

The Chimes

"FRIENDING" THE OLD FASHIONED WAY

Late August and early September are times when kids of all ages head "Back-to-School." In an effort to increase spending the media has used this opportunity to bombard the consumer with messages to hurry and buy the latest looks; the implication being that if you don't shell out, you'll be left out. And who wants to be the last kid picked for the team?

Of course, the truth is that a new pair of jeans may buy you a few compliments but jeans can never create friendships. And while these advertisements with happy kids holding hands have not sent me into a shopping frenzy, admittedly I have spent a fair amount of time lately reminiscing about my days in elementary school. Particularly I've been thinking about the friendships that I made and wondering "where are they now?"

As a kid who attended three different elementary schools in three different cities I got used to making new friends. I've forgotten about most of these classmates but lately I've taken to trying to find and "friend" a few again on Facebook. While I may find the classmate that I'm looking for, and subsequently spend some time looking at pictures of his/her own kids, our exchanges are limited to short messages, like the kind written on a note passed between classes.

Still I have one friend that I made in seventh grade (school number five) to whom I've remained close. In the decades pre-Facebook she and I wrote I letters to each other, then email, and phone calls, all punctuated by regular visits. I doubt we've ever gone more than six months without seeing each other in twenty years. And now that I live in California again it's more like two weeks between visits.

These "friend dates" can be hard to schedule and I even admit to still learning things about my close friends on Facebook before we've had a chance to talk. So how do I combat this odd sense of isolation that this global and digital age can cause? One way is to attend church. Seriously. I dare you to come to church and stay for coffee hour. Even more I'd encourage you to come early, help set up for coffee hour, attend worship, and then stay to enjoy the fellowship that you've helped facilitate.

If planning Fellowship events isn't your cup of tea, there are many more programs that are starting or resuming at Eden this fall. Each of these programs offers you the opportunity to hang out with real people in real time. The choir returns to worship on Sept. 11. The church school program kicks off the year on Homecoming Sunday, Sept. 18. That Sunday lunch will be offered after worship and everyone has the opportunity to come to Oliver Hall to learn about the various programs offered by the Education, Spiritual Life, and Outreach Committees. Among them the return of monthly Labyrinth walks, Small Groups, the Performing Arts Concert Series, Stewardship fun-raiser events, and much more.

On Sunday, **Sept. 18** join our "Still speaking God" and the Eden community in coming Back-to-Church. Come to Eden and reunite with friends the old fashioned way.

~Liz



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 2011

Eden UCC has been an Open and Affirming Church since 1995. 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; and we welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of this church.

Tel: 510-582-9533

Sunday Worship:
10:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours:
Monday to Friday:
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: Closed

Visit our church website:
www.edenucc.com

"Like" us on Facebook:
Eden United Church of Christ

"Follow us" on Twitter:
@21455Birch

Welcome to Eden!

Eden is a diverse and growing church. At Eden, people of all ages and backgrounds join together to grow spiritually, do good in the world, and develop healing and nurturing relationships.

At our church, you will not be told what to believe. We feel that the way we treat one another is more important than holding uniform beliefs. And, while the Bible is important to our faith, it is not the last word. We believe that **God is Still Speaking** through science, nature, personal experience, other faith traditions and more.

On Sunday mornings, our church services and kids' programs are open, friendly and innovative. Every week at Eden, you'll find all kinds of activities—retreats, yoga classes, service projects, music programs, labyrinth walks, study groups—to nurture mind, body, and spirit.

At Eden, we are on a journey together to understand and live God's truth for our lives. Come and join us on the journey. Check out our website. Give us a call. Come by and see us. We look forward to welcoming you!



Pastor Arlene and Pedro Enjoy Food and Fellowship with Cherryland Families and Prepare for the K-2 Grades Assessment.



Relaxing at the Haro's Backyard Cantina

9/11: Where Were You? Where Was God?

