



Moundridge, Kansas  
www.edenmennonite.org

# EDEN ECHOES

*Pastor Appreciation Month*  
Let your pastors know you appreciate them.

**October 2013**  
**Issue Vol. 44 No. 9**



## *And a little child will lead them*



Two recent events demonstrate how the treatment of children can change history.

The first event happened on December 14, 2012 at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT. Twenty children were killed by a gunman. Until then the Obama administration had done little about gun control. Yet almost immediately gun control was at the center of public discourse and the political agenda. Sandy Hook was the tipping point. Violence against children crosses a line which most people find intolerable.

The second event happened on August 21, 2013. Over 400 children were killed by a chemical weapons attack in Damascus, Syria. Pictures of the dead children were widely circulated. As a chemical attack, their bodies were not so visibly damaged but looked much like the children of Eden who come forward for children's stories...only still. The world community was outraged. Damascus was the tipping point. Violence against children crosses a line which most people find intolerable. Retaliatory violence, however, from drone strikes or conventional weapons, also threatens the lives of children. Ironically, the threat of more violence against children may be quelling the retribution for violence against children.

Violence against children crosses a line which most Americans find intolerable, but not in every case. America tolerates violence against children when that violence is the collateral damage associated with the pursuit of American interests. The death of 400 Syrian children from the weapons of Syrian nationalists or their opponents is intolerable. The deaths of slave children, Cherokee children, Sioux children, Nicaraguan children, thousands of Iraqi and Afghani children, and tens of thousands of Japanese children, from American weapons, is justifiable. For me, the call for vengeance against Syria was drowned out by the collective American amnesia: If nations who kill children deserve to be attacked, where does that leave the United States?

Jesus demonstrated in his life that the reign of God is characterized by accepting the weak and vulnerable—the poor, the sick, the strangers, the powerless—that is, by accepting others as we would children.

There are hopeful signs of overcoming violence in our world today. Among the hopeful signs are initiatives to bring together children from groups in conflict in a summer camp experience. For example, hundreds of Israeli and Palestinian children have participated together in such peace camps. Children have opportunity to forge friendships and share fun activities. These occasions which transcend hurtful differences build a foundation for better long-term relations on the personal and national scale.

The biblical vision that a peaceful re-creation will be led “by a little child” is powerful, insightful, and just waiting to be realized among us (**Isaiah 11:6-9**).

*Dave Jensen*

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### **Deacons and Pastors meet and share**

The deacons and pastors met on Thursday, August 15. All deacons and pastors were in attendance.

Linda began the meeting with devotions by reading a meditation from the book *Setting the Agenda* by Edgar Stoesz and Rick Stiffney. After sharing of congregational concerns, Linda led in prayer.

Carina Knight, Candy Unrau and Kyle Schrag from the Associate Pastoral Search Committee arrived. They expressed appreciation for entrusting the committee with this important work. Carina gave an overview of the process that the Search Committee has taken. They were given 3 potential candidates and each member of the committee was to choose their top 2. From that list, they narrowed it down to 2 candidates. After interviews, phone calls, engaging conversations with the candidates on Skype and checking references, they narrowed it down to 1 candidate. The search committee asked for deacon approval to pursue a candidate week-end with this selected person. The deacons gave their approval. The search committee will contact the candidate about potential dates for his family to visit Eden in October or November. October 20 would be a good date for Eden. The deacons will discern about a potential start date and compensation package to have a memo of understanding ready to present by the candidate week-end. The deacons/pastors thanked the Search Committee for their work and Carina, Candy and Kyle left.

### **Mass Communication System to be Implemented**

Jeff Snyder and Becky Koller arrived to discuss a mass communication project. They are looking at a company called "One Call Now" with several plan options available. Cost could run from \$75 to \$100 a month. The hope is that multiple persons will learn to operate the system from multiple locations so that different subgroups can send their own messages instead of expecting the church office to handle all messages. An information sheet will be made available for persons to sign up to be included in the mass communication via voice phone, text or e-mail. Linda will get information together for announcements in the bulletin, *Echoes*, the web and Facebook by August 25 and make a verbal announcement on Sunday, Sept. 1. The deacons/pastors thanked Jeff and Becky for their research and authorized them to begin implementation of the project.

