

Mother
by Thomas Edison

I did not have my mother long, but she cast over me an influence which has lasted all my life. The good effects of her early training I can never lose. If it had not been for her appreciation and her faith in me at a critical time in my experience, I should never likely have become an inventor. I was always a careless boy, and with a mother of different mental caliber, I should have turned out badly. But her firmness, her sweetness, her goodness, were potent powers to keep me in the right path. My mother was the making of me. The memory of her will always be a blessing to me.

Offering God's Love, Healing & Hope to All

ALEXANDERWOHL MENNONITE CHURCH

Building on the foundation of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11),

empowered by the Holy Spirit,

we

Love God and invite all people

Encourage fellowship in Christ

Teach obedience to Christ

Serve and minister in Jesus'

name

so that:

God is praised!

Vol. LIV, No. 19
Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.
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ALEXANDERWOHL MENNONITE CHURCH
MAY 11, 2008

Mother's

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Focus Statement: Today we continue our message series with a glimpse into heaven and the meaning of true worship around the throne of God and the Lamb.

Day

- Gathering Music Austin Unruh
- Welcome Pastor Lee Suderman
- Opportunities for Celebration and Service
- Invocation
- Prelude Marcia Brubaker, organ
"Crown Him With Many Crowns" ~Burkhardt
(Please sign, pass, and return the friendship registers)
- *Pentecost Hymn "Holy Spirit, come with power" HWB #26
- Children's Story Ann Hiebert
- Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings First Fruits Giving
- Offertory "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken" ~Hobby
- *Blessing God for Our Gifts "Doxology" Congregation
- Morning Prayer Brian Stucky
- Hymn of Blessing "Child of blessing, child of promise" HWB #620
- Dedication of Parents and their Children Pastor Linda Ewert
Allison Katrina, daughter of Jeff and Tina Boese
Levi Joshua, son of Ben and Tina Schrag
- We Dedicate Our Homes Bulletin Insert
"Happy the Home When God Is There"
- Worship Through Music & Movement Living Prayer
"Place In This World" ~Michael W. Smith
- *Song of Preparation "Awesome God" SWJ #6
- Scripture Readings Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 TNIV Worship Team
- Message "A Preview Of Heaven" Pastor Lee
Revelation 4 & 5
- *Song of Response "I will sing of my Redeemer" (vss. 1, 3) HWB #344

- *Benediction Pastor Lee
- *Postlude "Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" ~Hobby
- *All who are able are invited to stand.

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Song Leader: Arlin Buller
Living Prayer: Chrystiana Voth, Aspen Frey, Sierra Dirksen

WELCOME

We extend a heartfelt welcome to each worshiper with us this morning, as we thank God for the mother who gave us life and hopefully had the privilege of nurturing us in our early years. May our worship bring glory to our Lord and strength for the journey for young and old.

TODAY

A **Supervised Nursery** is available for children ages 3 and under during the Worship Service. Nursery attendants are Megan Duerksen and Aimee Flaming.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONCERNS

- Pray for:
 - Mennonite Education Agency (MEA):** On this Mother's Day, pray for wisdom in knowing how to advocate for single mothers who have to work to provide for their families—often earning 40 percent less than a man with equivalent education and experience. (Early Childhood Network)
 - Mennonite Mission Network (MMN):** Praise God for the new Grace and Peace Mennonite Church in Seoul under the leadership of Gui-Shik Nam. Pray for the church's outreach and growth. Mennonite Mission Network gives support to this ministry.
 - Western District Conference (WDC):** the WDC Executive Board as they meet May 16 to discern priorities of WDC, a 2009 budget proposal, and celebrate Vision 2012 accomplishments.

Stewardship Corner: Let us look to God's example and follow it; and learn from his Word and do it. It's not only possible but it's imperative that we seek to give like God gives.

PARENT/CHILD/CONGREGATION COVENANT

Pastor:

As you bring your child for blessing by God in this congregation, do you consecrate yourselves as parents to bring up your child in the nurture and instruction of the Lord?

Parents:

We do.

