



Moundridge, Kansas  
www.edenmennonite.org

# EDEN ECHOES

**March 2015**  
**Issue Vol. 45 No. 2**



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MC USA Bi-Annual Conference is just a little over four months away and the concerns about this critical gathering seem to increase with every issue of "The Mennonite," and "Mennonite World Review." Survey results, meetings regarding alternative denominational groupings and differing convictions about interpretation of the Bible are helping gather individuals and congregations into various camps. These groups will likely seek outcomes in Kansas City that would allow them to retain their particular position on the key issue of homosexuals in the church. This could create a divisive setting that could seriously compromise the process of Spirit-led discernment that is normally practiced at such national gatherings.

I can certainly allow for differing understandings of scripture because these are clearly present in the New Testament on the part of various individuals and groups of believers. But to insist on making a specific position normative for an entire group that has covenanted to work together in love and harmony is very troubling to me. Especially in light of the emphasis on unity in the gospels and our Lord's high priestly prayer in John 17. This is why I believe it is very important that each congregation take an honest look at its own profile of convictions on this matter. Which would really help delegates represent them accurately in the discussions that will take place. And to carefully weigh the possible consequences if consensus should fail and a mass exodus of churches or conferences should occur.

I, personally, pray that our fellowship will make every effort to preserve unity and remain together, so as not to tarnish the reputation of the Christian church before a watching world. I believe that the struggle to work through our differences in love will also strengthen our denomination and bring new blessings upon our work in the Kingdom of God. I pray earnestly for Ervin Stutzman, Patty Shelly, Clarence Rempel and others who bear such a heavy load in this matter. I would also refer you to Rev. Stutzman's article on the inside last page of the February issue of "The Mennonite" entitled "A dream for following Jesus." This article identifies six streams or traditions by which different groups seek to faithfully follow Jesus, as developed in Richard Foster's helpful book entitled, "Streams of Living Water."

As I reread this 420 page study on these six streams of Christianity this past week, I realized anew how much I had benefited from these emphases in my past experience. Growth that included the Contemplative discipline of spending time with God; the Holiness movement that emphasizes purity of thought, word and actions; the Charismatic welcome of the Holy Spirit to nurture and empower us; The Social Justice emphasis of helping the less fortunate (certainly an emphasis of MCUSA); the Evangelical emphasis on the scriptures and evangelism (a part of my own history); and the Incarnational emphasis on unifying the sacred and secular areas of life to show forth God's attributes and presence in the world.

Each of these emphases has strengths needed by the others and potential perils to be avoided by us all. All are required for a holistic embodiment of the gospel and we do well to learn more about them from each other, lest we should fall short in some way on the final day of reckoning. This, however, will mean staying connected with sincere Christians with whom we don't always agree; outside of and even within our own fellowship. I'm sure we'll hear

Continued on the next page →

more from Rev. Stutzman on this enlightening and challenging topic. I don't have space to develop this further in this article, but I recommend the articles mentioned above, as well as the book for any of you who are so inclined. I also welcome more conversation on this with any of you in the coming days, as we pray and prepare for this important gathering in Kansas City.

*Lee Stutzman*



### Eden Leadership Team

By JoLene Kaufman

The ELT and commissions met with Dorothy Nickel Friesen on Saturday, January 31. Bret welcomed everyone. We read a litany and then Bret turned the meeting over to Dorothy. Each commission got together and worked on these two questions: 1. In last year what are some of the 5 best things that have happened? 2. What are things that need strengthening or we are not happy with? Each table compiled their answers and then JoLene compiled them. The meeting closed with Romans 12.

Sunday, February 15 the Congregation met for their quarterly meeting after a fundraising meal put on by the Student Grant Committee. Jeff, outgoing chair, opened the meeting. He gave a review of his last year as chair. Pastor Lee opened with prayer. Bret called the meeting to order.