The minutes from the July 18 meeting were approved as was the financial report.

The group was asked to reflect on Pastor Gail's review summary before the September meeting so that we might discern together about Pastor Gail's job description. Some items to think about are ¼ time expectations, gifts used along with visitation and working with the pastoral team. Reflection on responses about congregational life will also be discussed at some point.

Linda reported that Peter Fleming is resigning from Everance.

### **Review Process for Pastor Dave Planned**

Pastor Dave's review will be conducted over the next few months with the goal to have it completed by the end of November. Bonita will head up the review committee and will check with Fred Goering and Tim Goering to see if they would be willing to serve again. Wanda consented to be on the committee again. The Appreciative Inquiry format will be used. Bonita will contact WDC minister Clarence Rempel to secure a support person.

The deacons approved the transfer of membership of Tamera M. Stucky to Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. Bonita will contact Becky Koller about sending a letter to Alexanderwohl in this regard.

Discussion over having some kind of staff appreciation event will be held at the Sept. meeting.

Linda will work on an announcement that will call the congregation to an awareness that we are in transition and are operating with only 1 pastor full-time and another pastor ¼ time and ask for sensitivity and flexibility in that regard.

Pastor Dave's updates: The pastoral team is focusing on making disciples and is trying different ways to extend sermons for growth during the week. Notes and questions over the sermon have been included in several bulletins. Other ideas might be passing the mike or starting a blog. Kristeen Goering has completed her term of VS and will share in church at some point.

Pastor Gail's updates: She has invited a group of women to commit to meet regularly and will lead them in spiritual direction. Pastor Gail is also beginning a 3 yr. program that will earn her a certificate in spiritual direction. She expressed affirmation to classes or groups who adopt our members in service and encouraged others to do the same.

Linda closed in prayer.

Next meeting date: Sept. 19, 2013 August 17, 10 a.m.: Leadership Team and Council meet with Dorothy Nickel Friesen in Rm 127 at church



### **Inquiry Used for Pastoral Review**

“The goal of an evaluation or review process should always be to improve the ministry of a congregation and the effectiveness of its members and staff. Through intentional reflection and collaborative discernment...done in the context of the congregation’s call and vision, pastors, leaders and people all gain insight, discern new priorities and experience empowerment” (Jill Hudson, *Evaluating Ministry*, Alban Institute).

The hope is that pastoral reviews will motivate and inspire pastors to grow in effectiveness and strengthen the relationship between the pastor and congregation as together they seek to carry out the congregation’s vision and mission looking towards God’s future.

An approach used by Western District Conference called “Appreciative Inquiry” will be used for Pastor Dave Stevens’ review. Marvin Zehr works as a support person with Western District Conference to help congregations using the “Appreciative Inquiry” approach and will serve as our guide through this process. Review committee members working with Marv are deacons Bonita Howard and Wanda Knight, congregants E. Fred Goering and Tim Goering, and Pastor Dave Stevens.

The “Appreciative Inquiry” review offers opportunity to affirm the things that Pastor Dave does well and also help identify areas in which Pastor Dave can grow. Participants in the review are asked to share stories or experiences about what they have observed in Pastor Dave’s ministry. Rather than a simple rating system, in which everyone’s results are averaged in with everyone else’s, this approach asks for reflective responses and for conversation with others in a focus group. The “Appreciative Inquiry” review seeks to focus on “what is life-giving” or “what is working” rather than on determining “what is wrong” so we can “fix” it. This approach does not seek to avoid problems, but rather looks towards what will promote or nurture “success” rather than assigning blame, tilting towards being future-oriented rather than describing the past. A goal is to build on Pastor Dave’s strengths and work with him on areas for growth.

The congregation at large will be invited to complete written responses to questions in advance to prepare for discussion in a focus group. Participants will be asked to bring their written responses to the focus group and at the end of the focus group discussion, participants will be

asked to turn in their signed written responses. These individual questionnaires will only be available to Marv Zehr as an additional resource in preparing the summary report.

