



EDEN
Mennonite
Church
Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

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Year of the Bible and Permission to Struggle

As we embark on Eden’s Year of the Bible we give ourselves permission to *struggle* with the Scriptures. This is especially important to say as we delve into the Old Testament. The text of the First Covenant comprises approximately 70% of our Bibles but can feel the least “user friendly.” In the course of sermons you will hear Pastor Derek and I note verses and passages and ideas that we find beautiful or surprising or troubling. Our hopes are that in the course of our reading and sharing we can all feel safe to say what makes us feel joyous or hopeful or puzzled or sickened. In any thorough and honest reading of the Bible, we will experience all those things.

What encourages us is that the Bible itself is a book of honest *struggle*.

No matter what life holds, no matter what theologies life obliterates through realities and complexities, the Bible is a witness that Israel *must* deal with God. For Israel the LORD is the One with whom we have to do and she gives herself no other option. The Grand Story of the Scriptures never considers that Israel has the choice of atheism.

So because atheism is no option for Israel, she learns to include the negative in her theology. Israel learns to praise and to whine, to rejoice and to rage, to affirm and to question. Faith comes to include these polar opposites, and the irresolvable tension that their combination entails become like two magnets whose energy fields push against each other. Walter Brueggemann, in his *Theology of the Old Testament*, said that the First Covenant Scriptures include Israel’s testimony and counter-testimony, that is, both dominant voices of “acceptable” faith and minority voices which challenge what is acceptable.

Because atheism is no option for Israel, dire circumstances induce Israel to expand her theology to include God as an enemy (Lamentations) or rapist (Jeremiah 20:7-12) or abusive husband (Isaiah 54:4-10), or a sentry who has dozed off (Psalm 44:23-26), or a deity who is aloof and indecipherable (Ecclesiastes), or unjust (Job), etc.

Exile is a major event which bequeathed to Israel one helix of its self-concept, namely, “the church tragic,” interwoven with “the church triumphant.” Babylon’s invasion and defeat of Judah led to deportation, displacement, the loss of land, Temple, functioning priesthood, worship, the collapse of infrastructure and community, that is, the obliteration of all patterns that make meaning in life. So much of the Scripture is written in reflection upon this event.

The Old Testament is a sometimes unsettling, but often refreshing book of honesty.

As we cast off from the dock in our Year of the Bible, we can affirm Israel’s journey in its totality—testimony and counter-testimony—not just the rosy side but the full story. The Symphony of Scripture has room for the dirge as well as the love song. And we give ourselves permission to *struggle* honestly with the text that affirms *struggle*.

Pastor Dave

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The Pine Village Garage Sale will be Sep 26-27, 2014

Over the years Pine Village has come up with many creative ways to raise money for various projects on campus. The next event will be a garage sale on September 26 and 27 in the Krehbiel Apartment garages. Donations will be accepted again this year. We encourage you to begin cleaning out your store rooms and garages of those items you no longer use and donate them to this benefit Garage Sale. The only items that will not be accepted are adult clothes.

Other events scheduled for the near future include a Walk-A-Thon on September 25, and the Benefit Day Dinner and Auction on October 23.

All proceeds from these events will go toward the remodeling of the extremely outdated bathing rooms in The Neighborhoods. As we approach closer to the date more information will be available, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Pine Village at 620.345.2901.



Check out the classes AMBS is offering!

AMBS - Anabaptist Short Courses: online, non-credit, six-week courses available for anyone who wants to explore Anabaptism. This fall (Oct. 22 - Dec. 3), Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology will be taught by assistant professor Jamie Pitts. Participants will examine Anabaptist movements in the 16th century and draw connections between the 16th century and our life and ministry today. Course is highly interactive and will draw on the wisdom among students. Early registration is due October 1. See: www.ambs.edu/churchleadershipcenter/anabaptist-short-courses.cfm

AMBS will host "**Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship**" September 18-20. Engage in a theology that cares for God's creation, for the land, and all that live on it. For information: www.ambs.edu/news-events/Rooted-and-Grounded.cfm.

