



Moundridge, Kansas
www.edenmennonite.org

EDEN ECHOES

Jan/Feb 2018
Issue Vol. 49 No. 1

*From the
Pastor*



"The E-word"

Our Western District Conference is declaring 2018 the "Year of Evangelism." This was kicked-off with a worship and learning weekend January 19 and 20 at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. The weekend included worship, workshops, and prayerful consideration of what Evangelism looks like in our particular contexts. I am excited that Western District is taking on this theme and promoting it in our churches. I am especially grateful that we are working at understanding what evangelism means in our own specific communities. While I fully support this focus for 2018, I am also a little surprised.

For quite a while now, "evangelism" has been a bit of a dirty word. It has been associated with a particular style of preaching and teaching that has come across as arrogant, confrontational, and judgmental. Some of us picture street preachers, standing on their soapboxes, shouting at people, trying to argue them into the kingdom, or perhaps scare them in. This is not a flattering picture of evangelism, but it is the picture that is so often in front of us and in our minds whenever we hear the word. The unfortunate truth is that this picture, while a bit exaggerated, contains a solid chunk of truth. There have been many Christians over the years who, in the name of Jesus, have treated people very poorly. In trying to "win people to Christ" we have treated individuals as statistics for God's kingdom. In trying to teach about God's forgiveness, we have overemphasized the "depraved" nature of humanity. So, seeing that the word evangelism has been so tainted by our misguided practices, should we give up on the word, or even the practice?

Thankfully, the Biblical narrative of evangelism paints a very different picture. First of all, it is important to understand what the word means. *Euangelion* has two parts: *eu* means "good" and *angelion* means "message". (This second part is where we get the word "angel", a messenger.) So, in its most basic sense, we are talking about "good news." In the Christian context, this means the good news of Jesus. So, this is how Mark begins his version of the story: "The beginning of the *euangelion* (good news, or *gospel*) of Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God..." So, we have a word that, at its core is about the "good news" or "good message" of Jesus Christ. Evangelists, then, are the messengers of that good news, the one who tell others about Jesus. So, I would define "evangelism" as a way of life that realizes the "good news" of Jesus in word and deed.

The truth is that most of us from the Mennonite tradition haven't been standing on our soapboxes and thumping our Bibles, we have been practicing evangelism all along. Our commitment to peacemaking and disaster relief has become a trademark. People from around the world know Mennonites because of the way in which Jesus' kingdom was made manifest through the hard work we have done. I would say that since we have worked hard at revealing the peace and restoration that is possible in God's kingdom, we have been "evangelizing" for many years. I believe that our messengers have been using their hands and feet, more than their mouths. So, is it possible for the term "evangelism" to be redeemed and for us to embrace it?

To be perfectly honest, I believe it will be a long time before the term is used without reservation in many of our Mennonite circles. However, I believe we can learn from those who would regularly use it. In our enthusiasm to use our hands and our feet to share the good news, we have become unable to even talk about our faith with others. Remember that evangelism has its root in offering a message. This may mean more than speaking to others about Jesus,

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but it does not mean less. My hope is that we continue to live the good news in our service and peacemaking. I also hope that we can also learn how to share the good news with others through words. Even I don't know exactly how this is done, but I am excited to learn and hope that you'll join me in this "Year of Evangelism."

RLA

Remembering 50 years of the Relief Sale in Kansas

Relief Sales are the result of grass roots movements across the United States to promote and raise funds for MCC. A group of Kansans organized and formed the Mid-Kansas Relief Sale. This was in 1968 and the first sale was in Hillsboro at the Marion County Fairgrounds. The space was deemed too small and crowded for all of the activities people wanted to provide. After two years the sale was moved to Newton mostly outside and using tents. It rained the week before the sale and the tents and the area flooded making it a less than worthwhile experience. Because of a connection with the Kansas State Fair the Sale was moved to the Kansas State Fairgrounds. Approximately 70 churches across Kansas are on the roster. The purpose at the beginning and still today is to support and raise funds for MCC and MCC alone. This year we celebrate 50 years of successful fundraising to support the work of Mennonite Central Committee.

There had been an on-going debate concerning the collection of the Kansas sales tax at the Sale. At the 1969 sale, held in Hillsboro, sales tax was collected. Levi Goossen, our Attorney at that time, appealed this circumstance and asked for an exemption. The Sale was incorporated on January 23, 1971 and we received the initial tax exemption letter from the IRS on December 10, 1971 with final confirmation under IRC 509 on March 22, 1973. This exemption continues, although we have had to handle a challenge or two along the way. The act of charity in the name of Jesus is the on-going purpose of the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. A community coming together to promote "Praising God through Service."