Sunday, **Sept. 11**, 2011, morning worship at Eden will take a slightly different shape as we come together to observe the tenth anniversary of "September 11" by recalling our memories of that terrible day when terrorism came home to the US, and by plumbing questions of theodicy that were raised by our experiences. A few Eden leaders will share brief reflections about where they were on 9/11, and Pastor Arlene offer a hope-filled message about the important role we can play in creating a culture and a world beyond injustice, fear, and prejudice.

Calling All Crafters!

Calling all crafters and aspiring be artists to the Eden Church Craft Swap on Sunday, **Sept. 11** from 12-3 p.m. in the Jensen Room. It is time to clean out those closets of old fabric, paper, yarn, buttons, baubles, tools or craft books – anything craft or hobby related – and swap them for the trappings of your current hobby or interest. A \$10 ticket guarantees you a spot to display your goods as well as \$10 craft dollars to swap with other participants. If you don't have your own clutter, come and browse – maybe you'll discover your next obsession. See Shannon Whitney or Pepper Swanson for details and tickets. All proceeds benefit Eden Church.

Church School for 2011-2012 Begins Sept. 18

All families and church teachers are encouraged to attend an informational gathering about the upcoming church school year from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. following worship on Sunday, **Sept. 11**. Join us to meet our new and returning church school teachers; learn about the curriculum, classroom assignments, and music participation for K-12th graders; and discuss how you can bring the lessons to life at home. Childcare and a light snack will be provided. Please see Liz Jobst to sign up to be a teacher or to register your child for church school. As a reminder all adults interested in working with children and youth must be screened to ensure compliance with our Safe Congregation Policies and Procedures.

Homecoming Sunday

Sunday, **Sept. 18**, marks Eden's Homecoming Sunday. During worship, Bibles will be distributed to fifth graders and the church school program will resume. A delicious free lunch will be offered to entice you to stay after worship and learn more about the variety of programs we are planning for the coming year. And at 2 p.m. our 2011-2012 Performing Arts Concert Series begins. You are encouraged to invite friends, neighbors, and extended family to Eden for this special Sunday. Look for more information coming soon to the Eden UCC Facebook page and in your *e-Chimes*.

Bible Presentations

The Education and Spiritual Life Team will present Eden's fifth graders with Bibles on Sunday, **Sept. 18**, during morning worship. So that we are sure to include everyone who is in these classes, please register your child for church school by Sunday, Sept. 11. See Liz McKay or Pastor Arlene if you have any questions.



Jan and Dave enjoy Garden Party

A Seekers' Journey

On Wednesday, Aug. 31, join the Eden Seekers as they begin reading a new book entitled *Where God Was Born: A Journey by Land to the Roots of Religion* by Bruce Feiler. Come from 10-11 a.m. to the Community Room as you read your way through the Hebrew scriptures: "from the invasion of Canaan through the reigns of David and Solomon to the Babylonian captivity and the Diaspora." All are welcome. For more information about the group see Pat Ball or Liz Jobst.

Take a Lookilu and See What's New:



www.edenucc.com

Chimes is a monthly publication of Eden United Church of Christ. Proposed submissions should be sent to kathy@edenucc.com, or mailed or delivered to the church by the third Sunday of each month. We reserve the right to edit all materials submitted. Publisher: the Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister. *Chimes* Staff: Liz Jobst, Education and Spiritual Life Coordinator; Kathy Miller, Church Administrator



Cabaret Singers

It's a Green Thing

The Fellowship Team is exploring ways to reduce paper and food waste from our Sunday Coffee Hour. A new "Greening" committee is being formed to explore options and costs. If you'd like to be a part of this environmentally-conscious team, sign up on Homecoming Sunday, **Sept. 18**. Also, please take time today to check the sign-up board in Oliver Hall. Volunteers are needed every Sunday to set up, clean up, and/or provide nutritious and yummy food. Can't commit to a specific date? Sign up to be an "in a pinch" helper for those times a regular volunteer is unable to come to church. Contact Pepper Swanson or Susie Newman for info.

