

# The Chimes

## OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP AND WIDE

During the season of Lent I had the opportunity to participate in a Small Group. One of the aspects that I appreciated most about the group was the opportunity for fellowship. As someone who is often too busy to sit down and talk during coffee hour, the group was a great way for me to spend some time with Eden folks. At our last meeting we shared what qualities we admired about each other and how these qualities strengthened our meetings. How people learned from each other and what they took from the group at times surprised and definitely enlightened me.

The sharing reminded me of my experiences at Camp WOW! and Tom Tyler's explanation of the interconnectedness of the redwood trees – how water can fall on one tree and be carried all the way down the grove through a series of interlocking roots. By looking on surface level, the forest floor, we might never know this process is taking place. Dig deeper and we find that trees' connectedness is as tight as when we lace our fingers together.

This deep-rooted sense of community is one of the reasons I believe so many people remain committed to Eden Church. Extending from this idea, the Stewardship Committee decided to make "Big Trees" the annual giving campaign theme this year. Drawing from the Giant Sequoias along our coast and the Oaks of Lebanon depicted in the Bible, these trees express both the strength and beauty of our faith community.

To encourage the return of your pledge cards, the Stewardship committee will be holding prize drawings for those forms already received on May 2, 9, and 16 – giving you three chances to win between now and Stewardship Sunday, **May 16**.

As you pray about what you can give to the church in terms of time, talent, or treasure, I would suggest that you visit our local Redwood Regional Park. Spend a morning or afternoon just wandering through the trails, and meditation will come. Through the quiet whisper of the trees I expect that you will find something familiar and something new at the same time. A seedling which beckons to be planted, calling you to see where the roots and stems might lead.

~Liz



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*April 2010*

*Late Edition*

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](http://www.edenucc.com)

### 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!



**Festive Choir Members**



**A Palm Parade**



**Enjoying Easter at Eden**

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

*Be A Hero*

Registrations are now being received by the NCNC UCC for summer camp. Go to [www.ncnuc.org](http://www.ncnuc.org) to learn about the full range of camping opportunities offered by our conference for children entering the second grade through adults, and for information about counselor in training opportunities. The NCNC UCC sponsors programs at Camp Cazadero and Camp Tamarack in Northern California. Scholarships are available through Eden Church and the NCNC UCC. Please see Pastor Arlene before the early bird deadlines if you or your child would like to apply for a campership.



**The Hasselkuss Family  
Enjoys a Laugh**

*Upcoming  
Confirmation Events*

**April 2010**

- ◆ Sunday, **Apr. 18, 10:20–11:30 a.m.**, Church School (Patty Cowick & Tylers)
  - Mid-High Church School (Patty Cowick & Tylers)
  - Senior High Church School (Michael Stuber)
- ◆ Friday, **Apr. 23, 5:30–7:30 p.m.**, Supper & Class (Jan Bass & Dave Wallace)
  - Prepare for Inquirer’s Gathering (Arlene, Liz, Pepper & Suzie)
- ◆ Sunday, **Apr. 25, 10:20–11:30 a.m.**,
  - Mid High Church School (Patty Cowick & Tylers)
  - Senior High Church School (Bill D’Anjou, Sr.)
  - **11:30–12:30 p.m.** Youth bring snacks & Lead Inquirer’s Class (Arlene, Pepper & Liz)



**Singing Happy Birthday to John**

**May 2010**

- ◆ Sunday, **May 2, 9:30–11:30 a.m.**, Greet, Usher, Serve Communion (Arlene & Pepper) —Youth in worship
  - Souper Sunday, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
  - Music Rehearsal for Pentecost (Lee & Suzie)
- ◆ Friday, **May 7, 5:30 pm, 5:30–7:30 p.m.**, Supper & Class (Suzie, Suzi Casey & Debby Andrade)
  - Prepare Church School Lessons (Arlene, Liz, Pepper)

*Biker Blessing*

Ride or bring your bike to church on Sunday, **April 18**, for a special blessing of the bikes and bikers in our congregation and wider community. This blessing will be led by our Pastor Arlene, and be held immediately following morning worship in the church plaza (archway area) at approximately 11:10 a.m. Sponsored by the Board of Church Ministries & the E-Team, Eden’s “Bike and Biker Blessing” provides an opportunity to pray for the safety of all who ride two-wheeled conveyances, affirm the value of environmentally friendly transportation, and affirm the mission of local 12-step biker clubs. This year’s Biker Blessing at Eden Church is being held in memory of Clyde R. Nachand.

