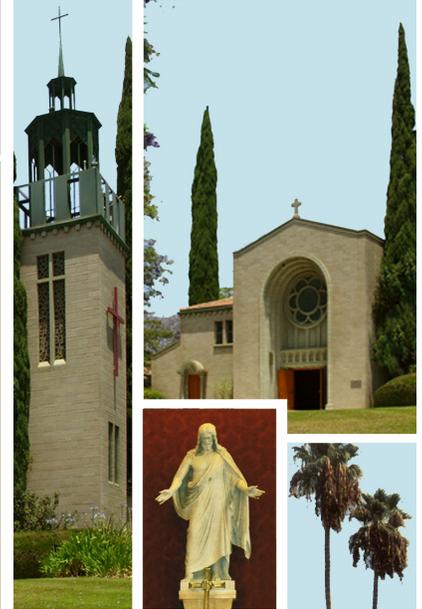
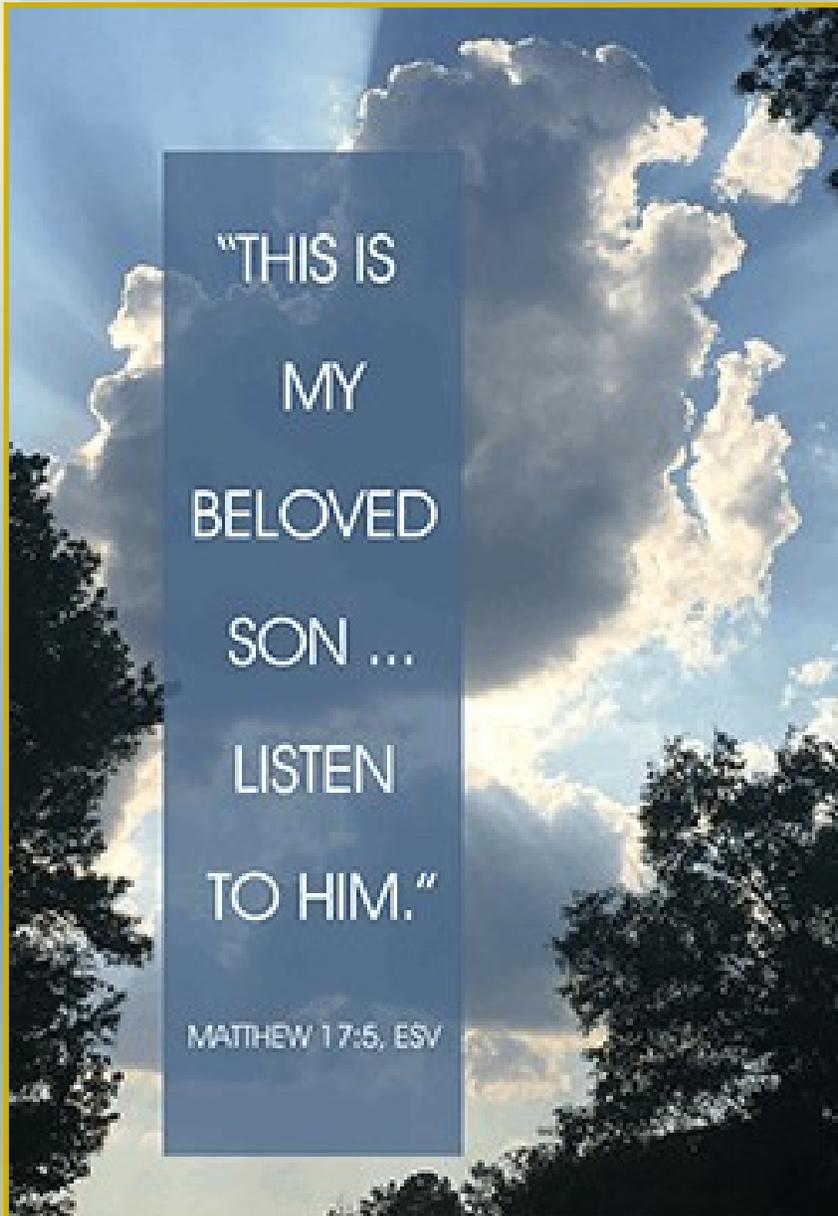


