

SEASON OF EASTER



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS

May 15, 2022 | [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.



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

**OPENING MUSIC | Brother James' Air from the Scottish Psalter, 1650 |
Jessie Lo**

WELCOME | Rev. Pepper Swanson

OPENING PRAYER | Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser

BIBLE READING | [Acts 11:1-18](#) | [Hechos 11:1-18](#) | Debbie Williams

SERMON | "Expanding Our Comfort Zones" | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

HYMN | Spirit of the Living God | NCH - Page 283 | v. 1

JOYS & CONCERNS | Pastor Nadia Tavera

OFFERING INVITATION & PRAYER | Pastor Pepper

OFFERTORY | Sicilienne Op.78 | G. Fauré | Jessie Lo

BLESSING | Pastor Arlene

CLOSING SONG | Theme from Hungarian Rondo | J. Haydn | Dr. Jessie Lo

THIS WEEK @ A GLANCE | See the Video Screens upfront

GO IN PEACE

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister

Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister & Presentation

Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser, Designated Term Associate Minister

Pastor Nadia Tavera, Designated Term Assistant Minister

Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Pianist, Organist

Ken Rawdon, Music Director

Debbie Williams, Liturgist

Jessie Shimmin and Olive, Greeter-Ushers

John Honerkamp, Trustee on Duty



FLOWER DEDICATION

Today's flowers were given by Pastor Arlene in honor of Stephanie Spencer's birthday. "Happy Birthday, Stephanie!"

For more info and to sign up to bring flowers for a specific Sunday, click the [link](#) to go to our new Online Flower Calendar or call the Office at (510) 582-9533.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Choral Concert Performance: *The Chabot College Concert Choir, under the direction of Eden's very own Ken Rawdon, invites you to its end-of-year concert, "Homeward Bound!" on **Monday, May 16** at 7:30 pm in the Eden Sanctuary. Tickets are just \$10, and can be purchased in advance or at the door (proof of vaccination or negative Covid test is required to attend). For more information, contact Ken Rawdon.*

Farewell Fiesta Team: *Pastor Nadia Tavera will be concluding three years of ministry with Eden Church on May 28 and returning to her hometown, Mexico City, where she will continue to pursue ordination in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination and other opportunities for parish ministry.*

*We will celebrate her many contributions to Eden and wish her well, as a congregation, on **Sunday, May 22 at 10 am**. That morning she will preach her final sermon at Eden and co-officiate at Holy Communion. Festivities will follow worship in the Courtyard. Members and friends are invited to send well wishes to [Pastor Nadia](#) or bring or mail greeting cards to the Church on or before **May 22**. Please contact [Pastor Arlene](#) if you would like to be part of the planning team.*

Bravo! Sunday: *Help us recognize our 2022 high school and college graduates as well as honor and thank Eden's Church School teachers, choir members, and musicians, by giving them a round of applause on **Sunday, Jun 5**, after worship. **If you or a member of your family is completing a program of study, please let [Pastor Pepper](#) or [Pastor Arlene](#) know so that we can include you in our celebration.***

In addition, we will be recognizing the 2022 Eden Area Foundation Scholarship Program recipients -- all 20 of them! Thanks to the Eden Area Foundation and many Church members and Eden Area residents, twenty Eden Area students will be receiving a \$2,000 scholarship to help pay for tuition, books, computers, and/or housing. Come meet the students and their families at our annual Bravo! Sunday celebration.

FESCO Shelter Shuffle: The Family Emergency Shelter Coalition's annual fundraiser has begun. To help raise funds for our local emergency shelters that house families in crisis, you can join Team Eden by clicking [here](#). The finale event is **Jun 11, 8 to 11 am** at Moreau Catholic High School. Please note: no dogs are allowed at the finale.

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events

English Language Bible Study: Both our Daytime and Evening Bible Study are starting a new book — the Book of Daniel. The Daytime groups meets every **Thursdays at 10:30 am** on Zoom. The Evening Bible Study meets every other Monday at 7 pm and their next session is Monday, May 23 Contact [Pastor Pepper](#) for more info.

Children's Storytime: Storytime continues on Zoom from 9:15 to 9:45 am every Sunday. Children Pre-K and up are welcome to join us for a story about people in the Bible or a storybook touching on Christian themes, and games and prayers.

Estudio Biblico: Our Bible Study in Spanish is every Thursday at 6 pm. To join, send an email to [Pastor Nadia](#) or [Pastor Marvin](#). We are exploring the books of Esdras and Acts of the Apostles.

COVID-19 Testing at 20095 Mission Blvd remains open. To make an appointment, click [here](#).

Comida para Cherryland: Comida para Cherryland now serves the community as a drive-through distribution center. 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.

