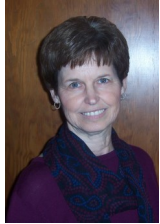




EDEN
Mennonite
Church
Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

August 2016
Issue Vol. 46 No. 7



What's in a name?

The year was 1986 and I found myself in a hospital bed waiting for our son to be born. The problem was that he was due in August but it was only May. The medical staff tried to keep me pregnant as long as possible and I was in week three of being in bed. Finally the day came when the baby had to be delivered on June 6 (ten weeks early). The next month and a half was spent visiting the NICU unit holding our son and juggling wires attached to his little body. Now came the question of what to name him.

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Why are names so important? Where I grew up (Pretty Prairie), people were given nicknames that pointed to their family heritage, personalities, or even perceptions people had about them. Perhaps these were not always helpful. But in one way or another, nicknames did give people an identity.

As I laid in the hospital bed for several weeks, I must admit I wasn't even thinking of names. My stress had turned to anger. I was angry about everything including things from my past as well as the situation I had before me. So, I expressed my anger in the most pitiful way to God. I told God I didn't have any gifts and if this baby was not to live, I didn't want to live either. What a pity party I was having for myself. But then an amazing thing happened. I heard in my "heart voice" these words: "When are you going to live as a beloved daughter of God?" What? No one I knew talked about being a "beloved daughter" of God. Where was this coming from?

In the months that passed, those words became clear to me. Fast forward to a Lenten service held by the Zion (Elbing) and the Grace Hill Churches two years later. Palmer Becker was speaking about the Hesston College Pastoral Ministries program and after the service I was nudged to tell him I was interested in enrolling. During the next two years, my gifts were affirmed even though I was still denying that I was going to be a pastor. Then I received a book from one of the instructors by Henri Nouwen called *Life of the Beloved*. As I read this book, tears began to flow as Nouwen wrote that God's words to Jesus at his baptism are the words God also speaks to us. "*You are my beloved in whom I am well pleased.*" I knew then that the words I heard in that hospital bed were from the Holy Spirit reminding me of God's desire to be in relationship with me (and others). I could only respond by embracing that love in my life.

In Isaiah 43 we read some intimate words that God speaks to us: "*Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.*" Wow. Even God has named us. God has given us an identity as the "beloved" of God. What does that mean in terms of how we live our lives? How can we gratefully respond to God's love for us?

In the days after our son was born (2 lbs. 4 oz.), we did come up with a name – Joshua David Andres. Joshua means "God saves." He is a vibrant thirty-year-old today with a child of his own. We realized that not all babies in the NICU survived even though some of them looked healthier than Josh. That mystery is one we continue to live with today. For those who have lost children by death, there is a pain deeper than words can describe. God weeps with those who weep. Our hope is that in the midst of our deepest pain, God is there and is big enough to receive our anger, doubts, and frustrations. One name I heard recently for God was the "Great Allower." God seems free

enough to allow pain and sorrow to enter our lives and trusts we are free enough to receive love, grace, mercy, peace, and forgiveness in those difficult times. What names would you use for God?

In some upcoming Sundays in August and September, Pastor Derek and I will be preaching on the topic "Names for God." We pray these names will help us understand this intimate God who calls us into relationship and give us hope that we can live as beloved sons and daughters.

Karen K. Andres



From Eden Leadership Team

The Eden Leadership Team met Thursday, July 21, at the church office at 7:00 p.m.

Present were: Bret Gillmore, JoLene Kaufman, Carol Zerger, Bill Zerger, Jay Goering, Marcy Schrag, Brenda Dalke, June Krehbiel, Perry Krehbiel, Jill Zerger, Kyle Neufeld, and Jean Regier.

Absent were: Pastor Derek and Pastor Karen.

Bret called the meeting to order. For opening devotions Bret read the Hymn "Help us to help each other" from the Mennonite Hymnal page #362. He lit the candle to represent the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The minutes were approved as printed.