The Messenger

February 2021

A Monthly Non-Profit Newsletter for

EDEN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



FEBRUARY'S FEATURES

From Pastor's Pen
Page 1

President's Message
Page 2

ELCW Handiwork
Page 4

Council Highlights
Page 5

Bulletin Board
page 6

Synod News
page 8

Virtual Winter Retreat
page 9

Eden's Mission: . . . "to love God and all people in Jesus Christ, drawing others into a relationship with him, working together to expand his reign of hope, justice, and peace in our community, and the world."

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

from Pastors Pen	1
President's Message	2
Our Eden Family	3
Handiwork	4
Council Highlights	5
Bulletin Board	6
Get connected! Synod News	8
God's Work, Our Hands	12

Signup for email/ Online worship updates!

The Zoom link for worship is emailed out each Friday to everyone subscribed to the newsletter. Sign-up now to receive Eden's Lutheran's announcements, news, and Zoom worship information:

<https://edenlutheran.org/signup-for-email-updates/>



ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

**MODAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY
TIME: 07:00 PM PACIFIC TIME (US AND CANADA)
EVERY WEEK ON MON, PLEASE JOIN US AS YOU CAN
ALL ARE WELCOME**

Looking Ahead:

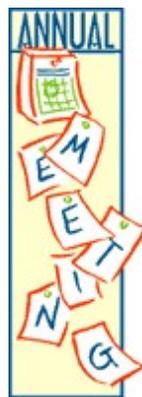
February 1-28: Black History Month
February 2: Groundhog Day
February 7: Boy Scout Sunday
February 14: Transfiguration Sunday
February 14: Valentine's Day
February 15: Presidents' Day

February 17: Ash Wednesday



February 21: Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, February 21**. Please plan to join us via Zoom following worship. In addition to reports and the Stephens Award presentation, we will select voting members for the synod assembly. See Council Highlights for more info.

****Please submit any reports for the annual meeting to Sarah at:
info@edenlutheran.net
by Friday, February 12.**

- Pastor Linda -
office: 951.684.3336
E-mail: edenpastorlinda@gmail.com

Mark 1 : 9-11 “⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

Happy New Year to all. That being said unfortunately, in some cases, we have begun this new year of 2021 in much the same way we ended last year.

My hope is that this will be a better year for us on the a whole with positive news on the Covid front in the offing. Also, my prayer is that the end of this year will be far better than this one began.

What I would like to focus on for this Messenger article is the gospel reading that we had for January 10th which was the baptism of Jesus according to St. Mark. Each year on the second Sunday of the new year the story of Jesus’ baptism is the assigned text whether it be from the gospels of Matthew, Mark, or Luke.



This year, with the current events in this country such as they are, I felt it was more important than ever for us to remember not only our own baptism and the importance of that event in our Christian lives as it pertains to the promises God offers us, but to REALLY HEAR the words that the voice from heaven said to Jesus that day as the heavens were torn apart as the Holy Spirit descended. **‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’**

In these words God was affirming Jesus as His Son, as the Beloved, the One in whom He was well pleased. Following Jesus’ baptism, in Mark’s gospel at least, Jesus was immediately ‘driven’ out into the wilderness for 40 days, by that same Holy Spirit mind you, to be tempted by Satan as Jesus began His earthly ministry.

My question for us to ponder this month is: So how about you? Do you

hear/do you believe these words that were said to Jesus that day are meant for you as well? Do you believe that you are also God’s beloved son or daughter in whom God is well pleased?