In 1976, the Sale was still using the State Fair Bison Arena on the State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, as the main building for auctions and sales. According to the annual report it was the first time that soft ice cream was sold and it sold very well. Fifty-nine bales of wood shavings were used to cover the dirt floor and control the dust around the quilt display.



In 1980 visitors from 11 different states contributed to the attendance of 13,500. The Quilt and Comforter Committee auctioned 367 items totaling a financial benefit of \$47,356.50. Verenike with ham gravy sold for 75 cents each, and borscht sold for 85 cents a bowl. This was the year that began the central location for collecting pies. The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus brought in \$5,434.02 from their concerts and \$206,711.67 was sent to MCC in the name of Christ.

In 1988 a new venture was child care for kids 1-5 years of age. Teenagers and adults interacted with the kids bringing smiles to the faces of both the young and old. The Beef Walk began at Ebenfeld Church and the Dairy walk began in Kingman. The walks ended at the fairgrounds just in time for the sale of all the animals donated to the Sale. The combined walks raised \$60,000.

The Sale in 2006 was marked by many firsts. Following the Kansas State Fair's Master Plan, the KMRS was able to stay in the same buildings they had been in the year before. In the Sunflower South building a "Silent Auction" was held for the first time...it was hailed as a great success. In Sunflower North, the MCC booth was expanded to include an area to assemble School Kits. The Domestic Arts building became home to "Caps Central", and Carnival games were set up by the Pretty Prairie Youth Group in the Tech Building. The sale brought and converted two construction trailers and converted them into kitchens for the Domestic Arts Building. A change of State Fair policy led to this need. The total monies donated to MCC was \$450,000. A great spirit of volunteerism and good will was present as the Sale's theme, "Extreme World Makeover!!!" was center stage.

The 40th Anniversary took place in 2008. It was a memorable event. Apple butter was available and 500 pints quickly sold out. The Kansas Mennonite Men's Choir gave a fantastic program that was presented to a full house. The Greensburg Mennonite Church was richly involved in the 2008 sale after the devastating tornado hit their community. A "mangled" barrel, two salvaged church comforters, and generous financial support provided an inspiration to many people. It was again a chance to marvel and witness what can happen when a group of people come together to serve God in so many different ways. May God continue to bless and use MCC for His honor and glory.

Watch the bulletin each week until the sale to see more memories from the last 50 years shared. Also think about what you could donate to the sale in honor of the 50th anniversary.

Pine Village Hires Becky Setser as New Director of Wellness & Aquatics




MOUNDRIDGE, KS – Becky Setser has been named the new Director of Wellness & Aquatics for Pine Village. As Director, Setser will oversee all the wellness and aquatics programs on campus. This includes land and aquatic classes for residents and the public, as well as organizing bus trips, special programming and other social as well as community activities that occur in the Wellness Center.

“We are excited to have Becky joining us in her new role of Director of Wellness,” said Shelby Shaw, Administrator. “Becky has been teaching classes part-time for many years, so she’s very familiar with campus and the residents. She also brings a lot of experience and new ideas to the department, and we look forward to her leading the continued success of the wellness of campus.”

Becky started at Pine Village working part-time in April 2001. Prior to joining the Pine Village team full-time, Setser was a teller supervisor and office manager at Mid-Kansas Credit Union. With the support of her three boys, RJ, Devin and Cameron, Setser looks forward to this new chapter. “I’m most excited about working with and getting to know better the people at Pine Village, residents and employees!” said Setser.



At their meeting on January 13, the Western District Conference Executive Board approved this statement: *“As Christians, we on the Executive Board of the Western District Conference of the Mennonite Church USA are saddened and appalled by the recent language reportedly used by President Donald Trump and the underlying sentiment toward immigrants that it reflects, including immigrants in our churches. We condemn his offensive and degrading language and attitudes toward immigrants, especially those from African countries and Haiti. We believe all peoples, wherever they are from, are loved by God and created in God’s image. We call on President Trump, other government officials, and ourselves to apologize and repent of demeaning and racist language and attitudes. We call on the people of our churches to pray and act for the well-being of all people and to call our government to act in a way that reflects the value of all human beings.”* WDC congregations are encouraged to consider this statement in discerning a prayerful and faithful response to issues of justice and peace. The statement is also being sent to Mennonite media, the White House, and U.S. Congress members from states in which there are WDC congregations.




