

Season After Pentecost



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS

Aug 23, 2020 | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)

Today's hashtags are: #EdenUCC #BendtheCurve

Eden United Church of Christ is an **LGBTQIA+ Open & Affirming** and a **Sanctuary** congregation.

We believe that all people are children of God; that persons of all ages, races and sexual orientations are part of our increasingly diverse culture. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of this church. *Creemos que todas las personas son hijas e hijos de Dios; que personas de todas las edades, razas y orientaciones sexuales son parte de nuestra cultura diversa. Damos la bienvenida a todas las personas al ministerio de esta iglesia.*

Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and nursery care is available during worship. We encourage the posting of worship to social media, just kindly mute devices. Thank you for not bringing food or beverages into the Sanctuary other than sacramental elements or water.



21455 Birch St, Hayward, CA
Corner of Birch & Grove
(510) 582-9533

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)

The “+” indicates times when we are invited to stand, in body or spirit, as we are able.

OPENING MUSIC | Like a River Glorious | Mountain/Walters

WELCOME & UPDATE | Rev. Pepper Swanson

BIBLE READING | Matthew 14:22-33 | [\[Español\]](#) | David Wallace

MESSAGE | “Should I Stay or Should I Go?” | Rev. Pepper Swanson

HYMN | Joys Are Flowing like a River | No. 284

OUR PRAYERS | Joys & Concerns | Rev. Marvin Wiser

Submit your prayers [digitally](#) to the clergy or post them publically in the comments section of the livestream.

JESUS’ PRAYER | Unison

Our God, in whom is heaven, blessed be your name. Your presence come, your will be done, both here and everywhere. May your realm of peace and freedom sustain our hopes and come on earth. May we be fed today with the bread that we need, and may forgiveness be ours in the same measure we give. In times of temptation, strengthen us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

[ONLINE OFFERING](#) | David Wallace



OFFERTORY | Fairest Lord Jesus | Crusader’s Hymn/Mayo

BLESSING | Rev. Pepper Swanson

CLOSING MUSIC | Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee | Beethoven/Mayo

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister

Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister

Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser, Designated Term Associate Minister

Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Date: *It's Sunday, Aug 23.*

Children's Storytime: *Children's Storytime has moved to 10:30 am, immediately prior to Fellowship. Children pre-K to 5th grade are invited to join us on Zoom for show & tell, a story about People in the Bible or a storybook touching on Christian themes, and Children's Prayers.*

Roanoke Revival: *Our favorite bluegrass band, Roanoke Revival, is scheduled to play for worship on **Sunday, Sept 6** (Labor Day Weekend).*

Online Communion during First Sunday Fellowship: *On **Sunday, Sept 6**, Eden UCC will offer a Communion service during our 11 am Fellowship time on Zoom. Everyone is invited to tune in to participate in this important Sacrament. You'll need to provide yourself and your family with bread (bread, crackers, or cookies) and wine (wine, grape juice, milk, or water). Then join us at 11 am for our first Communion since we began sheltering in place.*

Curious about the meaning of Communion in the United Church of Christ? As practiced in the UCC today, "blessing the bread as Jesus blessed" has many different meanings. We celebrate it as a table of remembrance where the bread and the cup stand as reminders of the life, death, resurrection, and continuing presence of the living Christ through the Holy Spirit. It is also an act of thanksgiving for the renewal of our lives here and the assurance of God's forgiveness.

Often it is celebrated as a foretaste of the Great Banquet to come at the final conclusion of God's story as well as a celebration of God's grace. Other meanings include liberation (as a continuation of the Last Supper's origin as a Passover Feast) and unity (as expression of our oneness in Christ and our fellowship with one another). And almost always, regardless of what meaning we bring to it, it is a time of self-examination and personal petition.

We practice "open communion" at Eden Church, which means that you do not have to be a member of this church or of any church to participate in this sacred meal. You need only to desire a closer relationship with the One who is our host.

Did you know...we're on TV! *Imagine yourself resting on the sofa with a hot cup of coffee as Sunday worship begins. If you have a smart tv or a tv with a streaming device such as Roku, Firestick, or Apple TV, there may be a more comfortable way to watch our weekly worship than on your iphone, tablet, or desktop. On Roku, Firestick, and Apple TV, first find your Vimeo channel, then in Vimeo search for Eden Church, Hayward, CA to find our videos. Or try searching for EUCC Worship 2020.07.26 (or any Sunday in that date format).*

If your tv is "smart" (i.e., has streaming capability built in), you will need to download the Vimeo app from your tv app store. For more information, click [here](#) for some guidance from Vimeo or contact your smart tv company. And, if all else fails, all of our pre-recorded worship services since the SIP can still be found [here](#).

Comida para Cherryland: *Comida para Cherryland now serves the community as a drive-through distribution. Please consider a donation or forward this information to anyone*

who is looking for a way to help local residents in need of groceries. Since the COVID-19 crisis unfurled, participation in the Comida has expanded geographically and clients served has tripled, due to widespread unemployment and the closure of other area food pantries.

Seekers Book Club: The Seekers began a new book on **Wednesday, Aug 5**. The book is *House of the Broken Angels* by Luis Alberto Urea. The novel is about a family on the Mexican-American border, celebrating two of their most beloved relatives during a joyous and bittersweet weekend. Join us for this highly-entertaining and multicultural read.

To make a tax deductible, secure, online donation to Comida para Cherryland click [here](#) and choose "Comida para Cherryland" in the drop down menu. Other forms of payment may be mailed to Eden United Church of Christ, 21455 Birch Street, Hayward, CA, 94541. Please make checks payable to "Eden United Church of Christ" and write "Comida" in the memo line. These costs are solely supported by donations from members and friends (not the church's annual budget). **Donations are also being accepted for the Deacon's Fund "COVID-19 Relief". These funds cover needs beyond food.**

Meals For Seniors -- Delivered: If you are 60+ you have access to the "senior meal program" which delivers meals, cheese, milk, eggs and fresh fruit, so that you do not need to leave your home to buy food. In Alameda County call: 510-577-3530. Ask for the "senior meal program" They will return your call to verify your age. Volunteers leave the food at your door. For more information, see their website by clicking [here](#).

SOS Meals on Wheels is offering free home delivered meals to all seniors in the Oakland and Central County areas. The Home-Delivered Meals Program provides nutritious meals, nutrition education, nutrition risk screening and nutrition counseling. Participant contributions are welcome, *but not required.* Call the SOS Meals on Wheels Site Contact: Charline Deterline at 510-582-1263 or email tara@sosmow.org

Need Basic Computer or Phone Help to Get Online? Don't give up! If you need step-by-step assistance to find our Online Worship, Online Fellowship, or joining one of our online small groups such as Bible Study, email [Pastor Pepper](#). She can help you determine if you have a webcam and microphone, how to access Google Hangouts Meet or Zoom, and give you a few tips if you decide to use your cell phone instead of your computer.

"My Giving" in Planning Center: Your contributions to Eden UCC and its many ministries are much appreciated. You may access your giving record in the "My Giving" section of your Church Center App. If you have any questions about using Church Center for digital giving or about viewing your giving history, please contact our Associate Treasurer [Jan Bass](#).

Census 2020: From **Mar 12 to Sept 31** our very own Cherryland Computer Café will serve as a designated Census Questionnaire Assistance Center. Though **the CCC will be physically CLOSED until otherwise noted**, persons may email the CCC Director, Jonny Victorio at jonny@edenucc.com to complete their Census and still be eligible to be entered into a raffle to win a 4K TV!

Cherryland Computer Café Hours: Physical location **CLOSED until otherwise noted**, but persons may schedule online tutoring help via the [Facebook page](#) or by contacting CCC Director, [Jonny Victorio](#).

Church Center: Church Center is our centralized member and community tool for digital connection. If you have been checked into any event or service, you've already been using it. It's only a click away on our new websites home page and is available for download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). Register with your mobile number, and request to join the groups that you are already a part of or that you would like to be a part of. We are using this app for communications, check-ins, groups, forms, volunteer management, payments, etc. See Pastor Marvin for more details.

Eden UCC Mobile Alerts: Be in the know wherever you go! Text "**EdenUCC**" to **33222** to opt into our text message service so that you can stay informed of important happenings as they occur on our campus and in our ministry together.

JOYS

Assemblymember Bill Quirk announced this past week that he has named **Eden United Church of Christ "Nonprofit of the Year"** for California Assembly District 20. It takes a village! Thank you for your role in effecting transformative positive change to the Eden Area!

A donor-advised fund of the **East Bay Community Foundation** has notified us that they would like to invest **\$30,000** into our **Newcomer Navigation Center!** Congratulations to Yuliana Wiser-León and team!

Chef José Andrés' [World Central Kitchen](#), [Restaurants for the People](#), and [Chef's for America](#) in partnership with **Steph Curry's** [Eat Learn Play](#) has chosen Eden Church as a partner for **weekly meal deliveries**. This equates to thousands of dollars in direct food assistance and **isolation supports** for the Eden Area. You read that right! 3x NBA champ Steph Curry is buying meals for our Cherryland families and neighbors!

The **Cherryland Computer Café** Team exceeded their goals as a contracted Census Assistance Center with Alameda County Census Complete Count Committee. We were able to share information about the census with **more than 4,000 people** since October 2019. Most importantly, our team alone has ensured that Alameda County will receive at least **\$15,000,000** in federal funding for essential services over the next decade, as due to our efforts, more than **1,500** in our census tracts have been counted. **Special thanks to Jonny Victorio** and all who ensure that the Eden Area Counts! **On July 28 were selected by Alameda County Board of Supervisors for a services contract extension, granting the CCC an additional \$35,000.**

The **extension** (until December 31, 2020) on the **Eviction Moratorium** was approved by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors this past Tuesday. Two of our ChYLLs addressed the Board during public comments and advocated for passage of the proposal.

Congratulations to **Kemmy Gekara**, who graduated from **UC-Davis** this month with a degree in **Public Policy** & to her partner, **Tom Zhao**, both of whom are excited to announce that they are expecting twins. The babies are due November 23, 2020.

Eden's heartfelt congratulations goes out to our bookkeeper, **Alicia Oseguera**, and her husband, **Oskar Leonel Bgñ Otz**, who were married in Mexico on July 25, 2020.

*Eden Church has shared emergency relief funds with Ashland, Cherryland, Hayward Acres, and San Lorenzo residents, through generous gifts from the following organizations: **East Bay Community Foundation (\$25,000)** and **The San Francisco Foundation (\$10,000)**.*

*We also shared **\$10,000** in emergency relief funds with Strobbridge Elementary School Families through a grant from the **Strobbridge Elementary School PTA**.*

*Last month, Eden Church received a **\$5,000** grant from the **United Way of the Bay Area** to continue to provide COVID-Relief to the Unincorporated Communities.*

*Eden Church has been awarded a **\$50,000** contract to provide essential groceries, diapers and baby wipes, and cleaning supplies for families resident in Unincorporated South Alameda County Housing by the Alameda County Community Development Department.*

*For new partnerships with the **Alameda County First-Five, Ashland Community Market & Café, The Daily Bowl, Eden Township Health District, Mandela Partners, Hope for the Heart, World Central Kitchen, Eat, Learn, Play,** and the **USDA** for fresh produce, personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, and infant and toddler supplies!*

*Congratulations to **Naomi Mabini** and **Martha Ruiz**, who were married in South Lake Tahoe, Saturday, August 2, 2020.*

*For the 30 volunteers and all of the funds raised to provide **over 5,000 meals for UIY students** with a home cooked supper 6 days per week and a care package for the weekend. Meals were prepared by volunteer chefs in the Oliver Hall Kitchen and transported for pick-up at Tennyson High School HUSD, and for delivery in the Tennyson High School community & delivered to UIY homes in the Cherryland Elementary School community for the past 2 months. This program served as a bridge to invite UIY participation in California's Pandemic EBT program, which provides nutritious food for students without SS#s, for the coming year.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

For families affected by the Bay Area wildfires.

