



Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

September 2016
Issue Vol. 46 No. 8



*Listen to the Lord as He speaks softly
Listen to the words of a perfect man
Listen to the miracle of God incarnate
Listen even when you don't understand.*

This is a song I grew up singing at Camp Hebron, a Mennonite camp in Pennsylvania. Usually, we would sing it in a round, so there was a mesmerizing rhythm at the beginning when all you heard was *Listen to the, Listen to the, Listen to the*. I have always loved this song because of the simple, repetitive reminder to *listen*. I fear that in our move towards social media communication we have lost our ability to listen. Information comes at us quickly and the newest story is being told before the oldest one is even an hour old. Instead of taking the time to really dive deep into the news stories or even our friends' stories, we take a quick scan and move on. I'm concerned that our brains will continue to be rewired to prefer this method of information gathering, so we will read the Bible this way as well. My hope is that we realize that God speaks through the Bible and particularly through our communal reading and discernment of scripture, but only if we truly listen. Real listening takes time and practice, but if it deepens our connection to God and to each other, then I believe it is all worth it.

Recently our Deacons have begun setting aside time during their monthly meetings to read the Bible together and to listen. The purpose of these times is to center ourselves, as a discerning body, on the living Word of God. The goal is to become spiritual shepherds who are always improving our listening skills, so that we can be more attentive to our church community and the Holy Spirit that moves in our midst.

To frame our practice of listening, we paid attention to three important voices: the Text, the Self, and the Other. This means simply that we 1) read the scripture passage, noting what parts stood out to each of us, 2) explored how our own story may have influenced what stood out to us, and 3) listened to one another share what we were hearing. And I have to say, we had a wonderful time reading the Bible together in this way. I was excited by the energy in the room as pairs of Deacons shared the thoughts and feelings that were stirred in them by the Bible verses, began to explore their own images of God, and listened intently to the other.

What we found in our time together was that each of us were drawn to different words or phrases in the texts. Because of this, we began the difficult process of working through the personal filters we bring with us when we read the Bible. We aim to sift through the personal filters to more clearly discern what the Spirit is saying to us as a gathered body. For example, one person noted that he saw God's ultimate plan being worked out through the creation account in the second chapter of Genesis, while another person noted that she saw God being creative and experimental, not being sure what would come next. Both people agreed that their upbringing probably had an impact on the way they understood the text.

At the end of our time, we hadn't come to any conclusions. We didn't come up with any definitive doctrine or theological assertions. At some point, there may be a time and place for those, but for now we have begun the long, slow process of listening to God's Word, to ourselves, and to each other.

Our faith family has wonderful energy when we gather. We love being together, checking in with each other and sharing our lives. Our challenge is to deepen our relationships. Let us not be content to share and listen just about our day to day lives. May we deepen our connections by listening to God's word together, exploring

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more deeply how our own stories are intersecting with God's story. May we take the time to truly listen to the voices of those that matter, our God, ourselves, and each other.

DL A. G.



**The Eden Leadership Team met Thursday,
August 18, 2016
at the Church Office at 7:00 p.m.**

Present were: Perry Krehbiel, JoLene Kaufman, Bill Zerger, Carol Zerger, Pastor Karen, Pat Stucky, Bret Gillmore, Brenda Dalke, Kyle Neufeld, Marcy Schrag, Jerry Schrag and Pastor Derek.

Absent were: Jay Goering and Jean Regier

For opening Bret led in prayer. The candle was lit by Jerry to represent the Holy Spirit's presence. The minutes from the last meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer Report:

Revenue is: \$244,052.11

Expenses are: \$294,663.82

Difference is: (\$50,611.71) The \$26,000.00 is included in that amount so the difference is approximately (\$24,600.00.)

Rena Stucky received \$6,367.70 and Katie received \$3,965.00. Renae needed \$5,800.00 and Katie needed \$3,000.00 so there is more than needed. The excess could be given to Bob and Sondra for their expenses.

Derek commented that it is more important to know how we are doing according to Budget.

The Stewardship Commission told the Commissions not to be too concerned about going a little over their budgeted amount.

Worship Commission

The new projector is in and not working very well. If the temperature gets over 90° the projector won't work. Gib is working on it and consulting with the company.

