



Moundridge, Kansas  
www.edenmennonite.org

# EDEN ECHOES

April 2016

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## A “Mary Life” in a “Martha World”

Pastor Derek’s Lenten article of last month moved the dial of my thinking even a bit further in the direction of taking time for self and family, and especially how to simplify (or de-clutter?) my/our lives. This topic of *simplifying life* attracted more interest than I would have expected as we recently discussed future preaching topics with our Deacon Commission. Where, for example, do we set our boundaries when there is so much need and pain all around us; and some of us almost seem to “care too much” sometimes? Even to the detriment of our personal health, family, ministry or other relationships.

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I know I need to simplify and slow down but don’t even get around to reading an excellent book that I have on this subject. Part of it is priorities to address the many interests and needs around me, as is probably true for a lot of us today. I also know that service and ministry can be demanding and messy as Jesus reminds us. But if the salt has lost its effectiveness, it has little impact on what needs to be salted. Even Jesus recognized his limits as he withdrew from his work regularly to be refreshed. At one of his favorite retreats he even chided Martha for being too preoccupied with serving, and commended Mary for just sitting and listening to him.

How do we create for ourselves more of a “Mary Life” in a “Martha World?” My car has a tachometer that warns me if the engine is running too fast with a “red zone” if it goes above 6,500 RPM. Frankly, most of the time it doesn’t go much beyond 3,500 or 4,000 RPM. To be in the red zone too much would mean my fuel efficiency would go down, and wear on the engine and tires would go up. My speed would make driving more demanding and hazardous, and increase the possibility of a crash, and the police would soon be in hot pursuit. So what are the lessons I might learn from this example? Who are the people who will come warn me when I’m “red-lining” too much with my life, my body, my family or schedule?

An urban California pastor once preached a message entitled, “Where There’s Milk, There’s Manure.” I wondered what he might practically know about the topic, when I discovered that his text probably came from Proverbs 14:4, “Where no oxen are the manger is clean, but much increase comes by the strength of the ox.” Or “An empty stable stays clean, but no income comes from an empty stable (NLT).” Whichever image we choose, any successful enterprise involving livestock (or people) will result in the need to clean the stall regularly for best results. This is also true whether it involves the messiness of church ministry or the tendency for our lives to get messy and need thorough, periodic cleaning as well.

Where do I begin this task of prioritizing my efforts for best results? In Romans 12:3 Paul says we should not overestimate ourselves or what God has gifted us to do. Proverbs 14:6 suggests that only a wise person truly knows what his or her own limits really are. Proverbs 25:28 says that a person without self-control is as defenseless as a city with broken down walls. All of which seem to suggest that prayerfully setting good boundaries and respectfully sticking with them will take me a long way as I try to put my emphasis on “being” rather than “doing.” To be willing to step away from responsibilities that are not necessarily mine, rather than fearing being considered lazy or being criticized for firmly, graciously saying “no.”

Someone has said that “the savior complex brings many disappointments.” Just being a faithful, understanding friend will be more realistic for most of us anyway. I admit that I respect people who are able to invest their time, gifts, resources and relationships wisely according to God’s will as good stewards. I do hope to get to those books on simplifying, and perhaps even a message on this if requested. Meanwhile, I’ll be seeking to practice what I’m preaching here and invite you to join me.

Pastor Lee Suderman



## Eden Leadership Team

The Eden Leadership Team met Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at the Church.

**Present were:** Carol Zerger, Bill Zerger, Jerry Schrag, JoLene Kaufman, Katie Gillmore, Bret Gillmore, Morgan Kaufman, Perry Krehbiel, Jay Goering, Jean Regier, Pastor Derek, Pastor Lee, and Kyle Neufeld.

**Absent were:** Brenda and Marcy

**Bret opened with prayer and lit the candle to show the Holy Spirit's presence.** The minutes were approved as printed.

**Treasurer Report:** The amount shown in the difference from revenue to expenses is \$47,256.84. That includes the \$26,000.00 from the money that was cleared out of balances last year. The actual difference is \$21,256.84.

When the Worship Commission gets money for Men's Chorus, can that money be subtracted from the expenditures? The money is available if the commission needs it. The Trustees asked what fund would be used for the valve and foundation repair that is going to be completed? This would come out of the maintenance fund.

**Peace/Witness Commission:** They had a successful bucket challenge. Over 50 buckets were taken to MCC and \$1,500.00 was also given. Eighty t-shirts were ordered. If they need to order again they have to order 25 at a time.

