

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXXII

August 30, 2026

No. 33



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

This morning we begin a new series called *God's Shalom for our Common Home*. "In God's shalom, we're called to turn to God's abundant provision to quench our thirst."

### GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering Music**     *Postlude on "Hymn to Joy" ~ Payne*     Mary Schmidt  
                                         *Postlude on "Ellacombe" ~ Payne*

**Welcome**     Pastor Chris Weaver

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

#### Call to Worship +

Leader: Listen. Let all who are thirsty, come.

**People:** Listen carefully. Let *all* who are thirsty come.

Leader: We are thirsty, all of us –

**People:** the young, the old, the trees, the soil, the creatures that fly, crawl and swim – all of us, sharing a common home and seeking abundant life.

Leader: Together, let us seek and find ourselves, in God's story of shalom.

**\*Gathering Hymn**     *This is God's Wondrous World*     VT 180

**Time with the Children**     Pastor Lois Harder

### Teacher Blessing & Presentation of First Grade Bibles

#### Confession (based on Psalm 36:3-9)

Leader: Source of nourishment and life;

**People:** We come to you in a spirit of humility, aware of the many ways in which we have failed to act wisely or do good,

Leader: Our world seems committed to a path of destruction: perpetual economic growth that depends on resource use and extraction without respect for the limits of our shared planet, or the inherent value of your creation.

**People:** We have bought into a myth of scarcity, taken more than our fair share, competed over your gifts, and accepted a global reality where many of your children are hungry and thirsty.

**Leader:** We know in our hearts that this is not your way, and yet we struggle to find a better path.

**Hymn of Confession**

*Come Now, O God*

VT 143

**Assurance**

**Leader:** God of abundance, your love is limitless.

**People:** Your mercy reaches out to the universe, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the highest mountains; your justice is like the deepest oceans.

**Leader:** Yet in your greatness, you still care for the “least of these,” the most vulnerable among us, the tiniest of creatures, the living systems that our economy would count as insignificant.

**People:** You provide enough for all of us to flourish.

**Leader:** We cannot manufacture this kind of love. We cannot buy this kind of satisfaction.

**People:** Let us invest in your dream for the earth, labor for your kingdom. We hunger and thirst for your justice as we come to your table – a communion feast for all creatures.

**Hymn of Assurance**

*The Love of God*

VT 162

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Chris

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

First Fruits Giving

**Offertory** *When I Can Read My Title Clear* ~ arr. Kerrick Mary Schmidt

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

**Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 55:1-2; Matthew 7:7-12

Elaine Banman

**Sermon**

*Come to the Water*

Pastor Lois

## SENT AS GOD’S PEOPLE

**\*Sending Song**

*Healing River of the Spirit*

VT 642

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Lois

**\*Postlude**

Mary Schmidt

\*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 – Steve Goertzen & Rosi Reimer

South – Evan & Maryanne Esau

**Organ / Piano:** Mary Schmidt

**Song Leader:** Braden Unruh

**Visual Arts:** Janice (Funk) Voth

**Nursery Staff:** Tammy Flaming, Laura Voth

(nursery care available for children age 3 and under)

**Worship Technology:** DeAlan Unrau, Lynel Unrau, Delton Voth  
**August 23 Attendance:** Worship -- 135 in person; 11 Zoom Households

**Next Sunday** – Timothy Schrag will bring the message; he comes representing Camp Mennoscah in his new position as Development Director. Greeters are Chase Flaming and Duane & Karen Unruh.

## *Praying for Our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We weep for the families of hundreds of your beloved children in Nepal and Tibet that were swept away in an unimaginable wave of water, mud and debris from a melting glacier that collapsed and drained a glacial lake high in the Himalayan Mountains.
- ❖ Holy God, give us your mercy and compassion for those who are enduring illness, whether physical dis-ease or dis-ease of the mind.
- ❖ We pray for ourselves and for those around us that are traversing life's various stages and transitions, such as parenting, aging, illness, and others.
- ❖ We pray for children's Sunday school classes, students and teachers as they move back to meeting in their individual classrooms. May your Word take root in our young people as we all work to water and nurture faith in your great love.

### THIS WEEK

#### **Sunday, August 30**

- 9:30 am – Sunday School (New SS year begins; classes in main building)
- 10:30 am – Worship
- 12:00 pm – Teacher Appreciation Meal, Fellowship Hall

#### **Tuesday, September 1**

- 9:30 am – Staff Meeting

#### **Wednesday, September 2**

- 5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education

#### **Sunday, September 6**

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
- 10:30 am – Worship

### COMING EVENTS

- August 30 Teacher Appreciation Meal, Beginning of New Year for Children's Sunday School
- September 23 Annual Safe Church Training, 6:30 pm
- September 26-27 Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah
- October 4 Harvest Giving Walk – World Communion Sunday
- October 7 Midweek Begins
- November 7 Daughters of Grace Fall Brunch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our church will have a SAFE CHURCH Safety and Abuse Prevention annual training session on Wednesday, September 23, from 6:30-7:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. This is required for all adults 18 years and older who work with children, youth, and vulnerable adults in our church in any capacity. Anybody and everybody is welcome! Childcare will be provided. All those attending need to RSVP on the sign-up sheets in the lobbies or contact the church office by Sunday, September 20. Contact Marilyn Unruh Flaming, Malea Hartvickson or Susan Nafziger with questions.

**Midweek is starting up again!** Wednesday, October 7, will be Kickoff Night – the first evening of Midweek meals and activities at Alexanderwohl this fall. If your child plans to be involved in Midweek and/or Sunday School this year, please register online by Wednesday, September 30 (see the Friday email from [amc@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:amc@alexanderwohl.org)) or scan the QR code on the flyers in the lobbies. Feel free to invite friends from the community! With questions, contact one of the Midweek Coordinators: Sandy Banman, Julianna Kaufman, or Kyle Unruh.

**2026 Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Retreat:** Come to Camp Mennoscah September 26-27 and enjoy God's creation, fellowship, tasty meals, and worshiping our Maker! Come for one day or both days. Thanks to First Fruits giving throughout the year, most of the retreat fees are covered. Opportunity will be given for donations to assist with expenses. For planning purposes, please complete the online registration form (see the weekly email from [amc@alexanderwohl.org](mailto:amc@alexanderwohl.org)) OR the registration form that can be found on the back table in the sanctuary, by Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to invite friends!

**Our group subscription to the magazine *Anabaptist World* needs to be updated.** The cost for each subscription is \$49. If you have been part of our group subscription and wish to continue or if you would like to participate as a new reader, please return to Dwight M. Flaming a completed form (found on the table at the back of the sanctuary and also attached to the church email) plus your check of \$49, payable to Alexanderwohl by **TODAY - August 30, 2026.**



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to access the AMC online giving portal for First Fruits offering.  
Thank you for your gifts!