



Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

May 2015
Issue Vol. 45 No. 4



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“What’s so important about prayer?” This question has occupied my thoughts recently as I ponder the fact that the recorded number of times that Jesus prayed in the New Testament seems so inversely proportional to the mention of prayer in the Old Testament. According to Herbert Lockyer’s book, “All the Prayers of the Bible,” there are no fewer than 650 prayers in the Bible with 450 recorded answers. The word, “prayer” and its related forms, are also mentioned 375 times in the New International Version of the Bible.

I find it interesting that there are only 15 mentions of Jesus praying in the gospels. Despite the fact that Luke’s account makes it clear that Jesus prayed much, needed and loved to pray, and simply took it for granted that “his disciples should always pray and never give up (on prayer),” Luke 18:1. Beyond that, however, the gospels contain many of our Lord’s teachings about people’s failures in prayer. And how often he clearly taught very practical principles for effective, prevailing prayer for his followers.

Besides being our most important link of communication and connection with the very Lord of our lives, there’s also the popular saying that “prayer is one of the Christian’s most important labor-saving tools.” That by honoring God with our loving attention, we empower him to move on our behalf to help meet our own needs and effectively advance the Kingdom work that he has entrusted to us as his stewards. So for a slightly different approach to possible helps for prayer, I pulled a dozen books off of my shelves for a basic review of what others have learned from their journey with prayer. There is a wide-ranging array of effective authors whose habits can still call us back to this vital spiritual exercise with greater effect.

The first example is, “The Secret of Communion with God,” by Matthew Henry, famous Bible scholar from the 1700’s. Elizabeth Elliot, editor, helps preserve these classic understandings of prayer that still bless the ministries of many pastors today. Then there is “Praying Hyde,” the biography of a Presbyterian missionary to India. Exploits through prevailing prayer written by Basil Miller in 1943 that remind us why prayer is still the power center of the Christian life. Or “The Prayer Life” by Andrew Murray, whose life of prayer helped prepare the way for the end of apartheid in South Africa at the beginning of the 20th Century is another good book..

“The Prayers of Peter Marshall,” chronicles the power of prayer in the US Senate in the mid 1900’s. “The Exciting Church Where People Really Pray,” by Charlie Shedd, is another exciting read as well. Another example is the challenging title, “Too Busy Not to Pray,” by Bill Hybels, 1988. The truths of this title, echoing Martin Luther, are illustrated by pastor Hybels in numerous, practical ways. Next is “Praying the Bible for Your Life,” by David Kopp, 1999. David’s struggle over his wife’s death from cancer gives excellent help in praying the words of scripture to help nurture our prayer life. “Wrestling with God,” 2003 by Evangelist Greg Lauri, highlights Jacob’s refusal to let go until God would bless him.

“The Power of Crying Out; When Prayer Becomes Mighty,” by Bill Gothard, helps express pent up prayers from the

There’s more →

extreme depths of our lives that can be very freeing. The same is true of “How to Pray When You Don’t Know What to Say,” a very practical book by Elmer Towns, 2006. I suggest that we can learn from others by watching or listening to them or even reading of their experiences in prayer. My hope is that growing in prayer might bring new vision, power, joy and fruitfulness as we grow in Christ. Could it be that conversational prayer could become as easy as just talking with our best friend? I believe it can.

Lee Suderman



Updates from Eden Leadership Team

The ELT met Thursday, April 9, 2015 at the church.

Pastor Lee led in devotions and led in prayer.

Minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer reported the revenue is \$99,769.16 and the expenses are \$98,312.64 leaving a difference of \$1,456.52. The next mission payment will be made at the end of the month.

Peace Sunday is this Sunday, April 12. The pot-luck donations will be going to MCC Indigenous Fund.

The Education commission is working on summer curriculum. Sunday school picnic will be June 7. Games and activities will be provided.

The Deacons will be commissioning the visitors for the congregation on Sunday.

The Endowment committee have had 4-6 requests for grants.

Eden work day was a huge success. All gutters are being replaced covered by insurance.

The First Mennonite, Eden West Zion (FEWZ) group will go through a 7 week series on finances from Everence.

