



Elim Lutheran Church

The Messenger

MAY 2026

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Greetings, Elim –

As resurrection people, the newness of this Easter season feels fantastic! The spring flowers that peek up seemingly every day are a constant reminder of the New Life we have through our Creator. I hope you feel the goodness of these days as well!

On Reformation Sunday last year we went back to our roots a bit with more traditional Lutheran liturgy. A few folks shared their appreciation of the liturgy with Church Council members. The Council in turn asked the Worship and Music department if they would consider the idea of going back to the pre-COVID rhythm of traditional liturgy on the first Sunday of each month. Worship and Music met and followed Allan's suggestion of trying it the first Sunday of this month and in June as well. Over the summer months, the committee will gather again to reflect on the feedback from the congregation about the experiences. A decision will be made then if we will return to the practice in the fall.

It is always good for me to continue growing so I appreciate this prompt to learn the liturgy. I must admit that I am a tad anxious because I only want to help worship be meaningful for everyone. I never want my mistakes to keep anyone from feeling close to God. I will do my best and also ask for your grace. I'm grateful for Jackie and Allan who have patiently practiced with me.

No matter how the liturgy goes, worship is always good when we gather with the intent to be open to the Holy. Can't wait for Sunday! I hope to see you at Elim.

w/delight for all the new – Pastor Amy Kay

Pastor Amy Kay is taking a trip to Japan for a few weeks in June. During her absence, Chaplain Melissa Woepfel from Bethany College will serve Elim on Sunday June 14. Chaplain Ethan Feist from Bethany Home will serve Elim on Sunday, June 21 and will be on call for anyone needing pastoral assistance. Both of them have conducted worship service at Elim in the past.



Please keep in prayer: Bryan Hensley, Thayne Rawson, Amanda Luttig, Mary Peterson, Glenn Spoon, Rhonda Lindstedt, Cathy French, Max Buffington, Art Mayfield, Duane Becker, Bunny Hultgren, Glenda Julian, Deb Rush, David Ferguson, Tom French, EMS, and the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities.

Dear Lord, we're back to praying for rain. Please bring us rain to fill our ponds, lakes, and rivers - for our people, our crops and our livestock. THANK YOU!

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, May 17.** Everyone is welcome to join in.

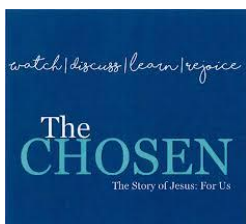
Starting in May 2026, Elim’s women will be responsible for the Riverview Birthday Parties through August. Please check the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and consider teaming up with one or more women to provide treats and conversation with the residents. We still need someone for MAY. They truly 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, May 13 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.

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.**

Julie Olson is our faithful facilitator for Adult Bible Study.

YOUTH SUNDAY AND GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Sunday, April 26, 2026



Colter Patrick, Ty Heitschmidt, and Ilie DeBaere are the graduating seniors who shared their statement of faith at the worship service.



The Youth Group and sponsors sang "Down to the River Pray" and "Are You Washed in the Blood?", directed by Allan Lindfors.

WORDS WRITTEN ABOUT YOUTH SUNDAY...

It's been a special and memorable day. We had Youth Sunday at our church, which has become one of my favorite services over the years. The high school youth fill the roles throughout the service, and I'm always amazed by their maturity and reverence. Lars and Carly Peterson do an outstanding job of connection with our high school kids and meeting them where they are in life. Pastor Amy Kay gave beautiful blessings over the seniors. Allan Lindfors and my mom [Jackie Larson] led the kids in special music. Colter gave a speech, along with the other soon-to-be graduates [that were present], about his spiritual growth and faith. I pray he always knows where his faith lies and who is in his corner. One of the group's special songs, "Down to the River to Pray" was a favorite of mine from an Alison Krauss CD that I would play in our little nursery as I fed and rocked Colter in the dark of night, just 18 short years ago.



It's been a day I hope I'll always remember. There were many gentle reminders to never forget what a gift it has been to raise our children in this place, surrounded by a village of adults who want the very best for them. My heart is full.

These beautiful words were written by Betsy Patrick and shared on FB. She thankfully gave me permission to share them in the Messenger. - GN

Congratulations 2026 Graduates



BRECKYN BAUER will graduate from McPherson High School on May 9. She plans to attend Kansas University to study law. Her parents are Ryan and Marti Bauer. Grandparents are Barry and Carylee Nelson.

ILIE DEBAERE will graduate from Smoky Valley High School on May 16. She plans to attend Hays Academy of Hair Design in Salina. Her parents are Ashley DeBaere and Joe DeBaere.

TY HEITSCHMIDT will graduate from Smoky Valley High School on May 16. He plans to attend Ottawa University to play baseball and major in finance. His parents are Darren and Julie Heitschmidt.