**Trustee Report:** A leaking valve needs to be replaced. The foundation repair will be done on May 16. The following will take place on March 18 and 19 during the Church work days:

1. All bulbs will be replaced in the sanctuary light fixtures with new LED bulbs.
2. Interior painting of the N and SW parts of the church.
3. Weather permitting, dirt will be placed around the graves in the cemetery.

All exterior control joints will be re-caulked in the near future. Caulking will also be done around the monument at Hopefield.

**Deacon Commission:** They completed the organization of the mailboxes. There will be communion and foot washing at the Good Friday services. April 10 there will be communion at Eden and people will have to come forward to receive communion. They added two new people to the Visitation team. They are Tim Regehr and Bonita Howard.

**Stewardship Commission:** Nothing to report.

**Worship Commission:** Planning for Good Friday services. There will be a meal of soup and bread. There will also be a garden room for praying and a room with essential oils and their meaning. Jill Zerger will be coordinating the oils.

April 24 the Bethel College Women's Ensemble will give a program. Peter Goerzen, Campus Pastor, will also be here.

**Christian Education/Discipleship Commission:** They are planning for Children's Day on June 5, 2016. There will be a time for games for all ages, which Katie Gillmore will be in charge of. The children will present the music they learned on Wednesday nights. There will be burgers and hot dogs and also potluck. They are working on a proposal for a safe sanctuary. They will bring it to the ELT in the next few months.

**Pastor Lee:** Just getting back from sister-in-law's funeral. Another eye surgery is planned in April. He has a conflict for the Tuesday night Holy Week Service. He will not participate.

## Pastor Derek:

Holy Week services are coming together nicely. Pastor Laura is in charge of the Prayer Walk. Pastor Brad is planning the Tuesday night service at Pine Village along with Pastors Derek and Laura. The sunrise service is a joint service with West Zion and First Mennonite. It will be held at Russ Stucky's pasture, 1 mile east of Christian on Buckskin Rd. There will not be a breakfast. Pastor Derek's family vacation to the East Coast is planned for May 10 - 21.

**Leadership Training:** Katie Gillmore reported on the training she attended. Kyle Neufeld, Pastor Derek and Becky King also attended. She had us evaluate the Vision Statement on a scale of indifference to totally committed. We wrote our preference down and crumpled the paper and tossed it around. Then we read the letter chosen. The most chosen one was the one that means a full commitment. For going forward, we have to get out of our comfort zone and stretch our boundaries and engage others. There is a book available, *Your Leadership Ed Book*, that would be helpful for those who attended. Jay moved and Morgan seconded that we purchase 4 books. The money will come out of the Leadership Development Fund. Motion carried.

**Vision/ Mission Statements - Mission:** To be a community that follows Jesus in all we do and say.

**Vision:** A people transformed by the Holy Spirit in worship and service, so that through us God's grace, love and peace are made known to the world.

This is a significant departure from the first draft. They heard lots of questions and made changes that people were very passionate about. What is the next step for ELT? It would be helpful to explain the process of change to the congregation. There is an available Sunday in Spring for a sermon on this statement. A suggestion was made to put the words 'a people transformed by the Holy Spirit in worship and service' into the Mission Statement to read 'To be a community, transformed by the Holy Spirit in worship and service, in all we do and say.' Pastor Derek will write a Thank You to the congregation for their contributions to the statements. This statement will be processed by the ELT and they will revisit it at their next meeting in April.

**Memorials Policy** - The new policy reads as follows:

The Eden Mennonite Church welcomes memorial gifts. Memorials may be given to any of the following:

- Library
- Nursery
- Music
- Student Endowment
- Kitchen
- Youth Groups
- Capital Building Fund
- Benevolent Fund
- Visual Arts
- Sunday School Department

The responsible committees for each area will determine how that gift is to be used. Any undesignated funds will be placed in the Eden Endowment Fund and will be used to provide financial support for our church's mission.

ELT approved these changes to the Memorial giving proposal.

**Deacon Proposal:** We, the Deacon Commission, affirm the gifts and calling of Derek King and recommend that ELT proceed with WDC's ordination process. So moved. Perry seconded and ELT approved.

There's more →

## Eden Leadership Team report continued

**Pastoral Review:** Five members of the Search Committee that called Pastor Derek have accepted to work on his review. They are: Candy Unrau, Katie Gillmore, Kyle Schrag, Ryan Goering and Carina Knight. The review will be done after the Credential request, probably September or October.