### Inquirer's Gathering

Are you new to Eden? Are you curious about us, or maybe even considering church membership? If so, the Inquirer's Gatherings were designed especially for you. These occasions provide Eden leaders with an opportunity to extend a special welcome to newcomers and to provide introductory information about our mission and ministry. Come as you are. You're welcome here. We welcome into membership youth, adults, and families who seek a deeper relationship with God in a caring community and a desire to make a difference in the lives of others. The next Inquirer's Gathering will be held on Sunday, **April 25**, beginning at 11:30 a.m., in the Norberg Room, and will be led by the Confirmation Class. A snack will be provided and childcare upon request. Please speak with Pastor Arlene or Pepper Swanson to let us know of your plans to attend so that we may provide ample childcare, refreshments, and handouts.

### Big Trees are Growing in the Eden Forest

"Big Trees" is the theme for the annual giving campaign this year. Our theme is a metaphor for the Giant Sequoias that grace Coastal California, and the Oaks of Lebanon depicted in the Bible—both express the strength and beauty of our faith community, which plays a vital, interdependent role in the ecosystem in which we are planted. Every member at Eden plays a distinct role in our forest, and every gift matters. This year's campaign is underway and culminates with a picnic celebration in Oliver Hall on Sunday, May 16, when we celebrate the vital gifts that every member and friend contributes to the well-being of our Eden forest.

A special effort is being made this year to encourage every household to return commitment cards and Time & Talent surveys by Sunday, **May 16**, indicating members' and friends' intentions to contribute time, talent, and treasure for the coming year. To reward early pledge commitments this year, during fellowship hour the Stewardship Committee will draw the name of one lucky member or family who has made their pledge on or before Sunday, May 2, 9, and 16. All who have pledged by May 2 will have three chances to win.



### FESCO Shelter Shuffle Walk-a-Thon

Be a part of Team Eden UCC at the 13th annual FESCO Shelter Shuffle on Saturday, **May 15**. Register online at [www.firstgiving.com/fesco](http://www.firstgiving.com/fesco) or stop by the church office to pick up a paper registration form. You can participate as a walker, runner, pet guardian, or bench warmer. This energetic morning event is filled with live music, food, raffles, and an award ceremony following the one- to three-mile walk/run along the San Francisco Bay. Raise just \$100 and get a free T-shirt. Make plans today to arrive by 9 a.m. for a lovely morning at the San Leandro Marina, talking and walking with friends. For further information contact Ed and Pam Reuling.



### Shopping List

Help Eden's Operating Budget by donating these much-needed supplies.

#### April Needs:

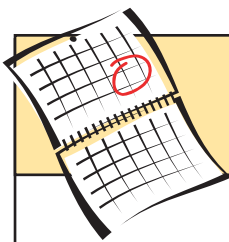
- Washable tempera paint
- Elmer's glue (large bottle for refills)
- Fruit snacks (for the nursery)
- Apple Juice
- Thermal coffee cups (8 oz.) (Costco San Ramon has them)
- Fresh fruit and veggies for Sunday mornings
- Gift cards to Costco, Safeway, or Trader Joe's for Coffee Hour creamer and Stewardship Committee

Please no Styrofoam anything (cups, plates, etc). See anyone who helped Save the Bay for an explanation.



### Calling All "Kitchen Angels" for Fellowship Hour!

A new crew of "kitchen angels" is needed to host Sunday Fellowship Hour, and to welcome longtime members and friends and newcomers to Eden Church. Can you serve as an official Eden taste tester? You can try out the cookies and goodies that people deliver to the kitchen each Sunday (hint, hint) before everyone else. Two to three "kitchen angels" are needed to set up and take down the Coffee Hour each Sunday. Feel free to ask any of the Board of Church Ministries members (Suzie Hasselkuss, Mary Haro, Jan Bass, Stephanie Spencer, and Holly Bowers Guier) during Coffee Hour on Sundays for a kitchen tour, and become an Eden "kitchen angel."