Pastor:

Is it your purpose to seek to shape your family life by caring for one another, sharing in God's Word, in prayer and Christian fellowship that your child will be helped to know and love Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents:

We do. As Christian parents we are thankful for the privilege of parenthood. We recognize that we have a very special role in the life of our child, helping him (her) to know and to love God. We pledge ourselves to the task of parenthood with love, patience, with firmness and with faith; trusting God to guide and strengthen us. We ask for the support of you, the congregation, in active partnership in our task of parenting. We need your encouragement. We entrust our children to your loving care in this community of faith.

Congregation:

You have offered your child to the strong and tender providence of God. We rejoice with you and give thanks for the gift of your child. We promise, with humility and seriousness, to share in your child's nurture and well-being. We will support, by our example and words, your efforts to provide a loving and caring home, where trust in God grows and Christ's way is chosen. Our prayers will be with you and for you. May our shared life and witness help make your task both joyful and fruitful.

Monday, May 12

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
7:30 p.m. Church Council

Tuesday, May 13

Wednesday, May 14

Thursday, May 15

Friday, May 16

Saturday, May 17

7:00 p.m. Goessel High School Commencement

Sunday, May 18 *Graduate Recognition Sunday*

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Speaker: Lee Suderman

"What Might God Be Up To?"

Survey of Revelation 6–13

Special Music: Worship Team

Offering: First Fruits Giving

Last Sunday, May 4

Attendance: Sunday School 159
Worship Service 220

Offering: Sunday School \$153.25
First Fruits \$5,330.50

COMING EVENTS

May 25, 7:30 p.m. Memorial Day Service at Goessel Menn. Cemetery

May 26, 10:00 a.m. Memorial Day Service at Tabor Menn. Cemetery

May 26, 11:00 a.m. Memorial Day Service at our Cemetery

June 2–6, 9:00 a.m.–12:00 noon Vacation Bible School

June 6, 7:00 p.m. Bible School Program

June 8, noon MCSMT Fundraiser meal

in Wichita. Volunteer drivers are needed! Call Janice Voth, 367-8152.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Wed., May 14 Dinner at Block 32 in Moundridge – Bring \$10. We'll be honoring our seniors as well as our foreign exchange students. Meet at the church at 6:15 pm.

Sun., May 18 We will honor our graduates during the morning worship service.

Sun., May 25 Deadline for medical info slips and \$36 payment for our service trip. Turn these in to either Pastor Mike or Loretta.

June 8–13 Service trip

June 22 Our next Youth Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry Search Committee

update: The committee has been meeting through the spring and is working toward the selection of a half-time youth pastor candidate to bring to the congregation. Thank you for your past and continued prayers as the process continues.

Prayers are being answered! Children's Church will begin May 18 for ages 3 through kindergarten. Children will meet their teacher or helper in the back of the sanctuary at the designated time in the worship service. Many thanks to everyone who has prayed for and is committed to helping get this ministry off the ground again! A special thank you to everyone that is willing to teach or help and to the Young Women Quilters for their financial contribution!

Take Note of NewsLine deadline—The deadline to submit items for the June *NewsLine* is Monday, May 19. Items received after that date may not be included or may be held for the July issue.

It is time to pull out your crafts and begin working on them again at **Craft n' Night on May 23, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.** Bring a friend and a favorite snack for an evening of fun! R.S.V.P. to Janice Voth at 367-8152 or mobilair@mtelco.net if you plan to be there.

6

"In deep appreciation for the part you have played in the formation of my faith, I want to **invite you to celebrate with me as I graduate** with a

• **The Western District Conference Resource Library** will be open an extra hour on Thursday nights to accommodate those who can't come during our regular hours. **Beginning May 8, we will be open until**

Master of Divinity degree from Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary on Saturday, May 24, 2:30 p.m." ~Norma (Peters) Duerksen

Details are posted on the south bulletin board.

Campers (and families) – There were flyers in your mailboxes recently for you to fill out if you are attending Camp Mennoscah or Rocky Mountain camps this summer. Please turn them in as soon as you have your confirmation from the camp so we can get you listed in the bulletin and have your scholarship check ready. **If you haven't sent in your registration to Camp Mennoscah, this is the last week to get the discount.**

It's "**Movie Night for Seniors**" at Alexanderwohl on Sunday, June 29, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Everyone, 65 years and over, is invited to join us. We will be watching the movie called "*Pearl Diver*." The April 21, 2008, edition of the Mennonite Weekly Review says this about the film, "Sidney King, a 2000 Goshen College graduate has written, directed, and produced a captivating and thought-provoking film centered in a Mennonite farming community in Goshen, Indiana. The story is rooted in a strong faith tradition, surrounded by beautiful farmland and founded on the love between two sisters. This beautifully filmed and powerfully acted movie is filled with unexpected tragedies and extravagant gifts."

