

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXXI

October 26, 2025

No. 40

*"For all those who
exalt themselves
will be humbled,
and those who
humble themselves
will be exalted."*



LUKE 18:14, NIV

Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

We stay in the Gospel of Luke this morning and hear Jesus' parable about two people who are praying very different prayers and with very different attitudes. What can we learn today from Jesus' teaching?

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

Lynel Unrau

Opportunities for Celebration and Service

Call to Worship / Opening Prayer +

Psalm 84:1-4 NRSV

All: *How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!*

Leader: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;

People: *my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.*

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

All: *Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.*

***Gathering Hymns**

What Is This Place
Life-Giver, Maker, God of All

VT 22

VT 38

Children's Story

Ann Hiebert

Worship Music

How Can I Keep from Singing
setting by Maureen Howell

Chancel Choir

Morning Prayer

Pastor Lois Harder

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *When Peace Like a River*

Elsie Unruh

***Prayer of Dedication**

Pastor Lois

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings

Luke 18:9-14 CEB

Velma Hiebert

Song of Response *Lord, Listen to Your Children* VT 682
Message *prayers of the pharisee and the tax collector* Pastor Lois

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

***Song of Sending** *O God of Blessings* (vs. 1, 3, 5, 6) VT 700

***Benediction**

***Postlude** *This is the Day* ~Hayes 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 – Alan and Sharon Boese
South – Denise Duerksen

Organ/Piano: Marcia Brubaker

Song Leader and Chancel Choir Director: Renae Schmidt Peters

Visual Arts: Courtney Hiebert

Nursery Staff: Laura Unrau and Grace Meier

(nursery care available for children age 3 and under)

Worship Technology: DeAlan Unrau, Caiden Duerksen, Delton Voth

October 19 Attendance: Sunday School – 90; Worship -- 148 in person; 11 Zoom Households

October 19 Offering: Sunday School -- \$20.52; First Fruits -- \$18,845.91

Next Sunday – Eric Schrag will preach on the story of Zacchaeus from the Gospel of Luke 19. Next Sunday's greeters are Darla Banman and Lee and Mary Alice Hertzler.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ Our prayers are with Sandy, Craig, Allison, Bino, Albi, Aurie and the entire Banman family as they grieve Steve's loss and celebrate his life.
- ❖ We give thanks for the pastoral search committee (Karen Unruh, Tina Schrag, Weston Hiebert, Julianna Kaufman and Megan Duerksen) and their faithful, steadfast work over these last months.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 26

9:30 am -- Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

5:30 pm – Friends and Followers SS Class Get Together

Monday, October 27

Church offices closed

4:00 pm – Prayer Team

Tuesday, October 28

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

6:00-9:00 pm – Viewing/visitation for Steve Banman, Chapel

Wednesday, October 29

11:00 am – Celebration of Life service for Steve Banman

5:45 pm – Fellowship Meal

6:30 pm – Midweek Activities

Sunday, November 2

2:00 am – Daylight Saving Time Ends – Set clocks back 1 hour

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

5:00 pm – Bethesda Home Pillar's Banquet at Tabor Mennonite Church

COMING EVENTS

Nov 5	Mennonite Heritage & Ag Museum's fundraiser meal
Nov 6	Tabor Mennonite Church Chicken Barbeque, 5-7 pm
Nov 10-11	MCC Relief Meat Canning
Nov 21	Senior Coffee – Kendra Burkey, Salted Creamery Ice Cream
Dec 6	Daughters of Grace Christmas Brunch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation is invited to become acquainted with Chris Weaver (our candidate for pastor) and his wife, Stephanie, during the weekend of November 8-9. A schedule of weekend events was emailed this week and also placed in church mailboxes (extra copies on lobby tables). In addition to events for specific groups, please note the following opportunities for everyone:

- Meet and Greet Reception on Saturday, November 8, at 4-5 pm in the fellowship hall
- Sunday, November 9 worship service with Chris preaching
- Sunday, November 9 potluck meal (everyone bring a main dish and a salad or dessert; singles may bring only one item)
- Following the potluck, Chris will share his faith journey and there will be time for questions and answers
- Sunday, November 16, a light meal will be served at noon followed by a congregational meeting and vote (no absentee ballots)
- Childcare will be provided during the November 9 and November 16 afternoon meetings for children 2nd grade and younger

Today is the last Sunday for the garden sharing table. Thanks to all who brought produce to share and to those who helped themselves!

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.

Reminder -- The church offices are closed on Mondays and the building will be locked. The office hours will remain the same Tuesday-Friday (8:30-12:30 and 1:00-4:00). Pastor Lois may be reached on her cell phone 316.617.3497.

Don't forget to add your sticky note to the window at the back of the sanctuary "Where do YOU find hope"?

If you count the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum as a blessing for our community, come join us for supper in the fellowship hall from 5:45 to 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 5. You'll enjoy good company, plus a meal of Menno Bros. Pizza, fresh tossed salad, and delicious cookies. Your contributions will be gratefully accepted and will provide a boost to our general operating budget as we finish the year.

November 5 - 8 will be our last opportunity to serve at New Hope Shelter this year! Please sign up in the south lobby by next Sunday, November 2 for the evening shifts. The Sunday school classes in charge of the meals are: Route 15, Seekers and Sojourners, Friends and Followers, and Foundation Fellowship. Thank you for your prayer support!

MCC Relief Meat Canning is coming up November 10 & 11. Please sign up in the south lobby. We need your help!

The Goessel Ministerial Alliance is pleased to announce that we are sponsoring the Christmas Giving Tree again this year. The tree will be at Citizens State Bank. This tree endeavors to help with some of the expenses of Christmas for those families in need. We invite all parents who feel they could use a little help to fill out an application listing their children by name, age, and some gift suggestions with clothing sizes.

Applications will be available at the Goessel Elementary and High School offices, the Goessel City Office, the Crossroads Credit Union and the Citizens State Bank. All applications need to be turned in by **Friday, November 21** to the Elementary School office or in a sealed envelope marked "Christmas Giving Tree" at the Citizens State Bank. Each child's name turned in will get 1 tag on the tree with their age, sex and gift description. The names of the children will not be on the tag.

The tags will be available on the tree at the Citizens State Bank on **Tuesday, November 25**. All the gifts will need to be brought back to the Bank by **Monday, December 15**. The gifts should be wrapped and the bank personnel will assist with the "checking in" process. The gifts will then be distributed by the Ministerial Alliance.