Each focus group will have approximately 10 participants including a facilitator and recorder. Facilitators and recorders will meet for a training session and will participate in a focus group prior to the congregational focus groups. Items discussed will be recorded without identifying who said what. Congregational focus groups will be conducted in late October/early November. The focus groups will meet for approximately one hour, again recording items discussed without identifying who said what. The notes from all of the focus groups will be formulated by Marv Zehr and reviewed by the review committee. The summary report will be based primarily on the recorders’ notes from the conversations within the focus groups. Following the adoption of the summary report by the review committee, Marv will share the report with Pastor Dave, the deacons and the congregation as a final step. The goal is to have everything completed and a summary report presented to the congregation by November 24. Watch for specific details during October.



### **Fundraiser meal for Student Grants**

Plan to let the Student Grant Committee and Chuck Knight do the cooking for the noon meal on Sunday, Oct 6. We will be raising money to help fund scholarships for Eden college students who are attending Mennonite Church USA colleges. The menu will include pulled pork sandwiches, beans, chips, and lots and lots of cakes. Hope to see you there for food, fellowship, and a chance to catch up with our busy college students.

### **Invitation to Share**

*Mission Giving*



The “invitation to share” project for the month of October is an offering for PET (Personal Energy Transportation) of Kansas.

If you want to take part in this project 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.





**Becky, Sarah and Derek King**

The Assoc. Pastor Search Committee would like to Thank the congregation for entrusting us with this process. We recognized God at work in how the process came together.

A little background on our process. After we collected and submitted the church profile information to Clarence Rempel, WDC minister, he matched and gave the search committee three potential candidates to look at. All 3 were good options. Each committee member was given time to go over each candidate's profile and rank them in their own preference order.

We met and voted on the committee's top two choices and proceeded to interview both of them and also called some references for each. After interviews, visiting with references, follow up calls, much discussion and prayer, the committee unanimously agreed to call this candidate as Eden's next Assoc. Pastor.

The Search Committee is excited and happy to announce that Derek King has accepted the call to be Eden's candidate for Associate Pastor.

We felt Derek fit what the church is looking for theologically and we believe his personality would be a good fit also. His references spoke highly of him. Derek is looking forward to working on a pastoral team. He wants to focus on ministering to the whole church and also has a lot of experience with youth. He has innovative interests and understands the many different learning styles a congregation has. Furthermore, Derek has a passion for teaching and faith formation.

Derek graduated from Eastern Mennonite Seminary this year. He graduated from Eastern Mennonite University several years prior to seminary with a major in Justice, Peace & Conflict Studies. He has also worked many summers at a youth camp as a counselor and has also been a director.

Derek and his wife Becky currently live in the Harrisonburg, Virginia area. Derek grew up in the Harrisonburg area. Becky is currently a science teacher. They have a daughter Sarah who is one year old. Becky has family in this area.

We look forward to seeing how Derek could use his gifts at Eden and within the community.

The Search Committee has set October 20th as his candidacy weekend and we would like you to be in attendance on that Sunday to meet Derek and his family.

**The congregational vote to call Derek King as Associate Pastor will be on November 3, 2013. Please note the change of date.**

Thank you again and we look forward to October 20th.



### **Deacons designate 5th Sunday offerings**

Sunday morning offerings are designated for the unified budget except for 5th Sundays which are designated by the deacons. In 2013, the months of March, June, September and December have 5th Sundays. March and June's 5th Sunday offerings remained designated for the unified budget. September's 5th Sunday offering was swapped with the Harvest Mission Festival Sunday offering. September's 5th Sunday offering went to the unified budget. Harvest Mission Festival Sunday will be October 27 and the offering will be designated for missions. Thank you for your continued support of the missions of Eden Mennonite Church.



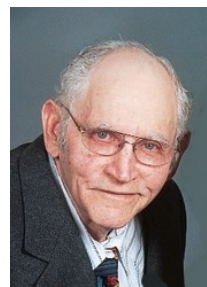
We choose not to print our members' addresses on line. If you would like an address of one of our members, please contact the church office.

## In Loving Memory



Melva Krehbiel (90) passed away at Wesley Medical Center on Thursday, August 29. A memorial service was held at Eden on September 2. We extend our sympathy to Roger and Judy, Greg and Elaine and Miriam and all of Melva's extended family.

