



Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

June 2015
Issue Vol. 45 No. 4



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I assume that many of you who have been reading along with Eden's Year of the Bible are getting excited about the transition from the Old to New Testament. We have been through quite a bit of difficult reading, but hopefully you have also been encouraged by some wonderful stories and the revelation of

God's plan for His people. I also trust that as you have spent time in God's word that you have heard from God directly. Perhaps you got a gentle sense of God's presence just when you needed. Or you were reminded of a time when God rescued you. My hope is that above all, you had a genuine encounter with the wonderful, mysterious, and awe-inspiring God, Lord of heaven and earth.

The transition to the New Testament should be a smooth one. Matthew begins with part of the familiar story of the arrival of Jesus, God's son. We will then follow the stories and teachings of Jesus as told by multiple authors. We'll get to hear about the exciting time of the early church as it was just beginning. Then we'll get to listen as Paul and others write letters of encouragement and explanation to these fledgling churches who are learning what it means to follow Jesus together. And finally, we'll get a vision of God's long-promised final victory over the powers of sin and death.

As we read, I invite you to take note of the scripture passages that are the most meaningful in your life or the life of Eden. We will take a survey later in the summer of the scripture passages (Old and New Testament) that are most meaningful and use that information to determine the 12 scriptures that are most important for Eden Mennonite Church. We will then look at those 12 passages in depth in the Fall, so that we might hear how God is calling and leading us.

One more note on reading the New Testament: as we read, I expect that we will find that the complexity of the Old Testament doesn't fade. Yes, the New Testament will be a bit more familiar and "easier" to read, but it will also be filled with challenging parts. At the same time that we read passages that feel like a warm comforting blanket ("...come to me, you who are weary and heavy-laden and I will give you rest.") we may encounter passages that we have to wrestle with ("I came not to bring peace, but a sword.").

The great wonder of reading through the Bible as the word of God is that it never fits nicely into our expectations, even on multiple readings. We can hear familiar and comforting words and stories, yet always be surprised. Jesus did as much to the Pharisees: "You have heard it was said...but I say to you..." The Pharisees thought they knew their scriptures as well as anyone. Jesus came to simultaneously affirm the scriptures and fulfill them in a completely unexpected way. May we also hear Jesus' familiar, comforting words, but be open to finding something new, maybe even surprising. (Do you know what happened in the streets of Jerusalem immediately after Jesus died in the book of Matthew? If not, it may surprise you.)

May the Holy Spirit guide your reading,

A. K. G.



Updates from Eden Leadership Team

The Eden Leadership Team met May 14 at the church.

Keith Albrecht opened with devotions and prayer.

The candle was lit to remind us of God's presence.

The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Treasurer report Revenue \$130,618.14
Expenses \$158,107.98
Difference (\$27,489.84)

Worship Commission reported that there will be a celebration of food on Sunday, May 31 for Year of the Bible.

The Trustees have turned over the Leroy Schrag project to Mennonite Men. They voted to roof the house and make a few repairs.

Use of church building for outside events was discussed. Trustees will study that further at their next meeting.

Pastor Derek reported that there will be an outdoor service June 21 at the E. Fred and Bev Goering home. 5 youth will be baptized.

There was discussion about Eden Camp weekend. Planning has just begun.

Next meeting will be June 4 at 7:00 at the church

Meeting adjourned.
JoLene Kaufman, secretary



Two views of the Monday morning Bible study

One of the best things about returning to Kansas from Arizona is going to "Read Through the Bible" at Modd's on Monday mornings. We mostly just take turns reading. Occasionally we make comments or have questions. Derek doesn't always answer our questions, he more likely asks more questions. What a great way to start the week with friends and God's word.

Danielle Goering

I would like to express my appreciation to Pastor Derek for starting the reading of the Bible at Modd's. We meet every Monday at 7:00 a.m. and read the weekly reading until 8:00 a.m. I love to read but it was a little scary at first to read out loud in front of everyone. I soon found out that I wasn't the only one that was unsure about how to pronounce the names, and it is amazing how meaningful it is to read it aloud. When I read silently I read fast and I think I miss some of the meaning. We are usually a group of 5 including Pastor Derek. We always have room for more. If you have some extra time this summer come and join us.

Joan Goering

Invitation to Share



The "invitation to share" project for the month of June is Children's Clothing - NEW clothing (original tags attached).

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.



