

The Chimes

WE'RE HAVING A BALL!

Those who were around the first weekend of August shared in Stephanie's and my joy of hosting our niece, Chrisie, and her fiancé, Kaleb. It was their first trip to California as a couple. They are natives of Northwest Arkansas. Kaleb had never traveled west of the Rockies. Chrisie has never spent more than a couple of days in a big city.

Many of you commented on their youth, their sweetness, and their innocence. It's all true. What you see is what you get with our kids.

Stephanie and I reveled in their surprise that people live on houseboats in Sausalito. The kids were awed by the size of the container ships that sail into the Bay, and they fell in love with the old-growth redwood forest at Mariposa. These are just a few of our memories. Each is priceless to us.

We took delight, too, in their experience of Eden Church. Chrisie had not visited Eden since the renovation had been completed. Kaleb, who had never been here before, was also blown away by the beauty of our music. He had never heard a pipe organ played or an opera singer sing before.

All the oos and ahs aside, our darling hillbillies were most impressed with your warm sense of hospitality and how much fun they had at church. When I dropped them off at the airport at the end of their visit, Kaleb said, "Hey, we had a blast with your church!" Chrisie said, "Yah, everyone was so nice. We had a ball. We're definitely coming back soon!"

You know that Stephanie and I are proud of our kids, but we also want you to know how proud we are of you, and that we have fun with you every day. We hope that you're having a ball too, and that you'll join us in inviting those who are dear to you into the life and ministry of Eden Church, for a day or forever.

Our leadership groups have tons of fun stuff planned for the coming year. Take a look inside this issue of Chimes to learn about upcoming events, and scan the recently refreshed list of "Coming Attractions;" I think you'll agree, 2009-2010 is going to be a very fun year.

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!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Early September
2009

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

Come Join the Eden Choir!

For all who love to sing, 9th grade and up, YOU are welcome. Rehearsals begin Thursday, **September 9**, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Come and be a part of lifting up the message each Sunday. YOU are welcome in the choir!

“Eden Family” Outing to Ardenwood

Our “Eden Family” gathered at Ardenwood Farms in Fremont on Sunday, **August 15**, for a picnic, time with the animals, and old-fashioned games on the lawn. It was a great way to help introduce the Steward family to more of the family activities that the Bay Area has to offer. Look for details beginning in September about our October family outing to the redwood forest sponsored by the mid-high youth group.

The Swanson’s 10th Vow Renewal

Scott and Pepper Swanson cordially invite their Eden family to attend the 10th annual renewal of their wedding vows on Friday, **September 11**. A brief informal ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. in Pioneer Chapel, followed by cake and ice cream in the Fireside Room. Children are welcome.



Adults Stay Cool in the Shade



Miller Family Gets into Tug-o-War

Baptism and Reception of New Members

At Eden Church and in our United Church of Christ tradition, we celebrate baptism with persons of every age from infants to elders. 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. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism and Reception of New Members next on **September 13**. Please speak with our pastor, the Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, if you or someone dear to you would like to receive the Sacrament of Christian Baptism or be received into church membership.

Have a Ball at Open House Sunday

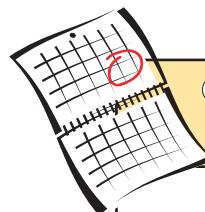
Sunday, **September 20**, is Open House Sunday at Eden UCC. This day is especially designed to help introduce newcomers to the life and ministry of Eden Church. Please begin planning and inviting friends, neighbors, and extended family to Eden for this very fun Sunday. The E-Team will present all of our visitors and those who bring them with GISS beach balls. Our full-fledged church school program will resume, classrooms will be open for tours, and teachers will be on hand to meet and greet children, youth, and families. The Fellowship Committee will provide a free yummy lunch. And information will be available about Eden Church programs offered in the coming year.

Families and Church School Teachers Get Ready!

All families and church teachers are encouraged to join us for a gathering from 11:30-12:30 p.m. following worship on Sunday, **September 13**. Join us to meet our new and returning church school teachers, learn about curriculum plans for the upcoming year, and discuss how you can bring the lessons to life at home. To sign up to be a church school teacher or for more information about the gathering please see Liz McKay. As a reminder all adults interested in working with children and youth must be screened by our Safe Congregation Policies and Procedures. Copies of the policy are available in the church office or online at www.edenucc.com/youth.

Building an Inclusive Church

Eden Church will host an ecumenical Building an Inclusive Church Training Workshop from **October 23-25**. This workshop is for people interested in learning more about how to increase the number of faith-based communities which openly welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. As host, Eden will be working with other local open and affirming churches to provide meals, transportation, organizational support, and possibly housing for the Workshop participants. If you would like to join a team of Eden individuals who will shop, cook, host guests, and perform other important support roles for the Training, please contact Pepper Swanson.



