

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



**WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS**  
Oct 10, 2021 | [WORSHIP VIDEO](#)

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.



## **20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)**

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

**OPENING MUSIC | Largo from the Opera Xerxes | Joseph Haydn | Jessie Lo**

**WELCOME | Pastor Arlene**

**BIBLE READING | Genesis 2:18-24 | [Español](#) | Dave Wallace**

**SERMON | “Our Empathetic God” | Pastor Pepper**

**HYMN | My Shepherd Is The Living God | T. Sternhold / I. Watts | NCH No. 247 (v.1 & 3) | Ken Rawdon**

**OUR PRAYERS: JOYS & CONCERNS | Pastor Marvin**

**OFFERING INVITATION | Dave Wallace**

**OFFERTORY | Waltz Op. 39 in A-flat Major | Johannes Brahms | Jessie Lo**

**BLESSING | Pastor Pepper**

**POSTLUDE | An Important Event | Robert Schumann | Jessie Lo**

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### **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, Designated Term Assistant Minister*

*Ken Rawdon, Music Director*

*Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Pianist*

*Dave Wallace, Liturgist*



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events**

**Eden Crafters Auction is Live!** The Eden Crafters have been hard at work this fall preparing for the second annual Eden Online Fall Auction. Beginning last Friday, Oct 1, and running through Friday, Oct 22, you'll be able to bid on many beautiful, fun, and useful handmade items, all for a good cause. The Crafters have set a goal of raising \$500 for Eden's Comida para Cherryland, and they need your generous bids to meet — or exceed — the goal.

Here's how the online auction works: this [link](#) will take you to the auction. You'll need to create an account (or log in to your existing account). Once logged on, you can bid for any item listed, starting at 10:00 am on Oct 1. If your bid is the winning one at the close of the auction, you will be notified. Some items may have a Buy It Now option (but as this is a fundraiser, we encourage you to spend generously!). You will write a check to Eden UCC for your winning auction items, and we'll connect with you about getting them to you. Out-of-town bidders are welcome, but we'll ask you to include a postage fee in your check to cover shipping costs. Happy bidding!

The **Neighbors in Need** special mission offering, one of the five denomination-wide special offerings of the United Church of Christ was received on Oct 3, but offering will be accepted until the end of this month.

In 2021, the Neighbors in Need (NIN) "Unfailing Love" offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities. 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 provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

To donate to Neighbors in Need, head to the [EUCC giving portal](#) and use the drop-down menu to designate your donation for Neighbors in Need. You may also snail-mail a check to the church office; note "Neighbors in Need" in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

**English Language Bible Study:** The **12:45 pm Monday Bible Study** resumed on Aug 9 on Zoom with our study of the Gospel of Luke. The **Evening Bible Study** meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings at 7 pm in the Church Courtyard and have just started their discussion of Sarah Rudin's **Paul Among the People**. The next meeting is **Monday, Oct 11** at 7 pm. To join either study, send an email to [Pastor Pepper](#).

**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.

**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](#).

**COVID-19 Testing** at 20095 Mission Blvd remains open. To make an appointment at this site, click [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:** Seekers meet at 10:30 am every Wednesday. We're starting a new book on Oct 13: **Paul Among the People: The Apostle Reinterpreted and Reimagined in His Own Time** by Sarah Ruden. Join us as we ask the question: in those Pauline passage that seem homophobic and anti-women to us, what did Paul really mean?

**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 website's 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! Church Center now allows SMS text messaging, so we are transitioning from Textedly to Church Center (by Planning Center) for text messaging services to be utilized for urgent updates. No action is needed on your part other than to keep your mobile number and carrier updated in your Church Center profile section. Thanks for making sure we're always connected!

## **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](mailto: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**

**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.\** To inquire about meal delivery service in Castro Valley, Hayward, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, or Oakland, call 510-582-1263. For food assistance in other areas of Alameda County-- or for any other senior services-- call the county's info line for Senior Information & Assistance at 1-800-510-2020 or 510-577-3530.

### **JOYS**

**Pastor Arlene & Stephanie** are celebrating 29 years of love and life together, and the 13th anniversary of their California wedding, Monday, Oct 11, 2021.

**Pastor Arlene** was presented with the John N. Poppas Humanitarian Award by Barbara Halliday, Mayor of the City of Hayward & Richard Valle, Alameda County District 2 Supervisor at the "Hearts of Hayward" Volunteer Recognition on Tues, Oct 5.

