



Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

October 2017
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*From the
Pastor*



God is Waiting

Waiting. That's what I found myself doing this week, waiting at a doctor's office for an appointment. I had purposely scheduled it early in the morning, arrived promptly, anticipating not having to wait long. When I arrived in the waiting room I was the only one there. This was hopeful - I would be first in line. The nurse came fairly soon and took me to an exam room. She told me that there was just one person ahead of me. I was a bit disappointed that I was second, but thought it shouldn't be too long.

I regretted leaving the magazine I was looking at in the waiting room but I had my phone with me. So, I settled into checking my email and then looking at my Facebook feed, which occupied me for a while. As more minutes passed and I was still waiting, I became more frustrated asking myself, "Why hadn't I at least brought along a book to read for one of my seminary classes? I could have at least made this time productive." As my waiting continued I started making a list in my head of all the things that I needed to do at home and at the office plus thinking ahead to all the things on my schedule for the next week. I did not have time to wait! Finally, after an hour (wondering if I had been forgotten) I stuck my head out of the room and the nurse indicated that perhaps it would only be another 20-30 minutes.

I texted Dennis to express my irritation on having to wait so long. He responded by suggesting that maybe it might be a time that I could pray. Oh...why hadn't I thought of that. To help me focus away from my waiting frustration, I went to the website, *Sacred Space*, which offers prayers and scripture reading for each day. As I clicked on the first page this is the prayer that I read: "At this instant, as I arrive here, God is present **waiting** for me."

I didn't read any further, for God had finally gotten my attention. I had let all my annoyance about waiting, distract me from the gift I had been given. God had been waiting for me. More than an hour of time had been given me which I squandered away considering my work and my agenda to be priorities.

God is present waiting for me and you. How might we make it a priority to spend time with God in listening, pondering, and meditating? One way is to practice spiritual disciplines so that we stay in tune with who God is and what God wants for our world. Creating space to be spiritually refreshed and renewed. Spending focused time in prayer, not only offering our concerns but also listening. Engaging scripture and marinating in it so that it can transform us. Taking a day to fast and discern where God is leading.

One of my assignments for my current seminary class is to spend 20 minutes each day practicing a spiritual discipline. Each week we are given a new discipline to try at least once and invited to use more often if we find it helpful. I've experimented with "praying backward through my day" allowing God to call my attention to something in my day that I need to be grateful for and something that I need to give more thought to. I've used the website I mentioned earlier (sacredspace.ie) to help guide my prayers and mediate on a given scripture text. I've found several new spiritual practices to try through the book, *Sacred Pauses*, by April Yamasaki. She suggests things like Making Music, Having Fun, Valuing Relationships and Praying Scripture. I invite you to join me in trying out some new spiritual disciplines.

Life is full and challenging and we need times of rest and renewal. May we pause and remember that God is present waiting for us.

Pastor Dianne

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Eden Leadership Team Minutes

Vision/Mission Statement

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

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

The Eden Leadership Team met Monday, September 25, at the church office at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Kyle Neufeld, JoLene Kaufman. Pastor Dianne Schmidt, Carina Knight, Becky Koller, Tim Regehr, Gary Regier, Jean Regier, Austin Goering, Jerry Schrag, Pat Stucky and Pastor Derek King.

Absent: Brenda Dalke.

Pastor Derek led in devotions. He referred to Acts 21 and 22. He spoke about Paul's journey to Jerusalem. Which identity do we have when interacting with our neighbors? He led in prayer.

Kyle called the meeting to order and lit the candle to represent the Holy Spirit's presence.

He also read the Vision/ Mission Statement. The minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer Report

The renovation budget:

We received \$44,000.00 in donations and capital building fund. \$70,000.00 has been spent. There could be approximately another \$1,500.00 in expenses. \$25,000.00 needs to be transferred from the checking account for the renovations.

Our church budget is \$334,000.00 to this point. Expenses: \$378,000.00; Income: \$300,000.00. Last year at this time \$278,000.00; Difference - (\$79,000.00). All mission giving payments have been made.

Deacon Commission Report

Shared congregational cares and concerns.

They discussed Pastoral Review.

Worked on membership part of the Constitution

Plan to pay for food for the church picnic on October 1.

Education Commission

The new Sunday school and Wednesday night programs are moving along nicely.

Stewardship Commission

They have not met since the last ELT meeting.

Do they need permission to have a second person to write checks in Austin's absence? Becky Koller is available for that. The account is still under Jay's name. Austin has the forms to put his name on it. Is there a need for an assistant Treasurer? This would enable the assistant to learn the process so that they are better equipped to take over when Austin's term is over which could be another three years if Austin accepts a second term.

Kyle will discuss this with Gifts Discernment and S.C.R.T.

