

## SEASON AFTER PENTECOST



**WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS**

**Oct 31, 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.

*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.*



## **23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)**

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**OPENING MUSIC | Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana* |  
Pietro Mascagni | Jessie Lo**

**WELCOME | Pastor Marvin Lance Wiser**

**BIBLE READING | [Ruth 1:1-18](#) | [Español](#) | Jan Bass**

**SERMON | “Family of Choice” | Pastor Arlene K. Nehring**

**CONGREGATIONAL HYMN | Go, My Children, with My Blessing |  
J.J. Vajda | *NCH* No. 82 (vs. 1 & 2)**

**OUR PRAYERS: JOYS & CONCERNS | Pastor Pepper Swanson**

**OFFERING INVITATION | Jan Bass**

**OFFERTORY | The Ash Grove | Old Welsh Air | Jessie Lo**

**BLESSING | Pastor Arlene**

**POSTLUDE | Toccata & Fugue in D Minor BWV 565 | J.S. Bach | 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*

*Jan Bass, Liturgist*



## **CALL TO SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.**

The Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting will be held via Zoom on **TODAY (Sunday, Oct 31) at 11 am**. This meeting is called by the Church Council in accordance with the Church bylaws. The meeting purpose is to receive a report from the Eden Area Foundation (EAF) Board of Directors regarding the 2022 grants. Guests are welcome and members are expected. For more information, contact Moderator Jennifer Vetrovec or Pastor Arlene. **Please register at this [link](#) to receive the Zoom link.** (The meeting follows Children's Storytime on a separate Zoom link. If you are attending Children's Storytime, please leave the Zoom at 11 am and rejoin at the Congregational Meeting Zoom link.)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS — Upcoming Events**

**Pumpkin Carving and Decorating Photo Contest:** Entries into our Jack O'Lantern photo contest can be seen in today's worship video and will be "judged" during Children's Storytime today. Winners will be announced at 11 am during the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting.

## **All Saints/Dia de los Muertos**

There is now an outdoor **Ofrenda (Memory Table)** by the Church's front doors at the Main (Sanctuary) Entrance, lovingly built by our Compañeras Ministry leaders. Drop by and post a copy of your loved one's image or email the image to our Office Manager [Marianne Lim](#) to print and post for you.

On **Tuesday, Nov 2**, Spanish Bible Study will host a prayer time at **6 pm** at the Ofrenda. Candles will be available so participants can say a prayer or share a concern.

On **Sunday, Nov 7**, we will remember those members, family, and friends who have passed away in the last year in both our Worship video and at our in-person Worship Watch & Holy Communion in the Courtyard at Church, beginning at 10 am. Holy Communion will also be offered during Zoom Fellowship at 11 am. If you would like a photo of your loved one included in our video, please send a jpg and their name to [Pastor Pepper](#).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events**

**English Language Bible Study:** The **12:45 pm Monday Bible Study** is beginning a new study of the letters written by the Apostle Paul. First up, a Letter

to the Galatians. 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, Nov 8** at 7 pm. To join either study, send an email to [Pastor Pepper](#).

**Children's Storytime:** Please join us online at 10:30 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 started 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**

**Save the Date: Helping Hands 2 Virtual Concert:** On Sunday, Dec 5 at 3 pm, there will be a fundraiser to support wildfire victims in Northern California. We are all aware of the devastation that has been caused by the wildfires up north. Over 831,000 acres of land has been destroyed, including over 42,000 people being evacuated from their homes. Due to climate change and a two-year drought, the fires are worse and more intense this year. You can help in four ways:

- You can purchase tickets for the concert through [Eventbrite](#).
- If you can't attend the virtual concert, you can make a direct donation on the [NCNC website](#) and choose "Disaster Relief".
- If you would like to participate in the concert, please contact [Dick Hom](#)
- Please share this information with your church, your association, family, friends, neighbors, etc. The more who know, the more we can help those in need.