During the month of June we had a meeting online due to Harvest. There was consent on the following items:

1. Purchase a \$50.00 gift card to Faith and Life Bookstore and a plant for Pastor Lee and Di's farewell.
2. Approved the updated and revised Job Descriptions.
3. Agreed to pay the full registration cost for Delegates to WDC.
4. Hire Karen Andres to fill the Interim Associate Pastor position on a 3/4 time basis.

Treasurer Report

This is as of July 21, 2016.

Revenue: \$202,797.54

Expenses: \$247,793.27

Difference: (\$44,995.73)

The spending has been very close to what was budgeted. The staff costs will be less the second half of the year because Pastor Karen is 3/4 time whereas Pastor Lee was full time.

The budget funds still have a balance of \$93,773.79 even though we are down on revenue. We have made 3 mission payments already. There is a breakfast this Sunday for Katie Gillmore and Jay will have the numbers for the costs for Katie and Renae to let people know where we are with their costs. The \$5,800.00 has already been sent for Renae.

Deacon Commission

They met July 11. They gave out three camp scholarships. The issue of how the congregation felt about

same sex marriage was talked about. Pastors Derek and Karen will have some discussions with the Deacons first to decide how to go forward with this issue. October 2 is World Communion.

Trustee Commission:

The Trustees toured the church office building to decide how to improve the building. They have decided to remodel the office and Bill will draw up some plans.

Leroy Koehn will be doing the caulking of the joints, hopefully, in the next two weeks.

They discussed the carpet in the choir loft. They will clean a small section to see if that helps, if not then it should probably be replaced with hard wood.

They also discussed replacing the labels on the cemetery directory with brass plates. Gary will look into this. Two posts need to be put on both sides of the south driveway to the cemetery to prevent driving on a gravestone.

Peace/Witness Commission

They are working on getting funding for Renae and Katie for their voluntary service projects. There will be a send-off breakfast for Katie Gillmore and at a later date for Renae.

The Eden Mugs are in and are \$7.50 each. They will be there Sunday.

Worship Commission

The projector proposal will be addressed later in this meeting.

They will be doing piggy banks for new babies along with the picture in front of the sanctuary to honor the new arrivals.

Stewardship Commission

They will be meeting with the Pastors on August 1 to talk about Stewardship Education.

Christian Education/Discipleship Commission

They are finding teachers for the Junior S.S. department for the 2016-2017 year which begins September 4. They are planning a meal for the new and current teachers on August 21.

Wednesday nights begin September 28 - November 16. Two of the nights will be service nights. Pastor Karen will lead Adult Bible Study. Would like volunteers to serve meals those nights. There will be a safe sanctuary document at the next ELT meeting to keep our children and youth safe from abuse both within our church

facility and at church-sponsored activities away from the church. They look forward to a strong affirmation of the document by ELT.

Pastor Karen

The last 2 1/2 weeks at Eden have been a bit of a whirlwind but positive experiences. Visitation has been the prominent activity so far until the funeral of Harold Schrag this week.

I made 19 visitations including Pine Village, Schowalter Villa and Kidron-Bethel and 1 home visit. I have attended worship at Eden twice and attended Camp Mennoscah. In charge of worship leading last Sunday and helped with worship at Camp. Officiated at the memorial and graveside service for Harold Schrag. I wrote the leading article for the *Eden Echoes*, attended a Deacon's meeting and met with one gentleman in my office regarding a personal concern. Will be taking an already planned vacation to Colorado from July 28 -31. This was planned months in advance.

Projector Proposal

Gib Burgan representing the Video Committee shared that the projector is dying. It is 20 years old. The approximate cost of a new 8000 lumen projector is \$6,640.00 and the lens is \$2,500.00 for a total of \$9,140.00. The picture quality would improve a lot.

The Worship Commission proposes that we go with this projector and use the screen we have. Motion Carried.

