

Season After Pentecost



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS

Nov 15, 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

23RD 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 | For the Fruit of All Creation | No. 425

WELCOME & UPDATE | Rev. Pepper Swanson

BIBLE READING | [Matt. 25:14-30](#) | [\[Español\]](#) | Herb Graw

MESSAGE | “Go Big or Go Home!” | Rev. Dr. Arlene Nehring

HYMN | Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ | No. 347 (v.1) | Mary Bradford

OUR PRAYERS | Joys & Concerns | Rev. Marvin Wisner

Submit your prayers digitally to the clergy. Digital prayer requests are sent directly to the pastors and remain confidential. You may also share your prayer requests with others during our Fellowship time at 11 am.

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](#) | Rev. Pepper Swanson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM | Living the Jubilee | Eden Choir



BLESSING | Pastor Arlene

CLOSING MUSIC | Come, O Thankful People, Come | No. 422

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

Herb Graw, Liturgist

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Eden Area Scholarship Application** deadline is **TODAY**, Sunday, **Nov 15**, at noon. Click [here](#) to apply

Women's Fellowship: The next Women's Fellowship event will be **Friday, Nov 20 at 7:30 pm**. Hope you can join us for an evening of online fun and thanksgiving.

DIY Christmas Wreath Display: From **Sunday, Nov 29 (the First Sunday in Advent)** until **Sunday, Dec 27**, there will be a display of DIY Christmas wreaths made from recycled & upcycled materials. You are invited to make a wreath from what you have on hand and attach it to the Tot Lot fence with wire that will be in place on **Nov 29**. Wire wreath forms and weather-proof ribbon is available for your use. Please use only materials that you no longer want or need as weather and foot traffic will prevent the wreath's return. We'd love a photo of you and your wreath as you put it in place. Contact [Pastor Pepper](#) for a wire wreath form, ribbon, and more information.

Christmas Pageant: Yes, Virginia, there **will be** a Christmas Pageant this year. The Pageant will be **Sunday, Dec 13**. The Pageant will be pre-recorded and performers of all ages will take their bows and receive your applause during Fellowship at **11 am**.

Advent/Christmas Party: Our family-friendly Advent/Christmas Party will be **Friday, Dec 18 at 7:30 pm** on Zoom. Mark your calendars now for an evening of "Advent-ure" with an Ornament Contest, Ugly Sweater/Bathrobe Fashion Show, Christmas Pageant Outtakes, Carol Singing, Christmas cookies, and, of course, Christmas stories and poems.

ANNOUNCEMENTS —Ongoing Events

Crafters Announce Nov Auction: *Just in time for your holiday shopping, the Eden Crafters are kicking off the November edition of their auction of handmade items. This month: crocheted loveys, oven mitts, stuffed animals, and wreaths and several unique and priceless quilts are being offered. To check out all the items, go to this [link](#). The Nov Auction ends **Friday, Nov 20 at 5 pm**. As you place your bids, please remember auction proceeds benefit Comida para Cherryland, our just-in-time food bank serving 300 families in the Eden Area.*

Eden Area Scholarship Application & Deadline: *The Eden Area Scholarship Application deadline is TODAY, Sunday, **Nov 15**, at noon, please click [here](#).*

This new scholarship program is offered by the Eden Area Foundation and Eden United Church of Christ to recognize and encourage young people who are pursuing higher education and who have a strong record of community service. Scholarships totalling at least \$20,000 will be awarded to 10 or more students in 2021. Each awardee will receive up to \$2,000, which may be used for tuition, books and supplies, a personal laptop, and/or room and board.

Awardees must live in the Eden Area, be enrolled in an accredited college or university, and complete an Eden Area Scholarship application. Priority will be given to students who are active in the life of Eden United Church of Christ and/or alumni/ae of the Cherryland Youth Leadership Institute.

New Eden UCC Logo Apparel Store: Looking for the perfect polo, vest, or jacket to wear as you volunteer or participate in outreach events for Eden Church? How about replacing that broken coffee cup? Or buying a gift for a hard-working employee? Look no further than Eden's new [Lands End business storefront](#) where you can select your item, in your size, in your color, and apply either a dark or light rainbow logo. Bonus: you can also change thread color on either logo! Please be sure to notice that some promotional items (like cups) may require large quantity purchase. Just another reason to tell a friend about Eden Church. To get started click this [link](#). If you have questions, contact [Pastor Pepper](#).