Eighth Grade
Alyssa Goering

Moundridge High School
Cade Graber
Emily Knight
Michelle Schrag
Anna Stucky

Bethel College
Cory Graber
Ethan Knight

Bluffton University
Mary Schrag

Hesston College
Taylor Schrag

Kansas State University
Austin Goering

**University of Colorado
(Boulder)**
Brian Stucky (PhD)

**University of Colorado
(Greeley)**
Evan Neufeld

Wichita State University
Rondell Burge (PhD)

“How we walk with the broken speaks louder
than how we sit with the great.” ~ Zig Ziglar

SMCHA OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association is again offering a scholarship in the amount of \$500 to students who are preparing for the ministry or other full-time Christian service. Part-time students may be awarded \$250 scholarships. Individuals serving in long-term voluntary service are also eligible. Scholarships are for the 2015-2016 school year. The application deadline is July 1, 2015. Applicants must have membership in one of the six Swiss-Volhynian churches in Kansas or in one of the two in South Dakota, or be of Swiss-Volhynian descent.

Applicants may submit a letter of application to Roger Juhnke, Swiss Mennonite Scholarship Committee, 328 Lakeshore Dr., Newton, KS 67114. The application should include a letter from the applicant's pastor or congregation. The applicant must be enrolled or accepted in an accredited Mennonite institution of higher education or in a Mennonite-related voluntary service position. Those attending Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary will be given preference.

For further information call Roger Juhnke at 316-283-0452 or Helen Nachtigal at 316-283-8077, or consult our website at www.swissmennonite.org.



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.

What is a dad?

A dad is someone who wants to
catch you before you fall
but instead picks you up, brushes you off,
and lets you try again.

A dad is someone who wants to
keep you from making mistakes
but instead lets you find your own way,
even though his heart breaks in silence when you get hurt.

A dad is someone who holds you when you cry,
scolds you when you break the rules,
shines with pride when you succeed,
and has faith in you even when you fail.

~ Unknown



Pastoral Search Committee Update

So where are we in the “process” of finding a Lead Pastor for Eden Mennonite Church and why does it have to take so long?

The Pastoral Search Committee, with input from Western District Conference Minister, Clarence Rempel (soon to be replaced by Heidi Regier Kreider) met several times in March and April. The first meeting was an orientation for members of the committee to the “process” Mennonite Church USA congregations are expected to follow in searching for a new pastor. The next several meetings were necessary to complete 1) Congregational Information Form (CIF) 2) congregational survey of what is important to our members in a Lead Pastor, and 3) updating the Job Description for the Lead Pastor.

The Congregational Information Form (CIF) is a lengthy document that required input from numerous persons in leadership roles in the Eden congregation. It contains information about our members, church facilities, financial matters, socioeconomic, history and philosophy/beliefs /vision of Eden Mennonite Church. The CIF, along with the congregational survey collected the end of March, and updated job description were submitted to our conference minister (and thus MC USA). Clarence Rempel, WD Conference Minister, has access to potential pastoral candidates’ files (resumes).

As a committee, we are awaiting further contact from our conference minister who will supply us with information of interested candidates. Each candidate will have had a chance to review all the information submitted regarding Eden Mennonite Church. To date, we have not had to formally review any candidates but we are anxiously awaiting the time when we reconvene to review interested candidates’ files in this “process”. Thank you for your continued prayers as we work through the process.

Pastoral Search Committee: Bob Tolle, Jenny Schrag, Jerry Schrag, Sami Doane, Cindy Bartell, Larry Temple



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.



Scholarships offered for Christian Service, Ministry and Long-Term Voluntary Service

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association (SCHMA) is again offering scholarships to individuals preparing for Christian Service, the Ministry, or Long-Term Voluntary Service. Applications are due July 1, 2015. Information sheets can be found on the literature table in the fellowship hall.



Judy Schrag (75) passed away on Thursday, April 30. Services were held at Eden on Monday, May 4. We extend our sympathy to Judy’s daughter, Crystal and all of Judy’s extended family.

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

Thank you for the prayers, the texts, facebook messages and cards after my recent surgery. Your kind words are a blessing to me. Please keep me in your thoughts as I will have days of frustration ahead of me in my recovery process. Again thank you for your prayers.
Tiffany Stucky

We wish to extend a heartfelt thanks for the prayers, cards, visits, and caring words for Ardy during his recent hospitalization. Thank you Pastors Lee and Derek for your visits as well. Your kindness touches our hearts and lifts our spirits. Thank you.
Gail and Ardy Graber.

