



Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

March 2014
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God was calling us here

I've heard from several here at Eden say that they can't fathom making a decision like the one we made. What is it like to move your family half-way across the country? To be perfectly honest, it was extremely difficult.

We said more good-byes over the course of a week than we ever want to have to say again. We grieved for the relationships that Sarah was just beginning to form. We worried about getting used to our new home, acclimating to life in the Midwest, and feeling comfortable in a new, much larger church.

From the very beginning, we knew this transition would be difficult. Yet we took comfort in the fact that it was clear that God was calling us here. Through all the interviews, prayer, and conversations, it was clear that God oversaw this connection. I was excited for the energy that the Search Committee had for this church and community. I valued their honesty in talking about where they have been and where they hope to go. And mostly, I appreciated the way in which they made me feel welcome and cared for.

During the transition, there were times in which I felt a little like the Israelites in the wilderness that kept looking over their shoulders and grumbling, "God why did you bring us out here, can't we just go back to Egypt?" And just like God providing manna, quail, and fresh spring water for them, God provided an endless flow of love and hospitality springing from this church community for me and my family.

The response of the whole congregation to our move was humbling. We really don't have words for our gratefulness at the ways in which we have been welcomed here. We can only simply say, "Thank you" and pray that we can find ways to bless and support you in return. Thank you for cleaning our house, thank you for unloading our stuff from the trailer, thank you for the food and money, thank you for the cards, thank you for your time, thank you for checking in to see how we are doing.

My prayer is that each of us in this faith community would continue to look for ways to make strangers feel welcome. You never know who may be wandering through a desert and need some water and food. May we continue to warmly welcome all who come through our doors, or who we meet in our daily lives.

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Minutes from the Eden Leadership Team

The Eden Leadership Team met February 15 at the church office.

The Staff Relations Committee also attended the meeting. They have met with all paid staff and have all memos of understanding signed. They are working to update the job descriptions for the staff. This commission will work in connection with the Deacons on reconciliation. Congregational Relationships will fall under the Deacons. Pastoral visitation was discussed. Because of a shift of job descriptions from administrative to a more caring group, the Deacons have filled a lot of time required for visitation. The congregation needs to give input on their needs. The Pastors gave us their work schedule and Pastoral care coverage times. They also made themselves available to each commission. The overflow issue was discussed. For now they recommend that the overflow area will be available to all who worship in the sanctuary. It will be reviewed in 6 months.

Mass communication concerning Wednesday night services will be made available to everyone who signed up for the service. The 5th Sunday offerings were discussed. The thought was to keep that offering for budget unless a special need arises and then the ELT could decide that. Harvest Mission and Christmas Eve offerings could be designated as special offerings.

ELT meetings will be held the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 at the church office.

Next congregational meeting will be held Sunday, April 27, 2014 after the Sunday School Hour.



"It gives me a deep, comforting sense that 'things seen are temporal and things unseen are eternal.'"

~ Hellen Keller



Congregational Meeting

The Eden Mennonite Church held their congregational business meeting on February 16 after a potluck meal in the fellowship hall. Pastor Derek King opened the meeting by acknowledging the positive energy of Eden. He read Acts 2:43-47 and led in prayer.

Jeff Snyder, church chairperson, conducted a year in review by having the congregation name memorable events of 2013. The minutes were approved and reports were accepted as printed.

Jay Goering presented the 2014 budget. Kathy Neufeld, Stewardship Commission explained the mission giving portion of the budget. Total amount for the budget is \$490,900.19. The congregation is in agreement with the budget.

The Staff Congregation Relations Committee explained what they are doing. Their purpose is to build up the staff and congregation.

All commissions, staff congregation relations committee, and the gifts discernment committee were recognized.

The meeting was closed with prayer and a congregational song.

Invitation to Share



The "invitation to share" project for the month of March is Health Kits: 1 toothbrush, (adult size, leave in wrapper), 1 squeeze-tube toothpaste (6 oz. leave in box.) 1 bar soap, 1 fingernail clipper, 1 hand towel (larger than fingertip, dark color). Place contents in a fabric double drawstring bag, 11" x 16".

If you want to support this project financially you may write a check to Eden with "invitation to share" in the memo line. Please mail checks to the church office, P.O. Box 406, Moundridge, KS 67107.



The Song of Mark is coming!