Performing Arts Concert to Benefit Meals on Wheels

Acclaimed American soprano Marie Plette returns to Eden UCC for the first of four Performing Arts Series concerts on Sunday, **Sept. 18**, at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. She has performed frequently with the New York Metropolitan Opera, San Francisco Opera, Rome Opera, Edinburgh Festival, and Carnegie Hall. Future concerts include bass-baritone Austin Kness on November 20, benefiting Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center; tenor David Gustafson on January 15, benefiting FESCO; and soprano Jessica House Steward on March 18, benefiting Eden I&R. A patron of the arts E-Pass will be offered for the four-concert series for \$100, and includes two guest tickets for a concert of your choice. Single tickets are \$15. All tickets will be available during coffee hour each Sunday prior to Sept. 18, and at the door on the day of the concert.



Steward Family Sings!



Loris and Betty Play a Duet

Autumnal Wine and Cheese Tasting

Come celebrate the beginning of the fall season at an Autumnal Wine & Cheese Tasting Party at the home of Michael Stuber and McGarry Caven on Sunday, **Sept. 25**, from 2-6 p.m. This member-sponsored event is a fundraiser to support the work and ministry of Eden Church. Tickets are \$20 per person and will be available Sept. 11 and 18 in Oliver Hall following worship. For additional information, please contact Pepper Swanson.

Compañeras/os Forum

Eden Church launched a bold new venture on June 26, 2011 with the adoption of our *Compañeras/os* Ministry Plan at our 145th Annual Meeting. Unanimously approving the *Compañeras/os* plan was a very important step for our congregation and the Cherryland community, but it was just a beginning. In order to successfully implement our plan, we need to deepen and broaden our understanding of the issues that inspired its development.

The *Compañeras/os* Ministry Forum, which begins Sunday, **Sept. 28**, will provide an introduction to the key objectives associated with our ministry plan which are based on current needs and opportunities in Cherryland. The Forum will also provide an opportunity to discern ways that we as congregants can be faithful *compañeras/os* with our Cherryland neighbors. The dates and topics for the Forum include the following:

- Sept. 28: All Politics is Local—the case for immigration policy reform
- Oct. 2: It Takes a Village—improving Cherryland Elementary School
- Oct. 9: Christmas is Coming—an invitation to learn and celebrate with our *Compañeras/os*
- Oct. 16: An Ounce of Prevention—designing youth investment and family engagement programs for Hayward High
- Oct. 23: Help Wanted—bringing global economic development solutions home to Cherryland

Pick up a snack and beverage in Oliver Hall and come to the Fireside Room for the Forum.

Each session will include a presentation by facilitators, conversation among participants, and a description of ministry opportunities under way in Eden. Participants are welcome to join for one or more of the sessions. The Forum will be facilitated by our Senior Minister, the Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring; Pastoral Associate, Pedro Ramos Goycolea; Herb Graw; Stephanie Spencer; and other Eden Church leaders.

Childcare will be provided if requested two weeks or more in advance. Families, please contact Liz Jobst regarding your childcare needs.



**Coming Attractions—
Mark Your Calendars!**

- August 29, 30, 31, and September 1 and 3, Spirit-in-Action Event:**
Cherryland Elementary School Academic Assessment
- September 5, Eden Church closed**
- September 11, Parent-Teacher Gathering**
- September 11, Member Sponsored Event:**
Craft Swap
- September 16, Single Women's Group**
- September 18, Homecoming Sunday, Fifth Grade Bible Distribution**
- September 18, Performing Arts Concert**
- September 25, Member Sponsored Event:**
Autumnal Wine and Cheese Tasting
- September 28, Cherryland and South Garden Youth Investment Community Round Table**
- October 7, Labyrinth Walk**
- October 22–23, NCNC Jr. High Fall Fest**
- October 30, Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting**
- October 30, Member Sponsored Event: Pat Payne Halloween Party**
- November 4, Labyrinth Walk**
- November 5–6, NCNC Sr. High Fall Youth Event**
- November 13, Holiday Bazaar**
- November 20, Performing Arts Concert**
- November 24–25, Eden Church closed**
- December 2, Labyrinth Walk**
- December 18, Lessons and Carols Worship Service**
- December 24, Servicio Familiar Bi-lingue de Noche Buena, Diciembre 24, 5 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 7 p.m.**
- December 25, Christmas Service, 10 a.m.**
- December 26, Eden Church closed**
- January 6, Labyrinth Walk**
- January 7, El dia de los Reyes Magos**
- January 15, Performing Arts Concert**
- January 14–16, NCNC Jr. High Midwinter Camp**
- February 6, Labyrinth Walk**
- February 18–20, NCNC Sr. High Feb. Camp**
- February 22, Ash Wednesday**
- March 2, Labyrinth Walk**
- March 18, Performing Arts Concert**
- March 24, People of Faith Retreat**
- April 6, Good Friday Labyrinth Walk**
- April 8, Easter Sunday with Egg Hunt**
- April 26–29, NCNC Annual Gathering**



