

Eden Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – noon

Phone: 620-345-8320; **Email:** edenoffice@edenmennonite.org

Check out our website at www.edenmennonite.org

Friend us on Facebook

Lead Pastor, Derek King

Cell Phone: 717-201-1147

dking@edenmennonite.org; Day off: Friday

Associate Pastor, Dianne Schmidt

Cell phone: 419-890-8327

dschmidt@edenmennonite.org; Day off: Thursday

Confession

O God of blazing heavens,
you come to us gently and tenderly,
speaking peace and comfort into our fear.

We long for you,
we yearn for your promise of a new heaven and earth.

Yet we confess
that though we know how to get busy
and prepare for this season,
we do not know
how to slow down or wait
and make space for your presence.

May our ordinary lives intersect with the power of your Word
and the transforming presence of your grace.

Empower us to “let it be so.”

(pause for silence)

Words of assurance

O God, Emmanuel,
in Jesus, the Christ, you have come among us.
You have given us life, and we are restored.



**COMFORT,
COMFORT
MY PEOPLE,
SAYS YOUR
GOD.**

ISAIAH 40:1, ESV

Eden Mennonite Church
Moundridge, Kansas
Website: www.edenmennonite.org

Derek King, Lead Pastor

Dianne Schmidt, Associate Pastor

Vol. 64

December 10, 2017

No. 47

Our 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.

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

Advent 2: "Yes! Let it be so."

Prelude

Karen Kaufman

Welcome

Pastor Derek

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Awake!

The invitation to carry light
comes from the voice who cries out
for a smooth way through wild places.

**All: *O God, your call is uncomfortable.
How can we who are weak
remove the rough and rugged places?***

(Lighting the Advent Candles)

Leader: Quiet our questioning souls.

All: *Lead us into your presence so all can see your way.*

Leader: Let it be so.

***Congregational Song STS 1**

Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness

Worship Music

Noel, Noel arr. by Charles Grayson

Men's Chorus

Becky Setser, director; Bonita Howard, accompanist

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

Time With Children

Larry Temple & Galen Waltner

Worship Music

Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head arr. by Kurt Kaiser

Men's Chorus

Prophetic Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Message

"Who needs comfort?"

Pastor Dianne

***Song of Response HWB 176**

Comfort, Comfort, O my People

Confession (on back of bulletin)

Prayers of the People

Offering/ Offertory

Opportunities for Discipleship

Drama: Conversation between Wisdom and Wonder

Becky King & Ruth Kaufman

*Sending Song STS 57

Go, My Friends

*Benediction

Postlude

All sermons and Scripture can be viewed at www.edenmennonite.org and our Facebook page, or YouTube channel.

Welcome to worship, Christian education and fellowship! Please greet one another in the name of the coming Prince of Peace.

If you are a visitor, we encourage you to fill out a visitor card found next to the hymnals and drop it in the offering plate.



A nursery is available for small children. Please ask an usher to direct you. Thank you to Rashelle and Matt Schrag for caring for children in the nursery this morning.

Sisters in Spirit has decorated an Angel Tree in the Fellowship Hall to honor the memory of our loved ones who have passed away. You may purchase an angel for each of your loved ones for \$3.00 each. The ornaments will hang on the tree during the Christmas season and may be taken home on or after December 24. The forms and envelopes are available near the tree. Please place the completed form and payment in the box.

If you are still not receiving the bulletin by email, and it's not going to your spam or junk mail, please let the church office know. Remember that you can always access the current bulletin from our website www.edenmennonite.org. Just click on *media* and *bulletin* to read it.

Looking for a place to discard your bulletin? A box is now located in the fellowship hall for disposal of all used or unwanted paper products. The contents of the box will be properly recycled and given a chance to live again in a future batch of bulletins!

Advent Visuals: Thank you to Kyle/Sarah Neufeld, Jacob/Katie Stucky, and Cory/Amanda Harrison for decorating the sanctuary for the Advent Season. Thank you to Jean Regier, Kathy Waltner, and Britney Stos for the Advent candle and Nativity visuals.

Eden This Week

Sunday	9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:40 a.m. Sunday School
Tuesday	7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg. at church office
Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Deacon/Pastor Christmas potluck 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service practice 7:30 p.m. Ladies Choir 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Looking Ahead

Dec 20:	6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service practice 7:30 p.m. Ladies Choir 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Dec 21:	7:00 p.m. The Longest Night Service
Dec 24:	7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Dec 25:	Christmas Day – Eden Church office closed
Dec 26:	Eden Church Office closed Christmas
Jan 1:	New Year's Day – Eden Church office closed

Last Sunday, Dec 3, 2017

Worship: 184; SS: 160
Offering: \$7,945.00

Next Sunday, Dec 17 – Third Sunday in Advent

Children's Time: Larry Temple & Galen Waltner
Nursery: Cindy Bartell & Alan Thomas

Budget Update

Office Renovation:

Donations: \$27,644.26
Capital Building Fund: \$25,000
Total Income: \$52,644.26

Total Expenses: \$93,999.89

\$25,000 was supposed to be taken as a loss from our checking account.

