

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXXII

April 26, 2026

No. 17



Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

On this Sunday following Earth Day we'll take a break from our prophet series and hear from Eric Litwiller as he preaches from Moses' words in Deuteronomy. The mandate is to remember God's faithfulness by keeping God's commands. An important reminder!

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music	<i>Prelude and Fugue VII</i> ~J.S. Bach	Jared Janzen
Welcome		Pastor Chris Weaver
Land Acknowledgement		VT 878
Opportunities for Celebration and Service		
Call to Worship / Opening Prayer +		VT 884
*Gathering Hymns	<i>Rise and Shine</i> <i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i> (omit vs. 2) <i>Sanctuary</i>	VT 120 SWJ 44
Children's Story		Eric Litwiller
Morning Prayer		Pastor Chris
Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings		First Fruits Giving
Offertory	<i>Andante from Violin Sonata Op. 2, No. 4</i> ~Vivaldi, arr. Norris	Jared Janzen
*Prayer of Dedication		Pastor Lois Harder

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Reading	Deuteronomy 8:2-18	Ben Schrag
Hymn of Confession	<i>The Lord Your God Is with You</i>	VT 173
Sermon		Eric Litwiller

SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Song of Sending	<i>God, Whose Giving</i>	VT 745
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***Benediction**

Pastor Lois

***Postlude** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* ~arr. Gordon Young 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.

Greeters: North – David and Aileen Esau
South – Chelan and Megan Duerksen

Organ / Piano: Jared Janzen

Song Leader: Marcia Brubaker

Guitarists: Kevin Gaeddert, Eric Schrag

Visual Arts: Janice Voth

Nursery Staff: Tammy Flaming and Ann Hiebert
(nursery care available for children age 3 and under)

Worship Technology: DJ Flaming, Colby Nafziger, Delton Voth

April 19 Attendance: Sunday School – 97; Worship -- 126 in person;
13 Zoom Households

April 19 Offering: Sunday School -- \$18.45; First Fruits -- \$4,381.75

Next Sunday – Pastor Lois will preach about the message of the prophet Hosea. “Hosea used the metaphors of whoredom and adultery and portrayed God as the aggrieved husband of a faithless wife.” But Hosea also “saw behind the wrath of God, a love that would not let the people be wiped out.” (notes from the Harper Collins Study Bible) Greeters are Lynel and Vickie Unrau and DeAlan and Alma Unrau.

We welcome Eric Litwiller this morning! The position for which the Camp Mennoscah Board hired him was a 6-month interim position that ended April 10. However, he promised the Board that he would remain actively involved with the organization on a volunteer basis which includes all of his speaking engagements on Camp's behalf and assisting them in filling their last two open Board seats, among other miscellaneous duties. And certainly as he receives calls from donors about being involved in the church matching initiative leading up to the completion of the retreat center and replenishing their financial reserves, Eric will continue to work with donors to help them in meeting their philanthropic goals related to Camp Mennoscah as well.

Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond

- ❖ We pray for the family and neighbors of the children that were murdered last Sunday in Shreveport, LA; Lord, in your mercy.
- ❖ We pray for the families of indigenous people who go missing and/or murdered at much higher rates than others. May we help shine a light of justice on this problem and the generational trauma associated with it. Jesus, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

- ❖ We thank you for each day you give us to live and move and have our being in this beautiful creation! Creator God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
- ❖ We continue to pray for Arlie Schroeder as he gains strength after a hospital stay. For others receiving treatments and who long for health and positive test results, Holy Spirit, hear our prayer.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 26

- 9:30 am – Sunday School with Eric Litwiller (Camp Menno'scah)
- 10:30 am – Worship
- 3:00 pm – Youth Activity to Top Golf
- 3:00 pm – Menn Heritage & Ag Museum's historic presentation on the Goessel Fire Department at Tabor Mennonite Church

Tuesday, April 28

- 9:30 am – Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 29

- 6:30 pm – Daughters of Grace Spring Salad Supper

Sunday, May 3

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship
- 1:00 pm – Bethesda service with Pastor Lois leading

COMING EVENTS

- April 30 Newton Et Cetera Shop 50th Anniversary Celebration – see announcement for details
- May 15 Senior Coffee – MDS Report from Conroe, TX
- May 20 VBS Staff Orientation at Tabor Church
- June 1-5 Vacation Bible School at Tabor Mennonite Church
- June 28-July 4 Youth Summer Service Project with MDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the last day to sign up for the Daughters of Grace spring salad supper on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a salad to share and come enjoy a delightful program by Firebranch Farm owner Amanda Castro about her flower business and flower arranging. **Sign up on the forms in the church lobbies today.**

It's time to register for VBS! Children who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2026 through current 5th graders are invited to attend. Scan the QR code to register your preschool-5th grader. Current 6th graders are invited to participate in a week of service projects during VBS and can fill out the VBS service project registration with the additional QR code. Registering your student by Monday, April 27, allows us to best plan for the week. We hope to see you at **#KidsConnect** VBS this year!



VBS 2026
Registration Form



6th grade VBS
2026 Registration

Jerry Toews has recorded another CD of Old Time Gospel Tunes as well as Old Time Favorite Christmas Tunes you yearn to hear again. ALL PROCEEDS go to KMRS (KS Mennonite Relief Sale). They are available in the church office -- \$20 donation—make check out to KMRS or cash.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop turns 50! In 1976 the Newton Et Cetera Shop opened for business with the mission to monetarily support Mennonite Central Committee. There have been many changes over the years, but this mission remains. Currently 90% of our proceeds are given to MCC and 10% are used for grants for local non-profits. Our donations to MCC over the last 50 years total **\$4,546,591!** That's impressive! We are grateful for our generous donors, our supporting churches and the countless volunteers and staff over the years who have made this possible.

Please join us for a kick-off anniversary celebration on **Thursday, April 30** (our actual anniversary date!) at the shop in Newton, 619 N. Main, during our business hours of 10-5:30 for hotdogs (while they last) and a cookie celebration with the Newton Chamber from 4:30-5:30 pm. Tours of the shop will be available from 4:30-5:30 pm. Also, the Silent Auction is back for one week, April 27-May 2 as part of the celebration. Items for auction are displayed in the shop or check out social media to see the premium and vintage items being auctioned. Call the shop with your bid at 316-283-9461. Other special events will be held throughout the summer with a celebration event being planned for special guests in September! Thank you for your support of the Newton Et Cetera Shop as we seek to live out our vision to "Share God's love and compassion with all creation - within our thrift shop, and in our local and global community." ~Rod Peters, Alexanderwohl Representative