Join the AMBS-Kansas Center Fall Class: Anabaptist History and Theology, which will meet over four weekends, a convenient option for those who work or who live at a distance. Taught by Professor Lois Barrett, who has a life-long interest in Anabaptist history, mission and the nature of the church. Class meets at 2500 Place in North Newton, KS, available for both credit and audit. For more information, see www.ambs.edu/academics/fall-courses.cfm or contact the registrar at registrar@ambs.edu.

Theology in Latin American Perspective - AMBS is offering an interterm course in Guatemala in January, taught at the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary in Guatemala City. Course will explore the rich theological heritage of Latin America and its place in situations of poverty and violence. Registration deadline: September 29. See www.ambs.edu/academics/Theology-Latin-American-Perspective.cfm.



Getting ready to retire?

Everence Financial will present an informational seminar, *Retiring soon? Make sense of your Medicare choices* at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on four upcoming Mondays – Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3 and Dec. 8. Everence Financial Advisor Robert Wall and Financial Representative Megan Smith will speak on Medicare, provide instructions on how to enroll, explain your options if you continue to work and answer related questions. The seminars will take place at Everence Financial, 371 N. Old Highway 81, Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Darlene Buller at (877) 467-7294, (620) 327-4043 or darlene.buller@everence.com.



Learning tour to Kenya planned by Mennonite Central Committee

Mennonite Central Committee would like to invite you on a Learning Tour to Kenya. On February 7-17, 2015 you will discover, first-hand, Sand Dams at work and see other MCC supported programs in the areas of health, education and peace. The estimated cost for this learning tour is \$1110 per person, which includes food, lodging, and in-country transportation. Airfare needs to be purchased separately. Space is very limited. For more information contact Anna Yoder by Monday September 22, 2014 at annayoder@mcc.org or 316.283.2720.



Newton Et Cetera Shop has a job opening for a half-time back door receiver and general maintenance person. Key qualifications: available 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, good with people, ability to lift and carry heavy items, dependable, values in line with Mennonite Central Committee. Spanish language skills a plus. To apply, call 283-9461 by **September 15**.

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



Hey, all you summer campers!
Thanks for coming to Camp Mennoscah and being part of our faith community! Summer youth camps are now over, but there are plenty of folks in your congregations to share your experience with. You don't have to wait until next summer to visit Camp Mennoscah again, either. Come volunteer or be part of one of our retreats. Enjoy camp all year round!

Camp Mennoscah thanks you! Thank you, generous singers, for the gifts you gave at the Camp Sing! The amazing amount of \$3,557.99 was raised for the new bathhouses and for Camp Mennoscah. We are grateful to each and every person who prays for Camp Mennoscah, volunteers, and gives to us in many and various ways. You're the best!



Geraldine Wedel (81) passed away on Sunday, August 17 at Mercy Hospital. Services were held at Eden on Friday, August 22. We extend our sympathy to her children, Randy, Peggy Kaufman (Doug) Brad (Juli), and Ross and all of her extended family.

Elda Kaufman, (99) passed away on Friday, August 22 at Newton Medical Center. Services were held at Eden on Monday, August 25. We extend our sympathy to all of Elda's extended family.

No picture available

Invitation to Share



The "invitation to share" project for the month of September is: School Kits

- 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (70 sheets),
- 8 unsharpened #2 pencils,
- 1 ruler, (flat, flexible plastic; indicating 30 cm and 12"),
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging),
- 1 large pencil eraser.

Place contents in a 11" x 16" fabric double drawstring bag.

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.



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.



Get on board with the Year of the Bible. Join others at Eden who are committing to reading through the Bible in one year. Brochures may be picked up at church with a schedule for the weekly readings or you can go to www.edenmennonite.org, click on *worship with us*, scroll to the bottom and

click on *year of the Bible* and you will find the PDF of the brochure, along with links from Western District Conference's Year of the Bible page. There are also links to online Bible sources so you can read and compare different translations.