MC USA is on a journey.

Journey Forward is a two-year visioning process to renew MC USA's identity around shared core beliefs and values.

Join the conversation!

Ways to get involved:

- Check out the most recent Journey Forward identity document draft at mennoniteusa.org.
- Make plans now to use the Journey Forward Pathways study guide with your congregation, Sunday School or small group in the summer or fall of 2018.
- Look for the *Pathways* study guide to be released in April 2018.
- Submit your feedback by Dec. 31, 2018.
- Catch up with Journey Forward news and stay connected to the process at <http://mennoniteusa.org/tag/journey-forward>





Invitation to Share

The invitation to share project for the month of January is NEW flat twin sheets. For February the project is Towels—NEW bath & hand towels (medium weight, dark or bright colored).

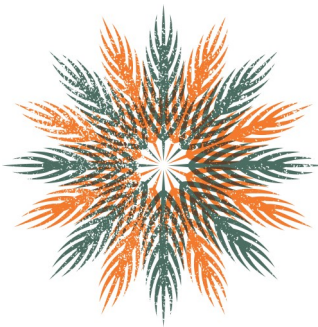
If you would like to support this project you may write a check to Eden with “invitation to share” in the memo line and mail it to Eden at P.O. Box 406, Moundridge, KS 67107.

Meeting needs

“My neighbor’s material needs are my spiritual needs,” said 19th-century theologian Israel Salanter. In other words, when someone else suffers hunger and poverty, when people endure a natural disaster and lack shelter, when another human being is sick or injured—in all such cases, God calls us to action. And God knows that whatever we do to meet those material needs will meet our spiritual needs at the same time.

It might be our spiritual need to expand our horizons into neighborhoods, cultures or situations where we’re uncomfortable. We might need to grow in love for people different from us. By serving others, we might find our own sagging spirits nurtured with a sense of well-being or even joy. And as we reach out to help, surely we’ll notice others doing the same thing, and our spiritual need for renewed faith will be met.

~ Heidi Mann



Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May

our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.

—*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*



“What Do I Have?”

What do I have, Lord, that you would need me as a servant?

Eyes, he said,
to see the beauty in all that I’ve made -
and my children as they travel life’s highway.

Hands, he said,
to reach out and touch hurting souls,
to give a hug or encouraging pat on the back.

Feet, he said,
to lead my children through this world of strife
and to help them run from sin and follow me.

Mouth, he said,
to lift up your voice and sing praises to me
so others may hear the joy in your heart.

Ears, he said,
to listen to my still, small voice of love
and to hear my children when they cry for help.

Heart, he said,
so you many know the full love of my Spirit
and love my children as I have loved you.

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

Paul declares that nothing “will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Which of the following does Paul specify as unable to block God’s love?

- A. death; life
- B. angels; demons
- C. present; future
- D. height; depth
- E. all of the above



Answer: E (See Romans 8:38-39, NIV.)



Thanks to all for the cards, prayers, food and well wishes given to me while I was a patient in the hospital in December. Also, a special thanks to the pastors for their visits. There's no doubt that I belong to a caring church!

Patsy Klassen

Thank you Eden Church for the Memorial to PET for Vernon. It is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Marna Goering

Mennonite Men express their sincere appreciation for your current gift. This gift will be used by JoinHands Mennonite Church Building program to help provide a grant of \$40,000 to Mara Christian Church of Charlotte, North Carolina. Mara Christian Church is a member of Virginia Mennonite Conference.

The JoinHands Mennonite Church Building Program is a ministry of Mennonite Men, an organization of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada equipping men to be missional in building Christ's Kingdom.

Sincerely,
Perry Krehbiel
Mennonite Men Treasurer

Thank you for your contribution to Mennonite Disaster Service. Thank you so much for entrusting MDS with this gift to help those affected by disaster. Because of donors like you, hardworking volunteers have responded to hurricanes Harvey and Irma by cleaning up debris, tarping roofs or performing minor repairs on more than 260 properties in Texas and more than 100 homes in Florida. Your gift is enabling MDS to set up four long-term recovery projects in Texas and another in Florida where volunteers will do major home repairs and rebuilding.

However, as I write this, 60% of Puerto Rico is still without power. MDS is working with Puerto Rican community leaders to plan for the repair and rebuilding of homes and churches. Meanwhile, volunteers will begin repairing classrooms at Betania Mennonite Academy near Aibonito where the rooms for kindergarten, music, science and Spanish lost their roofs.

We are so grateful for donations like yours that made it possible to respond to the hurricanes, all the while maintaining recovery efforts in places like Louisiana, South Dakota, West Virginia and Ontario that were also impacted by disaster.

With gratitude,
Kevin King, Executive Director

We appreciate the prayerful and financial support that conferences and congregations generously provide to our students at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Without it, many wonderful and gifted students would be unable to attend AMBS. We trust that your generous support will serve to strengthen the church and bring glory to God.

Peace,

Daniel B. Grimes

Director of Enrollment and Financial Aid



Merry and Blessed Christmas wishes for all at Eden. Frieda and I are now both residents at Kidron Bethel Village. Frieda is in Health Care and Walt is in Assisted Living. We have both reached the big 90, are doing fairly well, and still know each other. Walt suffered an aneurism, (light stroke) 6 months ago and is now almost fully recovered. Frieda is dealing with heart issues. Since we are without a car, (this is hard to accept) we do a lot of walking. We are looking forward to the Christmas season with hopes of seeing most of our family. We still cherish the fond memories of our times at Eden and wish you all rich blessings in the coming year.

Walt and Frieda Neufeld

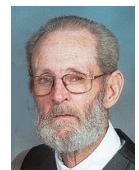


December 23, 2017

Richard Goering & Amy Cluster



Howard Knight (79) passed away on Friday, January 19 at his home. Funeral and burial services are planed for Friday, January 26 at Eden. We extend our sympathy to his wife Wanda, sons Brent (Carina), Chuck (Diane), and daughter Kim (Jeff) Snyder, his grandchildren, and all of his extended family and friends.



"Though our feelings come and go, God's love for us does not."
—C.S. Lewis



heart sandwich

Show your love by making someone this heartfelt snack on Valentine's Day.

What you need:

- 2 slices of bread
- 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters (one large, one small)
- Lunchmeat and cheese (or peanut butter and jelly)

What you do:

1. Cut a large heart out of each slice of bread.
2. Cut a small heart from the middle of one big heart.
3. With the small cookie cutter, make several heart shapes out of the meat and cheese. Place between the bread slices.
4. If you're using peanut butter and jelly, spread both onto the large, solid heart. Then place the slice with the small heart cutout on top.



A NEW CREATION



The apostle Paul says everyone who believes in Jesus becomes brand new.



Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.

