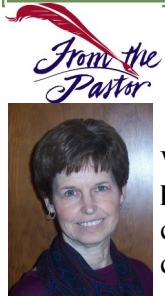




Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

October 2016
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The Divine Heartbeat - let go, let be, let grow

Why is it that getting out of bed some days is a chore? Is it because I can't **let go** of my tiredness? Maybe I'm fretting about what the day will bring and can't **let it be**. Why can't I trust God to **let growth** happen in whatever circumstance I find myself?

According to Francis Dorff in his book *The Art of Passing Over - An Invitation to Living Creatively*, there is a "Messianic heartbeat" throughout scripture. The rhythm of this heartbeat sounds like this, "let go, let be, let grow." This rhythm of the heart can guide us in any situation we find ourselves. One example from the Old Testament is the story of Moses being asked to bring the people out of Egypt. Moses doubted he could do the job (let go). God reassured him that he was not alone (let be). Moses leads the people out of Egypt (let grow).

Dorff explains each part of this rhythm and the necessary task of paying attention to each one. **Letting go** is described as "the experience of painful endings." Letting go happens mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Do you know of a time when you had to let go of a loved one, a new idea or dream, or even a belief that once seemed important but no longer works as you have grown in your faith?

Letting be is described as "the experience of awkward in between times." There are times in life when we are waiting for a new job, waiting for death to come, or waiting for a broken relationship to heal. During these times we ask, "What do I do now?" Sometimes all we can do is let it be and ask God to prepare the way for us to receive healing or hope.

Letting grow is described as "the experience of awesome beginnings." New beginnings can be exciting or stressful. Maybe you've had to learn to live life without a loved one, or learn a new job, or learn to relate to new family members (like a new baby). God brings growth when we've done the inner work of letting go and letting be.

I have found this rhythm to be helpful in my faith as I relate to people with mental illness and addiction. I have realized that these people are living this rhythm every single day. For people struggling with mental illness, people have to recognize the fact that mental illness cannot be cured (let go). From the time they learn of an illness, they wait until the right medication, therapy, or coping skills are realized (let be). Then some healing can take place (let grow). They have to learn to live as people diagnosed with an illness. People with addiction have the same struggles.

As followers of Jesus, how can our heartbeat be in tune with the Messianic heartbeat? Jesus' whole life reflected the heartbeat of God. Paul describes this so well in Philippians 2. Jesus emptied himself (let go), humbled himself and became obedient even to the point of death on a cross (let be), and God exalted him by giving him the name above all names (let grow).

Just as this heartbeat resonates throughout the lives of people in scripture, we too are invited to listen to this word with all our hearts and give it our whole-hearted response. If we are willing to do the work of letting go of what is keeping us from listening to the Holy Spirit within, and willing to let life be as we wait for the Spirit to speak, then God will honor the yearnings of our hearts and let grow divine love within us.

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So, the next time you get out of bed, pat yourself on the back for **letting go**. **Let be** whatever happens in your day. Invite God to **let grow** any opportunities to serve out of love that day!

Karen K. Andres



The Edén Leadership Team (ELT)

The ELT met Thursday, September 15.

Present were: Bret Gillmore, JoLene Kaufman, Jerry Schrag, Brenda Dalke, Brandon & Morgan Kaufman, Jean Regier, Perry Krehbiel, and Pastor Derek.

Absent were: Pastor Karen, Jay Goering, Marcy Schrag, and Kyle Neufeld.

Bret opened with prayer. He lit the candle to remind us of the Holy Spirit's presence. Bret read the Vision/Mission Statement.

One correction to the minutes, Pastor Karen makes 5 visitations a week not a day. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer Report

Revenue - \$267,547.49

Expenses - \$338,194.43

Difference - (\$70,646.94) -this includes the \$26,000.00 so after that is subtracted from the expenses we are almost right on budget for expenses.

Peace/Witness Commission

Haven't sent the \$3,000.00 for Katie Gillmore yet. The response to the T-shirt and mug project went very well. All VS expenses have been covered. The church pamphlets are all gone. They are looking for the template to produce them again. If it can't be found, then they will have to have them redesigned. Also there have been some requests for a new church plate. They will ask the Historical Committee if they would be interested in that project.

