

The Chimes

GOD IS STILL SPEAKING THROUGH SCIENCE



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 2009

Early 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

The dialogue between Christianity and the sciences has been riddled with a number of embarrassing moments for Christians like us who refuse to check our brains at the door when we enter the church. Some notable low moments in the comingled history of Christianity and science include the following:

- Pope Urban VIII's excommunication of Galileo for advancing a theory that the sun is the center of the universe rather than earth.
- The Church of England's initial mixed response to Darwin's theories of natural selection and evolution.
- Christian fundamentalists' opposition to the inclusion of Darwin's theories in public school science curriculum.
- Some Christians' rejection of modern medicine and medical care.
- Many Christian denominations' rejection of modern social science and psychological findings that affirm gender and sexual diversity among human beings and across cultures.
- Natural theologians' resistance to genetic research and testing, and blanket prohibitions against cloning.

In an effort to celebrate the higher moments in the shared history between the realms of faith and science, to encourage the dialogue within and among both realms, and to proclaim Eden's belief that God is still speaking through science, we join other progressive Christians, Unitarian Universalists, and Jewish congregations across North America this February in focusing on the relationship between faith and science in our worship, study, and fellowship.

See pages 2 and 3 of this issue of Chimes to learn more about the faith and science events planned at Eden Church this month, including our Souper Sunday workshops, a sermon on faith and medicine, the Spirit-In-Action worship service, and an outing to the Chabot Space and Science Center.

For more information about the initiative that sparked our theme, go to www.theclergyletterproject.org. Position papers and other faith and science resources produced by the United Church of Christ are available at www.ucc.org/not-mutually-exclusive.

Arlene

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!

Students Enjoy a Mid-Winter Retreat

Russ Miller reports that the group of middle school students who attended the Mid-Winter Retreat "had beautiful weather, warm windless days and cold, crisp and clear nights. A wonderful time was had by all." From the smiles on everyone's faces we think you'll agree!



Natalie Guier



Hayden Payne



Ryan Miller

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. Editor: Liz McKay, ESLO Coordinator.



Bogan Keiger



Russ Miller and Chris

Get Fit in the New Year

Do any of your New Year's resolutions include better health and fitness? If so, consider joining Yoga at Eden. Classes meet for one hour on Monday evening beginning at 7 p.m. in the Jensen Room. The first class is free! The suggested fee for individual sessions is \$12 or \$60 for six sessions (more if you can; less if you can't). Our excellent instructor, Amanda Sharpe, is an experienced teacher who works well with all levels of expertise and physical ability. Prior to becoming a yoga instructor, Amanda worked as a community-based physical therapist.

*Earl Lectures 2009:
January 27-29
"Behold... a New Thing: Emerging Expressions of Faithfulness"*

Each January, the Pacific School of Religion (PSR) hosts the annual Earl Lectures and Pastoral Conference in Berkeley. This year the three-day event will give an opportunity for participants to experience and critically reflect on the new forms of spirituality and worship associated with the "emerging church." The program is open to people in ministry and the general public; see the PSR website (www.psr.edu) for more information, including a schedule of events and a

**"Faith and Science"
Month Events at Eden**

- February 1** – Souper Sunday
- February 15** – Faith & Medicine Sermon
- February 21** – Spirit-In-Action Worship Service
- February 28** – Eden Family Outing to the Chabot Space and Science Center

registration form. Contact Brenda Loreman or Arlene Nehring if you'd like to join a car-pool to any part of the Earl Lectures. For information about keynote, workshops and workshop leaders, registration fees, and special events related to the lectures, please see the PSR website or the publicity posted on the church kiosk in the narthex.

Bike & Biker Blessing

Ride or bring your bike to church on Sunday, **February 8**, for a special blessing of the bikes and bikers in our congregation and wider community. This blessing will be led by our Senior Minister, the Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, 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, 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 Pathfinders, a local 12-step biker club.

*February Valentine's Day Luncheon
Tickets On Sale Now!*

Everyone is invited to the annual Valentine's Day luncheon to benefit the church operating budget. Come on Thursday, February 12, at 12 noon, to share in a delicious meal and enjoy musical entertainment provided by Eden's own Gayle Marie. Gayle Marie is a professional singer, and voice and piano teacher. She will also present Ginger, a miniature poodle, who does dog dancing routines. Tickets are \$10 and are available in the church office or during coffee hour from Audrey Wood or Suzie Hasselkuss. Please see Mary Graw for more information or if you'd like to help out.

