Eden Mennonite Church Moundridge, Kansas

Vol. 70 December 7, 2025 No. 49

Advent 2: Be Amazed

PreludeCandy UnrauWelcomePastor Derek King

Call to Worship

One: God in our desert, you are our peace in all places.

Many: Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost, we are cut off completely.

One: Thus says the Lord God: "Come from the four winds, O breath,

and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

Many: Can these dry bones live?

One: The wind of God moves among these dry bones. Stand and live! (Everyone stands)

Many: We are the people of God, a vast multitude, filled with God's Spirit.

One: "I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live. I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

All: You are the only source of true life, O God.
You breathe new life into our dry bones and fill us with your peace.
We stand before you, ready to enter your story and be amazed.

Opening Song "What Child Is This / Helpless and Hungry" #267/#268

Song leader: Cindy Bartell

Candle Lighting

One: We have been wandering in the dark, our spirits dry and cracked from conflict, aching for peace to pour into the crevices to revive us.

Many: Come, Peace of the world. Come amaze us.

All: May your peace fill the cracks in our dry, brittle bones.

Bind us together, strengthen and unite us, that we might dance!

Time with Children Kathy Neufeld

Worship Music "Hail the Bless'd Morn" Worship Band

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14 Renae Stucky

Message "Peace in the Valley of Bones" Pastor Kenzie Internann

Song of Response "Hope Is a Candle" #211

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Announcements

Benediction

Sending Song "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

#216

Postlude

There will be a brief congregational meeting immediately after the worship service. Please remain in your seats.

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To share a financial offering, please leave your donation in the vessel on the table in back. To give online, scan the QR code on the back page.

Sunday School begins 10 minutes after the end of the worship service. Children's Classes are labeled on the classroom doors at the north end of the building. An Adult Sunday School information and location poster is on the information cart in the Fellowship Hall.

Announcements Key

MC USA: Mennonite Church USA (denominational conference)
MEA: Mennonite Education Agency (education agency of MC USA)

WDC: Western District Conference (Eden's regional conference of MC USA)

Remember In Prayer

The family of Mary Beth Goering mourning her death.

WDC: Give thanks for the musicians, artists, poets, prophets, pastors and preachers whose gifts enrich WDC congregations' worship and witness during the Advent season.

Nursery: Dec. 7: Carol and Larry Temple Dec. 14: Shayna and Ian Smith

The peace lamp is lit as a reminder to pray for an end to violence in the world. We trust in the power of prayer, as we know that through prayer, all things are possible.

Mary Beth Goering (85) died Nov. 27 at The Cedars, McPherson. The burial service will be at 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 12 and the funeral service at 11 a.m. with a meal following. Here is a <u>link to zoom</u> the service.

MEA has provided a 2025 **Advent at Home** guide. "Be Amazed" follows our worship themes and offers weekly reflections and practices for individuals, families and households of all ages. Copies are available on the literature cart. Or online.

As of Sept. 30, our income is \$352,128 and \$384,896 in expenses. We are \$32,768 short of actual expenses. We are spending within our projected budget. Thank you.

The Sunday School offering for this quarter will go to the Moundridge Food Pantry.

It's time to update the church directory. Pages are on tables in the Fellowship Hall. Review your information and other households that you may be able to update in both the "Active Members and Participants" and "Wider Fellowship Members" sections. Initial each listing reviewed. If you prefer, email the changes to the office or stop in the office with the information.

Eden Leadership Team (ELT) has set the **annual meeting** for Sunday, Dec. 14 following the worship service. After worship today, the Stewardship Commission will present the budget, and the Gifts Discernment Committee will present the slate in preparation for the annual meeting. We will also be voting on a couple of changes made in the constitution. Keep this in your prayers for discernment.

Angel Memory Tree: Remember loved ones who have passed away with an angel ornament and a donation toward MCC infant care kits. More information can be found on the table by the Angel Memory Tree in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to donate items/money toward this project.

Don't forget to include "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" among your Advent activities. Performances are at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13 and 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 14. Excuse the props and mess that appear in the sanctuary as practice continues.

Join us on **Christmas Eve** when the children will invite us into a celebration of the birth of Jesus. The program will begin at 7 p.m. An offering will be taken for the **MCC Well-Baby Visit project**, a gift of essential care for newborn babies and their mothers.

Jennie Wintermote in her article, "Stillness This Season," for the WDC weekly newsletter writes: "Advent has begun; Christmas parties and programs, musical events and rehearsals, shopping, wrapping, and baking fill the calendar, our time, and mental capacity. We can be so busy with Christmas activities that sometimes we have little room for Christ. A few nights ago, our family read the gorgeous picture book *Holy Night and Little Star: A Story for Christmas* by Perkins/Le. It's a beautifully different Christmas story that emboldens us to act with courage when we accept God's invitations." Read the entire article.

This week

Dec. 7: 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Christmas Play practice at church building

Dec. 9: 6:30 p.m. Deacon Commission at Jeff and Becky Koller's home

Dec. 10: 6 p.m. Christmas play dress rehearsal at church building

6:45 p.m. Worship Band practice 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice

Dec. 12: 6 p.m. Christmas play dress rehearsal at church building

Dec. 13: 7 p.m. "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" at church building

Dec. 14: 9:30 a.m. Worship (Advent 3: Joy in the Desert) / Communion 10:40 a.m. Sunday School

2 p.m. "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" at church building

Looking Ahead

Dec. 15: 7 p.m. Worship Commission at office

Dec. 17: 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve program practice at church

6:45 p.m. Worship Band practice

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir practice (NO LADIES CHORUS practice)

Dec. 21: 9:30 a.m. (Advent 4: Love Comes Down) Choir Christmas Cantata / 10:40 a.m. Sunday School

Dec. 21: 6:30 p.m. Longest Night Service at First Mennonite Church of Christian

Dec. 24: 7 pm. Christmas Eve program

Last Week: Attendance: 143; Zoom: 10; Sunday School: 109

Offering: Budget: \$15,066.78; Sunday School: (MCC School Kits) \$9.00

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Check out our website at www.edenmennonite.org

Like us on Facebook

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(Day off: Friday) (Day off: Thursday)

Scan this QR code to give online through PayPal or Venmo.

