

## AFTER CHRISTMAS



**WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS**

**Jan 1, 2023 | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)**

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.



# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)

---

**OPENING MUSIC | Once In Royal David's City | Henry Gauntlett | Jessie Lo**

**WELCOME | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring**

**OPENING PRAYER | Pastor Arlene**

**BIBLE READING | [Matt. 2:13 -23](#) | [Español](#) | Sandra Nachand**

**SERMON | "Echoes from Ramah" | Rev. Dr. Marvin Lance Wiser**

**HYMN | In Christ There Is No East or West | NCH No. 395 All Verses**

**OFFERING INVITATION & PRAYER | Sandra Nachand**

**OFFERTORY | Hark! The Herald Angels Sing | Mendelssohn | Jessie Lo**

## **[SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION](#)**

**Introduction | Pastor Arlene**

**Words of Remembrance | Pastor Arlene & Pastor Pepper**

**Distribution of the Elements | Deacons**

**Communion Anthem | Songs of Thankfulness and Praise | Jakob Nintzese| Jessie Lo**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving | Pastor Pepper**

**Lord's Prayer | Unison**

*Our Father/Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

*Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea Tu Nombre; venga Tu reino; hágase Tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de cada día y perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; y no nos dejes caer en tentación mas líbranos del mal. Amén.*

**BLESSING | Pastor Marvin**

**CLOSING SONG | Auld Lang Syne | Traditional Scottish Melody | Jessie Lo**

**GO IN PEACE**

**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

*Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister*

*Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister*

*Rev. Dr. Marvin Lance Wiser, Designated Term Associate Minister*

*Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Pianist, Organist*

*Ken Rawdon, Music Director*

*Joanne Vorheis & Stephanie Spencer, Deacons*

*Sandra Nachand, Liturgist*

*Yuliana Wiser-Leon, Sofia, & Natalia, Greeter-Ushers*

*Bob Turner, Trustee on Duty*

---

**TRES REYES WORSHIP & GIFTING**

*Eden Church will observe Three Kings Day / Dia de los Tres Reyes / Twelfth Night 2022 (January 6, 2022) in worship on Jan 8, 2023, and by sharing toys along with groceries and diapers with our neighbors, Wednesday, Jan 11, 2023.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events**

***Our Time to Shine! Window Replacement Campaign:*** Last Sunday at the Semi-Annual Meeting, the Congregation unanimously approved the launch of a \$100,000 capital campaign to replace the 73-year old opaque windows in the Sanctuary. Thanks to the leadership we have already collected **\$70,000** in pledges and gifts. Additional pledges are needed to reach, and ideally exceed the goal, so that the process of ordering the custom built windows can begin as soon as possible. Pledge forms are included in today's bulletin. Or click [here](#) to access a fillable pdf. Pledge forms are confidential and should be returned to [Jan Bass](#).

***Estate Planning:*** Eden's Planned Giving Committee is pleased to provide **"Your Estate Planning Record"** to help you get started. We also encourage you to consider including Eden Church and the EAF in your estate plans. As always, be sure to consult your tax or financial planner to determine the best options for your particular financial situation and goals.

***Spring Fiesta Planning:*** Are you interested in contributing your time and talent to help raise funds for the replacement of the opaque Sanctuary windows?

Eden's Stewardship Committee and our Compañeras leaders are sponsoring a Spring Fiesta on **Saturday, Mar 18** and need volunteers to plan, organize, and work the festival. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Pastor Pepper](#) or [Pastor Marvin](#).

**Festival de Primavera:** ¿Está interesado en contribuir con su tiempo y talento para ayudar a recaudar fondos para el reemplazo de las ventanas del Santuario? El Comité de Administración de Edén y líderes de compañeras está patrocinando un Festival de Primavera **en sábado, el 18 de marzo** y necesita voluntarios para planificar, organizar y trabajar en el festival. Si está interesado en ser voluntario, comuníquese con [Pastor Pepper](#) o [Pastor Marvin](#).

**Eden Church Choir Rehearsal each Sunday:** Come join us! 11:00 am in the Music Room.

**English Language Bible Study:** The Daytime group meets every Thursday at 10:30 am and the Evening group meets every Monday at 8 pm. Both groups are on a Christmas break until the week of Jan 23. Contact [Pastor Pepper](#) for more info.

**Estudio Biblico:** Our Bible Study in Spanish is held every Thursday at 6 pm. To join, send an email to [Pastor Marvin](#). We are exploring the book of Esther.

**Seekers Book Club:** The Seekers are beginning a new book in Jan 2023, *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich, a novel set in Minneapolis during the time of COVID and George Floyd's murder. Join us on Wednesday, Jan 11 at 10:30 am on Zoom for our first discussion. Email [Pastor Pepper](#) for information.