February Souper Sunday

On Sunday, **February 1**, the Souper Sunday returns with food, fellowship, and workshops for the whole family. Sign up in the Oliver Hall kitchen to bring soup and then plan to stay for one of three exciting workshops. Each of the three workshops will help us begin to investigate how we can hold our own beliefs in God while remaining part of the 21st century scientific community.

The three workshops are designed around various elements of scientific research; natural sciences, social sciences, and laboratory sciences. Nora Crans will be sharing her work in the natural sciences, particularly how her faith beliefs and scientific knowledge intersect in her job as a nurse. Stephanie Spencer will present the social science workshop relating to her studies in anthropology. Bob Turner will run a hands-on science lab for kids in the Jensen room. Join us for a day of worship, fellowship, food, and exploration!

A Night Under the Stars at the Chabot Space and Science Center

The next Eden Family Outing will be on Sunday, **February 28** from 5-10 PM. Everyone is invited to go to the Chabot Space and Science Center to see an IMAX movie, enjoy the exhibits, go to the planetarium show, followed by a sky viewing from the three large telescopes. Look for flyers and permissions slips soon, registration deadline will be Wednesday, February 25. All ages are welcome and there will be a discounted cost for children and seniors. For financial assistance please see Pastor Arlene. For more information about the event please see Liz McKay.

Senior High School Students Feb Camp is Coming Soon!

Calling all Senior High School students: you're invited to attend Feb Camp at Monte Toyon, sponsored by the UCC Northern California Nevada Conference (NCNC). From Saturday, February 14 to Monday, February 16, head to camp in Aptos for a weekend filled with outdoor activities and a chance to make new friends. Camp cost is \$175 by January 30. After January 30 the cost is \$190. Registration deadline is Thursday, February 12. Scholarship money is available by talking to Pastor Arlene. A flyer and copies of the registration forms can be found in the church office. Remember all registration forms and fees must be submitted to the NCNC Conference office located on the second floor of the east wing. For more information contact Liz McKay, liz@edenucc.com.

The Gift of Flowers

The 2009 Flower Calendar is ready to take your sign-ups! Consider signing up to provide communion table flowers in honor or memory of someone or some occasion. There are dates remaining in 2009 on the Flower Calendar. The Flower Calendar is located in the church office Copy Room. For more information about how this all works, see Mary Burroughs.



The next Spirit-In-Action Worship Service will be on Sunday, **February 21**. Join the Board of Community Ministries as they host a more contemporary worship service in Oliver Hall. This year's theme will focus on "Connectedness to Eden, our community, and our wider earth." Come to hear reflections on some of the outreach events the past year, a meditation about our planet, and fill your spirit as we prepare to move into the new year of programming.

All Are Welcome to the UCC Identity Seminars

You're invited to attend the upcoming UCC Identity Seminars sponsored by the NCNC Conference office. These seminars are open to all laypersons and clergy to help understand how the UCC operates as a denomination and what it means to be a member of the UCC. To register or for more information, email office@ncnccucc.org or phone Joy Davis at 510-247-8995.

UCC IDENTITY SEMINAR 1: MINISTRY IN THE UCC

Most everything you ever wanted to know about the processes of authorization for ministry, standards for accountability, expectations of authorized ministers, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, **February 7** Eden UCC, 21455 Birch St, Hayward Lunch will be provided with an offering for the cost.

UCC IDENTITY SEMINAR 2: UCC HISTORY

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, **March 21** Orinda Community UCC, 10 Irwin Way This Seminar will be part of Church Day- See the February-March Pacific for more info

UCC IDENTITY SEMINAR 3: UCC Polity

How we're organized; how we do things 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday, **May 28** Asilomar, Pacific Grove

UCC IDENTITY SEMINAR 4: UCC THEOLOGY

UCC THEOLOGIES/UCC THEOLOGIZING 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, **October 3** Location to be arranged; in the Central Valley



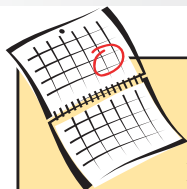
Shopping List

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

February Needs:

- Washable tempera paint
- Elmer's glue
- Fruit snacks (for the nursery)
- Thermal coffee cups (8 oz.)
(Costco San Ramon has them)
- Birthday and anniversary cards with their envelopes
- Costco gift cards
("Cash" cards)

Please no Styrofoam anything (cups, plates, etc). See anyone who helped Save the Bay September 20 for an explanation.



