



Elim Lutheran Church

The Messenger

MARCH 2026

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Greetings, Elim –

I hope this newsletter finds you at peace and with much love in your life.

This entire month of Sundays and into April we are continuing with a wonderful series called *“Tell Me Something Good”* by creative clergy and artisans who collaborate at A Sanctified Art. I’m so grateful to focus on the good. The first two weeks of Lent have felt life-giving to me, and that has not always been the case. When I was younger, I dreaded what felt like a somber, sad season. I was told that Sundays in Lent were supposed to be “little Easters,” but it sure didn’t *feel* like it. This series, however, truly does – and I hope it feels that way to you as well.

Here are a few words about the series from the creators:

Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. As we crafted this series, we studied what was central to Jesus’ life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus’ teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.

Jesus’ words are easily distorted and sanitized in our modern world. Following Jesus leads to a richer, more expansive life, but it’s not necessarily comfortable. Jesus’ ministry can be described as “radical” which comes from the Latin word “radicalis,” meaning “root” or “ground.” Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be “good news” people in a world too often burdened by bad news?

This Lent, let us remember that the good news really is good news. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tastes like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. The good news is alive in the world.

SO great! Let’s do be good news people! Let’s do it ourselves and collectively, Elim! I’m in. I hope you are with me.

w/excitement for the good, good news – Pastor Amy Kay



Please keep in prayer: James R. Peterson, Amanda Luttig, Mary Peterson, Glenn Spoon, Scotty Elaine (Rita Brown’s great-granddaughter), Janis Larson, Ronnie Larson, Rhonda Lindstedt, Cathy French, Max Buffington, Art Mayfield, Mary Kay Lindh, Darrel Loder, Katy England (Mari Loder’s sister), Duane Becker, Sophia Allen, Bunny Hultgren, Glenda Julian, Deb Rush, Greg Hopp, David Ferguson, Tom French and the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities. Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Piper Schulze.

Elim strives to extend the power of prayer to those who feel they would benefit from it. New prayer requests will be taken at any time. Contact Pastor Amy Kay at 573-808-1980 or email elimmarquette@gmail.com or elimsec@gmail.com. **[Please notify Pastor Amy Kay or the secretary if you or those you know wish to be taken off the prayer list. This is a welcome way to let us know that prayers were answered and you are feeling better. Thank you.]**

WELCA NEWS



Even though there are no longer WELCA officers in place (except Donna Patrick as treasurer), the women of Elim will continue to serve in the following ways and welcome any suggestions for projects or outreach.

COMMITTEES:

- WELCA Treasurer: Donna Patrick (785-212-1752)
- Funeral Luncheon: Carylee Nelson (785-820-1838), Nancy Hopp (620-242-9102)
- Riverview Songfest: Jackie Larson (785-376-1931), Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich (573-808-1980)
- Riverview Birthday Party – May through August: Cindy Bunk (629-755-6185)
- Lion’s Club Meals: Linda Johnson (785-826-5544), Carol Jones (785-577-5926)
- LWR Quilts: Donna Patrick (785-212-1752)
- Kitchen Committee: Linda Johnson (785-826-5544)
- WELCA Women’s Bible Study: Kelly Larson (785-212-0323)

ALL Elim members: don’t forget Riverview Sing-alongs every 3rd Sunday at 4:00 PM. The next one will be **Sunday, March 15.** Everyone is welcome to join in.

Starting in May 2026, Elim’s women will be responsible for the Riverview Birthday Parties through August. Please watch for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and consider teaming up with one or more women to provide treats and conversation with the residents. They truly enjoy this, and it’s great that the other two churches in town participate in this as well.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY



The next Women’s Bible Study will be **Wednesday, March 11** at 9:30 AM in Elim’s Parish Hall. We continue to invite women from our community, including our sisters at Marquette United Methodist Church, to join us.



DID YOU KNOW...?

Palm Sunday is March 29. Julie Olson shared some information during Adult Bible Study on the meaning of the palm branches and cloaks laid out for Jesus when he entered Jerusalem. Palm branches during the time of Jesus were used to celebrate victory, and to honor royalty. In that sense, Jesus was being recognized as a king. The cloaks or garments laid out were an act of honor, declaring Jesus as the promised Messiah, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings. And did you know that “Hosanna” means “save us now”? Thank you, Julie, for sharing the significance of the palm branches and cloaks. *(Previously shared in April 2025 Messenger)*

PLEASE NOTE: Even though we are not purchasing Easter lilies this year, please feel free to provide a dedication for our Easter bulletin. You are not obligated to add a donation. Council has selected the Marquette Learning Center as the recipient of any donations. For many years Elim gave the Learning Center a portion of our proceeds from the Swedish Supper. We would like to continue helping with the many uncovered expenses the Learning Center encounters in their daily operations.