MAGNUS LARSON will graduate from Olathe Northwest High School on May 17. He plans to attend Kansas State University with a major in finance. His parents are Matt Larson and SunDee McCauley.

COLTER PATRICK will graduate from Smoky Valley High School on May 16. He plans to work in agriculture after he graduates. His parents are Curtis and Betsy Patrick. Grandparents are Craig and Jackie Larson.

ATTICUS PAVLOVICH will graduate from Smoky Valley High School on May 16. He plans to attend Ft. Hays State University. His parents are Amy Kay Pavlovich and Dane Pavlovich.

KRISTIAN RYAN will graduate from Smoky Valley High School on May 16. He plans to attend Bethany College with a basketball scholarship. His parents are Shannon Ryan and Daniel Ryan.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 8th GRADE STUDENTS:

We would also like to congratulate our 8th grade students who will be moving on to high school next year:

KENZI BRADY, daughter of Jake and Brandi Brady, will be attending Smoky Valley HS

JOSIE MAY NELSON, daughter of Josh and Janna Nelson, will be attending Little River HS

EMILIE SNAPP, daughter of Jeremy Snapp and the late Tracy Bunk, will be attending Little River HS



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR COLLEGE GRADUATES:

SAMUEL "BO" BACON will graduate from Salina Vo Tech. His parents are Austin and Diana LeGron.

JOSH BOCOX will graduate from Kansas State University with a degree in Accounting and Sales. His parents are George and Catherine BocoX.

LILYANN BOUGHFMAN will graduate from Emporia State with a degree in Elementary Education on May 16. Her parents are Lisa Myers and Beau Boughfman. Grandparents are John and Sandra Myers, and Loren and Gayle Boughfman.

RYENNE CUNNINGHAM will graduate from Ft. Hays State University with a Radiology Technician degree. Her parents are Jeff and Dorine Cunningham. Grandparents are Wayne and Doris Schultz.

KYLE FOX will graduate from Kansas State University with a degree in Agribusiness. Her parents are Shayne and Marci Fox.

PIERCE HAMMA will graduate from Kansas State University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He will be working for CSC (Controlled Systems Company) in Lee Summit, MO starting in July. His parents are Peter and Susan Hamma.

ABBIE HUDSON will graduate from Wichita State University with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy on May 15. She is the daughter of Roger and Kris Hudson. Grandparents are John and Sandra Myers, and Dale Hudson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FUN



Lesa Larson shares a “walk to Emmaus” with the Sunday School children. By the smile on their faces, they were enjoying the sunshine... and the slipper slide.



And then there are those Sundays when only a few show up and silliness ensues. Kinsley and Bren Peterson get up close and personal to watch Gayle separate the egg for the meringue. Carol Jones and Gayle Nelson demonstrated making meringue cookies and helped the girls create “resurrection cookies” using biscuit dough. This was to help them understand Jesus’ resurrection. He is in the tomb, and then he is gone (like the marshmallow in the resurrection cookies). And his appearance takes on a different spiritual look, like the egg whites turned into meringue.



Left: On another Sunday, Sarah and Zach Able help the Sunday School children make a “road to Emmaus” out of blue strips

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR HELPING WITH SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS PAST YEAR:

Lesa Larson	Sarah Able
Zach Able	Carol Jones
Diane Hedberg	Darren Able
Griff Hawkinson	Allan Lindfors
Lars Peterson	Betsy Patrick
Gayle Nelson	Kendra Hopp

And of course, PASTOR AMY KAY PAVLOVICH!



SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

Elim is again hosting the Summer Lunch Program sponsored and funded by KSDE. This program provides free lunch to all children in the community under the age of 18, and all meals are served at Elim Lutheran Church **beginning May 26** until the start of school in August. Meals will be served on-site in the Parish Hall starting at 12:00 Noon until 1:00 PM. The Marquette United Methodist Church and Elim work together to provide staffing on alternate weeks. We will need volunteers to prepare, serve, and clean up Monday through Friday from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM during the weeks Elim is responsible. Call Linda Johnson at 785-826-5544 if you are interested in helping for one or more days during the summer. ***A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board when the exact dates for Elim to participate is determined.*** THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH THIS COMMUNITY PROJECT.

P.S. If you are interested in a part-time, paid position for the summer, please consider serving as the head cook for the summer lunch program here in Marquette. Contact Linda Johnson if you have any questions about the position.

SUMMER LAWN-MOWING

Elim needs volunteers to mow the church lawns this summer starting May 1 through October 10. Please plan to mow on Friday or Saturday to ensure a freshly-cut lawn for Sunday service. The dates are indicated on the sign-up sheet available on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please call Scott Johnson at 785-577-4058.



