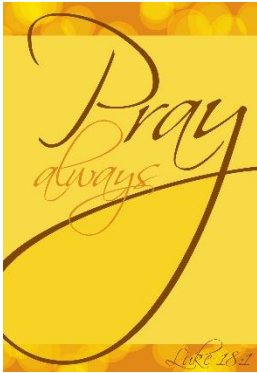


Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXXI

October 19, 2025

No. 39



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Often the parables of Jesus are confusing and difficult to understand. This Sunday and next we'll look at two confounding parables in the Gospel of Luke. This morning's parable is about the Widow and the unjust Judge.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Jared Janzen

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ~arr. Burkhardt
Prelude II ~Bach

It is Well With My Soul ~arr. Harrington

Open Road

Welcome

Timothy Schrag

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship / Opening Prayer +

Psalm 119:97-104 NRSV

Leader: Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

North: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.

South: I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

Leader: I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

North: I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

South: I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.

Leader: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

All: Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

*Gathering Hymns

As a Sigh Great with Yearning
We Praise the Word of God

VT 403

VT 404

Children's Story

Bonnie Gaeddert

Worship Music

Joshua ~arr. Sells

Open Road

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *God Himself is Present* ~arr. Burkhardt Jared Janzen

***Prayer of Dedication**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Luke 18:1-8; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 CEB Megan Duerksen

Song of Response *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* VT 681

Message *persistence and resistance* Pastor Lois

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending** *We, Your People, Sing Your Praises* VT 849

***Benediction** *Soon Ah Will Be Done* ~arr. Dawson Open Road

***Postlude** *All People That On Earth Do Dwell* ~arr. Burkhardt 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 that God's shalom will prevail.

We welcome Open Road from Bethel College this morning! They are: Jacob Schrag, Goessel, KS; Timothy Schrag, Goessel, KS; Caleb Garber, Newton, KS; Seth Balzer, Freeman, SD; Ben Janzen, Henderson, NE; Liam Ortman, Freeman, SD; Ethan Wilcox, Halstead, KS; Henry Harrington, Halstead, KS

Greeters: North – Jim and Mary Schmidt
South – Karl and Marcia Brubaker

Organ/Piano: Jared Janzen

Song Leader: Marcia Brubaker

Visual Arts: Courtney Hiebert

Nursery Staff: Kim Voth and Ann Hiebert

(nursery care available for children age 3 and under)

Worship Technology: Steve Unruh, Steve Goertzen, Delton Voth

October 12 Attendance: Sunday School – 90; Worship -- 131 in person; 14 Zoom Households

October 12 Offering: Sunday School -- \$20.65; First Fruits -- \$3,825.47

Next Sunday – Pastor Lois will preach from Luke 18:9-14, another parable that Jesus told about the upright Pharisee and the humble Tax Collector. Next Sunday's greeters are Alan and Sharon Boese and Denise Duerksen.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for Brooke Nafziger and Eli Temanson as they anticipate their wedding on Saturday. We ask for God's blessings on this new chapter in their lives.
- ❖ We pray for strong and steadfast faith in these times of uncertainty. Help us to remember that you are our God and we are your people.

❖ We pray for those who are struggling with health concerns.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 19

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

2:00 pm -- Goessel Arts Fund Committee Arts Soirée at Tabor Church

Monday, October 20

Church offices closed

Tuesday, October 21

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

5:30 pm – Board of Deacons

Wednesday, October 22

9:00 am – Daughters of Grace, Conference Room

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm – Midweek Activities

Sunday, October 26

9:30 am -- Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

COMING EVENTS

Nov 2	Daylight Saving Time Ends -- Set clocks back 1 hour
Nov 2	Bethesda Home Pillar's Banquet at Tabor Mennonite Church
Nov 6	Tabor Mennonite Church Chicken Barbeque, 5-7 pm
Nov 21	Senior Coffee
Dec 6	Daughters of Grace Christmas Brunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

NEW HOURS FOR THE CHURCH OFFICE! Beginning tomorrow, **October 20**, the **church offices will be closed on Mondays** and the building will be locked. The office hours will remain the same (8:30-12:30 and 1:00-4:00) Tuesday-Friday. Pastor Lois may be reached on her cell phone 316.617.3497.

Today -- The Goessel Arts Fund Committee is hosting an Arts Soirée on Sunday, October 19, from 2-5 pm at the Tabor Mennonite Church. There will be an **art show** in the hospitality hall that will feature local and regional artists. A **concert** at 3 pm in the sanctuary will include performances by the Salina Symphony Brass Quintet, Holly Swartzendruber (soprano), and a piano duo extravaganza that will feature Goessel area pianists Russell Adrian, Marcia Brubaker, Jason and Renae Peters, and Karen Unruh performing works for 4-10 hands! Following the concert at 4 pm, **refreshments** will be served in the hospitality hall. Plan now to attend this free event!

In his excellent and thought-provoking column in *Anabaptist World* several weeks ago, **Jim Klassen included a wonderful list of people and places where he finds hope.** What a positive encouragement and a breath of fresh air! **In these times when hope can seem elusive,** the Board of Deacons invites anyone and everyone to **visit the table at the back of the sanctuary and write on a sticky note where YOU find hope.** We'll use the window of the old "sound equipment" room as a place to collect and share the sticky notes - to give each other encouragement! ~Thanks to Brian Stucky for suggesting this idea!

Bethesda Home Annual Pillars Banquet – Join us on November 2, 2025 for our Annual Pillars Banquet. This year there will be 2 options – a drive thru from 5:00 - 5:30 **OR** a dine-in experience with seating starting at 6:15 pm. Please RSVP by October 24 and when doing so, please indicate if you will be attending in person or drive thru. This year's proceeds will go to our updated lighting project. Help us reach our goal of \$126,000 this year!! Thank you!!

Forty-eight participants enjoyed a warm, windy, fall afternoon and completed a route between 1 and 6 miles. Over **\$8,500** was raised (**a new fundraising "record"**) and will be dispersed to MCC's education projects and the Tabor Church Food Pantry. Additionally, 49 items were collected for the Tabor Food Pantry. Thank you for your support of this annual community event – by walking, donating money or non-perishable items, and praying for us! ~Kevin & Yvette Nickel, area coordinators