Dedication Form

Please specify how you would like your dedication worded. We will post this in the bulletin and Messenger, and on Elim’s website. Select one or more of the options below:

- In Loving Memory of _____
- To the Glory of God for _____
- Other _____

Given by _____

You are welcome to place your donation with this form in the collection box as you enter the church, the black lock box outside of the Parish Hall doors, or via mail to Elim Lutheran Church, 403 N. Lincoln, Marquette, KS 67464. Thank you! Contact Gayle Nelson (785-201-7675) with any questions.

GRADUATES

Please contact the church secretary at elimsec@gmail.com or 785-201-7675 if your son or daughter - or someone you know - is graduating this May/June from high school or college. Please list the full name, school they are graduating from, the date of graduation, and their future plans. We would also like to list 8th graders moving on to high school. THANK YOU!

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR...

Youth Group Sunday is scheduled for April 26. Please plan to attend. Members of the Youth Group will be conducting the service. Following worship, lunch will be provided by the Youth Group.



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WHAT’S YOUR THOUGHT?

Please let us know what you think. A lot of things have changed throughout the years here at Elim: poinsettias at Christmas, lilies at Easter, the end of the Swedish Supper. Most changes have been out of necessity.

Do you want to continue receiving the Messenger in the mail? The cost of stamps has risen considerably, and sadly the condition of the newsletter arrives in a tattered state, if it arrives at all. The Messenger has been available online at www.elimmarquette.org for years, but many enjoy the hard copy. If you still find the newsletter a valuable part of your membership at Elim, please let us know. We still love sharing the good news of our church with you.



We are again blessed to be with our siblings in Christ at Marquette United Methodist Church for the Wednesday night Lenten worship series. As in past, the pastors will rotate every other week to lead the service. This year's theme is entitled "An Unlikely Event" and centers around Christ's crucifixion and resurrection, and what it all meant to the crowd who witnessed it. and how it relates to us now. It is seen as an event that brought "something new, unexpected, and unlikely" into all our lives. **All Lenten services will begin at 6:30 PM.**

- March 4 Marquette UMC
- March 11 Elim
- March 18 Marquette UMC
- March 25 Elim
- April 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY @ Elim
- April 3 GOOD FRIDAY @ Marquette UMC

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YOUTH GROUP MEALS

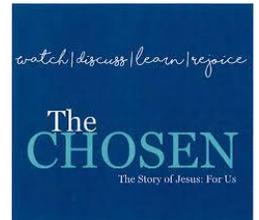
Please call or text **Carly Peterson** at **785-280-2039** if you are willing to help prepare meals for the Youth Group. You can also sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall, but please notify Carly with the date you plan to serve. **Meals are to be served each Wednesday at 6:30 PM.** Volunteers (pair up if you can) who provide the food can use paper plates and plastic ware provided by the Youth Group. Prepare to serve 15-20 meals. This number may change with differing schedules.

Thank you to Betsy Patrick, Kelly French, Carly Peterson, Linda Johnson for providing meals in February.

Thank you to Youth Group members Colter Patrick, Conway Patrick, Auley Boughfman, and Brayden Frederick for serving as acolytes in February! Bless you.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

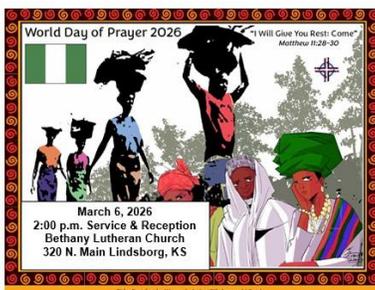
**The Chosen
Season 5**



The Adult Bible Study is currently studying Season 5 of The Chosen. **Please join us Sundays at 9:45 AM in the Parish Hall.**

We will cover 30 minutes of each episode via a DVD each Sunday. The 3rd Sunday we will listen to a Round Table Discussion, in which a Messianic Jewish Rabbi, a Catholic Priest, and a Dr. of Protestant Theology discuss the episode and discuss the different perspectives of their faith, and the biblical and historical context.

Julie Olson is our faithful facilitator for Adult Bible Study.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Bethany Lutheran Church in Lindsborg has invited us to join them for World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 6 at 2:00 PM. There will be a light reception following the service.

SERVING THE LORD IN MARCH

ACOLYTES

March 1 & 8 Auley Boughfman & Brayden Frederick

LECTORS

March 1 Allan Lindfors
 March 8 Ava Toll
 March 15 Carly Patrick
 March 22 Jackie Larson
 March 29* Linda Johnson

GREETERS

March 1 Jim & Bernice Peterson
 March 8 Denny Jaye
 March 15 Nancy Hopp
 March 22 Barry & Carylee Nelson
 March 29* Scott & Linda Johnson

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

March 1 Linn Nelson
 March 29* Vicki Young

COMMUNION SET-UP & CLEAN-UP/BREAD

March 1 Set-up: Beth Thomas & Carol Jones
 Bread: Carol Jones
 March 29* Set-up: Gayle Nelson & Kayley Fleming
 Bread: Gayle Nelson

*Palm Sunday

USHER FOR MARCH: Lars Peterson

Offerings and Attendance last month:

February 1	\$1800.00	72
February 8*	\$2457.00	62
February 15	\$1730.00	92
February 22	\$1345.50	77

*Noise offering: \$112.31

Monthly Financial Report

[As Presented to council 02/02/26]

Beginning Balance as of 01/01/26:	\$	39,105.34
Revenue:	\$	10,108.07
Expenses:	\$	--10,403.87
Ending Balance as of 01/31/26:	\$	38,809.54

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

February 2, 2026

Vice President Carly Peterson welcomed new council members Sarah Able and Conway Patrick. Darren Able was elected as new council president. Carly Peterson remained as Vice President. Installation of council members will take place in an upcoming worship service.