Camp Mennoscah fees

The Deacons provided camp scholarships for 4 young people. They want to continue doing that.

Eden weekend at Camp registration was \$113.00 short of what was needed. The ELT expenditures included the camp weekend expenses. **Camp Mennoscah is under Peace/Witness Commission but it was decided to move it to Worship Commission. ELT approved the move.**

Updated MOU's for Pastors

Pastor Derek's Salary. He is responsible for his own insurance according to the Affordable Care Act. We have increased his salary to allow for that. An amount just short of \$10,000.00 for his health and dental are included in his \$60,491.76 salary. \$18,000.00 of Pastor Derek's base salary is designated as housing and utility allowance to reduce what is taxable. The amount for Continuing Education and Continuing Growth is close to the amount recommended by the conference guidelines.

Pastor Karen's MOU

Health care insurance and housing allowance wasn't needed for her. \$36,934.94 is her 3/4 time salary. It was decided to indicate a number for pension allowance rather than a percentage. SCRT will check numbers and come up with that figure and round it up to nearest \$100.00 or \$50.00.

ELT approved the MOU's with the changes made to the Pension plan. Motion carried.

With Pastor Derek receiving a 98% approval from the congregation, WDC, Bret and Derek decided we don't need a review for Derek at this time. We may later do something for him to get feedback. ELT should review his performance at 1 1/2 to 2 years.

Guidelines for paying guest speakers

The figures were \$75.00 for a sermon and \$50.00 for the S.S. hour. These were from a number of years ago. Bret will contact Heidi Regier Kreider concerning that and also ask for suggestions for guest speakers for the Sundays Derek or Karen do not preach.

New Business

We need to approve the Vision/Mission Statement.

Education/Discipleship Commission will have a Safe Sanctuary Proposal next month.

July 24 - Breakfast with Katie Gillmore.

July 30 - 31 WDC at Bethel.

July 31 - Les Horning from Eastern Mennonite Seminary will be the guest speaker at Eden.

August 14 - Eden service at Pine Village

August 21 - Appreciation meal for Eden teachers by Education/Discipleship Commission.

Next meeting

Thursday, August 18 at the Church Office at 7:00

p.m. Jay Goering will have devotions.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

JoLene Kaufman, Secretary

Invitation to Share



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

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

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

If you 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.



Mt. Hope Sanctuary of McPherson is extending an opportunity for a ministry minded single woman to help them fill their need for a Resident/House Manager. This position is a live-in position. It includes room and board with a private apartment attached to the house. We need a mature, loving woman to provide gentle yet firm Godly leadership for the Residents in the home, modeling good judgment, good work ethic, time management, respect for others, a well-balanced life and especially modeling a life dependent upon our Lord Jesus.

Our mission is to provide a sanctuary (our group home) that offers HOPE (Healing, Opportunity, Peace, Empowerment) to single women who are committed to achieving self-sufficiency. We are located in McPherson, Kansas. Our vision is that our women become self-reliant and productive members of their community. Since 2003, Mt. Hope has served HUNDREDS of women and children. Serving 13 years and beyond of HOPE. We provide transitional housing, food and personal needs, free of charge. We provide Case Management including budget mentoring, job search for permanent placement, education, lifestyle choices and life skills training. The Hope house is staffed 24/7.

The full job description and application is available on line at www.mthopesanctuary.org or give Julie a call at 620-245-7157 with questions.

On vocation? Use GPS!

Many vacationers rely on a global positioning system to get them easily to a destination. But in every season of life, God sends us on vocation—following his call to both fee our passions and serve others. Our “calling,” Frederick Buechner said, is “where [our] deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”

But is there a GPS for *vocation*? It’s not as detailed or predictive as we’d like. It doesn’t name our destination at the outset, and it offers general instructions rather than specific directions. And we may end up “recalculating” our life route more often than our vehicle GPS recalculates our vacation route.