Worship Commission

The Pine Village service had such a great turnout, they would like to have another service soon. Diane Knight checked with Ginger Seeber and they are thinking maybe some Sunday in January or February. They have also discussed the format of the bulletin. Put the entire service on the inside front and on the first page of the insert so that all pertinent information for the worship would be all together. That would include the nursery and prayer requests. For everyone, the order of worship could be handed out to them and all the announcements and other information could be picked up at the entrance to the sanctuary. They are just in the early stages of discussion.

Deacon Commission

Is there a committee keeping up with social media and the website weekly? The bulletin is put on the website every Friday morning. Some suggestions for the website or Facebook would be How Peace/Witness is being promoted, Deacons - What our beliefs are, Worship could tell about what worship is, and Christian/Education could announce if they are having a guest speaker etc.

The sermon is uploaded to the Edén website via YouTube on Monday morning and reminders are put on Facebook about youth group meetings, choir schedule etc. Brandon will bring it up in Sunday school and see if anyone would be interested in taking on that project.

Christian Education/Discipleship Commission

The Sunday school offering will be going for technology for the school that Katie Gillmore is working at in Puerto Rico. Wednesday night services and meals will be starting September 28 with the SEEDS class serving the meal. It will be at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Karen will be leading Adult Bible Study and Berni Kaufman, with help from others, will be leading the children's activities. There will be two Service nights, one on September 28 and the other on October 26. School kits will be assembled in September and decorative door signs for Pine Village will be made in October. They are starting to plan for the Christmas Eve program and would like to create a committee to work with that. The Stewardship Commission will be using the S.S. hour on October 9 to talk about the mission giving. There will be no Adult S.S. that Sunday. Our Safe Sanctuary policy is still being looked over by Western District Conference. Eugene Goering contacted June to see if he could show a video, during the S.S. hour, about celebrating music and history of Edén. It may be scheduled for an evening at Pine Village for the convenience of the older people.

Trustee Commission

The trustees are working on the following:

- Finalizing pricing for the church office renovation
- Acquiring quote to clean church carpet.
- Church caulking is completed.
- Contacting House of Glass for door repair

Stewardship Commission -

Sunday, October 9 will be a busy Sunday. We will have communion during worship, vote for Associate Pastor after the service, and the survey during the S.S. hour. There are 19 entities that we give to outside our church. They will hand out a list that shows who we give to and how much we give. Then the congregation can study that and say where they want changes. They would like to have a response even if they don't want any changes. The survey needs to be returned by the next Sunday, October 16.

Pastor Karen

She is fully prepared to transition whenever the change happens. She would like to visit every person at Pine Village before she leaves. The records need to be updated as to where our members are at Pine Village.

Pastor Derek

The FEWZ youth group has 3 new sponsors. Kyle and Robin Schrag and Becky King have decided to step down. Tyler Stucky will continue and Kristen Schrag, and Jacob and Katie Stucky will also be sponsors. He met with them. The consensus was that the youth should go to Orlando for

ELT minutes

Pastor Derek's report continues

convention. They will be meeting at different churches represented by FEWZ. They hope to do 2 service projects. They will also be connecting with Mary Martha to help serve an auction. Tyler will coordinate service projects.

C.E. will not be meeting in any organized way. Josh and Emily Regier have volunteered to invite random kids along with Sean Goering to do some projects.

There will be a pulpit swap on November 6. Pastor Brad will be at Eden and Pastor Derek will be at West Zion.

Candidate Weekend

ELT is requested to meet with Dianne Schmidt. She will be at Pine Village from 8:30 - 11:00. **ELT has decided to meet with her at 11:00 at Pine Village Wellness Center.** Will she be full time or 3/4 time? Search Committee did have conversation with Dianne about that and did not have any feedback to Bret. She is halfway through her Master of Divinity studies and would like to finish at some point. Do we pay her full time and she takes classes, which some probably could be on the job credits or pay her 80% and she takes classes? She needs 35-40 more credits to get her degree. She could do nine a year and maybe take 4 years unless some came through what she would do on the job. Dianne did a lot of mission work. Would we be willing to grant her points for that? Bret will discuss this with SCRT and we will discuss this in October.