Joys

Gracias to all the Eden **members and friends** who supported our work with the COR Café this summer.

Big thanks to all the **musicians** who contributed to our very successful Cabaret on Aug. 20.

Cherryland Elementary School **Principal Irene Preciado** was with us in worship and provided a helpful introduction to our next SIA Event: the Cherryland Elementary School Literacy and Math Assessment, Aug. 29–Sept. 1.

Special thanks to the **Sewing Angels** who worked to ready the choir for worship on Tuesday, Aug. 23. Our musicians are sure to sing your praises.

Many tanks to all who contributed to the **SIA: FESCO backpack drive** by donating backpacks and school supplies, and/or helping with the sorting and distributing. Keith Smith's sister, who has been treated for cancer, recently received some very good news from her doctor.

Prayer Requests

For **John and Suzie Hasselkuss**. John's step-father is experiencing more health challenges.

For Becca and Sam Kephart's dad, who was recently deployed to Kuwait and Iraqi.

For a friend of the Payne family, who is terminally ill.

For **Barbara Ryken**, who recently completed chemotherapy treatments for breast cancer.

For a friend of Billie Sherwood, who is living with lung cancer.

For Cliff Sherwood's sister, who is being treated for lung cancer.

For a close friend of the Smith-Bove family, who is living with a recurrence of ovarian cancer.

Continued prayers for **Anita, Bryan, Justin, Mel, Nick, and Richard**.

For all of our students, teachers, allied school workers, and administrators, who are returning to school.

For those who are unemployed and underemployed, and experiencing the stresses of these challenging economic times.

For all who are affected by sexual and domestic violence.

For all who are in the armed services, for our missionaries and ministers around the globe, and for peace and justice in the world.

And for **Carlton Alexander, Mary Bernstein, Juanita Chavez, Vera Dickie, Ann Dodd, Regina Fischer, Allen Gardiner, Clyde Howell, Winsome Lockerby, Wesley Moniz, Angie Payne, Mary Joan Stone, and Zachary Sherwood**.



Birthday & Anniversaries

- September Birthdays:** 9/1 **Cheryl Fields Tyler**; 9/2 **Blaine Cowick**; 9/3 **Allan Jones** and **Ed Reuling**; 9/4 **Andrew Davis, Cody Rose**, and **Shirley Rule**; 9/5 **Bob Jackson** and **Susan Whiting**; 9/8 **Janice MacGowan** and **Glenna Zolling**; 9/10 **Betty Norum**; 9/12 **Virginia Seevers**; 9/13 **Shannon Vierra**; 9/14 **Suzi Casey** and **Max Leung**; 9/19 **Lorene Kiger** and **Erik Nelson**; 9/21 **Shawn Stoddard-Nuñez**; 9/24 **Vai Day, Velva Jones, Esther Jorgensen**, and **Jenna-Marie Wilson**; 9/25 **Stephanie Cartwright** and **Nadiezhdha Pereira**; 9/26 **Rogelio Stoddard-Nuñez**; 9/30 **Athena Malloy** and **Dennis Mills**.
- September Anniversaries:**
9/5 **Dianne & Fred Dorn**; 9/11 **Pepper & Scott Swanson**; 9/30 **Lia & Bill Jarvis**.