Thank you for all the prayers, phone calls, and text messages received during Jeff's hospitalization. It is wonderful being a part of a caring church family and work family through Mennonite Disaster Service. Getting those texts saying, "We've got you in our prayers" was so uplifting. We definitely felt surrounded by love and prayers through the experience.
Jeff and Becky Koller

We are always overwhelmed with gratitude for all your congregation does to support Hopi Mission School and Kristen's work here. It is so amazing to see how all aspects of your congregation get involved. Thank you to the children's Sunday school classes for their donation. Also, thank you for helping out in a huge way for the propane issue. Your donation helped us fix the problem quicker than we had imagined possible. Thank you for being such generous and supportive donors. We will be posting our Easter program online soon. We were so proud of our students for sharing the Easter story to their family members and community through acting and song. Check our website and facebook page for updates, videos, and pictures.
Sincerely,
Rebecca Yoder

Thank you for your generous contribution to PET Kansas. Each Gift helps us give the Gift of Mobility to the millions in the world in need of our special wheelchair. Every dollar raised gives the Gift of Hope for those who cannot walk. With help from Health and Mobility Charities, PET wheelchairs have been sent to more than 100 countries around the world. Again, thank you so much for your support to this ministry of caring.
Christine Goering

Thank you for your quarterly gift given to MennoMedia for use where needed most. I appreciate it very much. I hope you are all well and living into the resurrection.
Steve Carpenter
Director of Development & Church Relations

Thank you for your contribution to Mennonite Disaster Service. Your partnership in disaster recovery helps to bring "hope beyond sorrow" for those who have lived through, and beyond, disaster. Thank you. Your contribution helps make it possible to respond to tornadoes like the one that struck in Columbia, Mississippi, just before Christmas that caused considerable loss of property in that region. MDS volunteers are also busy repairing damaged homes in Pilger, Nebraska, after a spring storm last year destroyed half of all the town's buildings. For almost two years, MDS volunteers have worked to rebuild after the epic flood in High River, Alberta. The memory of this traumatic event remains strong, but within the stories told is also gratitude for God's presence that has brought "Peace beyond fear, and hope beyond sorrow." (Haugen 1987) Thank you for standing with disaster survivors with your prayers and through your gifts.

Kevin King
Executive Director

Thank you for the ways that you enrich Bethel College—the students you send, your thoughts, your prayers and your financial support. Your gift helps each student in some capacity. We continue to celebrate Bethel Students—their eagerness to learn, their enthusiasm that greets the world, and the knowledge and leadership that they will provide for generations to come. Thank you for making Bethel College what it is today.

Dear Friends at Eden Mennonite Church,
Thank you for another fantastic gift to MCC! Please know that we are grateful for your support!
Moreover, thank you for supporting MCC's Where Needed Most Fund. It is this fund that gives MCC the flexibility to respond to crises as soon as they arise, in places like Nepal and Syria.
Thank you for making a difference around the world!
All the best,
Anna Yoder
Donor Relations Coordinator
MCC Central States

Gratitude starts with these simple words, "Thank you." And then it goes deeper.

Thank you for caring about who I am and the work that I Do. I know you care because you share what you have with AMS. You share what you have with AMBS because you believe that teaching and learning is the mighty work of God's Holy Spirit. What you have given to AMBS is a gift of confidence: We are important and our gifts of caring and curiosity are gifts to you and to the church. Thank you.

Malinda Elizabeth Berry
Assistant Professor of Theology and Ethics



"SUNDAE" PARTY

Invite your Sunday school teacher(s) to a special thank-you celebration.

What you need to make a card:

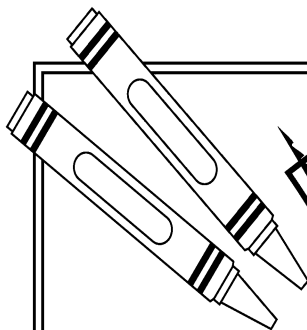
- 8" x 11" cardstock (or blank cards)
- Crayons or markers

What you do:

1. Fold the cardstock like a card. On the outside, write "Thanks for being my teacher!"
2. On the inside, write a personal message and sign your name.

Celebration options:

- Buy a gift card from a local ice cream parlor and tape it inside the card.
- Invite your Sunday school class to bring all the makings for sundaes for your teacher(s).
- Invite your teacher to an ice cream parlor or to your house to enjoy sundaes together.



Written for our learning

Not only did God give us the Bible as his Word, but he also gives us many people to teach us his ways. Our greatest teacher is Jesus, God's Son.

Directions: Complete Matthew 19:16-17 by filling in the blanks (using words from the Word Bank) and then unscrambling the three words and writing them on the tablets.

WORD BANK

ask do eternal If good good Why
good Jesus life man One Teacher

A _____ came up to _____ and asked,
"_____, what _____ thing must I _____
to get _____ life?" "_____ do you
_____ me about what is _____?" Jesus replied.
"There is only _____ who is _____.
_____ you want to enter _____ ...

yeob



het



nmacsntemomd



Matthew 19:16-17, NIV

Answers: A man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?" "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life ... obey the commandments."