**Coming Attractions—  
Mark Your Calendars!**

**April 18**, Biker Blessing

**April 25**, Inquirer's Gathering

**May 2**, Souper Sunday

**May 9**, Mother's Day, Baptism & Reception of New Members

**May 13-16**, NCNC Annual Meeting

**May 15**, Spirit-in-Action, FESCO Shelter Shuffle

**May 16**, Stewardship Sunday

**May 16**, Performing Arts Series features Soprano Jessica House Steward performing songs by Mozart, de Falla, Strauss, and Barber

**May 23**, Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday

**May 31**, Eden Church Office Closed

**June 1**, Eden Area Foundation, letters of intent due for 2011 grant cycle

**June 6**, Bravo! Sunday

**June 13**, Summer Celebration Classes Begin

**June 13**, Inquirer's Gathering

**June 20**, Father's Day

**June 20**, Performing Arts Series features Bass, Daniel Cole performing songs by Caldara, Schubert and Tosti

**June 27**, Eden United Church of Christ, Congregational Annual Meeting

**July 5**, Eden Church Office Closed

**July 6-10**, Western Regional Youth Event in Montana

**July 11-17**, NCNC Junior Camp at Caz

**July 13-17**, NCNC Kids Camp at Caz

**July 16**, Spirit-in-Action, Habitat for Humanity

**July 25-31**, NCNC Junior High Camp at Caz

**July 25-31**, NCNC Senior High Camp at Tam

**August 1-7**, NCNC Senior High Camp at Caz

**August 1-7**, NCNC Junior/Junior High Camp at Tam

**August 13-15**, NCNC Adult Spiritual Retreat at Caz

**September 1**, Eden Area Foundation, full grant proposals due for 2011 grant cycle

**September 6**, Eden Church Office closed

**September 18**, Spirit-in-Action, Save the Bay

**September 19**, Performing Arts Series featuring Metropolitan Opera Soprano, Marie Plette

**October 3**, World Communion Sunday, Neighbors in Need

**October 3**, Inquirer's Gathering

**October 17**, Potluck Sunday, Baptism & Reception of New Members, New Member Photographs

**October 29**, Halloween Concert

**November 6-7**, Holiday Bazaar

**November 14**, Congregational Meeting

**November 21**, Performing Arts Series features Internationally Acclaimed Greek Pianist, Charis Dimaras

**November 25-26**, Eden Church Office closed

**December 5**, Community Messiah

**December 8**, FESCO Luncheon

**December 11**, Mid-High Christmas Caroling Party

**December 12**, Christmas Pageant, Happy Birthday Jesus Party

**December 19**, Lessons & Carols Worship

**December 24**, Christmas Eve Service

*Don Gall Begs to Differ*

The Rev. Donald Gall, Senior Minister at Eden United Church of Christ from 1995 until 2002 recently published his new book *I Beg to Differ! The Evolution of a Social Conscience*. Don's book is a first-hand account of one man's engagement with the issues of his day in a nation divided by the issues of racial injustice, an unpopular war, and the clamoring of people everywhere for freedom and equal rights.

Beginning with the Freedom Rides in 1961, the author traces his moral and political awakenings to the evils of racial segregation, the quagmire of Vietnam, the liberation efforts of people everywhere, and the open and courageous witness of his own denomination, the United Church of Christ. After a final chapter entitled "Deja Vu and the Age of Obama," he concludes with a discussion on the importance of moral reasoning as an essential step to our finding the "common ground" needed to resolve our religious, social and political differences.

*I Beg to Differ!* is an incisive look into many of the issues that defined the latter half of the Twentieth Century and that continue to challenge our religious and moral sensibilities today. Gall, a forty-year veteran of the struggle for justice and peace, is now retired and lives in Eugene, Oregon.

Don will preach during morning worship on Sunday, **April 25**. He and his spouse, Jan Cox, will be on hand during Fellowship Hour for a meet and greet, and a book preview. Don's new book may be purchased through Barnes & Nobel and Amazon.com for \$12.95 each.

*Seeking a Good Book?*

If you're looking for a new book to read look no further and join the Eden Seekers on Wednesday, **April 28**, at 10 a.m. as they begin a new book *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Come prepared for a lively discussion having read the first chapter. See Pat Ball or Liz McKay for more information.



Jessica House Steward

*Performing Arts Concert  
Benefits Girls Inc.*

The next recital in the Performing Arts Series features Soprano Jessica House Steward. The concert takes place on Sunday, **May 16**, at 3 p.m. in the main sanctuary. Jessica will be performing the "Four Last Songs" by Richard Strauss, "Siete Canciones" by Manuel de Falla, a Mozart concert aria, and songs by Samuel Barber. Proceeds from this concert benefit Girls Incorporated of Alameda County.