Elaine Krehbiel (80) passed away on Thursday, Sept 5 at Hutchinson Hospice House. Funeral services were held Sunday, Sept 8. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Art, step children, Wendy and Brad and all of Elaine's extended family.



Don Knoll (78) passed away Tuesday, Sept 17 at Mercy Hospital. A memorial and burial service were held at Eden on Friday, Sept 20. We extend our sympathy to his wife Patsy and sons Duane, Darrel, Daniel and Dale and all of their extended family.



**THANK YOU!**  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

The family of Melva Krehbiel wishes to thank you for all the support shown through thoughts and prayers, cards, food, flowers, and memorial donations during her passing. We so much appreciate the many acts of kindness and concern.

E. Roger and Judy and family  
Gregory and Elaine and family  
Miriam

**Congratulations  
on Your  
New Baby!**



Congratulations to Heath and Samantha Doane on the birth of their daughter, Piper Jo. Piper was born on August 26. Piper is welcomed by her big sister Preslie and her maternal grandparents Joe and Debi Lichti.

Thank you so much for your generous donation and the support you show to the school, student, and staff. We are blessed by your gifts and support. We are happy to report we have over 70 students enrolled! Thank you!

Rebecca Yoder  
Hope Mission School, Inc.

# GROW IN Grace

Make this craft as a reminder to continue growing in God's amazing grace.



## What you need:

- An adult to help
- Newspaper
- Acrylic paints
- Paper plate
- Paintbrush
- Small terra cotta pot and plate
- Cup of water
- Permanent black marker
- Potting soil
- Small "indoors" plant or packet of seeds

## What you do:

1. Cover your work area with newspaper and squeeze paint onto the paper plate.
2. Paint designs on the pot and plate, cleaning your brush in the water when changing colors. Let dry.
3. With the black marker, write "Growing in God's Grace" along the top ridge of the pot.
4. Pour in a small amount of soil. Place your plant in the pot and surround it with more soil. (If planting seeds, follow packet instructions.)
5. Water your plant. Check it daily and keep the soil moist.
6. Enjoy watching your plant grow!

# PUZZLE

## Growing Up!

You're growing each day in many different ways.  
A verse from 2 Peter tells what will help you grow!

Directions: Fill in the blanks below, using the height measurements as guides, to complete 2 Peter 3:18.

3 1/4 ft. knowledge

Savior 3 1/8 ft.

3 1/16 ft. him

grace 3 ft.

2 3/4 ft. now

forever 2 1/2 ft.

2 1/4 ft. Lord

grow 2 1/8 ft.

2 1/16 ft. glory

2 ft. Amen

Jesus Christ 1 1/4 ft.

1 ft. our

"But 2 1/8 ft. in the 3 ft. and 3 1/4 ft. of 1 ft.

2 1/4 ft. and 3 1/8 ft. 1 1/4 ft.

To 3 1/16 ft. be 2 1/16 ft. both 2 3/4 ft. and 2 1/2 ft. ! 2 ft.."