Worship & Music: No report.

Finance & Stewardship: No report.

Memorial Committee: No report.

Christian Ed.: No report.

Evangelism/Social Ministry: No report.

Property/Security Committee: No meeting. Matt Toll reported the new HVAC unit would be installed by Pestingers when weather permits. New vacuum cleaners will be ordered per a request from Dana Olson, church custodian.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, March 2, 2026.

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

REMINDER: The next Red Cross Bloodmobile is scheduled for **TUESDAY, MARCH 31** from 12:00-6:00 PM at Elim Lutheran Church Parish Hall. Please come at your appointment time. **THANK YOU FOR GIVING!**



CHURCH KEY

Reminder: For Elim members who periodically need to enter the church during the week, a key is available at Marquette Farmers State Bank during bank hours. Members will need to sign for the key and for the date the key is returned.





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Nathan Hulvey
- 2 Pierce Hamma
- 2 Blakely Niegsch
- 3 Acea Newton
- 6 Carri Thies
- 6 Neal Morel
- 7 Nic Morel
- 7 Taylor Russell
- 8 Lois Johnson
- 9 Justin Myers
- 10 Catalina Hernandez
- 12 Noah Lindfors
- 13 Dean Johnson
- 14 Brian Patrick
- 15 Jeremy Snapp
- 16 Charlotte Edwards
- 16 Janet Nelson
- 19 Phil Hamilton
- 20 Gayle Phillips
- 20 Wm. Neal Nickel
- 21 Cindy Bunk
- 23 Kenzi Kaufman
- 26 Susan Buffington
- 28 Ann Hernandez
- 28 Everleigh Weis

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

12 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Emery 43 years

LOST & FOUND

There is a basket underneath the coat rack in the Parish Hall with miscellaneous coats, jackets, shirts, and scarves left behind. Please check to see if any of these items belong to you. If not claimed by March 22, we will donate the items to TACOL. Thanks!

**Riverview Estates
Potato Bar**

March 17, 2026

5-7 pm

Multipurpose Room

202 Washington, Marquette

Free Will Offering

Dine in or carry out available

Join us for baked Potatoes with all the toppings!

Including: Stroganoff, Chili, Chicken, Pulled Pork, Cheese, Sour Cream, Onions, Salsa, Bacon Bits, Salad, Drinks and Dessert



Wear your GREEN

The annual Riverview Estates Potato Bar will be held Tuesday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) at 5:00-7:00 PM at the Riverview Multi-Purpose Room. It will be dine in or carry out for a free will donation. Proceeds for this event will go to Riverview Estates. Baked potato toppings include stroganoff, chili, chicken, pulled pork, cheese, sour cream, onions, salsa, and bacon bits. Salad, dessert, and drinks will also be served. **WEAR YOUR GREEN!**

BEST CHOICE LABELS

PLEASE continue to bring your Best Choice labels from the cartons and containers you purchase at stores offering Best Choice products throughout the year. The Christian Education Committee continues to collect them to help fund youth who are interested in attending church camp. Be sure to cut the labels with the words "Best Choice" at the top of the UPC symbol (bar code). The bar code must be included with the label. A container for collecting the labels is available in the narthex when you enter the church, or in the Parish Hall kitchen.

CARE KITS

The Women's Bible Study group has assembled some care kits for patients receiving treatment. If you know of anyone who could use some cheering up, or just to know someone is thinking of them as they go through their treatments, please contact Kelly Larson, Carol Jones, or Gayle Nelson. The kits include items to help them pass the time or to comfort them with lotions, chapstick, or other necessities.

Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM – Worship Service w/ Communion	2 7:00 PM – Church Council Mtg.	3	4 6:30 PM – Lenten Service at MUMC 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	5	6	7
8 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service	9	10	11 9:30 AM –Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Lenten Service at Elim 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	12	13	14
15 4th Sunday in Lent 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –GOSPEL SUNDAY 4:00 PM – Riverview Sing-Along	16	17  Riverview Estates Potato Bar 5:00-7:00 PM	18 6:30 PM – Lenten Service at MUMC 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	19	20 SPRING BEGINS 	21
22 5th Sunday in Lent 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service	23	24	25 1:30 PM – Quilt Group 6:30 PM – Lenten Service at Elim 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	26	27	28
29 PALM SUNDAY 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service w/ Communion	30	31				