COVID-19 Testing @ Eden: Eden Church, in collaboration with AC Public Health & AC Environmental Health, CORE Response, Fulgent, HealthVanna, La Familia, My Eden Voice, Padres Unidos de Cherryland, and Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center, will open a free COVID-19 Testing Site on the West Side Parking Lot, on the Eden Church Campus, **on Fridays from 3 to 7 pm & on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm**. The public is welcome. To schedule a free COVID-19 testing appointment at Eden Church, click on this [link](#). To receive a call-back and help over the phone in making an appointment, please call this number: Selena Perez, our Newcomer Coordinator & an Eden Testing Site Health Navigator, will assist you in English or Spanish: **408-409-4671**.

Fundraising Challenge for Scholarships for Eden Area College Students: The Eden Area Foundation & Eden Church has launched a scholarship program totalling \$20,000 this month to recognize and encourage young people who are going on to higher education and who have a strong record of community service. College students in the Eden Area who have been active in the ChYLI program and/or the congregation will be given priority for the awards.

If you are a supporter of Eden Area youth or a fan of higher education as a path to the future, we hope you will consider helping us expand the number of scholarships we will be able to make available this November. Our fundraising goal is to double the amount provided by the Eden Area Foundation! No contribution is too small (or large!). To make a contribution today, click [here](#) and use the dropdown menu to select Eden Area Scholarship.

Music Weekly Online on Fridays at 3 pm - BRING YOUR VOICE & 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 3 pm (3 to 4), led by Music Director Dr. Jessie Lo. There will be a 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: Please join us online at 10:15 am on Sunday, immediately prior to Fellowship for show & tell, a story about People in the Bible or a storybook touching on Christian themes, and Children's Prayers. Contact [Pastor Pepper](#) for more information.

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 will begin discussion of their new book, **Wilding: The Return of Nature to British Farm** by Isabel Tree on Wed, Nov 11.

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, [Denise Cuevas](#).

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.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS — Opportunities to Give or Serve

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.

"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](#).

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Services Available in Our Community

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

JOYS

Congratulations to **Anthony Crans** on his engagement approach to marriage. Anthony is the son of Nora and Jerry Crans. He grew up at Eden Church and now lives and works in Sacramento, where he is engaged in political organizing.

Rhianna Fernanda Martínez-Hernández, whom Eden Church has been accompanying since June 2019, was granted asylum in US Immigration on Thursday, November 5, 2020!

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.

For **Linda Sheppard** is home recovering from heart valve replacement surgery and the insertion of two new stents and has a great support system in place.

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 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 **Kay Crosby**, who is living with several health challenges.

For **Deivy Flores' parents**, who have been evacuated from their ruined home and separated from each other as a result of Hurricane Eta's flooding in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

For **Betty Livesy**, who has experienced some health episodes and has been a patient at Kaiser Walnut Creek for about three weeks this past month. She has been rehabbing in the skilled nursing unit at Stoneridge Creek in Pleasanton, since Wednesday. Now would be a great time to call Betty (and Dan) since Betty has to quarantine for two weeks, as a COVID-19 precaution, as part of her return to their retirement community. Please reach out to Dan or Pastor Arlene to obtain Betty's temporary phone and room numbers. We can't visit in person, but we can call and send cards.

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 **Pam Reuling's** loved ones, including the family that she and Ed created, and their family of choice. Pam died at her daughter Anne's home on Oct 29, where she was receiving Hospice care.

For **Charlie Smith**, who is recovering from a fall at home.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Nov 15

10:00—10:45 am Worship | Online
10:15 — 11:00 am Children's Storytime | Online
11:00 — 12 noon Fellowship | Online

Monday, Nov 16

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

Tuesday, Nov 17

10:00 — 12:00 pm Eden Crafters | Online
4:30 — 7:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online

Wednesday, Nov 18

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

Thursday, Nov 19

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

Friday, Nov 20

3:00 — 4:00 pm Music Program | Online
3:00 — 7:00 pm COVID-19 Testing Site Open | Pioneer Chapel Parking Lot

Saturday, Nov 21

10:00 — 2:00 pm COVID-19 Testing Site Open | Pioneer Chapel Parking Lot

Sunday, Nov 22

10:00—10:45 am Worship | Online
10:15 — 11:00 am Children's Storytime | Online
11:00 — 12 noon Fellowship | Online

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Nov 15 Eden Area Scholarship Deadline, 12 noon
Nov 20 Girls' Night Out: Women's Fellowship
Nov 26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday — Campus Closed
Nov 29 First Sunday in Advent
Dec 6 Second Sunday in Advent
Dec 13 Third Sunday in Advent — Christmas Pageant
Dec 18 Advent/Christmas Party
Dec 20 Fourth Sunday in Advent
Dec 24 Christmas Eve



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
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Website: www.edenucc.com