Peace/Witness Commission

Peace/Witness is currently working to establish an ongoing relationship with the Episcopal Migration Ministries. They are going to be gathering baby items to give to a refugee woman named Dianne. Peace/Witness will provide the larger items such as a crib, car seat and other larger items. They would like for the congregation to provide smaller items such as clothing, diapers etc.

Trustee Commission

The church office project is finished except for the exterior. The siding will be installed in approximately two weeks. The roof will be completed when the volunteers are not as busy. They will also be installing gutters and power washing the front of the building. Desks for pastors will arrive in two weeks.

A new specific list of tasks were printed for the church office custodian, Terry Regehr, which has been shared with him.

The Trustees have insurance valued at \$170,000.00 for the church office building and \$30,000.00 for the contents.

One of the compressor units for the air conditioner unit at church needs to be replaced. The cost for that is \$18,500.00. It can wait until spring to replace. A water filtration system is going to be installed at church at a cost of \$1,500.00.

The fundraiser fish fry will be on Sunday, October 15. The potluck committee will be assisting.

There will be an open house for the church office sometime in November. They might try to do it the same weekend as the Moundridge Christmas Open House, which is November 18.

The Sexton added 2 graves in the cemetery, Marlo Gehring and Nelson Goering.

Pastor Derek

He is trying to get sponsors for a Middle School youth group. He is also looking to find one person to lead the group.

Pastor Derek shared that he is excited about Discipleship Groups beginning. He designed bookmarks for the groups which will be in the bulletins on Sunday.

Pastor Dianne

The book of Philippians will be used as a focus during the month of October.

There will be a guest speaker from Mennonite Mission Network on October 15.

November 5 has been designated as Mission Sunday. West Zion and First Mennonite Church of Christian will be joining us for that Sunday. Pastor Brad Roth from West Zion will be the speaker. A meal prepared by the FEWZ youth group will be served at noon. Bob and Son-dra Tolle will also be there with their Albuquerque Service Adventure group that Sunday.

Eden Leadership Team minutes continued

ELT Position Update

With the resignation of Keith Schrag, the Moderator Elect position still needs to be filled. Kyle spoke with Gifts Discernment about this. They are having a difficult time filling positions. They have been getting a lot of nos.

Pastoral Review

A consultant has been secured and a plan is in place for the pastoral review of Pastor Derek. Kyle will reach out to individuals to help with this process.

Constitution Review

Kyle read through Article VI Membership. Much discussion followed. It was tabled for a later date.

New Business

None

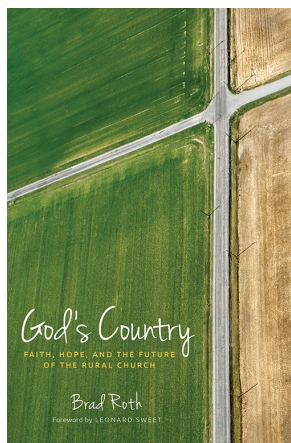
Next Meeting

Monday, October 30, 2017 at the church office at 7:00 p.m. (Note meeting change)

Devotions: Brenda Dalke

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

JoLene Kaufman, secretary



Mission Sunday November 5, 2017

How can the rural church live Christ's mission? Drawing on research and reflection from his book: *God's Country: Faith, Hope, and the Future of the Rural Church*, Pastor Brad Roth from West Zion will preach from John 15, exploring how the Jesus way

of friendship is a model for mission in rural communities and congregations. During the Sunday school hour, Brad will lead us in a discussion of 1 Peter 3:15-16 as a key passage that lends practical tools for community evangelism.

Mission Sunday will be a joint Worship and Sunday school with West Zion and First Mennonite joining us at Eden. Following Sunday school, the FEWZ Youth Group will serve a fundraiser meal supporting their activities, including a summer service trip.

Join us as we rekindle a vision for sharing the good news in God's country!

Schrag to speak at SMCHA banquet

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association will hold its annual banquet October 26, 2017 at Eden Mennonite Church, 401 18th Ave., Moundridge, KS. The speaker for the program will be Dale Schrag of North Newton, KS. The title of his message will be "Searching for a Usable Past."



Dale Schrag recently retired (2014) from a position as director of church relations and campus pastor at Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas. Dale graduated from Bethel College with a degree in history in 1969. After two years of voluntary service in Arvada, Colorado, he taught high school history for two years in McPherson, Kansas. He served as a librarian in various capacities at Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas, for nine years (during which time he and his family were active members of Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church). He came to Bethel College in 1984 as director of libraries. In 1992 he was appointed director of marketing and church relations. From 1996-2002, he served part-time as secretary of the Higher Education Council of the General Conference Mennonite Church.

