sandwiches with all the fixings, including homemade ice cream. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening by the creek. For more details check the flier on bulletin board.

Blood Drive: Start your summer with giving a gift of life! **Donate blood on June 3, between 1:00-6:00 pm** at Goessel Church. Sing up at redcrossblood.org to donate. For more information contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.

You are invited to join us for the dedication and celebration of the new Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) Cabinet Shop and Warehouse. The event will be held on Sunday, June 9th at 604 E. Main Street, Goessel, Kansas from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Admission is free. (More info on Announcement Sheet)