They discussed the calendar schedule and are looking into guest speakers.

Deacon Commission

They met August 10. Discussed their confidential concerns and prayers. Talked about the on call schedule. Also the Pine Village Service and visitation updates. The last half hour the Pastors are leading a Bible study on how to listen to each other.

Trustees Commission

Becky Clark contacted the Trustees about the use of the organ for an evening. The organ society has used the sanctuary before. They will be revamping the Church Office.

Education/Discipleship Commission

This Sunday, August 21, There will be an appreciation meal for the outgoing and incoming teachers. September 4 starts the new Sunday school year. August 28 they will hand out Bibles to 3rd grade students and to a family with a child that will be in Kindergarten.

The Safe Sanctuary brochure was sent to WDC for them to look over.

September 28 starts Wednesday night. Berni Kaufman will lead the children and Pastor Karen will lead the adults.

Stewardship Commission

They discussed Stewardship training from pulpit or in Sunday School classes. They want to have a 3 year plan for Stewardship education.

October 2 during the S.S. hour there will be a time for discussion about the mission giving. How the unified budget works. They will have a survey to find out where people are wanting to give their money for missions. The survey will be due back in a week.

Pastor Derek

WDC went well. Eden had 4 delegates. There was good discussion around tables about where churches were going. Things in the office have gone really well in his new role and with Pastor Karen.

November 6 Pastor Brad will preach at Eden and Pastor Derek will preach at West Zion. He will work with Pastor Laura in the spring for a pulpit exchange with First Mennonite.

There were 245 at the Pine Village service and only 10 from Pine Village were non-members.

Pastor Karen

She met with SCRT. They approved 1 Sunday off a month. She will have 2 off this month. She averages 5 visitations a day in the afternoon. Working with Pastor Derek on worship schedule. She is planning a Friday lunch with women who work outside the home in Moundridge.

Trustees Church Office Proposal

Bill showed us plans for the renovation of the office. It would involve only interior work, no structure work. The outside would be re-caulked and painted. Discussion followed.

Vision/Mission Statement

They are envisioning a potential of using it as a guiding statement. The Commissions need to put this on their agenda each time they meet. The question could be asked, "How does what we're doing reference the Vision

There's more→→→→

ELT minutes continued

Statement"? Maybe some art work could set the stage for 2017. That could give us direction to kick off the new year.

Question: Why doesn't the Vision Statement start with to be? It was decided to keep it the way it reads.

Question: Doesn't it sound better to read "in all we say and do" rather than "in all we do and say"?

The consensus was to change it to "say and do" and also to list the Vision Statement first and then the Mission Statement.

On a daily basis, how do we use these statements? Use it as a guideline at the Commission meetings and ELT to help us decide which agenda items are of top priority and which are not. It needs to be put in newspaper and also on the website.

Question: Do we need the words "through us" in Vision Statement? We are instruments of God's grace and peace. **We decided to leave it in.**

ELT affirmed the statements with the 2 changes.

Pastor Derek will put a short article in the *Eden Echoes* to understand how the church can use that statement.

Student Grant Scholarships

The Stewardship Commission brought this recommendation to the ELT:

The Stewardship Commission recommends the Student Grant Scholarships be increased to \$1,000.00 per semester beginning January 2017.

ELT approved unanimously.

New Business

Bret is working on updating the Constitution. He will present it to the ELT Executive for review. We promised to have the Constitution written by the end of the year. He could send it to the ELT to review but it was decided to let Executive review it first.

It was suggested that Eden put an article in the *Mennonite Weekly Review* to let people know what's happening at Eden.

WDC is holding a Reference Council in Dallas in October. ELT would be willing to help with funding for someone to go.

Katie Gillmore is going to be the new blogger for *The Mennonite*.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

The next meeting is September 15 at 7:00 p.m. Place to be decided.

Jay Goering will have devotions.

JoLene Kaufman, secretary



Choir rehearsals begin September 7

The choirs, under the direction of Becky Clark, will begin rehearsals on September 7. Invite a friend who hasn't been involved with choir to join you and come for an exciting year of praising God through music. Ladies Chorus will begin at 7:30 p.m., followed by Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m. The Men's Chorus will finish out the evening with rehearsal at 8:45 p.m.



