

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXXI

May 11, 2025

No. 19



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

This morning we thank God for the opportunities we've been given to form and create families, as we witness and commit to the dedication of two baby girls and their parents. It's also a day to recognize our graduates and the ways we can continue to nurture and support them.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Marcia Brubaker

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns ~Helman

Brother James' Air ~Wood

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ~Manz

Welcome

Pastor Lois Harder

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship / Opening Prayer + (verses compiled by Pastor Caleb Yoder)

All: God, we praise you, for you have created and loved each of us as your own children. I John

Leader: Your steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting for those who keep your covenant and remember your commandments. Ps. 103

People: You are our shepherd and the light of our salvation; the stronghold of our lives. Psalm 23; Psalm 7

Leader: You are our healer, who binds up our wounds. You give us good things. You are a stronghold to the poor, a shelter from the storm. Psalm 147; Matthew 7; Isaiah 25

People: We bless you, God, for you are the Father who is full of mercy, the God of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1

Leader: Like a mother comforts her child, so God comforts us. Isaiah 66

All: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. Psalm 36

*Gathering Hymn

Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing

VT 7

Children's Story

John Fast

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Caricature of a Sunday School Song* ~Wood Marcia Brubaker

***Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Karl Brubaker

Deuteronomy 11:1-2, 7, 18-21; Mark 10:13-16 (CEB)

Reflection *Teach this to your children* Pastor Lois

Worship Music *God, Give Me Faith like a Child* ~Tice/Morris VT 519
Renae Schmidt Peters, dulcimer

Child / Parent Dedication

Evelyn Grace Combs (b.12-30-24), daughter of Preston and Brianna Combs

Quinn Taylor Hiebert (b.04.09.25) daughter of Garrett and Brittany Hiebert

Rosebud and Grandparent Prayer of Blessing

Questions, Responses, Blessing

***Congregational Covenant** VT 970-971

Scripture Reading Colossians 2:1-8 Karl

Reflection *Remember what you've learned* Pastor Lois

Song of Response *Today We Sing with Thankfulness* VT 535
(omit vs. 2)

Graduate Recognition

Eddie Gaeddert – graduating from Bethel College with a Psychology major and a Neuroscience minor

Elizabeth Schmucker – graduating from Bethel College with a Bachelor's in Art Education

Kendall Hiebert – graduating from Hutchinson Community College with an Associates degree in Cardiopulmonary Respiratory Science

Lucas Wiens – graduating from Fort Hays St. University with a Bachelor's of Science in Agribusiness

Jacob Wiens – graduating from Hutchinson Community College with an Associate's degree of General Studies in Agriculture

Ellarose (Rosie) Gaeddert, Lilly Mai and Myra Peters are being promoted from the 8th grade on to High School – Rosie and Lilly at Goessel and Myra at Hesston.

Congregational Response VT 955

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending** *May You Be Rooted and Grounded* VT 396

***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.

Greeters: North – Bryant and Chrystiana Miller family
South – Duane and Agatha Duerksen

Organ/Piano: Marcia Brubaker

Song Leader: Kyle Unruh

Visual Arts: Anita Boese

Nursery Staff: Chrystiana Miller, Jayley Schmidt
(nursery available for children age 3 and under)

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth

May 4 Attendance: Sunday School – 89; Worship -- 131 in person; 11
Zoom Households

May 4 Offering: Sunday School -- \$65.37; First Fruits -- \$3,992.87

Next Sunday – We'll continue to celebrate life's transitions as Colby Nafziger will be baptized upon his confession of faith and also recognized as a high school graduate. Pastor Lois will preach from 2 Timothy 1:1-14.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We give thanks for mothers and the ways God shows love through those who nurture and care for us.
- ❖ We're grateful for the opportunities we have to learn, to accomplish goals and to celebrate milestones like graduation; we pray for our graduates!
- ❖ We pray for those grieving the loss of loved ones, especially for Denise Duerksen, her brother Doug and their family as they grieve the loss of their father, Rodney Duerksen, who passed away on Friday morning. We also remember Rodney's brothers Wes and Duane.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 11 – Mother's Day and Parent/Child Dedication

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

Monday, May 12

4:00 pm – Prayer Team

5:45 pm – Board of Mission and Service

7:00 pm – Church Council

Tuesday, May 13

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education

Wednesday, May 14

6:00 pm – Bible Study, *The Chosen* (final episode)

Sunday, May 18

9:30 am -- Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

COMING EVENTS

May 16	Senior Coffee with Virgil Penner as our guest
May 25	Memorial Day service following worship
May 28	Bethesda Home's Annual Meeting, 7:00 pm
June 2-6	VBS at Tabor Mennonite Church
June 8	VBS Worship Service at Tabor Mennonite Church
June 8	Bethesda's Annual Summer Fundraiser at White Owl Barn
July 6-12	Youth Summer Service trip to Rocky Mountain Menn. Camp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Virgil Penner for Sr. Coffee this Friday (May 16 @ 10 am) as he shows us some of his artwork!

The Peace Committee and Board of Mission and Service invites you to a summer book study. *So That We and Our Children May Live: Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis* by Sarah Augustine and Sherie Hostetler is the book. **Meeting dates are June 4, 11, 18, 25 and July 2 and 9 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Books are available in both lobbies at a cost of \$15. Leave your payment in the box next to the books or at the church office.

As many of you are aware, both the Board of Deacons and the Search Committee are hard at work, searching for individuals to fill the Interim Pastor position and/or the Supply Pastor position. In the meantime, in order to assist and support Pastor Lois in caring for our church family, the Deacons will be taking on more pastoral duties, including more caregiving responsibilities. If you, or someone you know, have any caregiving concerns, please reach out to one of the Deacons or the pastor. Deacon Board members and their phone numbers are posted on the bulletin board in each lobby.

The Bible study group invites any who would like to join us in the Conference Room at 6:00 p.m. to watch *The Chosen*. We'll watch May 14 to finish Season 3.

Bethesda Home's Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 28, 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 8, 2025 at the White Owl Barn. We will once again be serving pulled pork sandwiches with all the fixings. New this year – special drinks provided by Midwest Sippin'. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening by the creek.