**No new business.**

**Next meeting, Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 7:00 at the church.**

Pastor Lee will have devotions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

JoLene Kaufman, secretary



**Bob & Sondra Tolle and there Service Adventure Participants to share at Eden**

Last summer Bob and Sondra Tolle took a leap of faith and sold their home, downsized all of their possessions and said “Yes” to the call to serve as leaders for the Service Adventure group in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Service Adventure is part of Mennonite Mission Network. Bob and Sondra and their Service Adventure Participants will be at Eden on April 3. They and their participants will share in the sanctuary about their experiences during the Sunday school hour. Their participants include Austin Troyer, Luca Hildebrandt, Elijah Lederach, Lily Schumacher and Kimberly Lerche.

### Bible Quiz

What was the name of Esther’s cousin who raised her after her parents died?

- A. Hegai
- B. Haman
- C. Mordecai
- D. Ahasuerus (also know as Xerxes)



Answer: C (See Esther 2:7)



## John McCabe Juhnke to speak at Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association annual meeting

The speaker for the SMCHA annual meeting April 3, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. will be John McCabe Juhnke. He is professor of communication arts, spent his Fulbright Scholar year at Lesya Ukrainka East European National University in Lutsk, Ukraine. He was eager to visit the land of his German Mennonite foremothers and forefathers, who emigrated in the 1870s from what is now north-central Ukraine. He will share insights and learnings from his travels in that area.

Come learn from John’s experiences and hear about the activities of the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association during 2015. The budget and election will be on the agenda.

Refreshments will be served by members of First Mennonite Church, 52 Rambler Road, (620-662-9385) Hutchinson, Kansas. Reservations are not required, all are welcome.

SMCHA members may update their membership and new members may join. Dues are \$20 per year or \$100 for six years paid to Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association.



### VISION STATEMENT UPDATE

#### Eden’s Proposed Vision Statement Update

The Pastors would like to thank everyone for being open and receptive to the proposal of a vision statement for Eden. We received lots of responses to the statement and appreciated all the feedback that came in the form of conversation and the Feedback Worksheet. We took some time away to prayerfully consider the suggestions we received and have been working on a statement that more closely reflects the values and concerns of this congregation. As the Eden Leadership Team discerns the next steps in this process, we invite your prayers that our vision and mission would be aligned with God’s vision and mission for us and the entire world.



## Invitation to Share



The “invitation to share” project for the month of April is Newborn Kits:

- 2 gowns/sleepers, (flannel or similar warm, soft fabric)
- 2 undershirts/onesies, (short or long sleeves)
- 4 cloth diapers, (flat-fold preferred)
- 1 receiving blanket (light weight fleece or flannel; 36”)
- 4 safety pins (2:)
- 1 bar DOVE soap, (leave in wrapper)
- 1 pair of socks
- 1 cap

If you would like to support 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.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE



Willing hands? Attentive ears? Then you are the person we want to see at Camp Mennoscah this summer. We're enticing kitchen helpers with the offer of a free camp tee shirt and a parent discount of up to full camp fees. You only need to be able to follow directions and love the craziness that is camp. Many summer youth camps still need helpers. Contact us at 620-297-3290 or [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org). We love our kitchen staff!

**Camp Mennoscah is looking for temporary custodial/housekeeping** help for 8-10 hours per week. Pay is \$11/hour and hours are flexible. The position is open immediately. Please contact us at [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org) or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290).

**The MCC Central States Executive Director position** is available starting in June. The Executive Director promotes and encourages support of MCC. The Director works hand-in-hand with a management team which includes the Program Director and the Director of Donor Relations to provide vision and leadership to MCC program in the region and to develop and maintain strong relationships between MCC and its constituents

in the region. This full-time position requires considerable cooperation and coordination with MCC US and the other regional MCCs and considerable travel in the region and beyond. The full job description is available at <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/executive-director-cs>.

**Mennonite Central Committee Central States** is hiring for an **Office Manager/Bookkeeper**. This position is available starting on April 1 at the MCC office in North Newton, Kansas. The Office Manager provides public relations, completes bill paying, bookkeeping and other financial tasks, assists volunteers and other departments as needed, maintains CS information in MCC databases and completes general office management tasks. The work schedule is 32 hours per week. The full job description is available at [mcc.org/cs-office-manager](http://mcc.org/cs-office-manager). Please contact Heidi Huber at [heidihuber@mcc.org](mailto:heidihuber@mcc.org) for more information.