The membership inquiry is setting up times to meet.

The search committee is compiling congregation profiles.

JoLene Kaufman, secretary

A prayer for Mom

A young boy had been misbehaving, so his mother sent him to his room. Sometime later, he came out and told his mom he’d prayed about the matter. “That’s good,” she replied. “If you ask God for help to not mis-behave, he’ll help you.”

“Oh, I didn’t pray for help behaving,” said the boy. “I prayed for God to help you put up with me.”

Invitation to Share



The “invitation to share” project for the month of May is Sewing Kits.

- 1 metric tape measure,
- 2 spools white thread/2 spools black thread (300 yards each,
- 1 thimble, (medium size),
- 1 pr. dressmaker scissors, (good quality)
- 1 pkg. needles, (approx. 25),
- 1 pkg. straight pins, (approx. 100),
- 1 pkg. hooks and eyes, (approx. 12);
- 1 pkg. sew on snaps, (approx. 20-25),
- 10 assorted safety pins.

Place contents in 11" x 16" 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.



Please notify us of graduates

If you are a graduate, or have a graduate in your family please contact the church office. Please don’t assume we know. Names will not be printed unless we hear from you. Please let us know of graduates from 8th grade through graduate school. Call or email the church office 345-8320 or edenmc@mtelco.net. If you think of it after hours, please leave a message on voicemail.

Advice for grads

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



Deacons and Pastors get help responding to the needs of the congregation

Over the past year, the Deacons and Pastors have been discerning how to respond to ongoing needs of congregational care and relationship building. Since there is no longer a pastor assigned with the primary responsibility of pastoral care, the Deacons and Pastors have decided to create a Congregational Visitation Team. The team consists of the Pastors, Deacons, and Congregational Visitors. The goal of the team is to make meaningful connections with individuals and families in both times of challenge and times of stability. The general guidelines for connecting would look like this: Pastors connect during challenging or emergency situations like deaths, hospitalizations, surgery, or other tragedies. Deacons will connect after such events as individuals and families are readjusting back to "normal" life. Deacons and Congregational Visitors will work together to connect across the congregation on a basic relational level as a way of "checking-in."

The Congregational Visitation Team has been trained by former pastor Gail Graber on visitation practices and confidentiality issues. The current team consists of Pastors Lee Suderman and Derek King, Deacons Carol Zerger, Bonita Howard, Brandon Kaufman, Laurie Schrag, and Larry Temple, and Congregational Visitors Emily Regier, Dave and Marge Goering, Jenny Schrag, Wanda Knight, and Susan Goering. Please continue to pray for this group of caregivers and don't be surprised if you receive a visit or phone call.



Early registration approaches for Camp Mennoscah

Camp Mennoscah's early registration deadline ends May 1. In just a few short days, that discount will disappear. Go to

www.campmennoscah.org to reg-

ister online or contact us at

office@campmennoscah.org for a paper form. Returning campers—bring a new friend and receive a free camp tee shirt!

Kitchen help and nurse are needed for summer youth camps

You make the lives of campers and staff so much better. You cook, you volunteer as counselors or custodial or maintenance, and you laugh with us. More of you are needed for the summer youth camps at Camp Mennoscah. We need kitchen helpers for June 7-13, June 29-July 2, July 19-25, and July 26-31 especially, and head cooks for June 29-July 2, July 5-9, and July 19-25. A nurse is needed for June 7-13. Kitchen helpers can receive a camper discount for up to full camp fees. Head cooks and nurses receive a stipend or the camper discount. Contact Camp Mennoscah at

olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290).



New in 2015: Mennonite World Conference's Assembly (July 21-26, Harrisburg, PA) will feature small groups! These multicultural groups will meet daily for conversation and prayer as we get to know our Mennonite brothers and sisters around the world. Find out more or give to the world scholarship fund at mwc-cmm.org/pa2015.

Are you interested in learning more about Mennonite World Conference's Global Assembly, coming July 21-26 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania? Even if you don't think you can come, follow along and join in the conversation on our Facebook page: [Facebook.com/MennoniteWorldConference](https://www.facebook.com/MennoniteWorldConference). Share your story and learn about your Anabaptist brothers and sisters from around the world.