2 PETER 3:18, NIV

Answer: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

2 Peter 3:18, NIV

## October Birthdays

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1- Glenn Carey<br>Brody Graber (Travis & Penny)<br>David Stucky<br>Carol Zerger (Mrs. Bill)                    | 17- Brandon Cruz (Ron & Juanita Goering)<br>Elliana Garcia (Simon & Kayla)<br>Ross Wedel               |
| 2- Samantha Doane<br>Gene Graber<br>Gregory A. Krehbiel<br>Mason Regier (Josh & Emily)                         | 18- Eldon Zerger   |
| 3- Kylee Stucky (Kevin & Gayle)  | 19- Milo E. Schrag   |
| 4- Annie Wyssmann<br>Brianna Stucky (Blaine & Teresa)  | 20- Cara Craig   |
| 5- Brenton Alfaro (Brian & Tenae)<br>Allen Bonde<br>Kenneth Flickner<br>Timothy J. Stucky                      | 21- Emory Wedel  |
| 6- Rod Gehring<br>Gail Graber<br>Hudson Krehbiel (Will Krehbiel)<br>Dorothy Stucky<br>Jacob Stucky             | 22- Leona Goering  |
| 7- Gail Goering<br>Lillie Krehbiel<br>Harvey J. Stucky   | 23- Chad Goering<br>Jerrod Newhouse<br>Sherwin Niehage   |
| 8- Kenneth Goering<br>Ardath Graber<br>Nancy Krehbiel (Mrs. Ron)<br>Ted Regehr (Roger & Terra)<br>Bruce Schrag | 24- Harry Crabb<br>Sarah Neufeld (Jerry & Kathy)   |
| 10- Logan Hayes (Mike & Kelly)<br>Brianna Hochstetler (Jon & Lisa)   | 25- Ron Goering<br>Betty Kaufman   |
| 12- Ida Knoll (Dale & Cherri)<br>Jack Knoll (Dale & Cherri)  | 26- Germaine Bird<br>Craig Ewy<br>Brooke Brite<br>Wayne Schrag   |
| 14- Kip Krehbiel (Jay & Jane)<br>Michael Waltner   | 27- Barbara Ewy<br>Tim Goering<br>Melvin Graber<br>Ruth Kaufman<br>Wes Krehbiel                        |
| 15- Ryan Parsons (Rob & Lori)  | 28- Eric Goering<br>Nelson Goering<br>Lennon Graber (Nathan & Shelby)<br>Barbara Stucky (Mrs. Delbert) |
| 16- Perri Mulder (Tom & Jamie)<br>Bruce Stucky<br>Jordan Torres (Kimberly Kaschke)<br>Simon Garcia             | 29 Ellen Stucky<br>30- Elizabeth Goering<br>Gladys Schrag<br>31- Tyler Goering (Mark & Sheila)         |

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

## October Anniversaries

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 3- Rollin & Kay Flickner   | 15- Merlyn & Janice Johnson  |
| 4- Matt & Angie Harmon<br>Bill & Carol Zerger                                | 16- Dick & Jill Zerger   |
| 5- Nicholas & Lori Vontz   | 20- Gene & June Graber<br>Josef & Maggie Cutright                                    |
| 6- Greg & Pam Flickner   | 24- Randall & Annette Goering<br>Richard & Sharon Harris<br>Virgil & Vernell Kaufman |
| 8- Chuck & Diane Knight<br>Doug & Angie Stucky<br>Dale Ray & Shelley Thiesen | 25- Virgil & Verna Goering<br>Tyron & Victoria Stucky                                |
| 11- Keith & Mary Albrecht<br>Carlos & Jolene Alonso                          | 27- Don & Patsy Knoll  |
| 13- Michael & Kelly Hayes  | 28- Greg & Kathy Perkins   |
| 14- Rondell & Rachel Burge<br>Jon & Lisa Hochstetler<br>Jeff & Juli Wedel    | 30- Dale & Cherri Knoll<br>Delton & Roberta Ollenburger                              |

## Up-Coming Events

- Oct 1** Mary Martha all day meeting  
**Oct 6** World Communion  
 Noon – Student Grant benefit meal  
**Oct 7** 7:00 p.m. Evangelism & Outreach Committee mtg.  
**Oct 9** All staff meeting at noon  
**Oct. 13** 8:30 a.m. Mentors meet with Mentor Committee  
 Noon - Mentor/Mentee Pizza and Games  
**Oct. 15** 7:00 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg.  
 Pine Village Supper and Auction  
**Oct. 18-20** Candidacy Weekend (watch bulletin for detailed schedule)  
**Oct 20** Potluck meal at noon  
**Oct. 27** Harvest Mission Sunday (Brett Klingenberg speaker)  
 Noon - Youth Fundraiser meal  
**Nov. 3** Congregational vote for Derek King as Associate Pastor



On Wednesday Nights!

- 6:00 p.m.**  
 Meal  
**6:45 p.m.**  
 Eden Youth Fellowship meets  
 Young Men of God meet  
 Inter-generational activities  
**7:30 p.m.**  
 Ladies Chorus  
**8:00 p.m.**  
 Chancel Choir  
**8:45 p.m.**  
 Men's Chorus



October 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



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