Girls Inc. inspires girls from underserved communities to reach their potential and become role models for the next generation. Their proven programs for girls K-12 cover every aspect of development. Girls improve their study habits, sharpen their intellectual curiosity, find their voice, and learn to "take positive risks". They uncover their aptitude for math and science and hone their computer skills. Girls Inc.'s school-based programs also promote healthy lifestyles and cover critical health issues in age-appropriate ways. If a girl needs help, Girls Inc.'s Pathways Counseling Center is there for her and her family. They make it fun for every girl to grow strong, smart, and bold.

Korean-American soprano Jessica House Steward has performed throughout the United States and internationally in opera, concert, and recital. Ms. House Steward made her Carnegie Hall recital debut singing world premiere vocal works of

composer Gerald Busby. She collaborated with world-renowned pianist Kenneth Merrill on a vocal recital at Greenfield Recital Hall in New York City. For three years, Ms. House Steward performed with John Wustman in his Schubert Song Recital Series. She has also given recitals at the Neues Residenz and St. Mark's Kapelle in Salzburg, Austria, and at All Souls Episcopal Church in Okinawa, Japan.

Among many honors, Ms. House Steward received the Encouragement Award from the Metropolitan Opera National Council and performance awards from the National Opera Association, The National Society of Arts and Letters, Los Angeles Opera Buffs, Leni Fe Bland Foundation, Theodore Presser Foundation, and Santa Barbara Music Club. Ms. House Steward holds degrees in vocal performance from University of Illinois, Texas Tech University, and Manhattan School of Music.

*Big Trees Keep Growing  
on May 2*

On Sunday, **May 2**, join us for a Souper day after worship. Bring a potluck dish, main course or salad, to share with 8-10 people. Then after enjoying some food and fellowship choose from a variety of super activities. Themed around our Stewardship Campaign, "Big Trees," take part in an environmentally friendly hour from 12 noon-1 p.m. Young and old kids alike can participate in an art project, yard work, and planting in front of Pioneer Chapel, or enjoy a talk about the Redwood forest. Confirmation kids will have a special music rehearsal. So wear your best outdoor gear and dig in.

*Safe Congregation Training  
Opportunity*

American Heart Association training for Adult, Infant, and Child CPR and First Aid will be offered at Eden Church on Tuesday, **June 8**, and Thursday, **June 10**, from 6-9:30 p.m. at a significantly reduced cost of just \$20! Spaces are limited. Please see Liz McKay to register or for more information.

**Yoga Class  
Schedule Change**

Due to low enrollment the Tuesday night yoga class has been cancelled. Keep coming on Wednesday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. when our experienced instructor, Amanda Sharpe, will guide yogis of all levels. Class meets in the Jensen room, cost is a sliding scale \$5-10, pay what you are able. For more information see Jacque Blake.

*Biblical Self Defense  
Workshop & Training*

Too often, the religious right misuses a few passages from the Bible to justify the oppression of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Church people may not know how to respond to the misuse of these texts, other than to assert, "God loves everybody." What do these texts really mean? What are their contexts? How can you respond with knowledge of these biblical texts and conviction of biblical authority?

Attend a Biblical Self Defense workshop from Friday, June 4-Sunday, **June 6**, at Niles Congregational UCC, and by studying the so-called "clobber passages" learn how to talk about and train others. Not only will you complete the entire workshop, created by the Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns, but using supplemental videos and discussion and practice teaching time you will be equipped to speak informatively to others in a variety of settings.

This event is primarily designed for laity and clergy in the United Church of Christ; however, all are welcome regardless of faith tradition or secular affiliation. Pre-registration and advance preparation are required. Go to [www.ncncucc.org](http://www.ncncucc.org), then click on "Happenings," then "Biblical Self Defense" for details. For additional information about this event, contact Barbara J. Broadbent, Associate Conference Minister for Education Ministries, [bbroadbent@ncncucc.org](mailto:bbroadbent@ncncucc.org) or 510-247-8996.