Watch for new displays at the front of the sanctuary, along with other activities that will go with the Year of the Bible.



Camp Mennoscah Association Annual Meeting will be September 20 at Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton at 5 p.m. There will be a light meal, reports and updates from staff, with a brief meeting and elections. There will also be a Pastors Love Camp Talent Show!! Come support camp and enjoy the fellowship and special entertainment.

REMINDER BOARD



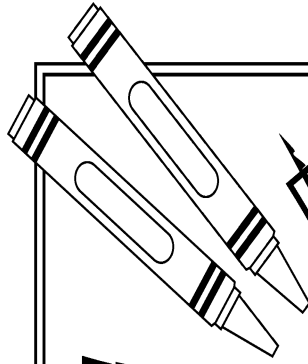
Start off the school year right by making this wipe-off board, which can help you remember important things.

What you need:

- Adult help
- 5" x 7" picture frame with glass (available at a dollar store)
- Lined notebook paper
- Scissors
- Low-heat glue gun
- Buttons, ribbon, stickers or foam shapes
- 1" piece of Velcro
- Erasable marker

What you do:

1. Using the cardboard insert or picture from the frame as a pattern, cut the notebook paper to fit the frame. Then insert it behind the glass.
2. Decorate the outside of the frame by gluing on buttons, ribbon, stickers or foam shapes.
3. Glue one side of the Velcro to the erasable pen and one side to the frame. Then attach the pen to the frame.
4. Place the board on your desk, dresser or kitchen counter. On the glass, write daily reminders about assignments and activities.



PUZZLE

Think about these things...

With so many things to remember each day, the apostle Paul provides guidelines in Philippians 4:8 (NIV) for what should fill our minds.

Directions: Match each word in column 1 to the word in column 2 that means the same thing. Then use the words from column 2 to fill in the boxes below.

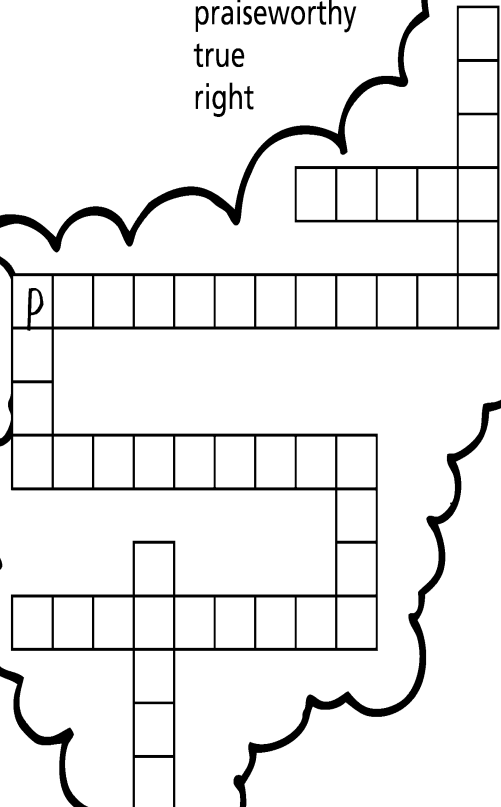
COLUMN 1

correct
commendable
extremely good
having high moral principles
deserving respect
pleasant
real
wholesome

COLUMN 2

excellent
lovely
noble
admirable
pure
praiseworthy
true
right

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is **true**, whatever is **noble**, whatever is **right**, whatever is **pure**, whatever is **lovely**, whatever is **admirable** — if anything is **excellent** or **praiseworthy** — think about such things."
Philippians 4:8, NIV



September Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>1- Dick Gehring
Will Krehbiel</p> <p>2- Zoe Burnett (Shane & Chris)
Bethany Thiesen</p> <p>4- Reagen Dalke (Jerrod & Lisa)
Ada Goering</p> <p>5- Brian Kaufman
Emily Neufeld (Jerry & Kathy)</p> <p>6- Nellie Waltner
Carol Zerger (Mrs. Dan)</p> <p>7- Cade Klassen (Scott)</p> <p>8- Elden Austin
Shirley Delk</p> <p>9- Kason Graber (Zach & Kali)
Aaron Vogts</p> <p>10- Marcia Goering</p> <p>11- Nathan Knight
Becky Koller
Valeda Krehbiel
Irma Schrag
Cheryl Stucky
Pat Stucky</p> <p>12- Trent Stucky (Kevin & Gayle)</p> <p>13- Kathy Ensz
Michael Gehring
Sharon McCown
Judy Schrag</p> | <p>14- Tenae Alfaro
Jill Zerger
Mark Graber
Kristopher Rath</p> <p>15- Hayden Schrag (Brian & Amy)</p> <p>16- Vaughn Goering
Betty Heritage
Peter W. Schrag
Robert D. Schrag</p> <p>17- Karlyn Gehring (Stewart & Nancy)
Jan Craig Goering</p> <p>18- Jaeden Dalke (Jerrod & Lisa)
Irvin Harms
Gracelyer Stewart (Kimberley)</p> <p>19- LuVerna Goering
Joe Lichti
Ruth Ann Ritthaler</p> <p>20- Jenny Schrag</p> <p>21- Jerome Goering
Arlene Thiesen</p> <p>22- Jeffrey Kaufman
Jamie Mulder
Lorita Regier
Bobbi Schrag
Rebecka Stucky</p> | <p>23- Brittany Addis (Curtis & Janine)
Cade Graber
Verlene Kaufman</p> <p>24- Cameron Clark (Becky)
Timothy Graber
Lindsey Begnoche</p> <p>25- Ron Goering</p> <p>26- Janine Addis</p> <p>27- Kristeen Goering
Shawn Rath
Robin Schrag
Jolene Alonso
Brenda White</p> <p>28- Michael Hayes
Tony Janzen
Sandra Krehbiel</p> <p>29- Carolyn Goering
Valeria Graber</p> <p>29- Howard Knight
Annette Krehbiel</p> <p>30- David G. Goering
Edwin L. Schrag</p> |
|---|--|---|

September Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1- Jim Haag & Carol Lichti</p> <p>2- Robert & JoLene Kaufman</p> <p>3- Darren & DeeAnn Graber</p> <p>4- Heath & Samantha Doane
Billy & Sara Hocking
Howard & Neva Kaufman
Bill & Annie Toews</p> <p>5- Greg & Jackie Zerger</p> <p>6- Jay & Linda Goering</p> <p>8- Sam & Marcia Goering</p> <p>15- Terence & Katherine Goering</p> | <p>18- Elden & Neva Austin
Lanny & Linda Stucky</p> <p>21- Donald & Dorothy Wedel
Allen & Lauren Bonde</p> <p>22- Brian & Erin Stucky</p> <p>24- Jay & Jane Krehbiel</p> <p>27- Darwin & Pat Mead
Jason & Shelese Newmark
Kenneth & Glenna Schrag</p> <p>28- Reese & Meghan Gehring</p> <p>30- Wayne & Marlene Waltner</p> |
|--|--|

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

Up-Coming Events

- Sep 2** 9:00 a.m. Mary Martha all day meeting
8:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship mtg.
- Sep 7** 8:00 a.m. Mentor/Mentee breakfast and fellowship
- Sep 10** Wednesday night activities begin
6:00 p.m. Supper
6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
8:00 p.m. Mixed Chancel Choir
8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus
- Sep 13** 9:00 a.m. Eden Leadership Team
- Sep 17** 6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
8:00 p.m. Mixed Chancel Choir
8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus
- Sep 18** Staff Congregation Relations Team mtg.
Items for October *Eden Echoes* due in church office
- Sep 22** 7:00 p.m. Deacon/Pastors mtg.
- Sep 24** 6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
8:00 p.m. Mixed Chancel Choir
8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus

September 2014						
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				




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Address Services Requested