Wednesday night activities begin September 28

Planned by the Education/Discipleship Commission, Eden's Wednesday night activities for children and adults will begin Sept. 28. That evening will be one of two Service Nights during which all ages will come together for a service project. The one planned for Sept. 28 is compiling the school kits. A second Service Night will be Oct. 26, again for all ages.

Dates for separate Bible study activities for children and adults are Oct. 5, 12, 19 and Nov. 2, 9, 16.

Berni Kaufman and others will lead children's activities. The kids will be jumping with excitement during our Wednesday night *FIESTA: Where Kids Are Fired Up about Jesus*. Kids will celebrate Jesus' love as they enjoy Bible adventures, engage in video visits from Chadder Chipmunk, and create colorful crafts. Bible buddies will highlight Bible truths and challenge kids to love as Jesus loved.

All adults are invited to attend a study led by Pastor Karen Andres. The Bible can be a confusing book to read and understand. On Wednesday nights, we will be exploring types of Bible study as well as tools used in studying the Bible. We will talk about the difference between inductive and deductive Bible study as we explore difficult scriptures together. Come for a time of learning together.

Meals will be served each Wednesday night with Bible study and activities following. To volunteer to serve a meal or help with one, contact June Krehbiel at [620-345-2360](tel:620-345-2360) (junekrehbiel@gmail.com). The meals can be a fundraiser for your group or for a special missions project.

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.

MISSION:

To be a community that follows Jesus in all we say and do.

Thanks again for all those who offered input and feedback as we discerned a meaningful Vision and Mission for Eden Mennonite Church. These statements were recently approved by Eden Leadership Team. I am really excited to move forward with these statements in the life of our faith community. So let me briefly answer two questions that may still be rolling around in your head: **Why?** and **What now?**

I believe that any movement needs to have some clarity about what their end-goal looks like and a basic identity. Our vision is a simple, yet rich picture of people living in the abundant life of Jesus Christ. It is a hope that we can all be formed in Christ's likeness so that our prayer can be made a reality: God's Kingdom come and God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Our mission, then, states who we are and what we do to be able to make our vision a reality.

My hope is that these statements can be helpful reminders and guides for all of our life together as a family of faith. For example, I am encouraging each of our Commissions to put these statements at the top of every meeting agenda for the next year. I get thrilled to think that as our leaders meet to do the "business" of the church that they are asking of every agenda item, every conversation, and every decision, "How is this helping us achieve our vision? Is this consistent with our mission of being a Jesus-following community?" Might our Commissions feel empowered to spend more time in scripture and prayer if we are attempting to follow Jesus in everything?

Perhaps you sit in worship on a particular Sunday morning, exhausted from the week and wondering what you are even doing here when there is so much to do at home. I would love to think that you might take note of our Vision and Mission and be inspired to let go of your concerns for a moment to join in the community's practice of rest and worship, so that you and those sitting around you may be made new in the presence of our Lord. Maybe someone asks about

your church and you have seen the Vision and Mission enough that you can easily say, "Well we're a community that tries to follow Jesus in all we say and do. We hope this leads to the whole world knowing God's peace and love." Or something like that.

The Vision and Mission is currently on the website and we plan to have it printed in every bulletin for the next year. We may even have a series of worship services focusing on them in the near future. I give thanks to God that I am part of a faith community that attempts to live out its faith in meaningful ways. May we allow ourselves to be formed into Jesus' likeness and be led by the Holy Spirit to deliver God's love to the world around us.

-Pastor Derek King



An update from the Associate Pastor search committee

The committee met several times in July and August to review pastoral candidates' MLIs. All members, including Pastor Derek were present at each meeting. There was consensus on having a specific candidate come and be hosted for a site visit. This was arranged to happen August 17 and 18, 2016. Following the site visit, this prospective candidate responded favorably to becoming an "official" candidate for Associate Pastor of Eden Mennonite Church.

Dianne Schmidt became the candidate that the Search Committee would like to present to the Eden congregation October 2, 2016.

Pastoral Search Committee: Larry Temple, Cindy Bartell, Jerry Schrag, Jenny Schrag, Sami Lichti



Blessed, Beautiful, and Beloved theme for Women & Girls Retreat

Katherine Goerzen will be the featured speaker at the Women and Girls Retreat held at Camp Mennoscah on September 9-11. All women, and all girls in 3rd grade and above are invited!