**Mennonite Mission Network** is now accepting applications for the role of **Global Ministries Senior Executive** to provide leadership and oversight to the Global Ministries division, to participate in organizational leadership, and to work with the Executive Director in cultivating healthy relationships with international and local partners. The anticipated start date is August 2016. To receive a position description or to send a letter of interest please address Human Resources Senior Executive Rachel Stoltzfus ([RachelS@MMNWorld.net](mailto:RachelS@MMNWorld.net)) and Executive Director Stanley Green ([StanleyG@MMNWorld.net](mailto:StanleyG@MMNWorld.net)).

**Newton Et Cetera Shop** seeks full-time general manager, available May 16, 2016. Responsibilities include office administration, store promotion, supervision of large volunteer and staff team. Retail experience helpful. Application deadline: April 15, 2016. Contact: [katherineclaassen@hotmail.com](mailto:katherineclaassen@hotmail.com).



Lorene Goering (94) passed away Wednesday February 24 at Pine Village. Services were held at Eden on Monday, February 29. We extend our sympathy to Jay and Linda

Richard Regier (88) passed away on Saturday, March 5. Services were held at Eden on Tuesday, March 8. We extend our sympathy to Lorita and all of Richard's family and friends.



# THANK YOU!

We would like to say thank you to our Eden Church family for all of the hugs, hand shakes, cards, and condolences. The months of January and February 2016 saw the passing of cousin, Betty Stucky and in just a few days a cousin's wife, Pat Stucky. Then several days later Wayne's brother, Paul Enszt passed away and two days later Wayne's aunt Malinda Enszt Hassman. The days were stressful but thanks to strong family ties on both sides of our family, and as mentioned above, the church family, we are sustained through your prayers and support.

Wayne and Kathy Enszt

Thank you to the congregation for prayers, cards and words of encouragement during the passing of Di's sister, Jane Froese, in Oklahoma.

Pastor Lee and Di Rempel Suderman

Thank you so much for the love, support and words of hope given to us this past year while Richard experienced several hospital stays and numerous times in rehab. Thank you for the food brought in and the expressions of love and caring in Richard's memory. The prayers, thoughts, and kind deeds and cards were, and are such a comfort and blessing. Special thanks to Pastors Lee and Derek for your visits and prayers.

The family of Richard Regier

Because of your contributions, support, and prayers, families can choose a donor funded A-rated education on the reservation while experiencing the love of Christ every day. We marvel in the infinite ways your donations will change these students' lives and how these students will impact our world. We have made many changes in the last year. We have changed to voice over IP which will save the school 80% on phone costs in the coming years. We have also changed our website and Facebook pages. This will allow us to do social media and save thousands a year on mailings. HMS wants your monies to go farther, and these are just a few ways we are making this happen.

Thank you,  
Kwah'kway, Asquali

Dear Friends at Eden Mennonite,  
Thank you very much for your recent gifts to MCC! Once again, we are so grateful for your generosity. You are making a difference in the lives of Syrian and Iraqi refugees all throughout the Middle East where MCC and our partners are working to ensure that displaced people have enough food, water, shelter, work opportunities and access to education.  
Thank you for remembering the Syrian and Iraqi people during this crisis.  
All the best,  
Anna Yoder

Your continuing support is greatly appreciated! It is because of the generosity of people like you and your donation that we can continue to work and build relationships with our circle leaders. We are so proud of our Circle Leaders and their Allies as they make accomplishments along the way to reaching their goals and building resources. Again, thank you for your generous donation to help us to eliminate poverty in McPherson County one family at a time.

Brenda Sales

In over thirty years as AMBS Librarian, I've had the privilege of serving three generations of faculty and hundreds of students. I've seen the change from catalog cards to online databases and from reserve books to digitized course readings.

I am grateful every day to work in a beautiful and functional library building made possible by generous donors who support the mission of AMBS. Students who years ago arrived in Elkhart unsure of their call and potential for ministry now return for Pastor's Week as effective leaders.

Your gifts to AMBS make a difference in the church and in the world. Thank you.

Eileen Saner  
Director of Library Services

Thank you for your contribution to Mennonite Disaster Service.

Last month at the MDS All-Unit meeting, Michelle Jackson, Executive Director of the Eastside Mother's Club in Detroit, Michigan, spoke to MDS volunteers. Mrs. Jackson's home was severely affected by flooding in 2014. She said, "Even when others let go, you held our hands. You not only held our hand, but you asked if we were alright. No, I'm not alright! But just you asking gave me hope. Your are here!"