We reviewed the commission and committee reports. SCRT - Berni thanked Eugene for his help. Bob Tolle has joined the team and will replace Pam. They met monthly with pastors and once a year with staff. They said goodbye to Darrell and Dave and welcomed Derek and Kevin.

Gary Regier moved and Jeff Snyder seconded to accept printed and verbal reports. Motion carried. Jay, treasurer, gave the financial report. He made corrections in the report book. The building insurance should read \$15,544.50 and the Workmen's comp should read \$1,143.00. As of today we are right on budget and a little ahead of expenses. Eugene moved to approve the budget and Del seconded. Motion carried.

Bret thanked Jeff for his 4 years of work. Congregation applauded. Berni moved and Linda seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

The time was turned over to Pastors Derek and Lee for the visioning process.

JoLene Kaufman, secretary

### Eden Peace Sunday Planned for April 12, 2015



Erica Littlewolf will be our featured speaker/presenter for Peace Sunday, April 12. Erica Littlewolf is of Northern Cheyenne and Jewish descent. She grew up on the Northern Cheyenne reservation in south-eastern Montana attending the White River Cheyenne Mennonite Church. She has volunteered with MCC since prior to 2000 and has been formally employed since 2007. She coordinates the Indigenous Visions Center, focusing on building relationships between Native American people and non-Native American people. She currently lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Erica will also do a simulation called, "The Loss of Turtle Island" with the assistance of Karin Kaufman Wall. Karin is the descendant of Swiss-German Mennonite settlers to South Dakota and Kansas. She has worked for Mennonite Central Committee Central States as the Peace and Justice Education Coordinator since 2002. Her work focuses on raising awareness and encouraging action among MCC's constituency toward dismantling oppression and peace based on justice. She and her spouse, John, live in North Newton with their two children, Abram and Mabel.

Members of the Eden senior high school class will present peace essays after Erica and Karin's presentations. Plan now to attend and share the news of peace with the larger Moundridge community!

### Invitation to Share



The "invitation to share" project for the month of March is Health Kits:

- 1 toothbrush, (adult size; leave in wrapper)
- 1 large bar bath soap
- 1 fingernail clipper
- 1 hand towel (larger than fingertip, dark color)

Place contents in a fabric double drawstring bag, 11" 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.



### March 3 Service Project

Everyone is invited to the service project evening on Wednesday, March 3 at 6:45 in the fellowship hall. This is a continuation of the service project we had in February. We will be painting pictures of flowers for door

decorations for the residents at Pine Village. Please bring your empty pop bottles. The bottoms are used to make the flowers.

This is a great intergenerational activity, so bring your children and grandchildren and join the fun. Supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall, so plan to spend the evening having a good time and bringing smiles to the residents at Pine Village.



### Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association Annual meeting planned for March 8

"Reflections from the Past" will be the theme of the March 8, 2015 Annual Meeting of the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association. It will be held at the Kingman Mennonite Church on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. The church is located at 1620 South Main Street, Kingman, KS. Members of this church, one of the earliest Swiss Volhynian Churches in Kansas, will share a presentation showing their history over the last 100 years. Clemon Kaufman and panel members, Lee Albrecht, Virgil Ewy, Loretta Voran, and Les Schrag will share some great stories of days gone by. Also Gary Krehbiel will do an impersonation of one of the early pioneers and a charter member of the church. And do you know what the Kingman church(es) had to do with starting Camp Mennoscah? And do you know about the Murdock Mill? And the mysterious quilt will be on display.

Members of the Kingman Mennonite Church will serve refreshments. All are welcome. No reservations required.