September 2011

Duty Roster

Date	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
Liturgical Day	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Communion	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture	Ex. 12:1-14 & Ps. 149 • Ez. 33:7-11 & Ps. 119:33-40 • Rom. 13:8-14 • Mt. 18:15-20	Ex. 14:19-31 & Ps. 114 or Ex. 15:1b-11, 20-21 • Gen. 50:15-21 & Ps. 103:(1-7), 8-3 • Rm. 14:1-12 • Mt. 18:21-35	Ex. 16:2-15 & Ps. 105:1-6, 37-45 • Jonah 3:10-4:11 & Ps. 145:1-8 • Phil. 1:21-30 • Mt. 20:1-16	Ex. 17:1-7 & Ps. 78:1-4, 12-16 • Ez. 18:1-4, 25-32 & Ps. 25:1-9 • Phil. 2:1-13 • Mt. 21:23-32
Preacher	Pedro Ramos Goycolea	Arlene K. Nehring	Arlene K. Nehring	Arlene K. Nehring
Liturgist	Pepper Swanson	Michael Foster	Herb Graw	Brenda Loreman
Children's Time	Liz Jobst	Arlene K. Nehring	Liz Jobst	Pedro Ramos Goycolea
Loving Arms Nursery	Alexandra Romero and TBD	Alexandra Romero and TBD	Alexandra Romero and TBD	Alexandra Romero and TBD
Sunday School	All Children and Youth in Worship	Mary Haro and Theresa Collier, K-4; All youth in worship.	John Hasselkuss and Liz Jobst, K-3; Ed and Pam Reuling, 4-7; Shannon Whitney and Carol Roach, 8-12	Keith Smith and Todd Bove, K-3; TBD, 4-7; Russ Miller and Michael Stuber, 8-12.
Office	Audrey Wood	Susie Newman	Ann McClure	Ruth Jenkins
Greeters	Eden Youth Stephanie Spencer	Max Leung Russ Newman	Alliene Turner	Cindy Keune
Ushers	Michael Stuber Eden Youth	Kay Crosby Max Leung Ann McClure Russ Newman	Theresa Collier Scott Swanson Bob Turner Audrey Wood	Peggy Apperson Frank Jenkins Cindy Keune Pat Payne
Trustee on Duty	Russ Miller	Fred Dorn	Bob Turner	Russ Miller
Fellowship Hour Captains	Alliene Turner	Shannon Whitney	Lona Fryer	Fred Dorn

*K-4th grade children should be picked up from their classroom immediately following worship.
Nursery care is available at any time during worship for children age five and younger.*

September 2011

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 12 Cherryland Assessment 7 Planned Giving Committee	2	3 9 Cherryland Assessment
4 FESCO & Deacon's Collection 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship	5 CHURCH CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY	6 10 Staff Meeting 10 Eden Stitches 11 Worship Team 7 Council Meeting	7 10 Seekers 2:30 Yoga	8	9	10
11 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship 11:30 Parent-Teacher Gathering 12 Craft Swap 6 Choir Potluck	12	13 10 Eden Stitches 11 Worship Team 6:30 Trustees Meeting 7 Stewardship Committee Mtg	14 10 Seekers 2:30 Yoga	15	16 6 Single Women's Group	17
18 Homecoming Sunday Chimes deadline 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship 11:15 Lunch 3 Performing Arts Concert	19 9 Music Committee	20 10 Eden Stitches 11 Worship Team 7 ESLO Committee Meeting	21 10 Seekers 2:30 Yoga	22	23	24
25 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship 11:30 Compañeras/os Forum 2 Member-sponsored Wine & Cheese Tasting	26	27 10 Eden Stitches 11 Worship Team	28 10 Seekers 2:30 Yoga 6:30 Cherryland & South Garden Community Roundtable	29	30	

Every Sunday: 8:45 Music Rehearsal • 10:00 Worship & Church School • 11:15 Fellowship