Coming Attractions— Mark Your Calendars!

- August 30**, Inquirer’s Gathering
- September 5**, Fields Tyler Family Auction BBQ
- September 12**, Spirit-in-Action: Save the Bay
- September 13**, Baptism & Reception of New Members
- September 13**, Parent-Teacher Gathering
- September 20**, Open House Sunday; Church School Begins
- September 25**, Confirmation Supper & Class
- October 3**, Blessing of the Animals
- October 4**, World Communion Sunday; Neighbors in Need
- October 10**, NCNC Jr. High Fall Family Festival, SF Zoo
- October 11**, Inquirer’s Gathering
- October 17**, “Eden Family” Outing to the Redwood Forest
- October 23**, Confirmation Class
- October 23-25**, UCC Building an Inclusive Church Training
- October 25**, Baptism & Reception of New Members, New Member Photos
- October 25**, Potluck Sunday
- November 1**, All Saints Sunday
- November 7**, PSR Lay Theological Day
- November 8**, Holiday Bazaar
- November 13-14**, Confirmation Class Sleepover
- November 22**, Souper Sunday
- December 6**, Inquirer’s Gathering
- December 6**, Choral Christmas Concert
- December 9**, FESCO Luncheon
- December 13**, Baptism, Reception of New Members, Christmas Pageant & Happy Birthday Jesus
- December 20**, Lessons & Carols
- December 24**, Christmas Eve Service



Spirit-In-Action

Eden UCC Can Help Save the Bay

Now is the time to register for the ecology project that was Eden's favorite last year. We have arranged a special volunteer day for Eden and our invited guests with "Save the Bay", a nonprofit organization dedicated to celebrating, protecting, and restoring our beautiful San Francisco Bay. This is a great chance to visit an off-limits site and learn about the future of salt pond restoration work. The program is part of Save the Bay's ongoing wetland restoration project with their site partner, the California Department of Fish and Game. Restoring this former salt pond will increase habitat for threatened and endangered waterfowl, shorebirds, and fish, and will provide recreation opportunities for residents who have been walled off from the shoreline for decades.

Date: Saturday, September 12, 2009

Meet: Eden Church at 8:00 a.m. and carpool to site

Work: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Eden Landing Ecological Reserve

Potluck: Oliver Hall, 12:30 p.m.

Last year we had fifty people participate in this event, and we are eager to match that number again this year. It is an educational program so families are welcome and all ages are allowed, as long as parents maintain responsibility over their children. Many activities can be modified with your supervision for an enriching day. Since the reserve is a locked area, we must all enter and leave at the same time so be sure that you are able to work the full three hours.

To join the fun and Help Save the Bay, sign up today with Jacque Blake in Oliver Hall or send her an e-mail at prima-diva@comcast.net. Be sure to include the name, e-mail, and phone number for each participant including any of your invited guests. This is an activity that is fun for everyone, but also gives us the satisfaction that we are helping preserve this God-given planet. If you have a conflict and just can't attend, invite at least three people in your place!

FESCO Backpacks

Many thanks to all those who brought in school supplies and backpacks for the annual drive to benefit FESCO (the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition). Over 100 backpacks filled with supplies were collected. During worship on Sunday, August 16, Pastor Arlene held a special children's gathering where all backpacks were blessed, including those belonging to Eden children and youth.



Getting Ready to Bless the Backpacks



Birthday Cards!



Happy Birthday Arlene and Jessica!



Shopping List

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

September 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)
- Birthday and anniversary cards with their envelopes
- 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.

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



Ramping Up for Kevin's Homecoming

Big THANKS to Dan Apperson, Steve Ryken, and Bob Turner who designed, built, and painted a new ramp at the Casey's home last week, in preparation for Kevin's homecoming which is estimated to be September 9.



Work in Progress

Another big THANKS to Mary Haro, John and Suzie Hasselkuss, Stephanie Spencer, and Michael Stuber, who helped Suzi and Andrew unpack and rearrange the furniture at the Casey's home, so that Kevin will have an easier time getting around.

And thanks to Suzie Hasselkuss, who organized Eden's wonderful cooks, who provided the Casey family with six weeks of home-cooked meals during and following Kevin's rehab and release; and thanks to Lorene Kiger, who delivered the meals to the Casey's home.



Joys

We have **newcomers** in worship every Sunday.

Thanks to all those who participated in a successful **calendar meeting** last month. We have many exciting activities and events in store for the coming year!

Godspeed to **Brenda Loreman**, who has begun her second MIT experience—this time at First Christian Church in Concord. Brenda has been a member of Eden Church since 1996, and is a second-year student at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, where she is enrolled in the M. Div. program.

For **Angelina Collier**, who is home from Children's Hospital.

For all of our **students, teachers, staff, and administrators** who resumed classes or will resume classes in the very near future.