**From AMBS Church Leadership Center:** Please join us for these short, easy-to-use online seminars:

### Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: What's Different and Why? (Webinar)

Loren Johns

Wednesday, February 18, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Examine how Anabaptists approached Scripture in ways that were both similar to and different from their fellow Catholics and other Protestants. [Get details and register.](#)

### Living in the Belly of the Whale: What Jonah Teaches Us About Preaching (Webinar)

Allan Rudy-Froese

Tuesday, March 10, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT

The book of Jonah can teach the preacher about speech, prayer, telling stories, listening to God, humility, God's sense of humor and more. [Get details and register.](#)

### Funeral Planning: An Anabaptist Approach (Webinar)

Janice Yordy Sutter

Wednesday, April 22, 2:00-3:30 p.m. EDT

Consider the pastor's role in helping shape a service that enables grief and remembering, while giving voice to the hope of our Christian faith. [Get details and register.](#)

Go to <https://www.ambs.edu/> and click on the webinar name for more information.



*Begin Anew:* Christian discipleship resource available now! Are there people in your congregation or community who are new to the Christian faith? Or who have been in the church for a long time and would like to grow in discipleship? *Begin Anew* is a 16-session series of studies to make disciples in small groups and congregations. This discipleship resource is for anyone interested in growing in Christian faith from an Anabaptist perspective, regardless of their background or previous church experience. Available online at [www.MennoniteUSA.org](http://www.MennoniteUSA.org).





Women of all ages are invited to the Spring Supper on Thursday, March 26 at 6:00 p.m. at Hesston Mennonite Church in Hesston. This event is planned jointly by Western District Conference and South Central Conference. Plan to attend this evening of fellowship and inspiration. The featured speaker is Carolene Jackson. Carolene has been a public school educator in Oklahoma and now teaches university courses part-time and serves as a literacy coach. Her seven young grandchildren bring her much delight. A light supper will be served. Cost is \$6.00 per person. The program will include music by the talented McKinney Sisters from Moundridge. An offering for Mennonite Women USA will be received.

Reservations are required by March 16. You may contact Amanda Rempel, secretary of WDW, directly: 316-284-0470 or [carempel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carempel@sbcglobal.net).



### Upcoming Pine Village Events

The Annual Pine Village Corporation meeting will be Tuesday, March 3 with dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and the meetings at 6:30 p.m. If you are a corporation member (donated \$200 or more to Pine Village or the Memorial Home Endowment Foundation in your lifetime) you are invited to attend and vote on new board members as well as take part in recognition of a Volunteer of the Year and honor employees for their years of service. The meal will be catered by Knackie's. Please RSVP to Teresa at 345.2901.

Pine Village will host the 11th Annual Anchor's Banquet on Saturday, March 21 and the 2nd Annual Pulled Pork and Baby Back Ribs Dinner will be April 25. Watch your bulletins for more information on both of these events.



### Mennonite Church USA now has a mobile app

Are you planning to attend the Mennonite Church USA convention this summer? If so you'll want to download the new mobile app soon to get all the latest updates. On your mobile device, search for the "Mennonite Church USA" app, and view the KC2015 event! Thanks goes to the Mennonite colleges for sponsoring the development of this app.



### Indulge for Lent?

Rather than sacrificing something for Lent—especially something easy and spiritually insignificant, such as chocolate—Patty Kirk, in *Guideposts* magazine, suggests finding new ways to indulge in God's presence. Surely one can do this by having extra devotions or attending Lenten worship services. But Kirk offers these ideas:

- Spend time outdoors, sensing God's magnificence.
- Spend time with others, extending generosity and compassion. Remember Jesus' promise that when you care for others, you care for him (Matthew 25:31-46).
- Pray for the "little things," coming before God in childlike trust and feeling peace.
- Watch attentively for God's answers to prayer, and receive them as reminders of his presence.
- Turn anxiety into prayer. As you frame concerns as prayers and entrust them to God, you "sacrifice" the tendency to wallow in worry.



**March 8 begins Daylight Saving Time. Don't forget to move your clocks ahead one hour.**

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

Thank you to the Eden Congregation for your prayers and many acts of kindness during Jim's illness and at the time of his passing. Your loving support meant a great deal to our family. May God bless each and every one of you.