Between March 16 and Easter the Chancel Choir will be performing selected music from Marty Haugen's, *The Song of Mark*, a musical portrayal of Jesus' life and ministry.

The author of *The Song of Mark*, Marty Haugen says the following about the musical. "A sense of the inevitable weaves through the Gospel of Mark and it is evident too in *The Song of Mark*, but there is much more going on here than anticipation over coming events. This musical leads us to make the refreshing discovery again as well. This memory reclaimed is the gift of true hope that Jesus provides the downtrodden and forsaken—the strength of God that is made perfect in weakness. Through Jesus, the nameless are given a voice that is heard. True to Mark's telling, the anonymous women storytellers in the chorus of *The Song of Mark* bear out a great understanding of what true discipleship means, greater even than the Apostles. At the end of the piece, in "The Song at the Empty Tomb," these voices of the faithful rise with Jesus and resonate the Good News."

The Eden Choirs will be singing songs from this musical on March 16, 30, and April 6. On Palm Sunday they will sing four of the songs already sung, plus *Hosanna*. On Easter the *Song of the Empty Tomb* will be sung.

Please lend your prayers and support to the choirs as they prepare for this special ministry.

YEARBOOK
2014



Directory for 2014

The yearbooks are completed

You may pick up your yearbook from the boxes at either the east or west entrance at church or at the church office.

What can you find in the Eden Yearbook? Of course you can always find names, addresses, phone numbers, and some email addresses of members. But did you know you can also find a diagram of Eden's new operating structure? Did you know you can find the names of each of the commissions and who serves on them? Did you know you can find a list of all pastors, deacons and ministers of music who have served at Eden? You can also find the addresses of area hospitals. Pick one up and find a wealth of information.

If you would like to recycle your old yearbook please place it in the church mailbox, (last one on the bottom right side) or bring them to the church office.

Grants of up to \$14,000 to be awarded by May 1



The Eden Endowment Fund Committee (Perry Krehbiel, Dick Gehring, Brandon Kaufman, Eugene Goering and Fred Schrag), will be accepting grant applications until March 16, 2014. Grant applications should follow the Endowment Policy guidelines. A copy of the policy and grant applications are on the literature table in the fellowship hall and also on the Member Information page on our website www.edenmennonite.org. The committee has decided to grant up to \$14,000 this year. Grants will be awarded by May 1, 2014.

The Eden Endowment Fund provides a way for members and friends of Eden to make special gifts during their lifetimes and at the end of their lives to carry on the ministry of the church in future years. The Endowment Fund provides an ongoing financial support for our church's mission.

Recipients of scholarships to share at Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association Annual Meeting



The Annual Business Meeting of the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Foundation will be held at First Mennonite Church of Halstead, located at 427 W. Fourth Street, Halstead, at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Mar 9, 2014. Four recipients of scholarships awarded by the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association will be with us at the annual business Meeting to tell us about their lives since those awards. Berni Kaufman, who works with Mennonite Women as well as part time library assistant in Moundridge and has served as assistant pastor. Alan Stucky is pastor of the Pleasant Valley Mennonite Church in Harper, Kansas. David Roth is pastor of the Kingman Mennonite Church. Jim Ostlund is pastor at McPherson campus of Journey Mennonite Church.



Women's Spring Supper "Out of the Wreckage Came a Blessing"

Women, mark your calendars for an evening of fellowship and inspiration planned for Thursday, Mar 20, at Faith Mennonite Church in Newton. Karen Dalke, pastor from Des Moines, IA, will be the guest speaker. The Annual Spring Supper which is a joint effort by South Central Conference and Western District Conference will begin at 6:00 p.m. (Cost is \$6.00 per person). There will be special music and an offering will be taken for Mennonite Women USA. **Reservations are required by Mar 1st.** You may contact Marlene Krehbiel at 345-2922 or add your name to the sign-up sheet on the literature table.

2014 MCC Comforter Blitz

Everyone is welcome to the Mennonite Central Committee Comforter Blitz on March 10 and 11 at Journey at Yoder Church Campus (1 mile north of Yoder). The time on Monday, March 10 is from noon until 9:00 p.m. and from 9:00 to 5:00 on Tuesday, March 11. On Monday, a supper of chili will be available for donation. Tuesday noon, sloppy joes will be available for donation, or you may bring your own lunch. Drinks will be provided. You may come for part of a day or the entire time. Bring thimble (if you use one) and scissors, (please label). Childcare is available, but please let the contact person know ahead of time. Bring a friend.