WDC Budget

They will need \$460,000.00 to complete their work. If congregation would contribute \$50.00 per member or \$100.00 per attendee, the budget would be fully met. Pastor Heidi has 594 members for Eden. Last year we gave \$23,000.00 and we budgeted for \$21,000.00 Is there any value in putting this letter in the bulletin? Discussion followed. No final decision was made.

The ELT needs to make the following appointments for next year. SCRT is going to visit with a couple of people about serving on the committee. Gifts Discernment needs to replace Carol Temple and ELT needs to find that replacement and also one for Eden Endowment.

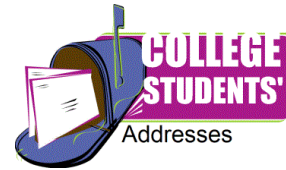
Everence has a grant available for Pastors to reduce their education debt. **If Eden chooses to offer money towards this grant, the maximum that could be matched would be \$2,000.00.** Pastor Derek would have to apply for it and is not guaranteed that he would get it. Pastor Derek left the meeting so that we could discuss this matter. **Perry moved and Morgan seconded we give \$2,000.00 out of Leadership Development Fund to use for debt relief if Pastor Derek is accepted. Motion carried.**

New Business - None

Next meeting will be October 27, 2016 at 7:00 at the church.

(NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

Opening - One of the Zergers
Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.
JoLene Kaufman, Secretary



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



The "invitation to share" project for the month of October is an offering for PET Kansas (Personal Energy Transportation).

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.

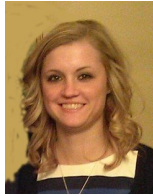


Congratulations to Heath and Samantha Doane on the birth of a daughter, Pixie Sue Doane born on Wednesday, September 14. She is welcomed by her two big sisters, Preslie and Piper and her grandparents Joe and Debi Lichti.

Congratulations to Matt and Rashelle Schrag on the birth of a daughter Aubree Frances on Wednesday September 21. She is welcomed by her siblings, Ayden, Avery, Allison and Annah and her grandparents Robert and Katy Schrag.

Off and Running in Puerto Rico

Two thousand three hundred fifty-three miles. That is the distance between my former home in Hutchinson, Kansas and my new home for the next year near Aibonito, Puerto Rico. Since arriving about five weeks ago for a year with Mennonite Voluntary Service, I have settled into my new home, started new work, met new friends and seen new sights. The newness is beginning to fade, but there is much work for me to do and many memories yet to be made over the next several months.



I work for Academia Menonita Betania which is a Christian, bilingual school that was founded in 1947 by two Mennonite missionary teachers. We serve preschool through ninth-grade students. My day-to-day activities include a variety of projects in the school office from assisting students and parents to marketing and communications. The list of projects for me is long, from revamping the school website and social media to conducting charitable giving campaigns.

The accountant, who is currently the school's interim director, and school social worker also work in the office with me. We typically share a homemade lunch, which has been a highlight for me as I've gotten to try various Puerto Rican dishes. Of the three of us who work in the office, only one is bilingual, so that makes conversation interesting. There has already been a memorable moment of laughter at my expense over lunch when I attempted to say "for dinner," in Spanish, but apparently said the name of a disease instead.

Academia Menonita Betania is also my home. I currently live in a remodeled basement apartment as work continues on the house that needed a major overhaul. The apartment is a very basic living space and inconveniently located on the school grounds, so thankfully temporary. The house is a work in progress, but looking great.

The weather is pleasant, and tends to be humid, but cool and breezy with rain a common occurrence. The frequent weather changes remind me of Kansas. I often eat my dinner, work or watch TV in the evenings on a picnic table outside. Swimming in the school's pool after work is one of my favorite activities. Since day one of my arrival, I have made time for my beloved daily running. The area is unavoidably steep and makes for challenging runs compared to flat Kansas, but the tradeoff is gorgeous views including a route that looks out over the island's southern coast.

I am a big fan of food as a cook or consumer, so the topic is always important to me. Food in Puerto Rico is reasonably familiar. Groceries tend to be more expensive than in Kansas, but eating out can be a great deal. A gallon of milk costs around \$6, but a loaf of fresh-baked French bread is around \$1. Locally grown avocados are delicious. Mayo ketchup sauce, similar to "fry sauce," served by Freddy's restaurant in Kansas, is readily available everywhere and has become my new favorite dipping sauce. Chicken and rice is ever popular, along with plantains that can be prepared in dozens of ways, from simply boiled to fried and more. Being creative to stretch the food budget is a challenge I continue to work on. I have enjoyed trying new foods, but when cooking for myself or going out, I stick to old favorites like pizza or cheeseburgers.