Donations needed: \$16,355.63

Budget Report (Excluding Office Renovation numbers):

Income: \$360,133.65

Expenses: \$395,198.94

Budget: \$425,443.37

Net Income: -\$35065.25

Amount needed to meet the budget: **\$65,309.72**

Remember in Prayer

Howard Knight: Dismissed from Mercy Hospital

Sandy Krehbiel: Mercy Hospital

WDC: As we prepare a place for the Christ-child in this Advent season, let us pray for WDC congregations undergoing construction projects to better serve their communities and members.

Christmas is typically a season of hope and joy, yet as the nights get longer and the realities of loss set in, it can be an especially difficult time of year for many of us. On December 21, the longest night of the year, there will be an opportunity to name the darkness in our lives while clinging to the hope of Christ's light to come. We will light candles to remember those things and people we have lost, while we trust that God will comfort His people. The brief service will be hosted at Eden Mennonite Church at 7pm.

The Christmas Eve Service, presented by our children and youth, will be held Sunday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. The service will include readings and other presentations as well as hymns and candle lighting. Plan now to attend, and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you.

Important Christmas Eve practices for children/youth are scheduled for Dec. 13 and 20 at 6:30 p.m.

There will be no Sunday school on December 31.

Nurture children's faith at home this Advent and Christmas through family worship. Find a free, downloadable guide at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org. For use between Dec 3 and Jan 6, it includes a daily Bible reading, short litany, songs, hands-on activities and questions to ponder together.

The December *Eden Echoes* has been printed and is available on the literature table in the fellowship hall. If you would like to receive it by email, please email the Eden Church Office with your request and you will be added to the list.

Our Extended Church Family

Associated Ministries of Moundridge is selling coffee this Christmas season to help support the seven ministries within the organization. Green order forms are on the literature table in the fellowship hall.

Today, (Sun., Dec 10) – Bethel College Alumni Choir performs a short Christmas concert, 3 p.m., Trinity Heights United Methodist Church, Newton; punch and cookies reception follows.

Today (Sun., Dec. 10) – 32nd annual Lighting of the Green at Bethel College, 8 p.m.

All Camp Mennoscah volunteers from any and all years are invited to celebrate another year of sharing God's love with others through service. We'll gather at the Retreat Center on Dec 16 at 2:30pm-ish for conversation, games (indoor or outdoor), and cookies! There will also be an optional white elephant gift exchange. Wrap up that oddity you found in the attic or at the back of your closet. Someone's sure to want it, right? Call us at [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290) or email olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org with questions. Families are welcome!

Spread cozy, colorful warmth around the world! All you have to do is tie knots! Mennonite Central Committee has a generous number of comforter tops, and now **we need your help tying them!** MCC has paired tops and backs that are ready to be tied, and we are inviting you or your church group to pick some up (or we can ship them to you)! If you are interested, please either stop by the MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton, or contact Kate Mast at katemast@mcc.org, or [316-283-2720](tel:316-283-2720). We ask that you provide the batting and the crochet tying thread if possible. Thank you in advance for helping to spread warmth and love to our brothers and sisters around the world!

You're invited to the annual MCC Christmas Soiree on Thursday, Dec 14 from 5-7pm at the MCC Center in [North Newton \(121 E. 30th St.\)](#). Join us for this annual come-and-go event to enjoy food, drinks and great conversation. At 6pm we'll have a short program to hear about MCC's work with refugees in Jordan. Bring your family and friends, we look forward to seeing you! Contact patsydirksen@mcc.org with questions.

Brass Christmas: Come join us at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church on Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 pm for an evening filled with Christmas music! The evening will feature the McPherson Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews along with the Elbiata Singers from Goessel High School under the direction of Andrew Voth. A freewill offering will be received to support the ministries of the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. We hope to see you there! ~Goessel Ministerial Alliance

The board of *The Mennonite, Inc.* is accepting applications for the position of Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for publishing and administration, management of staff, and maintaining denominational relationships. *The Mennonite* is a multimedia and print publication and organization connected to MC USA. To read the full description and to apply, visit: <https://themennonite.org/mennonite-inc-seeks-next-executive-director/>.

Many people do their **Christmas shopping at the Newton Et Cetera Shop!** Please bring us your **clean, gently-used toys, shoes, jewelry and children's coats.** Your donated items might end up as cherished gifts under someone's Christmas tree! Support MCC Thrift Shops because you care . . . about your family, your community, and beyond. Thank you!

Ten Thousand Village/Fair Trade International Gift Festival is coming to Newton at the Mezzanine above Prairie Harvest, 601 N Main. It will be open on Dec 1-3, 8-10, 15-17. Hours on Fridays and Saturdays: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Hours on Sundays: 1-4 p.m.

Churches helping churches plan how to be missional in your own communities along with the counsel of a missional coach. It's the Creative Strategizing Jam at **Year of Evangelism Kick Off: Anabaptist Witness**, January 19-20, 2018. Learn more and register at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>

Looking for a unique gift idea? Give a book to the WDC Resource Library in honor of your loved one this Christmas! A book given in their name can enrich the faith of individuals all over the conference. The library's wish list can be found at Faith & Life Bookstore in Newton or on their website at www.faihandlifebookstore.net (when ordering online, make "store pick up" to avoid paying shipping).

We're looking for you, summer staffers! Camp Mennoscah has started the "round-up" process for the 2018 summer staff. Find the information online at campmennoscah.org/application/ and then fill out the application! Our summer staff are dedicated to giving campers, staff, and guests a great, God-filled experience at Camp Mennoscah. Contact Olivia at [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290) with questions.