**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** 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 Oct 5.

**Gio Nicholas-Fernandez** earned his black belt in karate this past week.

**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, and celebrated her 68th birthday this past week.

Congratulations to **John Honerkamp & Jessica Shimmin** on the purchase of their new home in Alameda. They moved their home earlier this month, but are not planning a change of school or church.

Eden’s own **Karen Victorio** was recognized by Hayward City Councilmember Francisco Zermeno as his Hayward Youth of the Month for October 2021, in recognition of her significant community service record and her artistic gifts as exemplified in the creation of Eden’s COVID-19 Lotoria game. Karen is an

*animation major at Chico State, the daughter of **Maria del Consuelo Saldate-Victorio Arellano**, and sister of Jonny, Kimberly, Lacy, and Ariadni Victorio.*

***Team EUCC** has, to date, helped **464 Alameda County families** successfully obtain rent relief through the Alameda County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), including one of the families in our Accompaniment Ministry, who was profoundly affected by COVID-19, and whose landlord received \$11,000 in rent and utilities relief.*

*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.*

***Afghan Refugees** who are moving into our community and country, and for the many thousands left behind who are living under the oppression of the Taliban.*

*Surviving loved ones of the nearly **5 million** who have succumbed to COVID-19.*

*This past week, **Vicente Flores** completed chemotherapy treatments for lung cancer, which began 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.*

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### **Sunday, Oct 31 - Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting**

10:00—10:30 am	Worship   Video Link
10:30—11:00 am	Children's Storytime   Zoom
11:00—12:00 noon	Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting   Zoom
12:00—1:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal   Choir Room & Zoom

### **Monday, Nov 1**

12:45—1:45 pm	Bible Study   Online
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### **Tuesday, Nov 2**

10:00—12:00 pm	Eden Crafters   Zoom
6:00—7:00 pm	Estudio Bíblico   Ofrenda on Plaza
7:00—9:00 pm	Trustees Meeting   Online

### **Wednesday, Nov 3**

10:30—11:30 am	Seekers   Zoom
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### **Sunday, Nov 7 — All Saints / Dia de los Muertos Sunday**

10:00—10:30 am	Worship & Holy Communion   Video Link & Plaza
10:30—11:00 am	Children's Storytime   Zoom
11:00—12:00 noon	Fellowship   Zoom & Plaza
12:00—1:00 pm	Choir rehearsal   Choir Room & Zoom

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Nov 2	<i>Dia de los Muertos Observance   Ofrenda on Plaza</i>
Nov 2	<i>Trustees Meeting   Online</i>
Nov 7	<i>All Saints Sunday, Outdoor In-Person Worship, Holy Communion, &amp; Ofrenda para la Comunidad (Sanctuary Plaza)</i>
Nov 8	<i>Evening Bible Study (Fireside)</i>
Nov 9	<i>Council Meeting   Zoom</i>
Nov 14	<i>ESLO Meeting (Zoom)</i>
Nov 25	<i>Thanksgiving Day (Eden Church Campus Closed)</i>
Nov 26	<i>Eden Church Campus Holiday</i>
Nov 27	<i>Campus Decorating (Meet in the OH Parking Lot)</i>
Nov 28	<i>First Sunday in Advent (Online Worship &amp; Zoom Fellowship)</i>
Dec 5	<i>Second Sunday in Advent (Online Worship &amp; Zoom Communion)</i>
Dec 12	<i>Third Sunday in Advent, Happy Birthday, Jesus (TBD)</i>
Dec 19	<i>Fourth Sunday in Advent (Online Christmas Pageant)</i>
Dec 24	<i>Christmas Eve Services (TBD)</i>
Dec 25	<i>Christmas Day (Online Worship)</i>
Dec 26	<i>First Sunday after Christmas (Online Worship &amp; Zoom Fellowship)</i>
Jan 2	<i>Tres Reyes Fiesta/Three Kings Day Celebration</i>



# 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)