Cherryland Computer Café Hours: Physical location CLOSED until otherwise noted. To schedule online tutoring through **May 27** with Ms. Samantha, go to our [Facebook page](#). The CCC will close for the summer recess, and reopen in September if sufficient funding is available.

Church Center: Church Center is our centralized member and community tool for digital connection. It's available for download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). Register with your mobile number, and request to join the groups that to which you belong or would like to join. See Pastor Marvin for more details.

JOYS

Fiber Optic Cable is being installed on our campus so that we can livestream our in-person worship from our Sanctuary. We expect to be able to complete the project this month.

EUCC's & Padres Unidos ERAP (Rent & Utility Relief) Teams, in collaboration with Centro Legal de la Rasa, have, to date, helped **1200 families** obtain over **\$18.1M** in relief through the Alameda County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). The Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution last year to provide **\$65M** in rent relief for tenants who have been severely impacted economically by the pandemic.

In 2021, **EUCC** and our partners **vaccinated 1,292** friends and neighbors. Our work with the **TVHC-led Coalition**, including HARD, Kidango, Rosey's Place serving 94544, and the **RCD-La Familia-led Coalition**, including Eden Church, the SF Public Health Foundation, RPITF, and Umoja, and serving the Unincorporated Communities, are underway.

Our **Children's Day Celebration on Apr 30, 2022**, which is part of the RCD-LF Coalition's work, proved that "every bunny loves Eden." We had great community turnout, with about **250 families** in attendance, and we and our partners were able to share 82 vaccinations, 240 food boxes and meal kits, 200 toys, and stacks of books. And everyone enjoyed a visit from the Easter Bunny! Thanks to our staff, our community partners, and the many volunteer hours that went into the planning and production of this community health event.

EUCC's Case Investigation / Contact Tracing & Resource Navigation Team has now helped more than **10,175 community households** successfully isolate & quarantine, and has helped distribute more than **\$3 million** in financial assistance from Al Co Social Services Agency.

EUCC's Emergency Food Distribution & Delivery Team has now distributed more than **1,000,000 pounds** of food and cooked meals since the beginning of the pandemic!

Zachary Sherwood, Billie and Cliff's grandson, is graduating from California State University at Long Beach in Chemical Engineering on Monday, May 16. Thank you for all your prayers for Zachary as he was struggling with cancer 12 years ago. Prayers work!

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.*

*For **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.*

*For **Vicente Flores** who continues to receive chemotherapy treatments for lung cancer.*

*For **Sally Kusalo** who is facing some health challenges.*

*For **Mel Lewis**, and his wife, **Lynn Albert-Lewis**. Mel is recovering from surgery and outpatient cancer treatments.*

*For **Charlotte Lusschen** who underwent successful surgery at Stanford on May 5, 2022, and who is home recovering from surgery.*

*Eden Church **members and friends who are sick** with the Coronavirus, and for all of us who are affected by the virus.*

*For **Brian and Carolyn Nachand-Boddy** and their children, **Rachel and RJ**, whose father/father-in-law/grandfather, **Don Boddy**, died unexpectedly on May 10, 2022.*

*For **Launey Rivers** and **the Rev. Rob Parrish**. Launey at home receiving physical therapy and recovering from surgery and a spinal fusion that took place in mid-March.*

*For **Linda Sheppard**, who is at home recovering from hip replacement surgery.*

*For **the people of Ukraine**, and for all who are striving to protect, defend, and accompany them through Putin's invasion.*

*For **Kent, Rozetta, and Izzi Walth**, whose mother/mother-in-law/grandma died on Saturday, May 7, 2022, following a long decline into dementia.*

*For **Marilynn Weatley-Powers**, who is home recovering from hip and leg surgery that occurred on **Apr 18, 2022**.*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 15

9:15 — 9:45 am Children's Storytime | Online
10:00—10:45 am Worship | Sanctuary & Online
11:00 — 12:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Monday, May 16

Tuesday, May 17

10:00 — 12:00 pm Eden Crafters | Online

Wednesday, May 18

10:30 — 11:30 am Seekers Book Club | Online

Thursday, May 19

10:30 — 11:30 am Bible Study | Online
6:00 — 7:00 pm Estudio Biblico | Online

Sunday, May 22

9:15 — 9:45 am Children's Storytime | Online
10:00 — 10:45 am Worship | Sanctuary & Online
10:45— 11:45 am Farewell Fiesta for Pastor Nadia | Courtyard



COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 22 Farewell Fiesta Celebrating Pastor Nadia's Ministry
Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off
May 23 Evening Bible Study
May 25 Comida para Cherryland
May 30 Memorial Day — Campus Closed
Jun 5 Pentecost & Bravo! Sunday Celebration
Jun 17-19 NCNC UCC Annual Gathering
Jun 19 Stewardship: Pledge Dedication Sunday
Jun 26 157th Annual Meeting

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)
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