This event is organized by Kansas Friends of MCC. If you have questions about the event you can call 316-283-4232 or email rcpeters2@cox.net.



Do you have a copy of this book?

The deacons are looking for additional copies of the 1987 edition of the book entitled *Called to Caregiving: A Resource for Equipping Deacons in the Believers Church* edited by June A. Gible and Fred Swartz. It is believed this book may have been used by former deacons as several copies have been handed down to present deacons. If you have knowledge of where additional copies may be found or possess a copy of this book and are willing to loan or give it away, you may contact Bonita Howard (620-345-7154) or drop your copy by the church office.



Is your work in the healthcare field?

Come and learn about Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) at a special Regional Meeting, Sunday evening, March 9, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Shalom Mennonite Church, 800 E. 1st St. Newton. Matthew Schmidt, LCSW, Executive Director of Health Ministries Clinic, will be the featured speaker on the subject of "Integrated Health Care: One Mind, One Body, One Patient." Paul Leichty, Executive Director will share briefly about MHF's mission to be an interdisciplinary community of Anabaptist health professionals. Healthcare professionals from the full spectrum of training and academia, health care services, and ministry are welcome. Refreshments will be served following the presentation. For more information, contact Sondra Leatherman, ds1thrmn@embarqmail.com or the MHF Office, info@mennohealth.org.



What Are You Giving Up?

Unnatural

It's countercultural, unnatural even — this Lenten call to deny oneself and resist temptation, to put aside comfort for a time in reflection of Jesus' sacrifice for us. It's downright uncomfortable.

Lent is a most unwelcome experience because human nature seeks pleasure and avoids pain at all costs. But Jesus promises that those who dare to follow him into the desert will find a rich reward.

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

The family of Erna Stucky would like to say how much your presence at Erna's service meant to each of the family. A special thank you to Pastor Dave Stevens for your comforting message at the funeral. Thank you to all those who provided special music for the service. Also thank you to every who helped in the preparation of the food and those who brought pies for the meal following the funeral. We appreciated all the cards, food at home, prayers, kind thoughts and expressions of sympathy. May God bless you.
Harvey J. Stucky and family



New Address for Your Yearbook

We choose not to print our members' addresses on line. If you would like an address of one of our members, please contact the church office.



**Daylight Saving Time begins March 9.
Set your clocks ahead!**

"I've long since stopped feeling guilty about taking 'being' time; it's something we all need for our spiritual health, and often we don't take enough of it."

~ Madeleine L'Engle

Do You Just Belong?

Are you an active member
The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

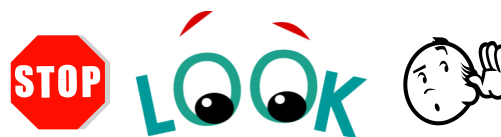
Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the flock?
Or do you stay at home
And criticize and knock?

Do you ever go and visit
A member who is sick,
Or leave the work to just a few
And talk about the clique?

Come to the meetings often
And help with hand and heart
Don't be just a member
But take an active part.

Think this over, member
You know right from wrong;
Are you an active member
Or do you just belong?

— Add Sloomon



Stop, look and listen

Lent, the season of the church year that's associated with repentance, begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year). While some people deny themselves by giving up something for Lent, others prepare for Easter through special Bible studies or devotions.

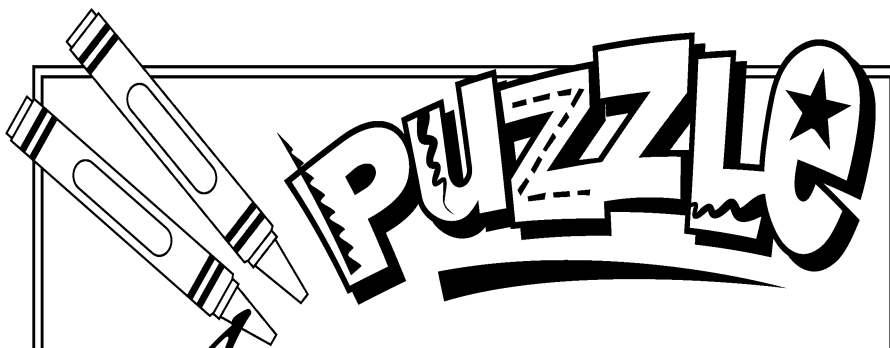
Christians observe Lent for these reasons:

- ◆ It causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile," as well as "Stop doing wrong."
- ◆ It tells us to LOOK. Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ offering healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.
- ◆ It tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words aren't only important for our safety in travel; they're also helpful for our journey through the 40 days of Lent.