Some highlights of my experience so far:

- Kayaking into Farjardo's bioluminescent bay
- Learning more and more Spanish every day
- Hiking in El Yunque National Rainforest
- Eating a gigantic calzone with mayo-ketchup at Zaya's
- Answering the school phone in Spanish
- Soaking in the Coamo hot springs
- Worshiping at Iglesia Evangélica Menonita de Aibonito
- Exploring Old San Juan with my visiting Kansas scuba diving buddies, Barry and Charlotte Schartz

I am an avid scuba diver, and you will notice scuba diving is not on the highlights list -- yet. The timing has just not been right as the trip to a diving location is a bit lengthy from Aibonito, and weekends have been busy with other activities so far. My dive gear sits waiting, and I look forward to using it soon. Seeing the Arecibo Observatory where several movies were filmed is also high on the to do list.

2,353 miles is the farthest I have ever lived from my family and from everything I am familiar with. The decision to come join Mennonite Voluntary Service and come to Puerto Rico was difficult and took the encouragement and support of many people. Each and every day, the newness fades a little and my surroundings seem more familiar. Strangers have become friends. Old friends continue to be from a distance the best friends anyone could want. Much to celebrate of my time so far and I look forward to more adventures of all sorts on the island of Puerto Rico.

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

We would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone for all the well wishes, cards, thoughts and your attendance at our 50th anniversary Open House. You made the day very special.
Bob and JoLene Kaufman

Dear Eden Mennonite Church and Eden Endowment Committee,
I want to say thank you for the grant I received to support the Moundridge teachers for both the 15-16 and 16-17 school years. Many of you have helped with some of the appreciation events like serving breakfast on the first teacher in-service day of the school years as well as praying for a staff person (or a few) and sending them a note of encouragement. The funds I received were also used to deliver snacks and coffee to teachers as well as purchase some needed classroom supplies and resources like magazine subscriptions and iTunes gift cards. I also learned that the elementary and middle school lounges did not have Keurig coffee machines so two of them were purchased for the teacher lounges and delivered along with an assorted supply of K-cups for the start of this school year. Seeing the new coffee machine being delivered, one teacher said, "This will change my life!" Thank you for the opportunity to help our local teachers know that what they do is valued and for your continued prayers and encouragement for the hard work they do. If you have other ideas for ways to encourage and appreciate these special people please let me know! I plan to continue doing a few events throughout the school year.
Becky King

Thank you for your contribution to Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) disaster recovery, and for your partnership in the shared journey out of disaster and rebuilding of hope.

During the last six months, the Gulf Coast region of the U.S. has endured two major floods. MDS is responding in Mississippi and Texas, and will add Louisiana to the growing list of places where help is needed. In addition, we are preparing to respond to the May fires in northern Alberta and will soon begin building houses in California destroyed in 2015 fires. Thank you for your financial support that helps people to get back home again.

Would you remember those affected by disaster? Join us in praying for those who wait for help—may they hold onto hope—may the Lord renew their strength. May they “run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

With gratitude,
Kevin King
Executive Director

Dear Friends at Eden Mennonite Church,
Thanks once again for another fabulous gift to MCC! Thank you for making a difference in places like Afghanistan where MCC and our partners are helping women who never had the opportunity for schooling learn how to read and write. This is important work. Thank you for being a part of MCC's work here and around the world.

All the best,
Anna Yoder
Donor Relations Coordinator
MCC Central States

Thank you so much for your recent gift to Mennonite Church USA's Executive Board. These funds help support the Executive Board's staff in carrying out the seven priorities of the Purposeful Plan. We are grateful for this expression of your commitment to working together.

May you find the goodness of God active wherever you look—in the splendor of creation and the beauty of human life.

Randy Miller
Special Assistant to the Executive Director
Mennonite Church USA

The kind of seminary education that Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (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

Camp Mennoscah sends thanks to everyone who volunteered during our Work & Play Camp. Fences were built, name tags created, towels and rags sorted, river shoes winnowed down into a manageable number, picnic tables fixed, brush cleared, and so much more. We really enjoyed having you!