I challenge you to take these words to heart as we begin this new year of possibility. That you truly believe yourself to be God’s beloved and go out into the world to show this world exactly what a beloved child of the Most High God looks like. And to take it one step further—to show the world how a beloved child of God acts in service and benefit to all. It does not have to be anything grandiose. It could be something as easy as helping a neighbor, smiling at a person in the market, opening a door for someone, anything. But heaven knows this country and this world of ours could use some Godlike acts of service and kindness to our fellow human beings right about now.

Maybe that is something we could resolve to do this year. To show the world just what a beloved child of God looks like and acts like. What a blessing that would be.

Happy 2021 to all you beloved children of God,

Pastor Linda

F R O M
P A S T O R ’ S
P E N



PASTOR LINDA





Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is January 10 and I am trying to write a message that will be pertinent to you in February before we have the January Council meeting and as we prepare for a February Council yet to come and a congregational meeting. I always find these issues a challenge as I am not, nor have ever claimed to be prophetic or foretelling. But, I do know some things – if you are reading this you are still surviving

the pandemic, you still have your faith and you are still connected to the family of believers at Eden and for all these things I give praise and thanks.

As we prepare for upcoming meetings and actions we do need to be concerned about and make some decisions. Not because we lack faith but, because we are and wish to remain good stewards of all the graces and generosity of this church. We will be discussing the yearly finances and we have much to be grateful for in the Crumm funds – but, not as an excuse to do less than we are absolutely capable of to sustain ourselves and this church. We are currently spending more than we are taking in month to month – this is unsustainable and if we dip into the principal or corpus of the endowment it too will be much shorter lived than we would have hoped.



We have trimmed as much as possible unless we make some challenging decisions – do we see ourselves as part of a two-church call meaning sharing a pastor with another congregation? Can we somehow get an additional cell tower on the property to double our income from those leases? Is there a way to lease parking spaces beyond those to the courts – say to RCC students and if so, how do we monitor it? Do, we do without what? Or could we grow the congregation by being more invitational to others, or more connected to our neighbors? Or by live streaming our services even when we get back to being in the church sanctuary? Or by becoming a truly reconciling congregation committed to our LGBTQ community? Do we find a way to reach out to the young people at RCC, UCR? Do we create a space for the college age adults to come around purposeful themes of action in the community? I don't have the answers but these are the questions that I ponder as I try to continue to lead us forward focused on SERVING Christ and Community.

We have to find ways to grow as a church – whether by each one, reach one and have them join or by some other way – we are heading into the season of LENT and the remembrance of all that Christmas meant in the promise of the Savior and our Lord's ever present Grace and Mercy. How can we NOT want to share and do church together – especially with those not yet here.

As always in service to HIM and you,

Jay



OUR EDEN FAMILY



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

6	Joan Seidel
7	Harvey Clark
	Carole Hodgerson
8	Mary Ann VanStockum
13	Geri Engberg
16	Shanna Done
17	Austin White
19	Donis Borks
20	Luke Williams
21	Raymond Brouse
	Donna Darwin
22	Stephanie VanStockum
25	Makayla Dewiel
26	Ann Marie Sansom
	Sandra Abreu
27	Don Eissfeldt
	Morgan Harris
29	Theora Ross



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

18	Larry ♥ Judy Subriar
	Jon ♥ Lynne Uusitalo
25	George ♥ Kimberly Snyder



Please notify the office if your birthday or wedding anniversary is incorrectly listed, or missing.
Our goal is to include everyone! Thank you!



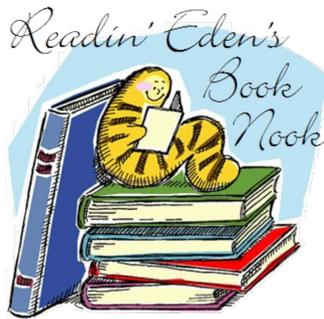


the ELCW:
a Community for All the Women of
Eden Lutheran Church

**Circle Bible
Studies**

Deborah
TBD

Esther
TBD



Readin' Eden will meet **FRIDAY Feb. 26 at 2:00 p.m.** on Liisa Kane's patio. She will be the hostess. 217 E. Shady Grove Dr. 686-4821. Joan Seidel has chosen our February book, "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd.