Your gifts make it possible for MDS to commit to long-term recovery in Detroit, and in South Carolina plus ten other locations. In each place, the presence of MDS volunteers restores hope; the skills volunteers bring inspires confidence that soon a house will again become a home.

With much appreciation,  
Kevin King  
Executive Director

Thank you for your gift given to MennoMedia. I appreciate it very much. Your support helps us sustain our ministry of "engaging and shaping church and society with resources for living the Christian faith from an Anabaptist perspective." Thank you. I note too there was an extra gift on top of your regular giving. Thank you. You are in my thoughts and prayers as you heal from the Excel shootings.

Steve Carpenter  
Director of Development and Church Relations



## April Birthdays

1-	Janice Johnson	14-	Wyatt Fiedler (Kathy)
2-	Corinne Janzen (Tony & Karen)		Heath Goering
	Elizabeth Graber (Nick & Christina Graber)		Nathan Graber
3-	Gregory Flickner		Reid Graber (Nathan & Shelby)
	Kenneth L. Stucky		Kathy Waltner
4-	Monica Ewy	15-	Benjamin Schrag (Bob & Jenny)
	Marge Goering		Kenneth H. Stucky
	Jamie Kaufmann	16-	Leland Flickinger
5-	Bret Gillmore		Kim Krehbiel
	Gerry Schrag	17-	Marjorie Stucky
6-	Luene Flickinger	18-	Kylee Addis (Curtis & Janine)
	Jonathan Shirack (Ross & Christy)		Bonita Howard
	Rhett Stucky (David & Shelley)		Don Kaufman
7-	Greta Koehn		Joyce Vogts
8-	Angela Harmon	19-	Michael Flickner (Myron & Monica)
	Scott Klassen		Jerry L. Schrag
	Lori Parsons		Mary Schrag
	Karen Stucky	20-	Eugene Stucky
9-	Gib Burgan		Lucas Stucky
	Howard Kaufman	21-	Megan Goering (Eric & Ann)
	Kathy Neufeld		Josh Knight
	Hilda Schrag	22-	Cory Howard
	Julia Swanson		Rory Howard
10-	Kirby Goering	23-	Beverly Goering
	Katie Gillmore		Kori Krehbiel
	Cambry Schrag (Brian & Amy)	24-	Danielle Goering
	Ross Shirack		Rachel Goering
	Sandra Stephenson		Daniel Knoll
	DeLonna Lehman		Connie Schrag
11-	Taylor Mandeem (Pam )		Nathan Vontz (Nick & Lori)
12-	Andrew Goering (Sam & Marcia)	25-	Linda Goering
	Vernon R. Goering		Delmer Kaufman
	Steven Schrag		Elwood Stucky
13 -	Maxwell Preheim (Trent & Angela)		Cassidy Wedel (Ross)
		27-	Adrianna Stucky
		29-	Gracen Stucky (Luke & Maegen)
		30-	Megan Krehbiel (Clinton & Shelly)
			Patricia Reimer
			Tenise Wedel

## April Anniversaries

2-	Mark & Pat Rupp	18-	Robert & Sondra Tolle
4-	Jeff & Marcy Thiesen	19-	Ardath & Gail Graber
7-	Wes & Sheryl Krehbiel	24-	Michael & Crystal Burnett
8-	Gib & Kay Burgan	25-	Zach & Kali Graber
9-	Gary & Bonita Howard	26-	Paul & Claudia McGinness
10-	Ron & Cecelia Goering	30-	LaVerne & Luene Flickinger
12-	Timothy & Susan Goering		Leland & Kathy Flickinger
13-	Greg & Glenda Krehbiel		Del & Ann Kaufman
17-	Patrick & Jennifer Goering		Greg & Karen Stucky

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

## Up-Coming Events

April 4: 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission  
 April 5: Mary Martha all day meeting  
 April 6: 6:00 p.m. Potluck Meal  
           6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at Eden  
           6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages  
           6:45 p.m. Dale Schrag's presentation in sanctuary  
           7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus  
           8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
           No Men's Chorus  
 April 7: 7:30 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg.  
 April 11: 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg.  
           8:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission mtg.  
 April 13: 6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at Eden  
           6:45 p.m. Dale Schrag's presentation in sanctuary  
           7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus  
           8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
           No Men's Chorus  
 April 20 & 27: 6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at Eden  
                   7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus  
                   8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
                   8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus  
 April 21: 7:00 p.m. Eden Leadership Team meets at Eden  
 April 28: 4:00 p.m. Eden leads worship at Pine Village

April 2016						
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May 2016						
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