SUMMER MUSIC



Please consider sharing your musical talents for worship service this summer. Traditionally the choirs take a break for the summer, and different individuals or groups are asked to provide special music. Contact Allan Lindfors at 785-227-5694 if you would be willing to perform for one or more Sundays this summer. THANK YOU!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School will be held at Marquette United Methodist Church May 26 & 27 at 9:00 AM - NOON – **Please consider signing up as a helper.** It's only for 2 mornings. Even if you can only help one of the two days, the Methodist women – and men! - would really appreciate your help. Check with Pastor Amy Kay or Gayle Nelson if you are willing to help. There's also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Thanks!

REMINDERS for Summer Break

The last day of Youth Group meal and meeting will be Wednesday, May 13

The last day of Sr. Choir Practice will be Wednesday, May 27. Sr. Choir will be performing for Patriotic Sunday May 24 and Sunday, June 1 worship service.

The last day of Sunday School will be Sunday, May 24.



SERVING THE LORD IN MAY

ACOLYTES

May 3 Kasyn French and Kanin French
 May 10 Kylan Lindquist and Ty Heitschmidt

LECTORS

May 3 Ava Toll
 May 10 Mike Hulse
 May 17 Brooke Olson
 May 24 Allan Lindfors
 May 31 Linda Johnson

GREETERS

May 3 Patty Kolling
 May 10 Zach and Sarah Able
 May 17 Nancy Hopp
 May 24 Griff Hawkinson
 May 31 Scott and Linda Johnson

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

May 3 Carly Peterson

COMMUNION SET-UP & CLEAN-UP/BREAD

Set-up: Dana and Julie Olson
 Bread: Julie Olson

USHER FOR MAY: Craig Larson

Offerings and Attendance last month:

April 5*	\$4598.00	126
April 12**	\$1064.00	55
April 19	\$1184.50	69
April 26***	\$1474.25	93

*Easter

**Noise offering: \$89.57

***Youth Sunday

Monthly Financial Report

Presented to council 04/06/26

Beginning Balance as of 03/01/26:	\$	38,493.21
Revenue:	\$	9,879.50
Expenses:	\$	--13,284.42
Ending Balance as of 03/31/26:	\$	35,088.29

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

April 6, 2026

Council voted to have Diane Hedberg fill the vacant seat until the end of term in January 2027. Discussion followed about reinstating the nursery. Pastor Amy Kay shared her previous experience with church nurseries. Further discussion will take place at next council meeting. A copier repairman from MBS will check the copier to determine need for replacement.

Worship & Music: Met March 25. Will return to full liturgy on the first Sunday of month for May and June. Also, will return to singing all verses of hymns going forward.

Finance & Stewardship: No report.

Memorial Committee: Committee will select person to replace Janis Larson as chairperson.

Christian Ed.: Youth Sunday/Graduate Recognition April 26.

Evangelism/Social Ministry: No report.

Property/Security Committee: No report.

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!**



YOUTH GROUP MEALS

Thank you to Lisa Boughfman, Gayle Nelson, Roberta and Denny Jaye, Corrie and Brad Peterson, and Holly Toll for providing meals in April

Thank you to Olivia Peterson and Haley Anderson for acolyting in April. (If I left someone out, please let me know – Gayle)



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kassandra Hernandez
- 3 Cassie Crotts
- 5 Adam Jones
- 7 Storm Niegsch
- 7 Ivy Sellhorn
- 7 Erin Caesar
- 8 Madison Loder
- 8 Michelle Loder
- 11 Amy Kay Pavlovich
- 12 Jackie Larson
- 14 Russell Malm
- 15 Andrea (Andi) Willems
- 15 Dane Young
- 16 Lana Rock
- 16 Rita Brown
- 17 Carylee Nelson
- 17 Layla Fleming
- 19 Lisa Boughfman
- 20 Caleb Mitchell
- 21 Vance Hopp
- 21 Brian Hopp
- 24 Nancy Larson
- 26 Kylie Fox
- 28 Chris Johnson
- 28 Leif Larson
- 29 Carly Patrick
- 29 Brandon Hulse
- 30 Jakob Feil
- 31 Craig Larson
- 31 Ro Valdez
- 31 Ryan Loder

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Leland & Betty Amos Nelson 5 years
- 2 Mr. & Mrs. Tanner Hawkinson 11 years
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Peterson 42 years
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Lars Peterson 8 years
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Josh McMahan 20 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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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.

TO DATE, I have only received a few responses concerning the Messenger. We will continue mailing it to those who have requested it, but may reduce the list of mailings. If you do not receive it and still want to, please notify me at elimsec@gmail.com. - Gayle



Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for MAY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 5th Sunday of Easter 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service w/ Communion	4 7:00 PM – Church Council Mtg.	5	6 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	7	8	9
10 6th Sunday of Easter 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service	11	12	13 9:30 AM –Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	14	15	16
17 7th 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	18	19	20 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	21	22	23
24 Day of Pentecost PATRIOTIC SUNDAY 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM –Worship Service	25 MEMORIAL DAY	26	27 1:30 PM – Quilt Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	28	29	30
31 The Holy Trinity 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM –Worship Service	