Prayer Requests

For **Ryan Bhalla**, John Jobst's three-year-old nephew, who broke two bones in his elbow on Thursday, August 13.

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

For **Kevin Casey**, who is in rehab recovering from cardiac bypass surgery and a major stroke incurred at the end of June. Contact the church office for mailing and visiting information.

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

For **the Collier family**, who are searching for a different home to rent in the Hayward area.

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

For **Lucille Hood**, Cliff Sherwood's cousin, who is suffering from complications of hip replacement surgery.

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

For **Angie Payne**, Steve Payne's mother, who is in poor health.

For the family and friends of **Ed Saenz**, who are experiencing several challenges.

For **Lori Woolman**, Mary Haro's sister, who is being treated for Lyme disease.

Continued prayers for **Anita, Nick, Bryan, 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, Allan Gardiner, Clyde Howell, Win Lockerby, and Helen Van Stone.**

September 2009

Duty Roster

Date	September 6	September 13	September 20	September 27
Liturgical Season	Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Communion WHITE	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost GREEN	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost GREEN	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost GREEN
Scripture	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 Psalm 125 James 2:1-17 Mark 7:24-37	Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19 James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38	Psalm 1 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50
Preacher	Pepper Swanson	Arlene Nehring	Arlene Nehring	Arlene Nehring
Liturgist	Izzi Newey	Rob Parrish	Dave Wallace	Jan Bass
Children's Time	Arlene Nehring	Pepper Swanson	Pepper Swanson	Liz McKay
Loving Arms Nursery	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles	Angelica Johnson & Roni Iles
Sunday School	Children's Sermon with Arlene (Fireside)	TBD, Summer Celebration	Liz McKay and John Hasselkuss, K-2; Ed and Pam Reuling, 3-5; Patty Cowick, Cheryl and Tom Fields Tyler, 6-9; Michael Stuber and Betsy Lauchstedt 10-12	Sally D'Anjou and Jan Bass, K-2; Keith Smith and Todd Bove, 3-5; Patty Cowick, Cheryl and Tom Fields Tyler, 6-9; Bill D'Anjou, 10-12
Office	Audrey Wood	Barbara Lateer	Ann Newey	Ruth Jenkins
Greeters	John Hasselkuss & Debby Andrade	Blaine, Patty, Russell & James Cowick	Alliene Turner & Betsy Lauchstedt	Pat Ball & Cindy Keune
Ushers	Todd Bove, Herb Graw, Pat Payne & Michael Stuber	Kay Crosby, Ann Newey, Billie Sherwood & Ted Wallis	Scott Swanson, Bob Turner, Susan Whiting & Audrey Wood	Peggy Apperson, Bill D'Anjou, Sr., Frank Jensen & Frank Jenkins
Fellowship Hour Hosts	Alliene Turner	Jennifer Aguilar	BCM	TBD
Trustee on Duty	Pat Payne	Bob Turner	TBD	TBD
Other/After Worship	Deacon's/FESCO Offerings; Fellowship Hour <i>Chimes</i> deadline	Baptisms & Reception of New Members; Choir resumes; Fellowship Hour; Parent-Teacher Gathering	Open House Sunday/Lunch; Bring-A-Friend; Church School resumes; <i>Chimes</i> deadline	Fellowship Hour

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 five and younger.

September 2009

Calendar

		1 12:30 Staff 2 Worship Planning 7 Cabinet	2	3	4	5 5:30 Fields- Tyler BBQ
6 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship <i>Chimes</i> Deadline; FESCO Collection	7 Labor Day <i>Church Office Closed</i> No Yoga today	8 10 BCoM 2 Worship Planning 6 Trustees	9 10 Seekers 2 UCC Clergy Bible Study 7 BCM	10 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	11 7 Swanson Renewal of Vows	12 8 SIA: Save-the- Bay
13 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship 11:30 Parent- Teacher Gathering	14 5:45 Gentle Yoga 7:15 Yoga Flow	15 2 Worship Planning 7 Eden COR	16 10 Seekers 2 UCC Clergy Bible Study 7 BCM	17 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	18	19
20 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship 11 Open House <i>Chimes</i> Deadline	21 5:45 Gentle Yoga 7:15 Yoga Flow	22 2 Worship Planning 7 Steward- ship	23 10 Seekers 2 UCC Clergy Bible Study	24 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	25 5:30 Confirm- ation Supper & Class	26
27 9 Music Rehearsal 10 Worship	28 5:45 Gentle Yoga 7:15 Yoga Flow	29 2 Worship Planning	30 10 Seekers 2 UCC Clergy Bible Study	31 7:30 Choir Rehearsal		

Every Sunday: 9:00 Music Rehearsal • 10:00 Worship & Church School • 11:15 Fellowship
To see Eden's full calendar of events visit <http://calendar.yahoo.com/edenfolks>