In addition to his bachelor's degree from Bethel, Dale holds a Master's of Library Science from Indiana University, and a Master of Arts in history from Wichita State University. To the extent that he has any historical specialty, it would focus on the sixteenth-century Anabaptist movement. Dale lectures frequently in area churches on topics related to Anabaptism.

Dale is married to Margaret (Margo) Loewen. They are members of the Bethel College Mennonite Church. They have two adult children and seven grandchildren, all of whom live within twelve miles of North Newton, Kansas. Life is good!

The banquet meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. and will cost \$20. Pay at the door. Reservations are required and must be made by contacting Barbara Stucky at 620-345-8367 or email bstucky39@mtelco.net by October 19, 2017.

Fundraiser Planned

A fundraiser fish fry is planned for October 15 at noon at the church. The congregation is asked to bring side dishes and desserts. The fundraiser is being held to complete the funding for the church office renovation project.

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped with the project. Many hours were spent with the demolition, and renovation of the interior. We extend our appreciation to Larry Kaufman who faithfully led the volunteers on a daily basis. At the time this is written, most of the interior work has been completed.



Hello!

We have decided to be involved with Service Adventure, Albuquerque for a third term. In August four participants arrived and are living together in a community setting learning faith formation and life skills. Jon Voth, from Bethel College Mennonite, is working at the ReStore; Kristin Jantzen, from Faith Mennonite Church, is working at Harwood Art School; Judith Penner, from Germany, is working at Jeanne's Child Development Center; and Marie Saleh, from Germany, is working through Albuquerque Public Schools in a homeless pre-school.

Each of the participants also has a host family from the supporting church, Albuquerque Mennonite. We have already had a church retreat in the Monzano Mountains, a youth retreat overnight lock-in at the church, and we are now in the process of planning our first worship service.

We appreciate the support of Eden Mennonite Church and would ask for that continued support including the numerous daily prayers. Together we are seeking the way for the next faithful step. We ask for God's blessings on each of you.

Bob and Sondra Tolle



Roses are red, violets are blue.

Picnics are fun, BUT a whole lot more fun with you! Come enjoy a church picnic Sunday, October 1, at the home of Gary and Bonita Howard. Fellowship begins at 4:00 p.m. Activities include a scavenger hunt at 4:30 and hayrack rides. Dinner will be served at 5:30. Hamburgers/hotdogs, buns, table service, water and s'mores will be provided. Bring a salad or side dish and lawn chairs. For more information, contact Bret and Marla Gillmore or Gary and Bonita Howard.

POSITION AVAILABLE



The Leadership Development office of Mennonite Church USA is seeking applications for an office manager, currently a two-thirds time position. Primary responsibilities of this position includes maintaining the national database (MennoData) and technical support for the "calling system" which assists pastors, congregations and conferences in the pastoral search process. Successful candidates will be detail oriented with strong computer skills and able to work in a confidential environment. We are committed to diversity among staff and welcome people of diverse backgrounds and abilities to apply. To request a copy of the job description and an application form, contact HR@MennoniteUSA.org or call 316-281-4257.

Volunteer Opportunity - The practice of hospitality to those who come to us as strangers and leave as friends is at the basis of our faith as Mennonites and Anabaptists. International Guest House in Washington, DC is in particular need of twelve-month host volunteers beginning April 2018. (Those serving a full year receive a monthly stipend and health insurance while all other volunteers receive full room and board.) Rotating duties include cleaning, maintenance, baking, gardening, and interacting with guests at breakfast and the evening tea. The three-pronged focus for volunteers is on hospitality to guests, being in community with one another, and your own personal time exploring our historic city. We are located in a friendly, established neighborhood with easy access to public transportation. Former volunteers at the International Guest House in Washington have found it to be a life-changing experience. This 50 year-old Christian ministry is under the auspices of the Allegheny Conference. For information or application, please contact Sara at sarafretzgoering@gmail.com

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

The family of Marjorie G. Tolle appreciates all of your expressions of kindness at her passing. She was a mother and grandmother who will be dearly missed.

Bob and Sondra Tolle
Dana Tolle
Billy and Sara Hocking

The family of Milly Stucky would like to say thank you for the cards, prayers, and other acts of kindness in our mother's passing.

Clair, Teresa, Jerome, and Dorothy

Thanks to all for the prayers, well wishes and other acts of kindness shown to Marlo Gehring's family. It is a blessing to be a part of such a caring congregation. Jim and Brenda Dalke.