**Coming Attractions—
Mark Your Calendars!**

January 17–19, NCNC Mid-Winter Retreat for Jr. High Students
February 1, Souper Sunday
February 7, NCNC UCC Identity Seminar 1: Ministry in the UCC
February 12, Valentine's Luncheon
February 14–16, NCNC Feb Camp Retreat for Sr. High Students
February 22, Spirit-In-Action Worship Service
February 25, Ash Wednesday Service
February 26, Choir Rehearsal
February 28, Eden Family Outing
March 21, NCNC UCC Identity Seminar 2: UCC History
March 21, Dinner & Auction
March 22, Inquirers' Gathering
March 29, Potluck Sunday
April 4, All-Church Work Day
April 5, Palm Sunday; Baptism & New Members
April 9, Maundy Thursday Service
April 10, Good Friday Service
April 12, Easter
May 3, Souper Sunday
May 9, Spirit-In-Action: Shelter Shuffle
May 16, Youth Outing
May 28, NCNC UCC Identity Seminar 3: UCC Polity
May 28–31, NCNC UCC Annual Meeting @ Asilomar
June 7, Finale Sunday
June 14, Summer Celebration Begins
June 14, Inquirers' Gathering
June 28, Baptism & New Members
July 5–11, NCNC CIT Camp at Cazadero
July 7–11, NCNC Kids Camp (2-4) at Cazadero
July 12–18, NCNC Junior Hi Camp (7-9) at Cazadero
July 18, Spirit in Action Event
July 19–25, NCNC Junior Camp (5-6) at Cazadero
July 26–August 1, NCNC Senior Hi Camp (10-12) at Cazadero
July 26–August 1, NCNC Junior and Junior Hi Camp (5-8) at Tamarack
August 2–8, NCNC Senior Hi Camp (9-12) at Tamarack
August 2–16, FESCO Backpacks collection
August 7–9, NCNC Young Adult Retreat at Cazadero
August 22, Choir Retreat
September 13, Parent-Teacher Gathering
September 19, Spirit in Action Event
September 20, Open House Sunday; Church School Begins; Souper Sunday
October 3, NCNC UCC Identity Seminar 4: UCC Theology
October 7–November 18, Music Making at Midweek (Wednesdays)
October 18, Souper Sunday
October 24, Family Outing
November 15, Souper Sunday
December 6, Candlelight Carols
December 9, FESCO Luncheon
December 13, Christmas Pageant & Happy Birthday Jesus
December 24, Christmas Eve Service



Joys

For **the newcomers** we have in worship every Sunday.
 For **Russell Cowick**, who played the lead role in Seussical at the Pleasanton Middle School.
 For **Natalie Guier, Bogan Keiger, Ryan Miller, Hayden Payne, and Russ Miller**, who attended the NCNC UCC Midwinter Camp last weekend.

For **our many wonderful volunteers** who have stepped forward to help staff the church office during our search for a new Church Administrator, and for those who continue to assist with church publications.

We received the gift of a restored **Baldwin small grand piano for Pioneer Chapel**, from the Rush family, in memory of their mother and grandmother, Gwen Rush, a long-time Eden Church member who served as our Church School pianist in the 1950s, and who was a beloved elementary school teacher in the Castro Valley district.

Prayer Requests

Please let Arlene know of any updates or new concerns.

For **Debby and Stephanie Andrade**, who are experiencing some challenges at this time. Debby is in a job search and the family is in a housing search. Alternate housing is needed March 1, preferably in the Fremont-Newark area.

For **Anne-Marie Baucox-Jordan**, who has been a patient at Washington Hospital in Fremont, recovering from an infection.

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

For **George Bowers**, Holly Guier's father, who has had a recurrence of lung cancer.

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

For **Dan Downing**, who was diagnosed with liver cancer, and who is awaiting a transplant. Dan is a friend of the Smith-Bove family.

For **Curtis Fuller**, who is being treated for a recurrence of cancer.

For **Allen Gardiner**, who is in rehab at Laurel Gove recovering from a stroke.

For **Margaret and Jan Gardiner**, Allen Gardiner's mother and sister, as they cope with life transitions.

For **John Gonzales** and all who are living with cancer.

For **Lucille Hood**, Cliff Sherwood's cousin, who is recovering from her sixth hip replacement surgery.

For **Phyllis Anderson**, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

For **the family of Eileen Miller**, Russ and Jenifer Miller's sister in-law, who died recently after a short illness.

For **Barbara Perry**, who had surgery on January 7 to remove a nonmalignant brain tumor.

For **Ed Reuling**, who is recovering from hip surgery.

For members and friends who are experiencing infertility and for those in the early stages of pregnancy.