June Birthdays



- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 1- | Barbara Stucky (Mrs. Ken) | 19- | Christopher Gehring |
| 3- | Rod Gehring | 20- | Mary Graber (Mrs. Ralph) |
| 4- | Krystle Dalke | | Christy Shirack |
| | Merlin Goering | | Marie Wedel |
| | Allison Johnson (Daryl & Dawn) | 21- | Nicole Modellmog |
| | Ashlyn Johnson (Daryl & Dawn) | | Wyatt Schrag (Brian & Amy Schrag) |
| | Perry Kaufman | 22- | Joan Goering |
| | Derek Schrag | | Leah Graber (Tim & Tammy) |
| | Morris Stucky | | Ann Kaufman |
| | Kimberley Kaschke | | Jakob Schrag (Steve & Margaret) |
| 5- | Mabel Goering | 23- | Gary Howard |
| | Kate Juhnke (Berneil) | 24- | Janet Neufeld |
| 9- | Suzette DeBoard | | Hannah Schrag (Darrell & Bobbi) |
| 10- | Michael Graber | 25- | Brenda Dalke |
| | Vaughn Juhnke | | Raymond Flickner |
| | Mervin Krehbiel | | Mark Rupp |
| 11- | Brice Starks (Chris & Tori) | | Mary Ann Waltner |
| | Shelese Stucky | 26- | Blair Stucky |
| 12- | Damon Krehbiel | | Murray Stucky |
| 13- | Joyce Anderson | 27- | Jeff Masonhall |
| | Ampton Stos (DaWayne & Britney) | 28- | Kathy Krehbiel Perkins |
| | Kason Stos (DaWayne & Britney) | | Fred Schrag |
| 17- | Devin Clark (Becky) | | James Schrag |
| | Dennis Gehring | | Jonathan Schrag |
| 18- | Julaine Goering | | Miranda Snyder |
| | Jean Regier | 29- | Laura Law |
| | | | Suzanne Miller |
| | | | Rex Harrison (Cory & Amanda) |
| | | 30- | Erma June Goering |
| | | | Samantha Schrag (Gale & Lisa) |
| | | | Marlene Waltner |

June Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 1- | Wayne & Kathy Ensz | 10- | Herb & Denise Stucky |
| | Bill, Jr. & Carita Juhnke | | John & Brenda White |
| | Brent & Carina Knight | 11- | Victor & Elizabeth Goering |
| | Vance & Candy Unrau | | Douglas & Margaret Waltner |
| 2- | Jan & Anne Groves | 12- | Eugene & Waneta Goering |
| | Walt & Frieda Neufeld | 13- | Marvin & Marjorie Stucky |
| | Richard & Betty Stucky | 15- | Brian & Colleen Krehbiel |
| 3- | Robert & Cheryl Stucky | | Jason Miller & Melanie Krehbiel |
| 4- | Curtis & Janine Addis | 17- | Galen & Kathy Waltner |
| | Marvin & Mary Beth Goering | 24- | Peter & Debra Schrag |
| | Perry & June Krehbiel | 27- | Gale & Lisa Schrag |
| 5- | Neal & Cindy Anderson | | |
| | Trent & Angela Preheim | | |
| | Jacob & Esther Schrag | | |
| | Blaine & Teresa Stucky | | |
| 8- | Vaughn & Dee Juhnke | | |
| 9- | Travis & Penny Graber | | |
| | Irvin & Evelyn Harms | | |

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

Up-Coming Events

- May 25:** Memorial Day—Eden Church Office Closed
May 26: 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission mtg. at Eden Church Office
May 27: 6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at Kyle and Robin's home
May 28: 5:30 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg.
May 31: Trinity Sunday
June 2: Mary Martha Girls Day Out
June 6: 6:00 p.m. Mentor/Mentee picnic
June 8: Education/Discipleship Commission mtg. at Eden Church 7:00 p.m.
 Worship Commission meeting at Eden Church Office
June 4: 7:00 p.m. Eden Leadership Team meets at church
June 7: Children's Day - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
June 21: Baptismal/Worship Service at Fred & Bev Goering's home
 Father's Day
June 25: 7:00 p.m. SCRT mtg. at Eden Church Office
June 29-July 4: MC USA Conference in Kansas City
July 6: 7:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission mtg. at Eden Church Office
July 11 & 12: Eden Retreat Weekend at Camp Mennoscah



June 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				



Address Services Requested