On behalf of Nelson I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, visits and support over the last 2 years. I especially would like to send a special thank you to Pastors Derek and Dianne, and also Ken Preheim. Your support is beyond words. Thanks again. Joan Goering



Chelsey Knight
C/O Tabor College
400 S. Jefferson
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Emily Knight
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300 E. 27th St.
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Elizabeth Schrag
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Michelle Schrag
Bethel College
300 E. 27th St.
North Newton, KS 67117

Anna Stucky
Bethel College
300 E. 27th St.
North Newton, KS 67117



Marlo Gehring (84) passed away on Friday, Sept 8. Services were held at Eden on Thursday, Sept 14. We extend our sympathy to his daughter Brenda, (Jim) Dalke and all of his extended family.



We choose not to print addresses of our members online. If you are looking for an address of one of our members, please contact the Eden Church Office.



Invitation to Share

The Invitation to share for the month of October is an offering for Mobility Worldwide (Personal Energy Transportation, PET).

If you would like to support this project you may write a check to Eden with "invitation to share" in the memo line and mail it to Eden at P.O. Box 406, Moundridge, KS 67107.

**Congratulations
on Your
New Baby!**



Congratulations to Todd and Kendall Vogts on the birth of a girl Presley James on September 7.

Sign of grace

Make this sign to hang on your wall as a daily reminder of God's amazing gift of grace.

What you need:

- White poster board
- Large wooden letters that spell GRACE
- Painter's tape
- Tempura paint
- Paper plates
- Paintbrushes
- Colored pens or markers

What you do:

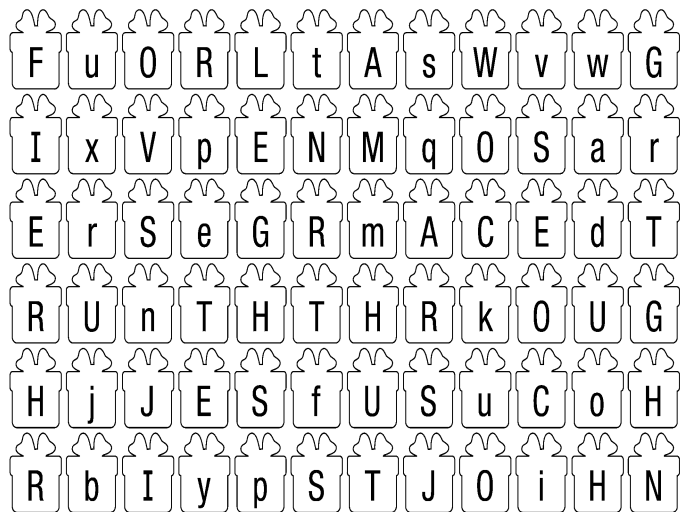
1. Place the poster board on the ground (outside, if possible).
2. Put tape on the back of the letters and secure them to the board. No tape should be visible.
3. Paint and draw all over the poster board. Be creative with splatters, handprints and so on.
4. When paint is dry, remove the letters and hang up the poster.



The gift of grace

God's grace is a free gift, not something we can earn on our own. How do we have this gift?

Directions: Complete the Bible verse by placing the capital letters from the gifts on the blanks below.



“ _____ the _____ was _____
through _____ ; _____ and
_____ came _____
_____ .”

_____ 1:17, NIV

Answer: “For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” John 1:17, NIV



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



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

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

Up-Coming Events

- Oct 1:** 4:00 p.m. Church picnic at Gary and Bonita Howard's place
Oct 3: 9-11:30 Mary Martha meets at Angels' Attic followed by lunch & mtg. at Modds
 7:00 p.m. Edu/Disc Commission meeting at church office
Oct 10: 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission meeting at church office
Oct 15: Guest Speaker, Stephen Penner, from Mennonite Mission Network
 Noon fish fry fundraiser meal for office remodel project
Oct 16: 5:00 p.m. SCRT meeting at church office
Oct 23: 6:00 p.m. Deacons/Pastors meet at church office
Oct 26: 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Commission meets at church office
 6:00 p.m. SMCHA Banquet at Eden
Oct 30: 7:00 p.m. Eden Leadership Team (ELT) meets at church office
Oct 29: 6:00 p.m. Celebration of Eden's Music and History Video shown at Eden
Nov 5: Mission Sunday at Eden with First Mennonite and West Zion

Wednesday Evening Schedule

- Oct 4:** 6:00 p.m. Meal served by CHB in fellowship hall
 6:00 FEWZ meets at WZ
 6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Choir
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Oct 11: 6:00 p.m. Meal served
 6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at WZ
 6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Choir
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Oct 18: 6:00 p.m. Meal served
 6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at WZ
 6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Choir
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Oct 25: 6:00 p.m. Meal served
 6:00 p.m. FEWZ meets at WZ
 6:45 p.m. Bible Study for all ages
 7:30 p.m. Ladies Choir
 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
 8:45 p.m. Men's Chorus

October 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



November 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



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