Produced in 2004, *Pearl Diver*, has won at least five awards at competitions at various independent film festivals. Mark your calendars now for June 29 and come see this powerful story — with some popcorn and good fellowship to go with it!

COMMUNITY AND CONFERENCE

What is more fun than an annual meeting? A free BBQ? Come to both and decide. **Bethesda Home's annual meeting** will be Wednesday, **May 28**, at 7:30 p.m. in our main activity area. We would love for anyone who can to attend.

On June 1—after church—we will be having a **free BBQ** to celebrate our receiving a \$225,000 check from the Mabee Foundation. We couldn't have done it without all of you, and want to say thank you.

Notes from Western District Conference

• **Good News!** The Western District Conference Vision 2012 funding campaign reached the \$1 million mark (contributions and intentions) on April 22. We give thanks for the generosity of prayer and donations to further the ministry of WDC. Your continued support is appreciated.

7

6:00 p.m. on Thursday nights. The puffy red couch is waiting for you! If you haven't come in lately, come and enjoy our expanded space at 2517 N. Main St., North Newton.

- **Announcing GRAPEVINE: a network of Christian Educators.** The Grapevine Resource Group is a way for those concerned about congregational Christian education to share, network, and learn from each other. Anyone is welcome: Sunday school teachers, superintendents, parents, pastors, Christian education committees, and Wednesday night coordinators. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the WDC office. We will explore three different possibilities for Mid-week children's curriculum programming. Come to listen, learn, and share. Marlene Bogard is planner/facilitator; for information, contact her at: 316-283-6300; mbogard@mennowdc.org.
- The **concluding session** for the upcoming **annual SCC/WDC delegate session** on **Saturday, June 28**, will feature a message from Michelle Armster, Co-director - Conflict Transformation for MCC US Office on Justice and Peacebuilding. You will be stirred by her presentation. The annual meeting will conclude with communion as participants reflect on ways to implement the theme: "Bold Witness: Pray with Courage, Share as One." This and other sessions are open as well to persons not serving as congregational delegates; all are encouraged to come.

Offender/Victim Ministries' M-2 Recognition Celebration, Sunday, May 18, 2:30 p.m. This event is to recognize the significant contribution made by hundreds of volunteers through the M-2 program's 35-year history. If you have been a part of this program or if you have interest in learning more about how you can reach out to the local prison population, please join us for reflection and fellowship at: Center Amish Mennonite Church, 2711 W. Morgan Rd., Hutchinson, KS.

Ladder Without Rungs: Exploring Metaphors of Trauma is an exhibit exploring metaphors of suffering and trauma from both sides of crime: metaphors used by survivors of violent crime to express their experiences, and metaphors used by life-sentenced prisoners to describe the sentences they are serving. Utilizing photographs and interviews by Howard Zehr, this MCC exhibit is on display at Cobalt Gallery, 605 N. Main in Newton, and is sponsored by Offender/Victim Ministries in honor of OVM's 35th Anniversary.

8

Upcoming, mostly musical, events at Bethel College:

- Today, May 11, 4 p.m., Memorial Hall, **annual Masterworks concert** with Bethel College Oratorio Chorus and Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra, Bach's Magnificat, Mozart's Solemn Vespers and Fasch's **Shalom Mennonite Church, Newton**, seeks an Administrative Assistant to work in the church office 16–20 hours per week. If interested in a job description, please contact Jeannie Zehr, church moderator, at 316-283-8308, or mjzehr@sbcglobal.net.

Trumpet Concerto in D Major; tickets on sale at Thresher Bookstore or at the door.