If you just want to enjoy the relaxation that camp offers you are welcome to arrive at camp Friday evening at 6:30 p.m. Registration will take place in the sports shed. The only activities planned for the evening are visiting, games, and coloring in the Dining Hall. If you choose to arrive on Saturday morning registration will be from 9-12:30.

Saturday afternoon and evening there will be a variety of seminars that you can choose to attend.

Pick up a registration form from the literature table in the fellowship hall or at the church office.

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

Thank you for sending me to camp. I enjoyed swimming in the pool and going down in the river. Thanks again for the scholarship money.
Alexis Westfall

Greetings from Camp Mennoscah! We were blessed by the many volunteers who gave us the gift of giving when they volunteered their time during busy summer schedules to help at camp. A great camp environment made up of God and community was created for the 562 campers for the summer of 2016. Camp would not be possible without the support of our fantastic volunteers. We love our camp volunteers!

Below is a list of cheery, hard-working folks from your congregation who volunteered at Camp during the 2016 summer. Some of these generous people gave a few days. Some gave weeks of their summer. We are grateful to these folks and the many others from your congregation not listed here who have donated time, skills and money to Camp Mennoscah.

Dana Tolle	Kristen Schrag
Leslie Schrag	Sondra Tolle
Katie Gillmore	Robin Schrag
Michelle Schrag	Marla Gillmore

May you and your congregation find your way back to Camp Mennoscah soon. We send you prayers for health, fun, and great camp memories.

With peace,
The Camp Mennoscah Staff



Harvey Graber (97) passed away at Mercy Hospital on Wednesday, August 17. The funeral was held at West Zion on Monday, August 22, with burial at Eden cemetery. We extend our sympathy to Mary and the family.



Victor Goering (95) passed away at Kidron Bethel on Tuesday, August 23 at Kidron Bethel. A memorial service will be held at Eden on September 3 at 11:00 a.m. We extend our sympathy to Elizabeth and all of their family and friends.



We choose not to print our members' addresses online. If you would like an address of one of our members, please contact the church office at 620.345.8320.

Invitation to Share

Mission Giving



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.

The 'art' of forgiveness

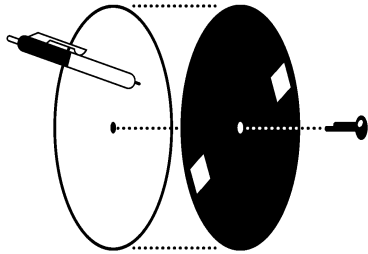
An interesting legend is associated with the painting "The Last Supper." Some say Leonardo da Vinci used a rival's face for Judas. Then when the painter tried to create Jesus' face, all he could see was that of his enemy. Supposedly, da Vinci was able to complete Jesus' face — and the entire masterpiece — only after making peace with his enemy and repainting Judas.

This tale shows the necessity of forgiving other people so we can accept Jesus' forgiveness for ourselves. As Jesus says in Matthew 6:14-15 (NIV), "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

—adapted from *Hot Illustrations for Youth Talks* by Wayne Rice

PROMISE WHEEL

This craft will remind you that God is always with you.



What you need:

- A large round bowl
- 2 large pieces of construction paper
- A pen
- Scissors
- A ruler
- A brad
- A Bible or search engine

What you do:

1. Turn the bowl upside down and trace around it on both pieces of paper.
2. Cut out the circles. Draw a dot in the center of each.
3. On one circle, trace and cut out two 2" squares opposite each other, with the dot in the middle.
4. Align the dots and place the brad through both circles.
5. In the space left by one square, write a fear you have. Then write a comforting Bible verse in the other square.
6. Rotate the circle to a new blank space, and write another fear and verse.



THE LORD WILL PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.



Directions: Connect the dots, according to the instructions below. Then use the resulting word to complete the Bible verse.