Even so, we travel in safety. This “GPS” might stand for *God’s Peace and Strength*, or *Gospel Promises Sustain*, *God Provides Salvation* or *Go! Proclaim! Serve!* The GPS guiding our vocation speaks to us through Scripture, worship, trusted Christian friends, life events and the silence of our heart. Listening, we hear our Guide’s calm voice and continue on vocation.

~ Heidi Mann

Eden Worship at Pine Village

Plan to join us as we worship at the Pine Village Wellness Center August 14. The service will begin at 10:00 a.m. to encourage those living at Pine Village to attend. Many residents miss the opportunity to participate in Sunday morning worship. We invite you to assist a resident or two to the Wellness Center that morning. There will not be Sunday School that morning so an extended time of fellowship is encouraged. Hope to see everyone at Pine Village August 14, 10:00 a.m.!

Katie Gillmore serving in Puerto Rico



Katie has accepted a position with Mennonite Voluntary Service, a part of Mennonite Mission Network. She will be serving in a school in Puerto Rico for a year. Our church members have the opportunity to help sponsor her in this position. You may leave donations at the church office or with any of the Peace/Witness members. These are Pat Rupp, Jeri Kaufman, Keith Schrag, Kirby Goering and Jean Regier.

Katie’s address for her time in Puerto Rico will be:
Katie Gillmore
PO Box 2007
Aibonito, Puerto Rico 00705

Congratulations
on Your
New Baby!



Congratulations to Kyle and Sarah Neufeld on the birth of their daughter Layla Belle Neufeld on July 14. Layla is welcomed by her sister Elise, paternal grandparents Al and Kathy Neufeld and great-grandparents Walt and Frieda Neufeld.



Harold Schrag (93) passed away on Saturday, July 16. Services were held at Eden Thursday, July 21. We extend our sympathy to all of Harold’s family and friends.

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

The family of Virgil Kaufman would like to express their gratitude for the way they were remembered during the time of his death. Your cards, prayers, food, memorials, and words of comfort were appreciated. Thank you for being part of this caring church and sharing God's love.
The family of Virgil Kaufman.

Thank you for your contribution to Mennonite Disaster Service and your partnership in restoring and rebuilding homes damaged by disaster.

Once again flash floods from heavy rains have swept through counties in eastern and southeastern West Virginia, causing many houses to float off foundations. Water lines and power supplies are down, and it will be many weeks until service is restored.

An MDS Early Response Team (ERT) from the Shenandoah Valley Unit is on site, doing muck out work in the West Sulphur Springs area, one of two hardest hit areas in Greenbriar County.

MDS Early Response Teams work with local emergency responders, and with FEMA. They are well received in communities who know that MDS is organized for response, with the right people, tools and the know-how to accomplish the work safely and efficiently.

Your contributions help keep MDS volunteers ready to respond to those who are affected by disaster. Thank you for reaching out with compassion toward those who need help!

With Gratitude,
Kevin King
Executive Director

Thank you very much for another great gift to MCC! We continue to value the many ways you support the work of MCC all around the world.

You are making a difference in places like Serbia, where MCC supports the efforts to promote education in Roma communities and to give students the tools they need to succeed in school.

Thank you for this amazing gift.

Blessings,
Anna Yoder
Donor Relations Coordinator
MCC Central States

Dear Friends at Eden Mennonite Church,
Thank you very much for your gift to MCC's SALT program. We are so grateful you are able to fully support Renae in this way. Thank you for investing in this opportunity for her in Rwanda.

Anna Yoder
Donor Relations Coordinator,
MCC Central States

Dear Supporting Congregation:

We are grateful for your financial gift that enables us to partner together in this wonderful ministry of service to our elders. Your contribution enables us to provide our elders with quality person centered care in a home-like environment.

On behalf of Pine Village community, I thank you.
Fred Goering
Fund Development Director

Thank you for your generous contribution to PET Kansas. Your 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

Greetings from Camp Mennoscah!