- Wednesday, May 14, 8 p.m., **Jazz on the Green** (Memorial Hall if rain) featuring Bethel jazz groups; free.
- Sunday, May 18, 7 p.m., Memorial Hall, men's a cappella group **Open Road home concert**; free.
- Saturday, May 24, 6 p.m., Memorial Hall, **annual Alumni Banquet** honoring graduating seniors and three alumni award winners; reservations through Thresher Bookstore, 316-284-5205 (cut-off date May 14); for more information, call 316-284-5251 or e-mail alumni@bethelks.edu.
- Sunday, May 25, 11:5th **Commencement; baccalaureate service**, 10 a.m. (pre-service music begins 9:30), Bethel College Mennonite Church; graduation ceremonies, 2:30 p.m., Thresher Stadium (Memorial Hall if rain).

Is your family, Sunday school class, small group, or Summer Bible school planning committee looking for an **opportunity to give financially and receive in non-financial ways**? Global Family, Mennonite Central Committee's education sponsorship program, needs one-time gifts and long-term sponsors. Visit www.mcc.org/globalfamily to view recently-posted photo galleries and consider whether you can help put education within reach for children and young adults in one of the 43 countries in which Global Family works, or call 316-283-2720 to learn more.

Beginning June 9—a four-session class, **SINGLE WITH CHILDREN: How to survive as a single parent family**. Parents will get tips on solo parenting, single living, and managing household finances. The children's group will learn leadership and relationship skills and have a great time with crafts and games. For more information contact McPherson Family Life Center, Inc. at 620-241-6603 or 800-536-6613.

Et Cetera Shop–Newton is taking applications for the full-time position of General Manager of the store. Needed is an energetic person, with a heart for mission, capable of managing an assistant staff and many volunteers. This paid position is available until filled. For further info, contact Deb Goering or Sarah Fleming at the Et Cetera Shop located at 619 Main in Newton. Bring your resume to this location or e-mail to newtonetc@sbcglobal.net.

9

CAMP MENNOSCAH NOTES

Camp Mennoscah update: work is continuing on the new director's residence. The siding is in the process of being painted and a deck is being built. The doors are all hung and some trim is on. We have

immediate need for someone to stain and varnish the inside of windows and the doors. We still have a need for trim carpenters to finish trimming, work on stair rails, and install cabinets. We need someone to pour a concrete porch and sidewalk and AC pad. The attic needs insulation with blow-in cellulose, and a railing is needed on the deck. Call Galen Waltner, 620-386-0287, if you hear Gods call.

Summer Camps—The Early Registration Discount ends May 16th!

You have plenty of time to register for an exciting week of camp, but only two weeks to get your discount. Our theme this summer is “The Bible: Digging for Treasure.” Come join us for a week of fun— canoes, river play, swimming, crafts, and friends galore. We especially want to invite 3rd and 4th graders (fall 2008) to our First Camp and 4th and 5th graders (fall 2008) to our Pre-Junior I Camp! We’ve got lots of room—bring all your friends! Confirmation cards should be arriving for those campers who have already registered. Please check the cards for any inaccurate information. Questions? Contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290.

Support Staff—We’re going to have a blast at Camp Mennoscah this summer, and we want you to be there! Nurses are needed for the weeks of June 8-14, June 15-19, and June 22-28. Kitchen helpers are needed for the weeks of June 8-14, June 15-19, June 22-28, July 20-26, and July 27-August 1. Nurses are paid or receive a full discount for a camper. Kitchen helpers/parent volunteers receive a full discount for a camper. Contact Camp Mennoscah at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290 for more information.

Extra volunteer opportunity—Want to be an extra special volunteer? We have a group needing food service June 30–July 3, and we need kitchen staff—the parent volunteer discount (prorated) applies! Meal service begins with the evening meal on June 30 and ends after breakfast on July 3. Contact Camp Mennoscah at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290 for more information.

10

Need to escape or find a place for that summer family gathering?

Camp Mennoscah has a few weekends that are open, and we don’t want our canoes and wildlife to get lonely! The Retreat Center is available for the following weekends: May 16-18, June 6-8, July 25-27, and August 29-31. Main Camp (cabins, 1 bunkhouse, and dining hall) is available

June 28-29 and July 19-20. Both Main Camp and the Retreat Center are available July 3-6 and July 19-20. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or campmno@mennowdc.org for more information.

11