ELCW 2021 Events

- Eden Lutheran Church Women had a full year of fun events and fundraisers planned, but like most plans for 2020, they will have to wait. We hope to collaborate with Trinity for a Spring Tea, as we had planned to do in May, some time in the future, and fingers crossed we can take the fall field trip we had planned to the Danish Lutheran Church and Cultural Center in Yorba Linda next year.
- The Pacifica Women of the ELCA Convention and Gathering will be held as a Zoom event on February 7 beginning at 1 pm. The Zoom link will be sent via email, so if you are interested in attending, be sure you are signed up to receive emails from Pacifica WELCA. You can sign up at pacificawomen.com.
- The Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering scheduled for summer 2021 has been postponed to 2021. If you are interested in attending, save the date for Aug. 5-8 in Phoenix. You can learn more at <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page>

The Book of Longings

by Sue Monk Kidd

In her mesmerizing fourth work of fiction, Sue Monk Kidd takes an audacious approach to history and brings her acclaimed narrative gifts to imagine the story of a young woman named Ana. Raised in a wealthy family with ties to the ruler of Galilee, she is rebellious and ambitious with a brilliant mind and a daring spirit. She engages in furtive scholarly pursuits and writes narratives about neglected and silenced women. Ana is expected to marry an older widower, a prospect that horrifies her. An encounter with eighteen-year-old Jesus changes everything.

Hope you'll join us with a mask.
-Carol McAnern 951-686-6443.



**All women are warmly welcome
to attend one or both Circles for fellowship,
study, and prayer.**

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



- Buy Scrip! Please help support Eden while you make regular purchases for groceries, gas, takeout, etc. by buying scrip. For physical card sales, please call the office or email info@edenlutheran.net to place an order. For e-scrip, you can order online at www.shopwithscrip.com.
- The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 21. Please plan to join us via Zoom following worship. In addition to reports and the Stephens Award presentation, we will select voting members for the synod assembly. This year's assembly will be held online on Saturday, May 1, 2021. If you are interested in serving, please let Pastor, Jay, Nicolette, or a member of council know. Voting members will need to be familiar with computers or tablets (such as iPads) and able to learn an additional voting program/app. Each voting member will need to have their own device. Even if voting members live together, they cannot share one device. As this will be a one-day assembly on a Saturday, people whose schedules have prohibited them from attending past assemblies are especially encouraged to consider serving as delegates.

****Please submit any reports for the annual meeting to Sarah at info@edenlutheran.net by Friday, February 12.****



CURRENT COUNCIL:

Derek Adkins

Harvey Clark

Jay Fiene

Debbie Fine

Lyle Hodgerson

Trina Luce

Nicolette Rohr

Denell Scarborough

Olliver Silveira

Marge Steinbrinck

Luke Williams

Chuck Wilson

Pastor Linda Brown



Bulletin Board

Please Remember Our "FOOD INGATHERING"



Please bring canned or non-perishable food for distribution to those less fortunate.

Remember !!!



Lock your car in the Parking Lot

Park near a light at night



Guess whose face is missing from this picture?

Yours of course ~ if you haven't joined the Ladies Lunch Group !!!

We meet every Monday at 12:00 at various restaurants around town. Check Sunday's bulletin to see the restaurant where we will be meeting the next day.

Sack Lunch Fillers

Eden's Homeless Lunch Program can make use of any fruit you February have, as well as any other food goody that you would like to donate.

Call: Schera Harner 653.0317



Messenger Deadline

The deadline for any article/information for the Messenger is the 10th of every month. If this date falls on a weekend the deadline will be the following Monday. If Monday is a holiday, it will be the following Tuesday!