Healthcare workers--past, present, and future: Don't miss this event immediately prior to Mennonite World Conference Global Assembly! Bring the whole family to the Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) Annual Gathering, July 19-21 in Harrisburg, PA. The theme is "Walking Together for Healthy Communities." Plenary presenters include Ted & Company, Shane Claiborne, and Dr. Ann Thyle from India. Grants are available for students, volunteers, and those from outside the US and Canada. Children and youth program for ages 0-18 provided.

Why does a young postgraduate anesthesiologist on a career path towards being the next department head in a large teaching hospital choose to work in a small mission hospital at the foothills of the Himalayas? Hear Dr. Ann Thyle's journey of faith and medicine at the Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) Annual Gathering, July 19-21, immediately prior to Mennonite World Conference Global Assembly in Harrisburg, PA. The theme is "Walking Together for Healthy Communities." Healthcare workers, past, present, and future, and from all medical, mental, and spiritual health professions, are warmly invited to come and bring their families. Grants are available for students, volunteers, and those outside the US and Canada. Children's program for ages 0-18. For more information and registration, go to www.mennohealth/gathering, email info@mennohealth.org, or call toll-free [1-888-406-3643](tel:1-888-406-3643).



Faith Formation

Western District Conference (WDC) is sponsoring an Anabaptist Faith Formation Launch June 12-13 on the Bethel College campus in North Newton, KS. The launch will include times for worship and four breakout sessions, where 14 different workshops will be offered.

This event will kick off a focus on faith formation in WDC congregations. "Faith formation", says Katherine Goerzen, chair of the planning committee, "is an integral part of the church's calling to equip the saints for the work of ministry. We hope this launch will provide practical, meaningful ways for congregations to build on the good faith formation already taking place."

SCHEDULE:

Friday, June 12

2:00 – Intro, worship, table activity

2:45 – Break

3:00 – Andy Brubacher Kaethler

3:45 – Introduction to breakout sessions

4:00 – Breakout 1 (35 minutes)

4:45 – Breakout 2 (35 minutes)

5:30 – Supper

7:00 – Worship

Saturday, June 13

8:00 – Coffee by Mojo's

8:30 – Morning praise

9:00 – Breakout 3 (35 minutes)

9:40 – Break with Mojo's

10:15 – Breakout 4 (35 minutes)

11:00 – Introduction to the website and next steps

Breakout Sessions

- What does Group Spiritual Formation have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Karen Andres)
- What does Technology and Social Media have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Andy Brubacher Kaethler)
- What does a Labyrinth have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Gerry Epp and Annali Murray)
- What do Youth and Young Adults have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Rachel S. Gerber)
- What does the Bible have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Peter Goerzen)
- What does Silence have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Mary Herr)
- What does the Work Week and Daily Life have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Jim Jantzen)
- What does Aging in the Spirit have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Eric Massanari)
- Resources for Faith Formation (MennoMedia and Jennie Wintermote)

- What does Teaching Preparation have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Rachel Miller Jacobs)
- What do Children and Families have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Shana Peachey Boshart)
- What do the Arts have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (Laverle Schrag)
- What does Music have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation? (WDC Music & Worship Task Force)
- What does Justice have to do with Anabaptist Faith Formation?

For more information, contact Katherine Goerzen (katherine@complete.org).

To register for this event go to <http://mennowdc.org/anabaptist-faith-formation-launch/>



Tour invitation 2015

Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association is planning a Local **Sites Tour** for Saturday August 29, 2015 through parts of Marion, Harvey and McPherson Counties. Included will be sites significance to Mennonites as well as sites of historical importance. Brian Stucky will be the tour guide. The cost of the all-day tour including lunch, refreshments, and transportation will be \$50 per individual. To reserve a seat on the bus call LaVern Stucky at 620-983-2348 or email lavern@powwwer.net.