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

**Sanctuary & Accompaniment Appeal:** Newcomers to the US face numerous challenges. Paramount among them is the challenge of finding affordable housing. If you know a landlord who is able to rent a room or an apartment at an affordable price, please speak with one of our pastors. If you are able to fund a night of lodging or subsidize rent for a family whose members are not yet eligible for a work permit, please use the QR code to make a digital gift, or deliver your offering to the church office. (Please reference the Sanctuary / Accompaniment Ministry in the online, drop-down menu, or the memo of your check.) If you are able to help with a fundraiser, please email [yuliana@edenucc.com](mailto:yuliana@edenucc.com). And pray without ceasing for the healing of the nations and a safe and sound home for every child of God.

**Comida para Cherryland:** Digital donations can be made online using [our giving portal](#). Please use the dropdown to select "Comida para Cherryland." Checks can be made payable to Eden United Church of Christ. Please be sure to note the donation is for "Comida para Cherryland" and mail to the Church's address, 21455 Birch Street, Hayward, CA 94541.

**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 small groups. See Pastor Marvin for more details.

## JOYS

Our \$100,000 "Our Time to Shine!" Capital Campaign was unanimously approved last Sunday. To date, **\$70,000** in pledges have been received.

Our **Christmas Pageant**, "Just A Little Christmas" was a smashing success. Bravo! to all our **children and youth** for dressing in costumes and acting in the Christmas story for the whole congregation.

[Our COVID Story](#) of community resiliency is now a published page on our website. Please read and reflect during this season of remembering and thanksgiving.

**Franklin Lopez**, an asylum-seeker from Columbia, for whom we raised funds for legal aid, just received notice that his I-589 has been lodged, and that he will be eligible for a temporary green card in April 2023. Many thanks to all who contributed prayers and funds!

The **Eden Crafters** raised an additional \$500 for Comida para Cherryland at their most recent auction of handmade items, bringing their total for this fall to over \$1,500.

Thank you all to everyone who contributed to the Estudio Bíblico's Tamales-to-go fundraiser for funeral expenses for late member **Vicente Flores**. We raised **\$1,600** after the tamales expenses.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to **the Mario Lopez Family Fundraiser** (Nicaraguan Take-Out) last Sunday! Together with the family we raised **\$825** toward this asylum-seeking family's first and last month's rental deposit.

Between Mar 16, 2021 and Dec 21, 2022, Eden UCC and Padres Unidos de Cherryland's ERAP Teams have processed 2,278 rent relief applications, which has resulted in the awarding of **\$22,725,316.34** in **rent relief** for **1,575** tenants and **1,575** landlords.

## **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 Pat Payne's brother **George Clifford** who is undergoing chemotherapy.*

*For **George Day**, who has been a patient at Washington Hospital in Union City, this past week.*

*For the family and friends of **Vicente Flores**, who died on Monday, Nov 28, 2022 at Highland Hospital. Visitation and funeral was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Hayward on Monday, Dec 19, 2022.*

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

*For **Charlotte Lusschen** who was transferred from ICU at Stanford University Hospital in Palo Alto to ICU at Stanford Pleasanton Hospital, on Dec 26, 2022. Prayers, calls, and cards are also invited for her mother, **Janna Lusschen**, who is receiving respite care at Carlton Senior Living in San Leandro.*

***Jeannie, Jim, Tony, and Erica Schumann**, who have all been experiencing health challenges. Cards and calls are welcome.*

*For **Allie & Bob Turner**, as Allie prepares to begin chemotherapy treatments.*

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, Jan 1 - New Year's Day

10:00 — 10:45 am      Worship & Holy Communion | Sanctuary & Online  
10:45 — 11:30 am      Courtyard Conversations | Courtyard

### Monday, Jan 2 - Eden Campus Closed

### Wednesday, Jan 4

7:00 — 9:00 pm      Spring Festival Planning | Zoom

### Thursday, Jan 5

6:00 — 7:00 pm      Estudio Bíblico | Online

### Sunday, Jan 8 - Tres Reyes Magos Worship & Celebration

10:00 — 10:45 am      Worship | Sanctuary & Online  
10:00 — 10:45 am      Church School | Courtyard  
10:45 — 11:00 am      Courtyard Conversations

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

Jan 2      New Year's Holiday - Eden Campus Closed  
Jan 8      Tres Reyes Magos Worship  
Jan 10      Trustees Meeting | Zoom  
Jan 11      Comida para Cherryland (Grocery, Diaper, and Toy Sharing)  
Jan 15      SLZ CC UCC | First Sunday in Pioneer Chapel  
Jan 16      MLK, Jr. Birthday Observed - Eden Campus Closed  
Jan 18      EAF Board Meeting | Zoom  
Jan 21      Church Council Retreat | Hybrid  
Jan 25      Comida para Cherryland (Grocery & Diaper Sharing)  
Feb 7      Trustees Meeting | Zoom  
Feb 8      Comida para Cherryland (Grocery & Diaper Sharing)  
Feb 14      Church Council Meeting | Zoom  
Feb 22      Comida para Cherryland (Grocery & Diaper Sharing)  
Ash Wednesday Service | Pioneer Chapel | 7 pm  
Mar 18      Spring Fiesta | Festival de Primavera



# 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  
Jana Aloo | 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)