Thank you so much for donating and collecting such fun gifts! We've enjoyed looking through all the treasures brought to camp.
With peace and prayers,
Olivia Bartel



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|-----|--|-----|--|
| 1- | Glenn Carey
Brody Graber (Travis & Penny)
David Stucky
Carol Zerger (Mrs. Bill) | 16- | Perri Mulder (Tom & Jamie)
Bruce Stucky |
| 2- | Samantha Doane
Gregory A. Krehbiel (Elaine)
Mason Regier (Josh & Emily) | 17- | Brandon Cruz (Ron & Cecilia Goering)
Elliana Garcia (Kayla)
Ross Wedel |
| 3- | Kylee Stucky (Kevin & Gayle) | 18- | Eldon Zerger |
| 4- | Annie Wyssmann
Brianna Stucky (Blaine & Teresa) | 19- | Milo E. Schrag |
| 5- | Brenton Alfaro (Brian & Tenae)
Timothy J. Stucky | 21- | Emory Wedel |
| 6- | Rod Gehring
Gail Graber
Hudson Krehbiel (Will Krehbiel)
Jacob Stucky | 22- | Leona Goering |
| 7- | Gail Goering
Lillie Krehbiel
Harvey J. Stucky | 23- | Chad Goering
Jerrod Newhouse |
| 8- | Kenneth Goering
Ardath Graber
Nancy Krehbiel (Mrs. Ron)
Bruce Schrag | 24- | Harry Crabb
Sarah Neufeld (Jerry & Kathy) |
| 9- | Rondell Burge | 25- | Betty Kaufman |
| 10- | Logan Hayes (Mike & Kelly)
Elise Neufeld (Kyle & Sarah) | 26- | Germaine Bird
Brooke Brite
Wayne Schrag |
| 14- | Kip Krehbiel (Jay & Jane)
Michael Waltner | 27- | Barbara Ewy
Tim Goering
Melvin Graber
Ruth Kaufman
Wes Krehbiel |
| 15- | Ryan Parsons (Rob & Lori) | 28- | Eric Goering
Nelson Goering
Lennon Graber (Nathan & Shelby)
Barbara Stucky (Mrs. Delbert) |
| | | 29 | Ellen Stucky |
| | | 30- | Elizabeth Goering
Gladys Schrag |

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



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| 3- | Rollin & Kay Flickner | 14- | Rondell & Rachel Burge |
| 4- | Matt & Angie Harmon
Bill & Carol Zerger | 15- | Merlyn & Janice Johnson |
| 5- | Nicholas & Lori Vontz | 16- | Dick & Jill Zerger |
| 6- | Greg & Pam Flickner | 24- | Randall & Annette Goering
Richard & Sharon Harris |
| 8- | Chuck & Diane Knight | 25- | Tyron & Victoria Stucky |
| 10- | Kyle & Sarah Neufeld | 28- | Greg & Kathy Perkins |
| 11- | Keith & Mary Albrecht | 30- | Delton & Roberta Ollenburger |
| 13- | Michael & Kelly Hayes | | |

Up-Coming Events

- Oct 1:** 9-11 a.m. Meet & Greet Dianne Schmidt at Pine Village
- Oct. 2:** World Communion Sunday
9:30 a.m. Candidating service for Dianne Schmidt
10:40 a.m. Q & A with Dianne Schmidt during SS hour
Noon Potluck meal in fellowship hall
- Oct 3:** 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg.
- Oct 4:** Mary Martha all day meeting
- Oct. 5, 12, 19:** 6:00 p.m. Meal served by CHB SS class
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 6:** 7:30 p.m. Education/Discipleship meeting at church office
- Oct 9:** Communion served during the worship service
- Oct 13:** 8:00 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg.
- Oct 16:** 2-6:00 p.m. Organ Guild mtg. at Eden
- Oct 25:** 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission mtg.
- Oct 26:** 6:00 p.m. Meal served in fellowship hall
6:45 p.m. Service Project
7:30 p.m. Ladies Chorus
8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus
- Oct 27:** 4:00 p.m. Lead Worship Service at Pine Village
7:00 p.m. Eden Leadership Team mtg.

October 2016						
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30	31					



November 2016						
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27	28	29	30			



Address Services Requested