Visual artists invited

Prairie View invites visual artists to submit up to three pieces of original art for its fine art fundraiser/exhibition, "A Beautiful View." Deadline (through digital submission) is May 8. Accepted works due May 22. For info or to enter, see www.prairieview.org/aboutbeautifulview (click on "Invitation to Exhibit Original Art."). The event, with silent and live auctions, is 6-8 p.m., Thursday, June 4 at Carriage Factory Art Gallery, Newton, Kan. Proceeds will go to Prairie View to treat mental illness and addiction disorders. Questions? Contact Misty Elder, ederm@pvi.org, 316.284-6385.

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

The Comforter Blitz committee wants to extend a hearty “thank you” to the ladies who came to the Comforter Blitz several weeks ago to help us complete 204 comforters for MCC. There were 350 persons who helped during the 2 days. Fifty-Eight churches were represented.

The dates for the Blitz next year will be March 7, 8, and 9, 2016 and the location will again be Journey Mennonite at Yoder. Yes, 3 days is correct. We will try this for one year. MCC sends thousands and thousands of blankets and they prefer the homemade kind.

To extend our work time to 3 days will also require more comforter tops/backers. You might want to begin now making comforter tops for next year. MCC’s preferred size is 60” by 80”. The backing should be 4” larger all the way around.

Lois Leinbach

Secretary for Comforter Blitz

Thank you to everyone who helped make the 47th Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale a huge success! You are all invited to celebrate this success at the KMRS annual meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 6:30 p.m. at Buhler Mennonite Church, 220 W. Ave. B, Buhler. The meal is \$12 a plate and you will pay at the door. Please RSVP to Ryan and Kylie Goering by May 7. Or contact Barb Reeves at 620-543-6863 or bj.reeves@live.com.



Job Opening

Mennonite Central Committee Central States is hiring for a Recycling and Warehouse Coordinator. This position is available starting on July 1 at the MCC Center in North Newton, Kansas. The Recycling and Warehouse Coordinator completes tasks for the recycling program, coordinates the meat canning process, volunteer recruitment, grounds maintenance and other Warehouse tasks as needed. The work schedule is 32 hours per week. The full job description is available at <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/recycling-warehouse-coordinator-central-states>, please contact Denise Voth at denisevoth@mcc.org for more information.



Take part in adult Bible school

Sermon on the Mount: June is the month for Bible School, and so any adult (congregation member, pastor, anyone interested in the Bible) who is looking for an opportunity for spiritual growth, renewed discipleship, and a chance to dive deeper into the Bible is invited to participate in an Adult Bible School on the Sermon on the Mount. This continuing education opportunity is hosted by AMBS-Kansas Center and will be taught by Jerry Truex. It will meet June 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 7:00-9:30pm at the Hesston Mennonite Church in Hesston, KS. Normally continuing education opportunities like this cost \$200. However, this event has been sponsored by South Central Conference and Western District Conference. Due to their generosity, the cost per person is only \$50 (please plan to register by May 11 for this reduced rate). Registration is available at <https://www.ambs.edu/academics/Sermon-on-the-Mount-course.cfm> For more information, please contact Katherine Goerzen at kccoordinator@ambs.edu.

Bible Quiz

According to Acts 2, on Pentecost some people accused the disciples of being drunk. Why?

- A. Because they were still asleep at 9 in the morning.
- B. Because all the wine was gone.
- C. Because they were all speaking in foreign languages.
- D. All of the above



Answer: C (See Acts 2:4, 13)

The Ascension challenge

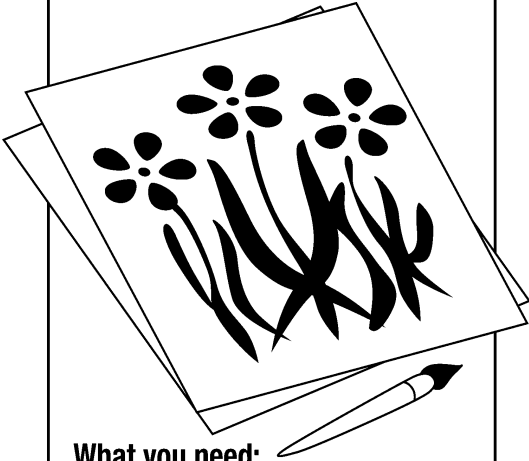
Ever wonder what it might have been like to be a disciple when Jesus ascended into heaven? He gave them the monumental task of making disciples of all the world. Plus, they’d have to do it without relying on Jesus’ physical presence, as they had until then. Were the disciples overwhelmed, uncertain, afraid?