Val Graber

Kyle and Melanie Stucky and family

Mike and Terri Gehring and family

I have finished my chemo treatments, and I wanted to express my appreciation for the support I received. Some of you sent cards. Some of you gave hugs and some of you gave encouragement. There were many prayers said for me. I don't know what the future holds, but I know the Eden Church will be there for me. I have felt God's presence through you for which I am grateful.  
 Marla Gillmore

To our wonderful church family,

Thanks for the expressions of love and caring in Alfred Stucky's memory. The prayers, thoughts, kind deeds and cards were, and are such a comfort and blessing to us. May God bless you all.

Ellen Stucky and family

Thank you, Valentine's Day Volunteers! Thirteen people volunteered at Camp Mennoscah on Feb. 14. They painted the bunk rooms in Sunflower and replaced that horrible, shredding particle board on the bunk beds. Woo-hoo! Mike also made a bookshelf and planned for needed picnic tables and another carpetball table. It was a hoot to have them at Camp Mennoscah. We think these folks are great!

Thank you Eden for your gifts to Mennonite Mission Network in 2014. Your donations, prayers, participation, and enthusiasm for mission are deeply felt across the street and around the world. Because of your generosity this year we have been able to respond to new calls to ministry!

Gratefully,

Stanley Green, Executive Director,

and staff of Mennonite Mission Network

Thank you for your generous donations in the first half of our school year. I hope you will accept our deepest apologies for just getting receipts to you now. We do truly appreciate your support. Kristen is doing well. She has a busy week with 100th Day celebrations and Valentine's Day celebrations. Thank you for being such a great support to her work here.

Rebecca Yoder

Hopi Mission School



Edith Flickinger (80) passed away on Friday, January 23 at The Cedars in McPherson. Services were held at Eden on Thursday, January 29. We extend our sympathy to her husband Floyd and all of her extended family.



Myron "Jim" Graber (76) passed away on Wednesday, January 28 at McPherson Hospital. Services were held at Eden on Saturday, Jan 31. We extend our sympathy to his wife Valeria, his daughters Melanie and husband Kyle, Terri and husband Mike, and all of his extended family.

Alfred Stucky (90) passed away on Thursday, February 12, at Wesley Hospital. Services will be held today, Sunday, February 15, with burial at 3:45 and memorial service at 4:30. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Ellen, sons Darrell and wife Jennifer, Harlan and wife Joyce, Tim and wife Beverly, and all of Alfred's extended family.



### Bible Quiz

When the Pharisees complained about the noisy crowd praising God as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, what did he say would shout out if the people were silent?



- A. The stones
- B. The trees
- C. The palm branches
- D. The donkey

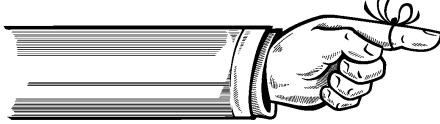
A. The stones

### Call for Worship and Contemporary Art

Art of many kinds will be on display at PA 2015, the global Assembly of Mennonite World Conference that will be held July 21-26 in Harrisburg, PA. Artists are invited to submit contemporary art for a juried exhibit. Churches are invited to display worship art (banners, tapestries, or other visual pieces) that represent their congregation. There will also be displays of children's art and historical art. For further information visit: [https://www.mwc-cmm.org/sites/default/files/website\\_files/art\\_call\\_en.pdf](https://www.mwc-cmm.org/sites/default/files/website_files/art_call_en.pdf)

# PRAYER

## REMINDER



Use this fun family activity to remember to pray for other people.