Submit to David Grefe via e-mail either as an attachment done in Word, Word Perfect, Publisher, OR as text in the main body of the e-mail. For those without a computer, submission can be made by giving copy to Sarah in the Office or David.

E-Mail: dgrefe@aol.com

PRAYER CHAIN

If you have any prayer requests, please call Ann Marie Sansom at: 351.8139

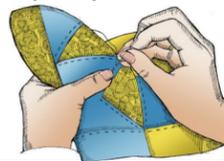
Call Ann Marie if you would like to volunteer for the Prayer Chain.

Attention!!! Quilt Lovers

Our quilting ladies can still use sheets for backing the quilts, and any material you are not using for quilt top squares. They can also use 2 and 3 ply yarn of any color.

Bring either of these items to the church any day:

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm



"YOUR AD HERE"

Let me know if you have information you'd like published every February in this space.

Note my contact info above

or call me at: 951-328-9267 David Grefe, Editor



The Property Ministry cordially invites you to join them one Saturday a month to work on necessary maintenance. Please come and assist in any capacity you can!! Your help is needed and very much appreciated.

Any questions, call: Erv Seidel or Ron Sinclair



"We were on the way out the door before I remembered I needed something for the Valentine party at Sunday school."



"The heart-shaped communion wafers were a nice touch for Valentine's Day."



"To err is human, to forgive, divine, and well, I've done my part."



Get Connected!

◆ The next synod assembly will be held online on Saturday, May 1, 2021. We will be selecting voting members at our annual meeting. If you are interested in serving, please let Pastor, Jay, Nicolette, or a member of council know. Voting members will need to be familiar with computers or tablets (such as iPads) and able to learn an additional voting program/app. Each voting member will need to have their own device. Even if voting members live together, they cannot share one device. Each person needs their own device to vote. As this will be a one-day assembly on a Saturday, people whose schedules have prohibited them from attending past assemblies are especially encouraged to consider serving as delegates.

◆ California Lutheran University



Fifty and Better (FAB) Winter Session & February Lectures

FAB's 6-week Winter Session begins on February 19 and registration is now open!

Courses include: History of Women Artists, America and the Cold War, American Life Through Broadway Musicals, Pioneer Women of the Movies, and more! We hope you will join us for these captivating courses. Individuals 50+ are welcome, please share with your friends and family! FAB will also be hosting lectures in early February. Join us as JPL's Luis Velasco talks about the Perseverance Rover and the challenges leading up to the February landing, and Eleanor Schrader takes us on a journey out West through Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture. Lectures are open to all.

For more information visit:

<https://www.callutheran.edu/centers/lifelong-learning/fifty-better/>



Virtual Winter Retreat



Join the LRCC crew for a Virtual Winter Retreat!

While it is still unsafe for us to gather at El Camino Pines & Luther Glen Farm, we are bringing camp to you!

Broken up into weekly episodes for you to enjoy with your family or youth group, three video workshops will explore the different aspects of our theme verse Romans 12:12.

-Joyful in Hope -Patient in Affliction -Faithful in Prayer

Each video workshop will be led by a different LRCC staff member and released on lrcchome.com and on Facebook.

Workshops will be released on three consecutive Fridays starting with February 5th. Each video is catered to children and adults of all ages.

Join us for a live Zoom Celebration on February 27th at 3 pm.





Lutheran Social Services (LSS) is offering a no-cost comprehensive Estate Planning seminar to our network of donors and partners. This five-session series begins December 16, 2020 and will continue once monthly through April 2021.

This is an opportunity for you to take a serious look at your financial portfolio, preparing for unexpected costly situations ahead, providing for your loved ones who will survive you, and making certain your legacy of giving is honored through gifts to the charities you have supported across the years.