THIEROEFQORXEIDFAMNYAON
SEILSITNCVHRKISDTTBHEWNE
QWCDREYATMIOCNHFASWCOR
MEGTHWEOFLDXHASSGZONL
ETJHEWNEQWIDSHREROE

_____, _____
_____, _____
_____: _____
_____, _____
_____! 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV



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| 1- Lia-Jing Groves (Jan & Anne) | 29- DeLonna Barnett |
| 2- Lori Vontz | Jennifer Knight |
| 4- Emily Regier | Sheryl Plenert |
| 4- Sam Goering | Linda Graber |
| 5- Wanda Knight | 30- Jeileen Cruz (Ron & Cecilia Goering) |
| 5- Dorothy Krehbiel | Juanita Graber |
| Josh Regier | Becky King |
| Sondra Tolle | Lexus Stewart (Kimberley Kaschke) |
| 6- Sandy Arnold | 31- Dorothy Goering |
| Judy Goering | Derek King |
| Steven L. Goering | Hayley Koontz (Stephen & Sandra) |
| 7- Joseph Krehbiel | |
| Mason Krehbiel | |
| 8- Ashley Stucky | |
| Joyce Stucky | |
| 9- Meroe Graber | 1- Lisa Goering (Mrs. Glen) |
| Denise Stucky | Lloyd Goering |
| Camden Stewart (Kimberley Kaschke) | 2- Cory Harrison |
| 10- Kenneth Preheim | 3- Tatum Garcia (Kayla Gowdy) |
| Lisa Schrag | 4- Mary Beth Goering |
| 11- Penny Graber | Melanie Krehbiel |
| 12- Elaine Krehbiel | 5- Rachel Knight |
| Emily Perkins (Greg & Kathy) | Michelle Schrag |
| Paul Marsh (Sheri) | 6- Amanda Harrison |
| 13- Nicholas Anderson (Neal & Cindy) | Hope Stucky (Morris & Diana) |
| Harold Kaufman | Jackie Zerger |
| 14- Doris Stucky | 7- Stephen Koontz |
| 15- Jacob Schrag, Jr. (Esther) | 8- Robin Gehring |
| 16- Don R. Gehring | Michael J. Krehbiel |
| 17- Paula Goering | Ian Smith |
| 20- Wendell Kaufman | Ian Waltner (Michael & Amanda) |
| 21- Kenneth Schrag | 9- Bonnie Kaufman |
| 22- Larry Kaufman | 10- Terry Schrag |
| Joel Krehbiel | 11- E. Fred Goering |
| Perry Krehbiel | Sarah Neufeld |
| Jacob Westfall | Savannah Starks (Chris & Tori) |
| 23- Cheri Kaufman | 12- Patrick Goering |
| Darrell Schrag | Althea Harrison (Cory & Amanda) |
| 24- Brad Goering | Harlan Stucky |
| MaKayla Stucky (Kevin Stucky & Gayle Stucky) | 13- Terence Goering |
| 25- Mary Albrecht | Calen Klassen (Scott Klassen) |
| Benjamin Schrag (Steve & Maggie) | Jay Krehbiel |
| Troy Stucky | Gordon Schrag |
| 26- Bill Juhnke, Jr. | Betty J. Stucky (Richard) |
| 27- Mary Graber (Mrs. Harvey) | Julia Waltner |
| James Griffin | 14- Jace Dalke (Justin & Krystle) |
| Bryce Krehbiel | Dennis Schmidt |
| Tori Starks | Pamela Webb |
| 28- Kelly Thomas | 15- Cathy Fiedler |
| Katy Schrag | Kori Roberson (Steve & Robyn) |
| Larry Temple | Maynard Stucky |
| | 16- Keith Goering |
| | 18- Jerold Neufeld |



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|--------------------------------------|
| 17- Noah Schrag (Steve and Maggie) |
| Dillon Schrag |
| Lanny Stucky |
| 19- Jerri Kaufman |
| Victoria Mandeen (Pam) |
| 20- Jared Brite |
| Jay Goering |
| Kris Waltner |
| 21- Jim Haag |
| Linda Schrag |
| 22- Dee Juhnke |
| Lynelle Stucky |
| Ella Wyssmann (T.J. & Annie) |
| 23- Erma L. Goering |
| 24- Preslie Doane (Heath & Samantha) |
| Bret Preheim |
| Pam Schrag |
| Joy Thiessen |
| 25- Keith Albrecht |
| Brad Cutting |
| Carina Knight |
| 26- Diane Knight |
| Dustin Krehbiel |
| Maegen Stucky |
| 27- Vance Unrau |



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|--|
| 1- Gene and Germaine Bird |
| Murray & Melody Stucky |
| 3- Jan Craig Goering & Abigail Hubbard |
| Eugene & Carolyn Goering |
| 5- Rob & Lori Parsons |
| Bruce & Kelly Schrag |
| 9- Larry & Carol Goering |
| 14- Terry & Colleen Schrag |
| 21- Brandon & Morgan Kaufman |



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|-----------------------------|
| 1- Blair & Kelly Goering |
| 5- Wayne & Danielle Goering |
| James & Terri Neufeld |
| 6- Warren & Jerri Kaufman |
| 14- Ron & Kelly Thomas |
| 18- Jerry & Linda Schrag |
| 21- Jeff & Becky Koller |
| 25- Cory & Amanda Harrison |

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

Up-Coming Events

Jan 1: New Year's Day—Church Office closed
Jan 9: 6:00 p.m. Deacons mtg.
 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg.
Jan 15: 6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting
Jan 28: Worship at Pine Village no services at Eden
Jan 29: 7:00 p.m. ELT meets at the church office
Feb 6: 7:00 p.m. Edu/Disc. Commission mtg. at church office
Feb 11: Noon: Potluck meal followed by year in review celebration
Feb 12: 7:00 p.m. Worship Commission mtg. at church office
Feb 14: 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary
Feb 18: First Sunday in Lent
Feb 19: Presidents' Day
Feb 20: 6:00 p.m. Deacons/Pastors mtg. at church office
Feb 25: Second Sunday in Lent



6:00 p.m. Meal served in fellowship hall
 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 weeks before singing on Sunday

January 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



February 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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			



Address Services Requested