Start at 19. Draw from 19-18, 18-17, 47-62, 62-77, 22-21, 21-20, 50-51, 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20, 24-38, 38-53, 24-40, 40-55, 17-32, 47-48, 32-47, 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86, 56-57, 57-58, 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83, 55-70, 70-85, 58-43, 57-73, 73-88, 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
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46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
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61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
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76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
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91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
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106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135

>> "So do not __ __ __ __, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV <<

Answer: fear



- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1- Dick Gehring
Will Krehbiel | 14- Tenae Alfaro
Jill Zerger
Mark Graber
Kristopher Rath | 23- Brittaney Addis (Curtis & Janine)
Cade Graber
Evelyn King (Derek & Becky) |
| 2- Zoe Burnett (Shane & Chris)
Bethany Odell | 15- Hayden Schrag (Brian & Amy) | 24- Cameron Clark (Becky)
Timothy Graber
Lindsey Begnoche |
| 4- Reagen Dalke (Jerrod) | 16- Vaughn Goering
Betty Heritage
Peter W. Schrag
Robert D. Schrag | 25- Ron Goering
Sheri Marsh |
| 5- Brian Kaufman
Emily Neufeld (Jerry & Kathy) | 17- Jan Craig Goering | 26- Janine Addis |
| 6- Nellie Waltner
Carol Zerger (Mrs. Dan) | 18- Jaeden Dalke (Jerrod)
Irvin Harms
Gracelyn Stewart (Kimberley Kaschke)
Saylor Stucky (David & Shelley) | 27- Kristeen Thompson
Shawn Rath
Robin Schrag
Jolene Alonso
Brenda White |
| 7- Cade Klassen (Scott) | 19- LuVerna Goering
Joe Lichti
Ruth Ann Ritthaler | 28- Michael Hayes
Tony Janzen
Sandra Krehbiel |
| 8- Elden Austin
Shirley Delk | 20- Jenny Schrag | 29- Carolyn Goering
Valeria Graber |
| 9- Kason Graber (Zach & Kali)
Aaron Vogts | 21- Jerome Goering
Arlene Thiesen | 29- Howard Knight
Annette Krehbiel |
| 10- Marcia Goering
Coy Kaufman (Brandon & Morgan) | 22- Jeffrey Kaufman
Jamie Mulder
Lorita Regier
Bobbi Schrag
Rebecka Stucky | 30- David G. Goering
Edwin L. Schrag |
| 11- Nathan Knight
Becky Koller
Valeda Krehbiel
Irma Schrag
Cheryl Stucky
Pat Stucky | | |
| 12- Trent Stucky (Kevin & Gayle) | | |
| 13- Kathy Ens
Michael Gehring
Sharon McCown | | |



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

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1- Jim Haag & Carol Lichti | 18- Elden & Neva Austin |
| 2- Robert & JoLene Kaufman | Lanny & Linda Stucky |
| 3- Darren & DeeAnn Graber | 21- Donald & Dorothy Wedel |
| 4- Heath & Samantha Doane
Billy & Sara Hocking
Howard & Neva Kaufman | Allen & Lauren Bonde |
| 5- Greg & Jackie Zerger | 22- Brian & Erin Stucky |
| 6- Jay & Linda Goering | 24- Jay & Jane Krehbiel |
| 8- Sam & Marcia Goering | 27- Darwin & Pat Mead
Jason & Shelese Newmark |
| 15- Terence & Katherine Goering | Kenneth & Glenna Schrag |
| | 28- Reese & Meghan Gehring |
| | 30- Wayne & Marlene Waltner |

Up-Coming Events

Sep 5: Labor Day—Eden Church Office closed
Sep 6: Mary Martha all day meeting
Sep 7, 14, 21, 28 Choir Rehearsals
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus
Sep 8: 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission meeting
Sep 8: 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission meeting
Sep 9-11: WDC Women's Retreat at Camp Mennoscah
Sep 12: 8:00 p.m. Education/Discipleship Commission meeting
Sep 15: 7:00 p.m. ELT meeting
Sep 22: First day of Autumn
Sep 28: Fall Wednesday night activities begin
 6:00 p.m. Fellowship meal
 6:45 p.m. Service Project
Oct. 2: World Communion Sunday
 Candidating service for Dianne Schmidt
Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26: 6:45 p.m. Bible study for children and adults
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus
Oct. 4: Mary Martha all day meeting
Oct 16: 2-6:00 p.m. Organ Guild mtg. at Eden
Oct 27: Lead Worship Service at Pine Village

September 2016						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



October 2016						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Address Services Requested