

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS
May 16, 2021 | [WORSHIP VIDEO](#)

Today's hashtag is: #EdenUCC #BendtheCurve

Eden United Church of Christ is an **LGBTQ 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.

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 remember to mute devices. And, thank you for bringing no food or beverages into the Sanctuary other than sacramental elements and bottled water.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)

OPENING MUSIC | Rêverie | Claude Debussy | Jessie Lo

WELCOME | Rev. Marvin Wiser

BIBLE READING | [Acts 1:15-17, 21-26](#) | Sandy Nachand

SERMON | “Succession Planning” | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

HYMN | Pues si vivimos (In All Our Living) in Spanish, English & Mandarin | No. 499 | Jessie Lo

OUR PRAYERS: JOYS & CONCERNS | Rev. Pepper Swanson

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT | “Peace & Patience” | Sandy

OFFERTORY | God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (v.1-2) | NCH No. 565

BLESSING | Pastor Arlene

POSTLUDE | Prelude Op. 28 No. 15 in D-flat Major | F. Chopin | Jessie Lo

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister

Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister

Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser, Designated Term Associate Minister

Nadia Tavera, Minister In Training

Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director

Sandy Nachand, Liturgist

Do you have a graduate in your family? Eden Church would like to recognize all our students who are completing programs of study on **Sunday, Jun 6** at our Bravo! celebration during Online Fellowship. Please send their name, the name of their school and their degree, their future plans, and a photo of the graduate to any of our pastors.



“GIFTED BY GOD” — Our 2021 Stewardship Theme

Dear Members and Friends,

How in the world did we ever make it through the last 14 months? With the horizon looking a little brighter, it's a good time to reflect on how we survived -- emotionally and physically -- the unprecedented lockdowns, closures, and restrictions of this global pandemic.

The author Annie Lamott recently credited what her friend called "lunch money" faith -- those times in life when you are given just enough faith to make it through whatever horrible thing is going down. Many in our community -- friends and family -- report that just when all seemed hopeless in the last year, they were mysteriously given just enough hope, just enough patience, just enough faith, and in some cases, just enough food or assistance to help them through. While we can (and do) credit science and the government for helping us through the worst, we also give thanks for those inexplicable moments of love, joy (yes, joy), patience, peace, faith and generosity that also have carried us, especially emotionally, through the worst of the last year.

When the church was first formed, way back in the first century, the apostles promised the believers that God would pour out the Holy Spirit on them and that the gifts of the Spirit would be those qualities and characteristics that would help them endure persecution, judgment, and the worst the world had to offer. Two thousand years later, Christians remember those gifts of the Spirit and celebrate that we are equipped not just to endure, but to thrive and to shine and to let our Spirit be a blessing to everyone around us.

This year's Stewardship theme is "Gifted by God," and the Eden Stewardship Team invites you not just to remember but to rejoice in the gifts you have been given, small and large, over this last year. In the coming weeks there will be "Mission Moments for Stewardship" filmed by members of Eden and included during the broadcast of Sunday worship. The Stewardship Team hopes these "moments" will serve as joyful reminders of the many ways we have been gifted by God and the Spirit.

*For your pledge of treasure, we ask you to continue your 2021-2022 pledge at the same level as last year's pledge or above if you are able. It is also important to give thought about your pledge of talent and time in support of the mission of Eden Church. Our goal is to continue to share the gifts of the Spirit through the support and growth of all of Eden's ministries. **Please complete [our fillable pdf Pledge Form](#) and return it to Associate Treasurer Jan Bass by Sunday, May 23.** For more information on pledging, including frequently asked questions and printable "I Pledge" signs, please see [last week's e-chimes](#).*

*We're also pleased to share that pledgers who complete and return their 2021-2022 pledge form by May 23 will be entered into a **gift raffle** featuring gifts donated by our small group ministries. Names will be drawn at our Sunday Fellowship at 11 am.*

*Sincerely,
Keith Smith, Chair
Stewardship Committee*

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events

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. To get started click this [link](#). If you have questions, contact [Pastor Pepper](#).

COVID-19 Testing @ Eden: The testing center at Eden UCC closed on Saturday, Apr 10. The testing center at 20095 Mission Blvd remains open. To make an appointment at this site, click [here](#).

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 10:30 am Wednesday Seekers are just starting *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stephanson. A second Seekers group, which has a variable schedule, recently completed their read of **Eat Joy**. Be in touch with Pastor Pepper if you are interested in participating in either group.

