Volume LXXI February 2, 2025 No. 5



# Welcome to worship here at Alexanderwohl!

We continue in the Anabaptism at 500 worship series with "Renewal through repentance." "Bend the knees of my heart," was a phrase often found in early Anabaptist spiritual writings. What can we learn from our failures and confession today?

#### **GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

Gathering Music God of Grace and God of Glory ~Hobby Marcia Brubaker How Firm a Foundation ~Hobby

Welcome Pastor Lois Harder

## Opportunities for Celebration and Service

# Call to Worship and Opening Prayer +

Leader: Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying: "Now is the time."

People: Now is the time?

Leader: "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts

and lives."

**Receiving Members** 

People: Change our hearts and lives?

Leader: Yes. Repent, and come clean with what you've done wrong and the sin that weighs you down.

People: And this is good news?

Leader: God said, "If my people who belong to me will humbly pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and forgive their sin."

All: Ah, this is good news! God's kingdom is now. Now is the time to humbly pray, seek God's face, and turn from our wicked ways. Then we will be forgiven.

Here in This Place \*Gathering Hymns VT 10

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship VT 25

VT 961

Children's Story Eric Schrag

Erica Stoltzfus, Maryanne Esau **Worship Music** Come, O Source of Joy and Gladness Chancel Choir

> ~ Shafferman/Haydn, arr. Michael Larkin Kyle Unruh, trumpet

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture ReadingJames 4:7-10Judy GoertzenMessageRepentance and RepairPastor LuannSong of ResponseWhen Peace like a RiverVT 617

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings** 

Offertory Amazing Grace! ~Hobby Marcia Brubaker
\*Prayer of Dedication Pastor Lois

## **SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**\*Song of Sending** The Lord Lift You Up VT 832 **\*Benediction** Pastor Luann

\*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.

**Greeters:** North – Duane and Agatha Duerksen South – Verney and Janice Voth

Organ/Piano: Marcia Brubaker

Guitar: Kevin Gaeddert and Eric Schrag

Song Leader and Chancel Choir Director: Renae Peters

Visual Arts: Many thanks to Brian and Nancy Stucky for having the "portraits" of the three early Anabaptists framed. They are Felix Manz, Conrad Grebel and George Blaurock. Also, Brian is the creator of the painting at the back of the sanctuary titled "The Birth of Anabaptism".

Nursery Staff: Maryanne Esau and Myra Peters

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

January 26 Attendance: Sunday School – 88; Worship -- 130 in person; 16

Zoom Households

January 26 Offering: Sunday School -- \$12.46; First Fruits -- \$10,161.85

Next Sunday Pastor Lois will preach the third in a 4-part series on Anabaptism at 500. The theme is "Renewal through Trust and Yieldedness (Gelassenheit)". Text is John 15:1-11.

# Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- O God, in your mercy, hear our prayers for those grieving the losses of life in the airplane/helicopter crash on Wednesday evening over the Potomac River.
- We are grateful, God, for our Anabaptist forebears who had wisdom and yieldedness to your Holy Spirit in their lives. Help us to have it too.

- Thank you, God, for Ann Hiebert's successful surgery to repair her \* broken leg. Grant her fullness of healing and the patience for that to happen.
- We pray for the leaders of our nation and the nations of your world, O God. Give them humility, wisdom and yieldedness to your Spirit of Love and Compassion.

#### THIS WEEK

## Sunday, February 2

9:30 am - Sunday School

10:30 am - Worship

1:00 pm - Bethesda Chapel with Pastor Lois leading

2:00 pm – Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum's Annual Meeting

#### Monday, February 3

1:00-6:00 pm - Goessel Community Blood Drive

# Tuesday, February 4

9:30 am - Staff Meeting

## Wednesday, February 5

4:30 pm – Board of Christian Education, Conference Room

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal Served – Note: This is a fundraiser meal for the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum (see announcement) Midweek Activities

7:00 pm – Board of Trustees

#### Sunday, February 9

9:30 am - Sunday School

10:30 am - Worship

5:00 pm – Friends and Followers Super Bowl Get Together

#### COMING EVENTS

Feb 21	Senior Coffee with Jerry and Leann Toews as guests
Feb 23	Pastor Luann's final Sunday at AMC – Noon Potluck Meal
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday
Mar 12	Final Midweek session
Mar 21	Senior Coffee with Kris Schmucker
Apr 11-12	Kansas MCC Sale
Apr 13	Palm Sunday
Apr 20	Easter
Apr 23	Daughters of Grace Spring Salad Supper

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On behalf of the Church Council, we would like to thank all those who participated in the Annual Meeting last Sunday. The 2025 Spending Plan was approved with 61 Yes votes and 2 No votes. ~Co-chairs John Fast and Linda Peters

Thank you for partnering with the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum to preserve and share the story of Mennonites who migrated to this area in 1974. 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. in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, February 5. Please join us! Your donations will be gratefully accepted to continue this mission in 2025.

The Junior High and High School youth will be collecting donations after church on February 2 and February 9 to purchase items to put in care packages for our college students. On Wednesday, February 19, 1st - 12th grade midweek students will work together to put together the care packages. Thank you for supporting our youth at all ages and stages of their lives!

Looking for something new to read? The AMC library invites you to try a "Blind Date with a Book"! The library will have several books wrapped with a brief description and you can choose which book will be your "date" to take home to read. Books in several different genres will be available. Sign up on the book tables in lobbies by February 5, then come to the library after church on February 9 to choose your date. You might be surprised with a "match"! If you have questions, please contact Sandy Duerksen or Laura Unrau.

The Board of Deacons and Reception Committee invite everyone to join us for a potluck meal following the worship service on February 23 to celebrate the time we have shared with Pastor Luann. Families are encouraged to bring a main dish and a salad or dessert; singles may bring one dish of your choice.

Wednesday night meals – If you are willing to bring dessert, help serve or clean up sign up in the <u>south</u> lobby for dates that work for you.

Please turn in changes/updates for the 2025 Yearbook by Monday, February 10. This include Board updates, addresses, emails, cell phone or land line numbers.

Join us today (February 2) at 2:00 pm at Alexanderwohl for the annual meeting of the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum. Following a short business meeting, Dale Schrag will present a program about the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Anabaptist Movement. After the program everyone is invited to faspa including zwieback, cheese, cold cuts and cake. This event is free and open to the public. Come early to purchase or renew museum memberships.

Blood Drive: Make a difference by donating blood on February 3, between 1:00-6:00 pm, at Goessel Church. Sign up at redcrossblood.org to donate. All types are wanted! For more information contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.