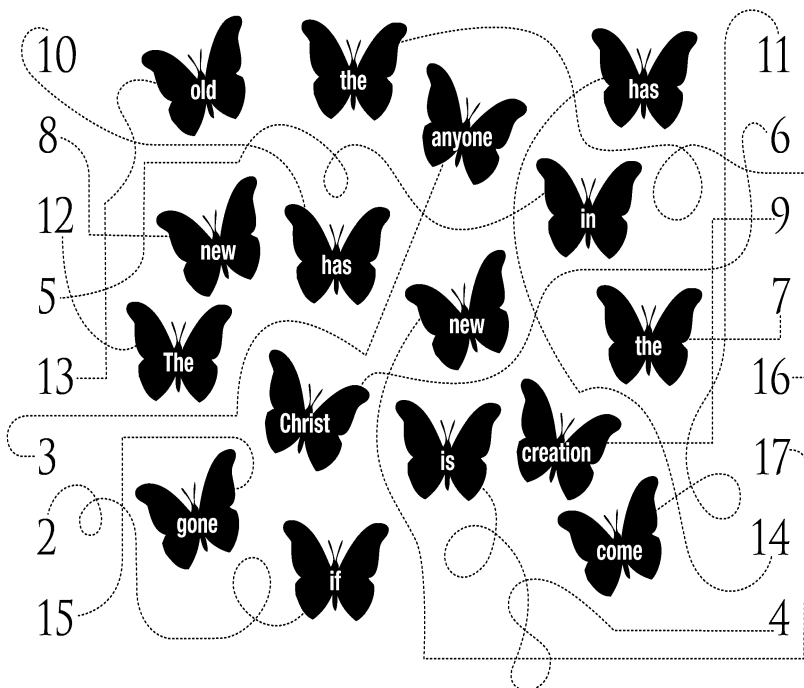
- 45 miniature twist pretzels (to make 20 butterflies)
- Cookie sheet covered with parchment paper
- Light cocoa and multi-colored Candy Melts (available at craft stores)
- Disposable decorating bags
- M&M's, Skittles, sprinkles, cinnamon drops, etc.

1. Break five pretzels into pieces for antennae.
2. On cookie sheet, arrange pairs of whole pretzels as shown.
3. Melt Candy Melts in microwave, separating colors into different bags.
4. Pipe melted brown candy down the center to hold pretzels together, making a head and body. Press on two pretzel pieces for antennae.
5. Pipe other melted candy into the pretzel holes.
6. Add M&M's and other decorations into melted candy on the wings. Let cool. Enjoy!



Just as spring brings beauty and renewal,
in Christ we, too, are made new.

Directions: Follow each flying butterfly to its correct number. Then write that word on the line with the corresponding number to read 2 Corinthians 5:17.



“Therefore, $\frac{\quad}{2} \frac{\quad}{3} \frac{\quad}{4} \frac{\quad}{5} \frac{\quad}{6}$, $\frac{\quad}{7}$

$\frac{\quad}{8} \frac{\quad}{9} \frac{\quad}{10} \frac{\quad}{11} : \frac{\quad}{12} \frac{\quad}{13}$

$\frac{\quad}{14} \frac{\quad}{15}$, $\frac{\quad}{16} \frac{\quad}{17}$ is here!”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV

