



Elim Lutheran Church

The Messenger

APRIL 2026

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Greetings, Elim, and a wonderful Easter season to you!

As people of the empty cross, we are invited to be church this month with a joy-filled flair because of the one who we claim as our Savior! It's a wonderful season and I hope you are able to come to church and feel the excitement and hope of Eastertide! (It is the season of exclamation points:)

This month, the children are exploring the fascinating story of the walk to Emmaus. One Sunday, Cleopas will even visit with the kids! They will also engage in experiences of transformation through art and cooking. In addition, they will reflect on transformation through stewardship and revisit their decision about where the church's "noisy offering" will go.

After a series of stewardship lessons last fall, the children chose to direct the noisy offering—collected on the second Sunday of each month—to a weekend food program in Salina that supports children who otherwise would experience hunger. The kids contribute their own offering and are especially engaged because they help collect the noisy offering during worship.

I believe it is important for our children to understand that they are called to give and serve others, sharing God's care and love just as adults are called to do. They may choose to continue supporting the weekend food program, or they may decide on a new recipient. There are many important ways to be in ministry, and it is exciting to see the children growing into their sense of agency. I love getting to be church with the tiny ones, the children, the youth and all of us in older stages of life too!

There is much good, good news to share in this season and every season! I'm grateful to be living it out with you at Elim and in the Smoky Valley.

w/much joy – Pastor Amy Kay





Please keep in prayer: Thayne Rawson, Jayleen Sellhorn, Amanda Luttig, Mary Peterson, Glenn Spoon, Rhonda Lindstedt, Cathy French, Max Buffington, Art Mayfield, 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 Janis Larson and Ronnie Larson, James R. Peterson, and James “Bud” White.

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, April 19.** 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, April 8** 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.



THANK YOU

Thanks to Cindy Bunk, Fred Peterson, Carol Jones, Janet Samford, Brooke Olson, Pastor Amy Kay, and Carly Patrick for help with Riverview Songfests recently. The next songfest will be April 19!

Jackie Larson

Easter Dedications

April 5, 2026



In honor of all the teachers in our lives, given by Zach and Sarah Able.

In loving memory of Richard Anderson, given by Megan, Lilly, Haley, and Will Anderson.

In loving memory of Willard and Marge Ericson, and Tim Ericson, given by Shannon and Laura Ericson and family.

In loving memory of family members gone before us, given by Sandy Edwards.

To the glory of God for my grandchildren Acea, Brett, Kaeler, Brin, Liam and Charlotte, given by Sandy Edwards.

In loving memory of Lawrence and Marjorie Hulse, Bertis and Joan Wickstrom, and David and Peggy Wickstrom, given by Mike and Cynthia Hulse and family.

In loving memory of Bob Jones, given by Carol Jones.

In loving memory of Bruce Amos, Jane Nelson, Jane Peterson, and Matt and Marlys Mattingly, given by Leland and Betty Amos Nelson and families.

In loving memory of Ebba Nelson, Blackie Nelson, Ione Nelson, Sam Nelson, and Richard and Gwen Warner, given by Mo and Gayle Nelson.

In gratitude for God's many blessings, given by Mo and Gayle Nelson.

In loving memory of Richard, Geneva, Marilee, and James Peterson, given by Ingrid (Peterson) Neste and Fred Peterson.

In loving memory of George and Erlene Ferguson, Galen Ferguson, and Jim Thomas, given by Beth Thomas and family.

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Thank you for your dedications and for your generous donations. The money will go to the Marquette Learning Center.



Brooke Olson spends time with the Sunday School children as they work on their craft projects. She also brought her nephew to share in the fun.

Below: Church members gather after Sunday worship service to visit with each other and enjoy the sunshine and fellowship.



GRADUATE RECOGNITION & BLESSING / YOUTH SUNDAY

Graduate Recognition/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.

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!

A listing of the graduates will be in the May Messenger.

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YOUTH GROUP MEALS

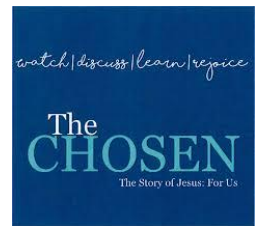
Please call or text **Carly Peterson** at **785-280-2039** if you are willing to help prepare meals for the Youth Group. You can also sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall, but please notify Carly with the date you plan to serve. **Meals are to be served each Wednesday at 6:30 PM.** Volunteers (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 Janet Samford, Carly Peterson, and Zach and Sarah Able for providing meals in March.