Continued prayers for **Mary Babikoff; Liston Bascom; Mary Bernstein; Keith Boyer; Jim Burgess; Juanita Chavez; Connie; Ann Dodd; Regina Fischer; Susan Fivelstad; Clyde Howell; Gayle Kreutzfeld; Nancy Wallace; and Joy Youngs.**

February 2009

Duty Roster

Date	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22	February 25
Liturgical Season	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany <i>Communion</i> WHITE	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany GREEN	Seventh Sunday after Epiphany GREEN	Transfiguration Sunday Spirit-In-Action WHITE	Lent Ash Wednesday VIOLET
Scripture	Deut 18:1-20 Ps 111; I Cor 8:1-13 ; Mk 1:21-28	Is 40:21-31; Ps 147:1-11, 20c; I Cor 9:16-23; Mk 1:29-39	2 Kings 5:1-14 ; Ps 30; I Cor 9:24-27; Mk 1:40-45	2 Kings 2:1-12; Ps 50:1-6; 2 Cor 4:3-6; Mk 9:2-9	Is 58:1-12; Ps 51:1-17; 2 Cor 5:20 b-6:10; Mt 6:16-21
Preacher	Arlene K. Nehring	Arlene K. Nehring	Arlene K. Nehring	Spirit-In-Action Leaders	Arlene K. Nehring
Liturgist	Bill Coburn	Michael Stuber	Susan MacDonald	Susan Whiting	Mary Haro & Pepper Swanson
Children's Time	Pepper Swanson	Pepper Swanson	Liz McKay	Arlene K. Nehring	NA
Loving Arms Nursery	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	TBD
Sunday School	Brent and Holly Guier (K-5); Cheryl, Tom & Patty C. (6-8) 9-12 in worship	Sally D'Anjou & John Hasselkuss (K-5); Cheryl, Tom & Patty C. (6-8); Bill D'Anjou (9-12)	Holiday weekend, no classes, all kids in worship or nursery	Todd Bove and Keith Smith (K-5); 6-12 in worship	No classes
Office	Audrey Wood	Barbara Lateer	Ann Newey	Ruth Jenkins	NA
Greeters	John Hasselkuss & Debby Andrade	Blaine, Patty, Russell, & James Cowick	Alliene Turner & Betsy Lauchstedt	Pat Ball & Suzie Casey	Stephanie Spencer & TBD
Ushers	Todd Bove, Herb Graw, Pat Payne, & Michael Stuber	Bill D'Anjou, Sr., Ann Newey, Billie Sherwood, & Ted Wallis	Scott Swanson, Bob Turner, Susan Whiting, & Audrey Wood	Peggy Apperson, Kevin Casey, Kay Crosby, & Frank Jenkins	(Anointers) Mary Haro & Pepper Swanson
Other/ After Worship	Deacons & FESCO Offerings, Souper Sunday workshops	"Blessing of the Bikes & the Bikers," Fellowship	Fellowship, NCNC Feb Camp Retreat (Sr. High)	Spirit-In-Action Worship, Fellowship	7:00 Worship in Pioneer Chapel, Nursery in West Wing

K-5th grade children should be picked up from their classroom immediately following worship. Middle and high school students will join their families in Oliver Hall at 11:30 AM. Nursery care is available at any time during worship for children age six and younger.

February 2009

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Communion</i> <i>Chimes</i> <i>Deadline</i> <i>FESCO</i> <i>Collection</i> <i>Bring-a-friend</i> <i>Sunday</i> <i>Souper</i> <i>Sunday</i> 12:00 Souper Sunday Workshops	2 7 Yoga	3 12:30 Staff Mtg. 2 Worship Planning 7 Cabinet Mtg.	4 10 Seekers	5 10 Safe Congregation s Frontliners Mtg. 7:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sectionals)	6	7
8 <i>Blessing of</i> <i>the Bikes</i> 11:30 BCoM Meeting	9 7 Yoga	10 2 Worship Planning 6 Trustees Mtg.	11 10 Seekers 7 BCM Meeting	12 12 Valentine's Luncheon 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	13	14
15 <i>Chimes</i> <i>Deadline</i>	16 President's Day Church Office Closed	17 11 Triangle Staff Mtg. 2 Worship Planning 7 Eden COR	18 10 Seekers 7 Reiki	19 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	20	21 4 Set up for Spirit-in- Action Worship
22 <i>Spirit-in-</i> <i>Action</i> <i>Worship</i> <i>Service</i>	23	24 2 Worship Planning	25 10 Seekers 7 Ash Wednesday Service	26 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	27	28 5 Eden Family Outing