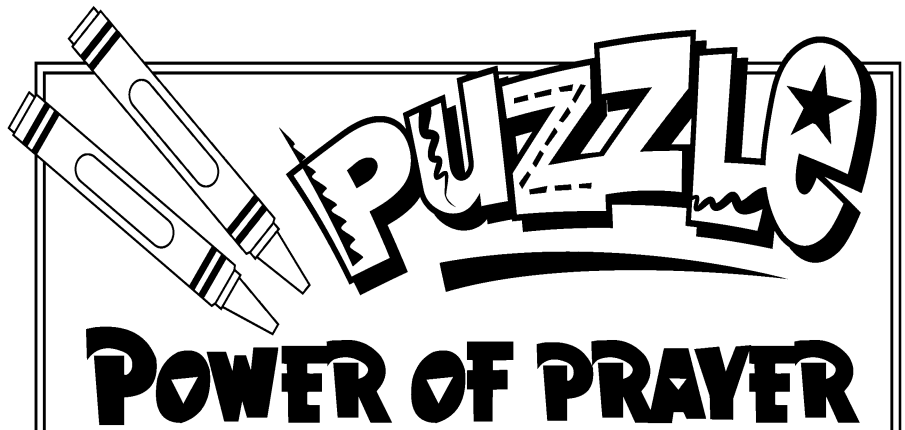
### What you need:

- White index cards (at least six)
- Markers or colored pencils (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and brown)
- M&M's candies



### What you do:

1. On each card, write a group of people to pray for (family members, friends, teachers, sick people, etc.). Use a different color of writing utensil for each card.
2. While sitting at a table, divide the M&M's among family members.
3. Spread out the cards and explain that each color represents a group of people to pray for. Have each family member choose one candy and consider who they'll pray for.
4. Designate one person to start praying aloud. Go around the circle, and have the last person close.
5. At the end of that round, eat those M&M's.
6. Continue until you've prayed for all the cards. (Make more, if you'd like!)



When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do — any time and anywhere.

**Directions:** Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

|                                    |                              |                               |   |  |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 1<br>apple<br>anxious<br>artichoke | 2<br>every<br>eagle<br>emu   | 3<br>purple<br>pink<br>prayer | 4<br>Paul<br>petition<br>Peter                    | 5<br>taste<br>touch<br>thanksgiving      |
| 6<br>rest<br>requests<br>relax     | 7<br>God<br>George<br>Greg   | 8<br>puddle<br>peace<br>pond  | 9<br>transcends<br>train<br>truck                 | 10<br>unusual<br>unique<br>understanding |
| 11<br>guard<br>giraffe<br>gorilla  | 12<br>hearts<br>hold<br>held | 13<br>many<br>minds<br>more   | 14<br>Philadelphia<br>Pennsylvania<br>Philippians |  |

“Do not be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> about anything, but in  
 \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> situation, by \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> and  
 \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>, with \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>,  
 present your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>. And  
 the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> of God, which \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>  
 all \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>  
 your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> and your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup>  
 in Christ Jesus.” \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians

### March Birthdays

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

### March Anniversaries

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

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

## Up-Coming Events

March 2: 7:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission meeting at Eden Church Office  
 March 3: Mary Martha all day meeting  
 March 4: 6:00 p.m. meal served at church  
 6:45 p.m. Service Project  
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus  
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus  
 March 8: Daylight Saving Time Begins  
 March 10: 7:00 p.m. Visitation training at church office  
 March 11: Last Wednesday Evening Bible Study  
 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 12: 7:00 p.m. Eden Leadership Team (ELT) meeting in room 127 at church  
 March 17: 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission meeting at Eden Church Office  
 March 18 & 25: 7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus  
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus  
 March 19: 7:00 p.m. Visitation training at church office  
 March 26: 7:00 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg.  
 March 28: Church Workday (watch the bulletin for details)  
 March 29: Palm Sunday  
 April 5: Easter  
 April 6: Education/Discipleship Commission meeting at Eden Church Office  
 April 7: Mary Martha all day meeting  
 April 8: 7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus  
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus  
 Apr 12: Peace Sunday

| February 2015 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |



| March 2015 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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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