Joshua Anderson, an Estate Planning Attorney and Partner with McIntire Anderson, and Lisa Higginbotham, our local ELCA Regional Gift Planner will lead each of these sessions.

Each gathering is from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. PST. The dates of each session are below:

February 13 - I've Got the Power!

February 10 - Wills, Trusts & Probate...Oh My!

March 17 - Love is Eternal...Community Property Isn't

April 14th - You're Set...What's Next?

For seminar details and registration, please visit:

lsssc.org/estate-planning.

2020 VISION AND BEYOND

LSS Southern California Estate Planning Series

PRESENTED BY

Joshua Anderson
Estate Planning Attorney
PARTNER/MCINTIRE ANDERSON

Lisa Higginbotham
Regional Gift Planner
ELCA FOUNDATION

In Advance!
DECEMBER 16th

Wills, Trusts & Probate...Oh My!
FEBRUARY 10th

I've Got the Power!
JANUARY 13th

Love is Eternal... Community Property Isn't.
MARCH 17th

You're Set... What's Next?
APRIL 14th

2020/2021 SERIES SCHEDULE

For seminar details and registration please visit lssc.org/estate-planning

<p>December 16th - Advanced Healthcare Directives</p> <p>January 13th - Powers of Attorney</p> <p>February 10th - Wills, Trusts and Probate...Oh My!</p>	<p>March 17th - Community Property</p> <p>April 14th - Estate and Legacy Planning (Dual)</p> <p><small>* Please note these seminars are only for general information, and do not constitute legal advice or create an attorney-client relationship.</small></p>
--	---

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS – OUTREACH UPDATES



Hygiene Packs: The need for donations for hygiene packs is ongoing. Donations can be dropped off at Eden. You can also write a check to Eden and designate “Hygiene Packs” in the memo.

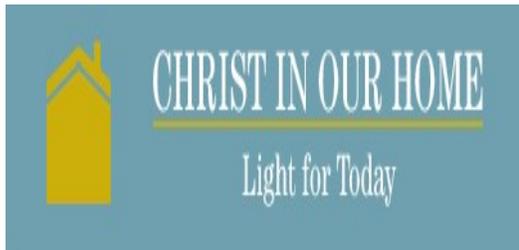
Lutheran Social Services Riverside: The Donations of food and other items can be dropped off at Eden or delivered directly to LSS Riverside, located at Trinity Lutheran.

Thrivent Action Grants: If you are a Thrivent member, please let us know if you would like some help with ideas or the application process for action grants.

Buy Scrip: Scrip income continues to help fund the hygiene packs and food cards we distribute. You can purchase Scrip online at www.shopwithscrip.com or place an order through the office.

Serving Christ and Community: Thank you for all of the things you are all doing in supporting programs at Trinity, All Saints, and in the community. If you have ideas to share for ways we can serve our neighbors and community, please share them with the Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team by emailing Nicolette Rohr at nicolette.rohr@charter.net.





NEW DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE

The January, February, March edition of Christ in Our Home is now available in the church office and the narthex.

Christ in our Home is a wonderful tool to use in preparation for Sunday worship. The meditations for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and Sunday each week are based on the Old Testament, Psalm, and New Testament readings, respectively, that are presented during worship that Sunday at worship. The Sunday meditation is based on the Gospel that is read that Sunday. And the Monday, Tuesday,

and Wednesday meditations come from the Daily Lectionary readings as a follow-up to the previous Sunday's selections.

This devotional is a gift to each member, so please avail yourself of this special opportunity.