March Birthdays

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1- May Juhnke
Terri Neufeld
David Schrag
Emma Schrag (Peter & Debra)
Michael Stucky
Wayne Vogt
Juli Wedel | 15- Kathy Flickinger
Ty Unrau |
| 2- Virginia Kaufman
Joshua Zerger (Greg & Jackie)
Tillie Zerger | 16- RJ Clark (Becky Clark)
James Neufeld
Jeff Snyder |
| 3- Anton Klassen | 17- Gary Schrag |
| 4- Clarence Goering
Cory Graber
Carol Lichti
Douglas Waltner
Homer Wedel | 18- Zachary Graber
Karen Kaufman
Shelly Krehbiel |
| 5- Lonnie E. Schrag
Marike Stucky
Dennis Wedel | 19- Patty Clark |
| 6- Grant McGinness (Paul & Claudia)
Glenna Schrag
Wanita Schrag | 20- Matthew Thiesen |
| 7- Kale Arnold (Todd & Sandy)
Claudia McGinness
Chance Mulder (Tom & Jamie) | 21- Daniel Graber
Elaina Graber (Nathan & Krista)
Nathaniel Graber
Marcy Schrag |
| 8- Waneta Goering | 22- Alexa Hoffmann (Phil & Kristy)
Herb Stucky, Jr.
John Elmer Stucky |
| 9- Matt Harmon
Emily Knight
Venita Patchin
Gail Stucky | 23- Whitney Fast |
| 10- Steven W. Schrag
Sara Tolle | 24- Ezra Gehring (Don & Robin)
Alice Krehbiel-Schrag
Jake Krehbiel
Anne Schrag |
| 11- Doug Stucky | 25- Ashton Goering (Blair & Kelly)
Theron Ratzlaff (Darrell & Bobbi Schrag)
Robert K. Stucky
Erika Zahn |
| 12- Janice Graber
Marge Kaufman | 26- Jennifer Gehring
Marcia Hiebert
Lynn Kaufman
Sandra Koontz
Cole Stucky |
| 13- Greg Fast
Roland Kaufman
Jessica Neufeld
Brian Schrag
Boston Smith (Ian & Shayna)
Wayne Waltner
Addison Westfall (Jacob & Tonya) | 27- Zachary Roberson (Steve & Robyn)
Taylor Schrag
Delbert Stucky
Wes Stucky
Mahalah Wedel (Jeff & Julie) |
| 14- Ren Flickinger | 28- Larry D. Goering
Patricia Mead |
| | 29- Lachlan Goering (Patrick & Jennifer)
Marvin J. Goering
Clinton Krehbiel |
| | 31- Dylan Juhnke (Vaughn & Dee)
Richard L. Stucky |

March Anniversaries

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1- Alan & Tina Waltner | 17- Simon & Kayla Garcia | 27- Wayne & Laurie Schrag |
| 2- Merlin & Lisa Goering
Jake & Sandra Krehbiel
Morris & Diana Stucky
Wayne & Christine Vogt | 19- Daniel & Annette Knoll | 28- Todd & Sandy Arnold
Cully Abrell & Susan Schrag |
| 4- Nelson & Joan Goering | 20- Robert & DeLonna Barnett | 29- Keith & Connie Schrag |
| 7- Paul & Claudia McGinness | 21- Perry & Betty Kaufman
Paul & Sherri Marsh
Russell & Lynelle Stucky | 30- Larry & Betty Krehbiel |
| 8- Duane & LaDonna Wedel | 24- Roy & Janet Kaufman
Duane & Carol Stucky | 31- Richard & Lorita Regier
Orville & Mary Ann Waltner |
| 16- Berry & Cara Craig
Dick & Kaylene Gehring | | |

If there has been an omission or mistaken date
please contact the church office.

Up-Coming Events

Mar 3	8:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission mtg. 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg.
Mar 5	7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
Mar 6	4:30 p.m. Staff/Congregation Relations Committee 7:00 p.m. Deacons/Pastors Commission mtg.
Mar 8	9:00 a.m. Eden Leadership Team mtg.
Mar 9	Daylight Saving time begins, set your clocks ahead First Sunday in Lent
Mar 11	11:30 a.m. Associated Churches Pastors mtg. at FMCC
Mar 12	Noon – All Staff mtg. at Eden Church Office
Mar 13	5:30 p.m. Staff/Congregation Relations Committee
Mar 16	Second Sunday in Lent
Mar 15-22	Mennonite Disaster Service Trip to Duluth, Minnesota
Mar 20	First day of Spring 6:00 p.m. WDC Women's Spring Supper at Faith Mennonite
Mar 23	Third Sunday in Lent
Mar 24-29	Western District Conference Basketball Tournaments
Mar 30	Fourth Sunday in Lent



On Wednesday Nights!

6:00 p.m. Supper
6:45 p.m. EYF
6:45 p.m. Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus

March 2014						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					




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