## Birthday & Anniversaries

### Mid-April to Mid-May Birthdays

4/16 **Jim Phillips**; 4/18 **Lisa Rose**;  
4/21 **Eliza King**; 4/28 **Bob Peterson**;  
4/29 **Ann Rheiner**;  
5/2 **Eleanor Norberg**; 5/4 **Patrick McCarthy**;  
5/5 **Mark Baucox-Jordan, Kevin Casey, and Ella Lentz**;  
5/7 **Barbara Lateer**;  
5/8 **Russ Miller**; 5/9 **Audrey Wood**;  
5/11 **Mary Burroughs**;  
5/12 **Peggy Apperson, Margo Heath, and Steve Ryken**;  
5/13 **Hollis Bascom**;  
5/14 **Will Matthews**;  
5/15 **Jim Hakanson**.

### Mid-April to Mid-May Anniversaries

4/19 **Elma & John Wagle**;  
5/5 **Jana & Peter Aloo**;  
5/6 **Sally & Bill D'Anjou, Sr., and Rene' & Rene Castle**.



## Joys

"Eden United Church of Christ" has over **395** fans now on **Facebook**. That's more people than we have on our snail mail list. Tell your Facebook friends, "You're welcome here!" and become a Facebook "fan."

**Ed Ogel** and **Rhodell Willard, Ruth Schaap,** and **Jeanne** and **Jim Schumann** were home to celebrate Easter with us!

For the participants and the Institute for Welcoming Resources trainers at the **Building An Inclusive Church** training, April 9-11, 2010.

## Prayer Requests

For our students, teachers, staff, administration, board members, and volunteers who work together for the good of our schools and communities.

For **Gene Bass**, Jan Bass' father, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy.

For **Lucas Blasquez**, Barbara Ryken's grandson, who is undergoing steroid treatments to ease breathing problems, and additional tests to determine the cause.

For **Todd Bove**, who is in the midst of a job search.

For **Doretta Brown**, who had surgery a week ago.

For **Rindie Chase**, who is undergoing chemotherapy. Rindie is a friend of the Payne family.

For **Robert DerMinasian**, whose father, Wayne, died on Sunday, April 11, in Fresno, CA.

For **Curtis Fuller**, who is living with cancer.

For **Susan Henson**, a friend of Susan MacDonald's, who is in the midst of a lengthy recovery process from bacterial meningitis.

For **Diane Hurd**, a close friend of the Smith-Bove family, who is living with a

recurrence of ovarian cancer.

For **Betsy Lauchstedt**, who is in The Health Center at Baywood Court.

For **the family of Evelyn Lawrence**. Evelyn died on Sunday, April 11, in San Jose, CA. She was the mother of the late Donald Lawrence.

For **Hans Mohring**, who underwent surgery on Jan. 21 to remove a malignant tumor. Hans is a very good friend of the Smith-Bove family.

For **the family of Clyde Nachand**. Clyde's funeral was held at Church of the Beatitudes United Church of Christ in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 1. Interment was at the National Cemetery of Arizona in Phoenix with full military honors. A Bay Area Celebration of Clyde's life was held April 10 at Eden Church.

For **the family of Muriel Price**, who died on Wednesday of last week. Muriel was Lucille Lorge's sister.

For **Jim Schmidt**, who is in the midst of radiation treatments. Jim is a friend of Susan DuPree's.

For **Jenny Shaw**, of Jenny's Café, as she continues chemotherapy and radiation treatments for breast cancer.

For **Allison Faith Tenca**, born March 24, 2010, who is still in Valley Care Hospital, being treated for birth complications. Her prognosis is unknown at this time. Allison is the infant great-grandchild of Susan DuPree and Hollis Bascom.

For **the family of Marin Tucker**. Marin died on Thursday, March 25. Her memorial service was held April 3 at Eden Church. Her ashes will be scattered in Monterey Bay later this month.

For **Dave Wallace**, who is looking for full-time employment and developing a math tutoring business.

For **Lori Woolman**, Mary Haro's sister, who is continuing treatment for Lyme disease and related back pain.

For **persons and families** who are seeking housing and employment, for all who are grieving the death of a loved one, and for those who are experiencing pain associated with these and other losses.

Continued prayers for **Anita, Bryan, Justin, Mel, Nick, Richard**, and all in the armed services; and for peace and justice in the world.

And for **Carlton Alexander, Mary Babikoff, Mary Bernstein, Jim Burgess, Juanita Chavez, Ann Dodd, Regina Fischer, Susan Fivelstad, Allen Gardiner, Clyde Howell, Angie Payne** and **Zachary Sherwood**.