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](#). Due to the impact of the pandemic on our community's educational life, the CCC will **remain virtually OPEN** throughout the winter break to continue to help students catch up and remain on track with their classes, and to assist residents in Unincorporated Alameda County apply for rent relief.

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

Mary and Herb Graw have moved to Stoneridge Creek Retirement Community in Pleasanton. Eden Church has been able to co-sponsor a variety of **COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics** so that **over 1000 clients** have been vaccinated at our sites, and many others have been provided with outreach, education, registration and navigation services. These three vaccination clinics have been operated with TVHC at EUCC on April 17, Curative at Tennyson High School for UIY & CMF students and their caregivers on April 24, and Haller's Pharmacy at Eden UCC on April 28.

Lacy and Will Mathews and their children Magdalena and Isaiah have recently purchased and moved into their first home in Fairfield, CA.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has approved a resolution to provide **\$65M in rent relief** for tenants who have been severely impacted economically by the pandemic.

Centro Legal has extended a **\$153,600** contract to Eden Church to provide multilingual, paralegal services for Alameda County residents seeking rent and utility relief through the [County's Emergency Rent Assistance Program](#).

After six years of serving as Pastor of [Desert Dove Christian Church](#), in Tucson, AZ, **Pastor Pedro Ramos Goycolea** has accepted a call to serve as pastor of [Comunidad Limen Christian Church](#), which is a new venture of the Disciples of Christ in the Arizona Region.

Over \$4,000 was raised for **Eden Area Scholarships** by Church members and friends of the Church. This amount was matched by generous donor **Dianne Dorn**, making a total of over \$8,000 raised since April 18. With support from the Eden Area Foundation, about \$16,000 in scholarships will be awarded this June.

Baby Francella arrived May 10, 2021 and was the best Mother's Day gift ever for her mom, Edith Sánchez, and dad, Osvoldo Campos. The jury is still out on her siblings' view of all this and more.

Our envisioned **Transitional Age Youth Shelter**, which will be operated by Covenant House California at the SIAC site owned by Hayward Unified School District, has been chosen as one of 10 finalist organizations under consideration for federal funding by the United States Congress.

PRAYER CONCERNS

*For **Joyce Bass**, who has been recovering from hip surgery and who recently moved to a rehab facility.*

*For all of our **Contact Tracers** who are contacting community members testing positive for COVID-19, assisting them with Isolation and Quarantine protocols and local resources.*

*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 **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 **Sally Kusalo**, who is recovering from a recent cardiac procedure.*

*For **the family of Erik Thom**, especially his wife, Michelle, and children, Collin and Kate. Erik died on Friday, March 12. He was one of Sandra Nachand's sons-in-law. A private memorial service will be held on May 22.*

*For **Charlie Smith**, who is in a rehab hospital in Santa Clara.*

*For **Kimberly Victorio**, who is recovering from a broken foot and surgery.*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 16

10:00—10:30 am Worship | Video Link
 10:30 — 11:00 am Children's Storytime | Online
 11:00 — 12:00 pm Fellowship | Online

Monday, May 17

1:00 — 2:00 pm Bible Study | Online
 4:00 — 7:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online
 7:30 — 9:00 pm Evening Bible Study | Online

Tuesday, May 18

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

Wednesday, May 19

10:30 — 11:30 pm Seekers | Online
 1:30 — 4:00 pm Comida para Cherryland | Online
 1:30 — 4:00 pm Cherryland Computer Café | Online

Thursday, May 20

6:00 — 8:00 pm Estudio Biblico | Online

Friday, May 21

3:00 — 4:00 pm Eden Choir Practice | Online

Sunday, May 23 — Pledge Dedication Sunday

10:00—10:30 am Worship | Video Link
 10:30 — 11:00 am Children's Storytime | Online
 11:00 — 12:00 pm Fellowship & Gift Raffle | Online



COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 17	Evening Bible Study	Jun 8	Council Meeting
May 23	Pentecost & Pledge Dedication	Jun 9	Comida para Cherryland
May 26	Comida para Cherryland	Jun 13	Church Budget Info Session
May 31	Memorial Day - Campus Closed	Jun 23	Comida para Cherryland
Jun 1	Trustees	Jun 27	156th Congregational Meeting
Jun 6	Bravo! Sunday	Jul 4	Independence Day
		Jul 5	Independence Day Observed — Campus Closed

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.



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

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