Thank you to Auley Boughfman, Brayden Frederick, Conway Patrick, Colter Patrick, Haley Anderson, and Lily Anderson for acolyting in March.

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.

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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, a few merely suggested.

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

SERVING THE LORD IN APRIL

ACOLYTES

LECTORS

April 2* Nancy Rawson
 April 5** Brooke Olson
 April 12 Holly Toll
 April 19 Darren Able
 April 26 Linda Johnson

GREETERS

April 2* Nancy Hopp
 April 5** Layne and Kate Hensley
 April 12 Matt and Holly Toll
 April 19 Carol Jones
 April 26 Emilie Bunk and Cindy Bunk

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

April 2* Linn Nelson
 April 5** Sarah Able

COMMUNION SET-UP & CLEAN-UP/BREAD

April 2* LeAnn Everhart & Sandra Myers
 Bread: LeAnn Everhart
 April 5** Set-up: Kent and Nancy Rawson

*Maundy Thursday

**Easter

USHER FOR APRIL: Barry Nelson

Offerings and Attendance last month:

March 1	\$2084.25	76
March 8*	\$2585.25	77
March 15	1431.00	76
March 22	\$1255.50	66
March 29	\$1053.25	80

*Noise offering: \$108.66

Monthly Financial Report

Presented to council 03/02/26

Beginning Balance as of 02/01/26:	\$	38,809.54
Revenue:	\$	8,311.81
Expenses:	\$	--8,628.14
Ending Balance as of 02/28/26:	\$	38,493.21

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 2, 2026

Council voted to give donations from Easter dedications to Marquette Learning Center. Discussed laptop for church office, suggested change for Messenger due to increased mailing costs, and discontinuing the church landline. Diane Hedberg will look into other options for phone service.

Worship & Music: No report.

Finance & Stewardship: No report.

Memorial Committee: Purchased vacuum cleaners for janitorial staff.

Christian Ed.: No report.

Evangelism/Social Ministry: No report.

Property/Security Committee: Met March 2. Speakers in bell towers not working. Brian Hopp will work on it. New microphone in sanctuary working well.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, April 6, 2026.

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

REMINDER: The next Red Cross Bloodmobile is scheduled for TUESDAY, JUNE 9 from 12:00-6:00 PM at Elim Lutheran Church Parish Hall. Please come at your appointment time. **THANK YOU FOR GIVING!**



Pastor Brenda Hogan from the Marquette United Methodist Church and Pastor Amy Kay share a moment following Lenten Service. Pastor Brenda will be leaving to serve at a church in Scott City, KS in July. We will miss her.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 2 MaRyan Hulvey
- 3 Darcy Myers
- 3 Kelly Larson
- 3 Sarah Johnson
- 5 Travis Bunk
- 6 Diane Talbott
- 7 Troy Johnson
- 7 April Young
- 8 Christy Young
- 8 JoAn Lindfors
- 10 Travis Young
- 11 Zach Able
- 11 Dixie Lundquist
- 12 Mary Anne Talbott
- 12 Betsy Patrick
- 12 Gayle Nelson
- 14 Bren Peterson
- 16 Ashley Crump
- 16 Brittany Crump
- 17 Mindy Nicholson
- 17 Betty Amos
- 17 Shannon Hudson
- 17 Miles Forsberg
- 21 Jolene Larson
- 23 Matthew Christensen
- 23 Michael Christensen
- 26 Cathy French
- 27 Eva Lindfors-Allen
- 28 Kasyn French
- 29 Jace Mannebach
- 29 Carly Patrick

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Mr. & Mrs. Tyler French 17 years
- 8 Mr. & Mrs. Justin Myers 21 years
- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Brad Peterson 16 years
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Niegsch 21 years
- 24 Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Feil 5 years
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. John Sommerfeld 24 years
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Dane Young 25 years
- 29 Mr. & Mrs. Gail Lindstedt 48 years
- 30 Mr. & Mrs. Joel Nelson 50 years

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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.

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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.

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Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 @ Elim	3 GOOD FRIDAY 6:30 @ UMC	
5 EASTER SUNDAY 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service w/ Communion	6 7:00 PM – Church Council Mtg.		8 9:30 AM –Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice			
12 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service			15 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice			
19 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service 4:00 PM – Riverview Sing-Along			22 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice			
26 4th Sunday of Easter YOUTH SUNDAY GRADUATE RECOGNITION 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service			29 1:30 PM – Quilt Group 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice			