

Season After Pentecost



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS

Sept 27, 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

17TH 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 | All Creatures of Our God and King |
Francis of Assisi/Geistliche Kirchengesang | Dr. Jessie Lo**

WELCOME & UPDATE | Rev. Pepper Swanson

BIBLE READING | [Exodus 17:1-16](#) | [[Español](#)] | Rev. Rob Parrish

MESSAGE | “Are We with God?” | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

HYMN | I Need You Every Hour | No. 517 | Dr. Jessie Lo

OUR PRAYERS | Joys & Concerns | Rev. Marvin Lance Wisner
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](#) | Rob



OFFERTORY | People Need the Lord | McHugh/Nelson | Jessie Lo

BLESSING | Pastor Arlene

CLOSING MUSIC | Ancient of Days | Sadler/Harvill | Dr. Jessie Lo

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister

Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister & Video Editor

Rev. Marvin Lance Wisner, Designated Term Associate Minister

Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director

Rev. Rob Parrish, Liturgist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neighbors in Need Offering -- UCC Special Offering for American Indians and Justice & Witness Ministries: Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

Eden Church will celebrate the Neighbors in Need Offering on **Sunday, Oct 4** (World Communion Sunday). To give online, go to [Donate](#) and use the drop down menu to select Neighbors in Need. For more information, please contact Keith Smith, Chair of Stewardship.

World Communion Sunday: Celebrate Communion with us (and the worldwide Christian community) on **Sunday, Oct 4 at 11 am** during our online Fellowship time. We invite you to make it an international celebration by bringing the bread of culture other than your own. Consider tortillas, pita bread, rice crackers, or any other family favorite. And, don't forget wine or juice for the entire family.

New: Music Weekly Online Meeting on Fridays at 3pm - BRING YOUR VOICE AND FEEL THE SPIRIT!

Music offers great comfort and spiritual support in times good and bad. Starting September 18th, Eden UCC is offering online music meetings every Friday at 3pm (3-4), led by Music Director Dr. Jessie Lo. There will be voice warm up, hymn sing, a variety of song selections, and a music Q&A. Participants have the option of joining the music meetings with or without participating in the monthly recorded Anthem musical offering.

Everyone - all levels & all ages - is invited to join!

Please email the Music Director, Dr. Jessie Lo, at jessie@edenucc.com to get the Zoom link and the music materials required for the music meeting.

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.

GNO — Women's Fellowship: Mark your calendars for Friday, Oct 16 at 7:30 pm for Girls Night Out, a Women's Fellowship zoom event. Join us to share your joys, concerns, and what's going on in your life. Contact Pastor Pepper or Pat Payne for more information.

Remember to Use the Dropdown Fund Selector: A quick reminder that when you make a digital gift through Planning Center, either online or through the app, use the drop down menu to select your fund designation for your gift. For those who pledge, please use the fund called My Pledge. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Associate Treasurer Jan Bass at jan@sebastian9.com.

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 EUCC_ to find our entire line-up of no-repeat worship services since March.

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' new book **Behind the Beautiful Forevers** by Katherine Boo. You are welcome to join us this Wednesday as we begin our discussion.

Donations are being accepted for the Deacon's Fund "COVID-19 Relief." To make a tax deductible, secure, online donation click [here](#) and choose "COVID-19 Relief" 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 "COVID-19 Relief" in the memo line. These costs are solely supported by donations from members and friends (not the church's annual budget).

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

"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 30** 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

Congratulations to **Anthony Crans** on his engagement and his approach to marriage.

Congratulations to **Liam Vetovec**, who received his Fifth Grade Bible from Eden Church during Zoom Fellowship last Sunday! Eden Church has been presenting Bibles to our church school children when they enter 5th Grade and to our teens when they begin Confirmation classes.

Assemblymember Bill Quirk named **Eden United Church of Christ “Nonprofit of the Year”** for California Assembly District 20.

A donor-advised fund of the **East Bay Community Foundation** has notified us that they will be investing **\$55,000** into our **Newcomer Navigation Center!**

Eden Church has been awarded a **\$10,000 COVID-19 Relief Community Grant** from **East Bay Community Energy**. Half will be directed to our food security ministries and half to Eden Area Rent Relief.

Eden Township Health District provided Eden Church with another 2,000 N-95 surgical masks to share with our volunteers and Comida para Cherryland participants.

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 support** for the Eden Area.

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 ChYLIs addressed the Board during public comments and advocated for passage of the proposal.

Eden Church has raised and is sharing **\$83,150** (to date) in **rent & utility relief stipends** with residents in Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview, Hayward Acres, and San Lorenzo, through generous gifts from the **East Bay Community Foundation** (\$25,000), **Alameda County First Five** (\$12,500), **Eden Church Members & Friends** (\$15,650), **The San Francisco Foundation** (\$10,000), and **United Way of the Bay Area** (\$5,000). We have also shared \$10,000 in emergency relief funds with Strobridge Elementary School Families through a grant from the **Strobridge Elementary School PTA**.

*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 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 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 **Jana Aloo's family** in Wisconsin, especially her nephew, his girlfriend, and her sister-in-law who are recovering from COVID, and for her father who is having hip replacement surgery on Sept 28.*

*For everyone affected by the **wildfires**.*

*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**, especially **Ken & Pat Parrish**, Rob Parrish's oldest brother and sister-in-law, who are currently hospitalized in Florida. Ken has the virus and Pat has a cardiac blockage.*

*For **Theresa Collier** who is recovering from her second outpatient surgery this summer.*

*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 **Linda Sheppard** who is going through some testing in preparation for heart valve replacement surgery in the near future.*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Sept 27

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

Monday, Sept 28

1:00 — 2:00 pm English Language Bible Study | Online
4:00 — 7:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online
7:00 — 8:30 pm ESLO Committee Meeting | Online

Tuesday, Sept 29

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

Wednesday, Sept 30

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

Thursday, Oct 1

6:00 — 8:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online

Sunday, Oct 4 — *World Communion Sunday & Neighbors in Need Offering*

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

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Sept 28 ESLO Committee Meeting
Oct 2 First Fridays: Young-ish Adults
Oct 5 English Bible Study — Evening Class
Oct 16 GNO — Women's Fellowship on Third Fridays
Oct 18 Gen-Z Regroup
Oct 19 English Bible Study — Evening Class
Oct 24 NCNC UCC Annual Gathering
Oct 25 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
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 Vetrovec | 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)
Phone: 510-582-9533
Fax: 510-200-9635
Email: office@edenucc.com
Website: www.edenucc.com