2020 2021 COUNCIL

- President
Jay Fine
- Vice President
Deb Fine
- Secretary
Nicolette Rohr
- Treasurer
Lyle Hodgerson
- Members At Large:
 - Derek Adkins
 - Harvey Clark
 - Trina Luce
 - Denell Scarborough
 - Olliver Silveira
 - Marge Steinbrinck
 - Luke Williams
 - Chuck Wilson
 - Pastor Linda Brown

Please visit our websites for news and notes:



<https://edenlutheran.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/Edenlutheranchurch/>

EDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

- PASTOR: Rev. Linda Brown
- DIRECTOR EDEN LUTHERAN SCHOOL: Darlene Keaneman
- PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION: Pat Sinclair
- ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY /BOOKKEEPER: Sarah Cooney
- DIRECTOR OF MUSIC / ORGANIST: David Christensen
- EDITOR: David Grefe

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION ... 10:00AM
- VIA ZOOM
-
- COFFEE HOUR
-SUSPENDED

EDEN LUTHERAN SCHOOL:

Monday through Friday ✘ 6:30am to 6:00pm ✘ 18 Months through Pre-K

Eden Lutheran Church

OUR SERVANTS IN WORSHIP FOR FEBRUARY 2021

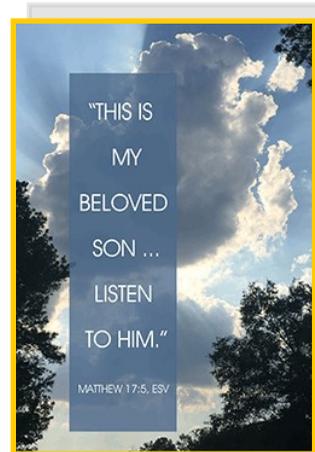
DATE:	February 7	February 14	February 21	February 28
ASSISTING MINISTER:				
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:				
READER:				
HEAD USHER:				
ALTAR GUILD:				
GREETERS:				
ALTAR FLOWERS:				
COFFEE HOUR:				
<p><i>Please Note any vacant Sundays for FLOWERS, GREETERS & COFFEE HOUR and consider signing up. The Flower Chart is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The sign-up sheets for Greeters & Coffee Hour are on the refreshment table in the Fellowship Hall. Many hands make light work. Thank you.</i></p>				



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 10:00 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	1 10:00 AM ELS: Chapel 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	2	3 9:00 AM MINISTRY MINUTES DUE 11:30 AM Service & Fellowship	4	5 11:00 AM ELCW: Board Meeting 11:00 AM Men's Fellowship	6
7 Eatin' with Eden 10:00 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	8 9:30 AM Finance 10:00 AM ELS: Chapel 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	9	10 MESSENGER DEADLINE	11 6:00 PM ELS School Board	12 11:00 AM Men's Fellowship	13
14 Transfiguration Sunday Valentine's Day 10:00 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	15 10:00 AM ELS: Chapel 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	16	17 Ash Wednesday 6:30 PM Council	18	19 11:00 AM Men's Fellowship	20 8:00 AM Property
21 10:00 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION 11:00 AM Annual Meeting	22 10:00 AM ELS: Chapel 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	23	24 6:30 PM Worship & Music	25	26 11:00 AM Men's Fellowship 2:00 PM ELCW: Readin' Eden	27 2:00 PM ELCW: Readin' Eden
28 10:00 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	1 10:00 AM ELS: Chapel 11:00 AM Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	2	3 9:00 AM MINISTRY MINUTES DUE 11:30 AM Service & Fellowship	4	5 11:00 AM ELCW: Board Meeting 11:00 AM Men's Fellowship	6

JANUARY 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6



MARCH 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

Always check the Calendar in each Sunday's Bulletin to get the most Current Information.

Eden Lutheran Church
4725 Brockton Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506

Address Service Requested

Eden Lutheran Church & School



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

4725 Brockton Ave.
Riverside, CA 92506

OFFICE HOURS:
9:00am - 12:00pm
Monday - Friday

WE'RE ON THE WEB:
edenlutheran.org



Pacifica Synod

OFFICE PHONE:
(951) 684.3336

OFFICE FAX:
(951) 684.8208

E-MAIL:
info@edenlutheran.net

PRE-SCHOOL PHONE:
(951) 683-7001