They may have been, yet they went on to spread the gospel throughout the world nonetheless. They rose to the challenge because they fixed their gaze above as they watched Jesus disappear into the clouds.

When we follow that example, offering ourselves as willing servants and keeping our eyes trained on Jesus instead of our circumstances, there’s no limit to what God can accomplish through us.

SPRING

Make this beautiful craft to remind you of God's gift of new life at springtime.




What you need:

- White 11" x 17" paper
- Acrylic paint (various spring colors, including green)
- Paintbrush
- Empty two-liter plastic bottle
- Paper plates
- Paper towels

What you do:

1. With the paper placed vertically, paint stems and leaves with green paint.
2. Pour a different color of paint onto a paper plate. Then place the bottom of the bottle into the paint.
3. Using the bottle as a stamp, press it onto the paper to create a flower atop a green stem.
4. Repeat with different colors on different plates, cleaning the bottle each time, to create a beautiful spring bouquet.



PUZZLE

Spring has sprung!

God created all the seasons, and each brings unique visuals that remind us of him.

Directions: Unscramble each phrase to complete Song of Solomon 2:12, NIV. Use the pictures as hints.

earth on appear the Flowers

“ _____ ;

✿ singing come the of has season ☺

_____ the _____

_____ ,

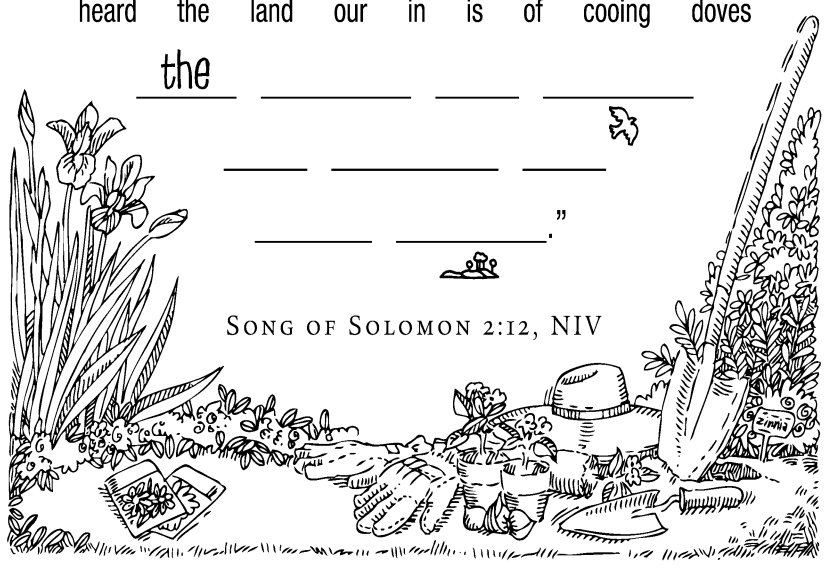
🎵 heard the land our in is of cooing doves

_____ the _____

_____ ”

_____ ”

SONG OF SOLOMON 2:12, NIV



Answers: “Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.”

May Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1- Sandra Flickner
Eugene H. Goering
Robyn Roberson
Bernice Zerger</p> <p>2- Jared Gillmore
Jordan Nice (Karen)
David Montelongo (Jason Miller & Melanie Krehbiel)</p> <p>3- Ailene Goering
Stuart Kaufman
Ethan Rose (Leslie Earlston)</p> <p>5- Harvey Graber
Jason Miller
Marilyn Preheim
Conner Stucky
Angela White (Chester & Ruth)</p> <p>6- Teresa Birky
Curby Goering
Darren Graber
Travis Graber
Brandon Kaufman
Janice Yoder</p> <p>7- Bret Toews</p> <p>9- Marlene Krehbiel
Jeff Thiesen</p> <p>10- Ayden Fleming (Matt & Rashelle Schrag)</p> <p>11- Jacob Ewy (Craig & Brenda)
Brian Stucky</p> <p>13- Shelby Graber
Angela Preheim
Gale Schrag
Brandon Schrag</p> <p>14- Natalie Anderson (Neal & Cindy)
Lakynn Stucky (Clinton & Angie)
Luke Stucky
Duane Wedel</p> <p>15- Taryn Temple</p> | <p>16- Sylvia Vogt</p> <p>17- Carol Stucky
Matthew Stucky
Dana Tolle</p> <p>18- Jonathan Budd
Teresa Graber
Elsie Kaufman</p> <p>20- Molly Flickner
Michelle Graber (Nick & Chris)
Dawn Schrag
Donald Wedel</p> <p>21- Curtis Goering
Jeff Koller
Nancy Krehbiel (Mrs. Steve)
Sadie Newmark (Jason & Shelese)</p> <p>23- Michael L. Krehbiel
Zoe Vontz (Nicholas & Lori)
LaDonna Wedel</p> <p>24- Grant Stucky (Morris & Diana)
Mariah Wedel (Ross)</p> <p>25- Matt Begnoche
Elizabeth Schrag
Avery Schrag (Matt & Rashelle)
Marjean Stucky</p> <p>26- Rene Kaufman</p> <p>27- Adelayd Polo Goering (Patricia Goering & Said Polo)
Roger Regehr</p> <p>28- Jerrod Dalke
Justin Dalke
Jeff Flickinger</p> <p>29- Patsy Klassen
Matthew Schrag</p> <p>30- Mark E. Stucky</p> <p>31- Patsy Knoll
Silas Preheim (Trent & Angela)
Susan Schrag</p> |
|---|---|

May Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1- Chester & Ruth White</p> <p>2- Roger & Terra Regehr
David & Hillery Schrag</p> <p>3- Tom & Jamie Mulder</p> <p>7- E. Fred & Beverly Goering</p> <p>9- Myron & Monica Flickner</p> <p>12- Steve & Linda Graber
Kyle & Robin Schrag</p> <p>13- Mark & Torinda Graber</p> <p>14- Arlo & Geneva Flickner</p> <p>17- Tim & Amber Stucky</p> <p>20- Chris & Tori Starks</p> <p>21- Ronnie & Pam Schrag</p> <p>23- Michael & Greta Koehn
Phil & Sharon McCowen
Brian & Amy Schrag
Ross & Christy Shirack
Kenneth L. & Barbara Stucky</p> | <p>24- Tony & Karen Janzen
Leslie & Joy Thiessen</p> <p>25- David & Teresa Birky</p> <p>26- Tim & Catherine Johnson</p> <p>27- David & Joyce Anderson</p> <p>28- Ian & Shayna Smith</p> <p>29- Larry G. & Sarah Goering
Milo & Anne Schrag
Tony & Leslie Schrag
Norman & Nadine Wedel</p> <p>31- Troy & Suzanne Miller
Derek & Shannon Schrag</p> |
|---|---|

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

Up-Coming Events

April 29: 6:00 p.m. FEWZ at Eden
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus
 May 3: 7:00 p.m. Kansas Mennonite Men's Choir at Presser Hall, Lindsborg
 May 4: 7:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission mtg. at Eden Church Office
 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg. at Eden Church Office
 May 7: National Day of Prayer
 May 10: **Mother's Day**
 May 14: Ascension of the Lord
 7:00 p.m. Eden Leadership Team (ELT) mtg. at Eden
 May 24: **Pentecost**
 May 25: **Memorial Day**—Eden Church Office Closed
 May 26: 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission mtg. at Eden Church Office
 May 28: 5:30 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg.
 May 31: Trinity Sunday
 June 1: Education/Discipleship Commission mtg. at Eden Church Office
 June 2: Mary Martha all day meeting at Eden
 June 7: Children's Day - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service



May 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Address Services Requested