*For families in need of **affordable housing**. If you have a lead on a room, an apartment, or a house to rent, please contact Pastor Arlene.*

*For **Stephanie Andrade**, who had one cornea transplant on August 19 and is preparing for a second.*

*For **the family of Sue Brandon**, who died on Thursday as the result of a massive heart attack. Sue was the daughter of Barbara and Ted Wallis, and grew up at Eden.*

*For our **children and youth** as they adapt to new learning environments and especially for our high school and college seniors as they contemplate their next steps.*

*For all who are infected with and affected by **COVID-19**.*

*For **the family of Maria Cisneros**, who died on Friday afternoon, August 14, she had been receiving in-home hospice care for the past two weeks. Contributions to assist the family may be contributed through Church Center: Deacon's Maria Cisneros Family Fund, or mailed to the church. Please make checks payable to Eden UCC and write Cisneros Fund in the memo.*

*For **Theresa Collier** who is recovering from outpatient surgery, and preparing for a second outpatient surgery.*

*For **Kay Crosby**, who is experiencing some new health challenges.*

*For **the family of Lona Fryer**, who died on August 5, 2020. An outdoor memorial service involving immediate family members will be held on August 19, beginning at 2 p.m.*

*For our **first responders, health care workers, households in quarantine, and all other essential personnel** including those delivering groceries to homebound residents and teaching children online.*

*For our **homebound members and friends**.*

*For **leaders in our communities**, both local and national, to lead with integrity, siding with the most vulnerable.*

*For **Edith Sanchez's family members** who are grieving the death of her nephew.*

*For **Linda Sheppard** who will be having heart valve replacement surgery in the near future.*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Aug 23

10:00—10:45 am Worship | Online
10:30 — 11 am Children's Storytime | Online
11:00 — 12 noon Fellowship | Online

Monday, Aug 24

4:00 — 7:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online
7:00 — 8:30 pm English Language Bible Study | Online

Tuesday, Aug 25

10:00 — 12:00 pm Eden Crafters | Online
4:00 — 7:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online

Wednesday, Aug 26

10:30 — 11:30 pm Seekers Book Club | Online
1:30 — 4:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online

Thursday, Aug 27

6:00 — 8:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online
6:00 — 7:00 pm English & Spanish Learners | Duolingo
7:00 — 8:00 pm Spanish Language Bible Study | FB Group

Sunday, Aug 30

10:00—10:45 am Worship | Online
11:00 — 12 noon Fellowship | Online
7:00 — 7:30 pm Children's Storytime | Online

COMING ATTRACTIONS*

**All meetings online until further notice.*

Aug 24 Evening English Bible Study
Aug 26 Comida para Cherryland
Sept 6 Communion During Fellowship on Zoom
Sept 6 Roanoke Revival
Sept 7 Labor Day — Church Closed
Sept 8 Trustees
Sept 15 Council Meeting
Sept 20 Gen-Z: Faith & Films
Sept 28 ESLO Committee Meeting
Oct 16 GNO — Women's Fellowship on Third Fridays
Oct 30 Ghost Stories for Halloween
Nov 2 All Saints/Dia de los Muertos — Remembering Our Loved Ones



MISSION, VISION, & VALUES | What We Believe

MISSION STATEMENT | What are we about here and now?

The members of Eden Church worship God and strive to follow Christ's example by providing a welcoming and safe environment for all, seeking God's wisdom, growing spiritually, caring for each other, enriching our neighborhood, and sharing the good news of God's creative and unfolding work in the world.



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VISION STATEMENT | What do we want to become in the next 3 to 5 years?

The vision of Eden Church is to grow in spirit, fellowship, and number by offering many opportunities for spiritual growth; by becoming a more culturally diverse congregation; by strengthening our capacity to serve our neighbors, by caring for each other as Christ cares for us; by inviting others to be a part of our community of faith; and by working to transform individual lives and our community through the power of God's love in human action.

VALUES STATEMENTS | What are the ideals and behaviors that we need to express to fulfill our mission and realize our vision?

In order to fulfill our mission and realize our vision, Eden Church strives to embrace and express the following core values:

- Worship and spiritual practices that are both traditional and contemporary
- Religious education and spiritual practices that are grounded in a progressive theology
- Caring relationships that honor differences and foster unity and growth
- Enriching experiences for children and youth in our church and community
- Programs and partnerships that serve those in need while addressing the root causes of social problems
- Being a true sanctuary that nurtures and protects all participants, especially the most vulnerable among us

OFFICERS

Jana Aloo | Moderator
Jennifer Vetovec | Vice Moderator
Rev. Robert Parrish | Treasurer
Jan Bass | Associate Treasurer
Kim Shuss | Clerk

OFFICE HOURS

Monday -- Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm
(After hours, please call for appointment)
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