**Anthony Crans & Juliana Fehrenbacher** were married on Sunday, Sep 18, 2021 in an outdoor ceremony at Scribner Bend Vineyards, near Sacramento. Anthony is an associate member of Eden Church, and the son of Nora and Jerry Crans. He was baptized and confirmed at Eden Church, and is a CVHS and UC Davis graduate. He and his bride, Juliana, have made their home in Sacramento, where he works as a labor relations professional, and she is a practicing attorney employed by the State of California. Juliana is the daughter of Cynthia & Dr. George Fehrenbacher.

The indomitable **Kay Crosby** completed her final round of chemotherapy on Monday, Sep 27, 2021!

**Molly Pemberton Davis & Jonathan Davis**, just announced that they are expecting their second child in Mar 2022. Big brother, Max, and M&D are very excited.

**Sheila Hardy** is recovering well from heart transplant surgery performed at Stanford on Sunday, May 30. She came home from the hospital on Jun 11, 2021!

**Team EUCC** has, to date, helped **403 Alameda County families** successfully obtain rent relief through the Alameda County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).

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.

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

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

Surviving loved ones of the **4.5 million+** who have succumbed to COVID-19.

**Betty Livesay** died at The Orchards in Rancho Mission Viejo on Aug 22, 2021 at the age of 86. A celebration of her life will be held over Zoom on Sunday, Oct 17 at 2 pm. Her ashes will be scattered over the Pacific by the Neptune Society. Cards and calls to the family are appreciated. Please reach out to Pastor Arlene or Marianne Lim at the church office for contact information if needed.

**Bill D'Anjou, Sr.** is home recovering from a head injury and fall after a dash through Eden Medical Center this past week two weeks ago.

**Vicente Flores** began chemotherapy treatment for lung cancer on August 25, 2021.

The Bay Area is now out of our **summer Delta surge of the COVID-19 Virus**, as we are now investigating less than 200 cases per day. We still pray for those in isolation and for Public Health officials preparing for the winter surge.

**Janna Lusschen** is at home recovering from a fall and orthopedic surgery, and experiencing some new health challenges.

Our good neighbor and interfaith friend, **Swami Mangalanandaji**, left for her heavenly abode on Tue, Sept 21. She did Seva the last 32 years serving humanity through Badarikashrama. At the age of 33 she joined the ashrama. From 1987 to 1997, she worked tirelessly in the San Leandro Temple, and then spent 22 years serving Badarikashrama's India Center, a remote village in Madihalli, to serve the poor and needy.

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, Oct 10

10:00—11:00 am      Worship | Video Link  
10:30—11:00 am      Children's Storytime | Online  
12:00—1:00 pm      Choir Rehearsal | Courtyard

### Monday, Oct 11

12:45—1:45 pm      Bible Study | Online  
7:00 — 8:30 pm      Evening Bible Study | Courtyard

### Tuesday, Oct 12

10:00—12:00 pm      Eden Crafters | Online  
6:00—7:00 pm      Estudio Bíblico | Online  
7:00 — 8:30 pm      Council | Online

### Wednesday, Oct 13

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

### Sunday, Oct 17

10:00—10:30 am      Worship | Video Link  
10:30—11:00 am      Children's Storytime | Online  
11:00—12:00 noon      Fellowship | Online  
12:00—1:00 pm      Choir rehearsal  
2:00 — 3:00 pm      Betty Livesay's Memorial | Online

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Oct 12    *Church Council Meeting (Zoom)*  
Oct 13    *Comida para Cherryland (OH Parking Lot)*  
Oct 18    *ESLO Meeting (Zoom)*  
Oct 19    *Board of Trustees Meeting (changed from Oct 5) (Zoom)*  
Oct 20    *EAF Board Meeting (Zoom)*  
Oct 27    *Comida para Cherryland (OH Parking Lot)*  
Oct 31    *Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting (Zoom)*  
Nov 7    *All Saints Sunday, Ofrenda para la Comunidad (Sanctuary Plaza)*  
          *"Watch Party" Worship & Holy Communion*  
Nov 25    *Thanksgiving Day (Eden Church Campus Closed)*  
Nov 26    *Eden Church Campus Holiday*  
Nov 28    *First Sunday in Advent (Zoom)*



# 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

Jennifer Vetrovec | Moderator  
Carlos Londoño | 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](mailto:office@edenucc.com)  
Website: [www.edenucc.com](http://www.edenucc.com)