Thank you so much for your gifts! Our vision to create a sacred space for people of all ages to renew themselves, their relationships, and their connection with God through Jesus Christ is realized only with your help.

On behalf of the Camp Mennoscah Board of Directors and the Camp Mennoscah staff, I would like to thank you for your donation to Camp Mennoscah. Your gift will be used to continue our mission to provide a retreat for people of all ages. Your willingness to share in our work through your giving is greatly appreciated.

With Peace and prayers,
Olivia Bartel, Camp Director

The kind of seminary education that AMBS offers is a rare treasure. I am graduating with an even firmer conviction that Biblical faith matters in the world, that Jesus' life, death and resurrection define reality and give us hope in the midst of a world in crisis.

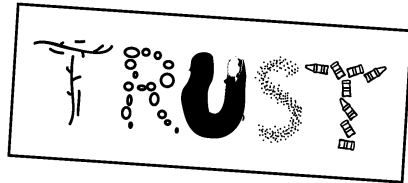
AMBS has been a crucial place of integration in my path toward pastoral ministry: an integration of critical thinking and spiritual growth, of radical dependence on God and work for justice, and of deepening my Anabaptist identity as I build relationships with sisters and brothers in other traditions.

I am so grateful for your contribution. Thank you for making it possible for AMBS to continue sharing its treasure with students like me!

Thank you,
Katerina Friesen
Master of Divinity 2016

TRUST POSTER

No matter what you face, God is with you. Make this poster as a reminder to always trust God.



What you need:

- Cardstock
- Glue
- Twigs (a 3" piece and a 2" piece)
- Pebbles
- Black paint
- Paintbrush
- Sand or glitter
- Broken crayons (2 or 3)

What you do:

1. On the left side of the cardstock, trace a 3"-high letter T with glue. Place twigs on the glue lines.
2. Trace an R of the same size. Place pebbles on that glue.
3. Use black paint to make a U.
4. Trace an S in glue. Pour sand (or glitter) on top.
5. Make another T with glue. Place the crayons on top.
6. After the poster dries, shake off the excess sand (or glitter) into a trash can.



NEVER FEAR!

The Psalms are full of inspiring prayers to God, who always looks after you.

Directions: Use the clues to fill in each missing letter. Then use those letters to complete Psalm 13:5, NIV.

What plants grow in DIR ₁

The opposite of play WO ₂ K

One-of-a-kind ₃ NIQUE

A hug and a KI ₄ S

Sour TAR ₅

To speak very loudly YE ₆ L

Immediately N ₇ W

Bees live in a HI ₈ E

A dandelion is this W ₉ E D

I ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄ ₅ in your unfailing ₆ ₇ ₈ ₉ ;
my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm 13:5, NIV

Answers: dirt, work, unique, kiss, tart, yell, now, hive, weed.
I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. Psalm 13:5, NIV

August Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1- Jim Dalke
Ryan Goering
Ryan Stucky</p> <p>2- Susan Goering
Berneil Juhnke
Betty Krehbiel
Esther Schrag
Gayle Stucky
Marcia Pat Stucky</p> <p>3- Lenora Gehring
Angie Stucky</p> <p>4- Tindy Graber
Renetta Stucky
Orville Waltner</p> <p>5- Denise Krehbiel
Rhonda Masonhall
Donnie D. Schrag
Lonnie L. Schrag
Michael Zerger</p> <p>7- Marna Goering
Brian Krehbiel
Audrey Tipton (Andy & Angela)</p> <p>8- Kayla Gowdy
Sarah King (Derek & Becky)
Britney Stos
Marcy Thiesen</p> <p>9- Brenda Wedel
Karen Nice
Kristy Hoffmann</p> <p>10- Christian McGinness (Paul & Claudia)
Greg Zerger</p> <p>11- Marilyn Kaufman
Alyssa Schrag
Maxine Schrag</p> <p>12- Larry Goering
Richard Goering
Shayna Smith
Chuck Knight
Blaine Stucky</p> <p>13- DeAnna Goering
DaWayne Stos
Marvetta Sperling
Angela Zerger</p> | <p>15- Caden Webb (Shannon & Pamela)</p> <p>16- Anne Groves</p> <p>18- Berni Kaufman
Margaret Waltner</p> <p>19- Marlo Gehring</p> <p>20- Kyler Dalke (Jerrod Dalke)
Ruby Graber
Candace Unrau</p> <p>21- Kyle Neufeld
Amanda Stucky
Laurie Thiesen</p> <p>22- Mark Albrecht
Whitney Fiedler (Cathy)
Tyler Gehring
Breanna Graber (Darren)
Anna Stucky</p> <p>23- Donovan Graber
Warren Kaufman
Gary Regier</p> <p>24- Brian Alfaro
Neva Austin
Robert John Schrag</p> <p>25- Roy Kaufman</p> <p>26- Piper Doane (Heath and Samantha)
Steve Graber</p> <p>27- Hayden Gehring (Chris & Jessica)
Doug Graber
Krista Graber
Frieda Neufeld
Richard Regier</p> <p>28- Mark H. Goering
Katharine Perkins (Greg & Kathy)</p> <p>29- Laurie Schrag
Megan Waltner</p> <p>30- Rollin Flickner
Debi Lichti
Duane Stucky
Pat Rupp</p> <p>31- Clarene Stucky
Renae Stucky</p> |
|---|---|

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



August Anniversaries



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>3- Doug & Barbara Ewy
Stewart Gehring & Nancy Friesen
Eldon & Tillie Zerger</p> <p>4- Justin & Krystle Dalke
Russ & Jamie Kaufmann
Alan & Kathy Neufeld</p> <p>6- Nathan & Shelby Graber
Frank & Darla Schrag</p> <p>8- Mark H. & Mary Goering</p> <p>9- Joe and Debi Lichti</p> <p>10- Jacob & Tonya Westfall</p> <p>12- Paul & Ginny Crabb
Robert & Marcy Schrag</p> | <p>13- Melvin & Janice Graber
Ken & Cheri Krehbiel</p> <p>14- Leonard & Juanita Graber
Harlan & Joyce Stucky</p> <p>15- Jim & Brenda Dalke</p> <p>16- Chris & Jessica Gehring</p> <p>18- James & Diane Schrag</p> <p>19- H. Keith & Judy Goering</p> <p>20- Greg & Elaine Krehbiel
Maynard & Marlene Krehbiel</p> <p>21- Bret & Marla Gillmore</p> <p>22- Dennis & Teresa Graber</p> <p>23- Jeffery & Brenda Childs</p> | <p>26- Howard & Wanda Knight
Steve & Robyn Roberson</p> <p>27- Larry & Cheri Kaufman</p> <p>28- Wes & Ashley Stucky</p> <p>29- Myron & Carolyn Goering
Sheldon & Marvetta Sperling</p> <p>30- Glen & Lisa Goering
Clinton & Shelly Krehbiel
Danny & Carol Zerger</p> <p>31- Gordon & Annie Schrag</p> |
|---|---|---|

Up-Coming Events

- July 29 & 30:** WDC Annual Assembly at Bethel College Campus
July 31: Les Horning, Eastern Mennonite Seminary speaking at Eden
Aug 1: 1:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission mtg.
Aug 8: 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg.
Aug 9: 7:00 p.m. Music planning mtg. at church office
Aug 14: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service held at Pine Village. No Sunday school
Aug 18: 7:00 p.m. ELT mtg.
Aug 21: Noon meal to honor SS teachers at church
Sep 28: Fall Wednesday night Bible study begins

August 2016						
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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			



September 2016						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Address Services Requested