

Elim Lutheran Church
The Messenger

SEPTEMBER 2026

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Greetings, Elim –

I hope this newsletter finds you at peace and feeling connected.

Last month we focused on some of Paul's writings to the new church in Rome. While I could write a bunch of what I tried to say on those Sundays, I'll simply summarize three Sundays down to one sentence. Paul hopes we continue to be transformed to God's ways and to use the gifts God has given us, which are many and varied, to more fully be the one body of Christ. Shabam – that's the bottom line!

Fittingly, our children's Sunday School calls for teachers with a wide variety of gifts! How perfect for us!

This is our third full year of learning one bible story a month with the children. During each story's month, the lessons are hands-on and varied in an attempt to help the kids interact with the story and learn it well. Honestly, I don't have a great memory and every time I teach a story, I relearn it myself. It's good for us adults as well as the kids! Lastly, and importantly, it is just doggone fun to have big, different, exciting lessons.

There is a full list of the year's lessons on the bulletin board at the church in case you are interested in seeing if one or two would be aligned with your gifts. The stories for the year are the burning bush, Psalms, Daniel, young Jesus at the temple, the woman at the well, Paul and Pentecost. There are lessons that include cooking, construction, art, games and drama. Sometimes people like James and Priscilla come to visit the kids in character! We all learn the stories AND it's a hoot.

If your gifts are not teaching in any way, shape or form but you like children, please consider being a helper. Often teachers can manage on their own, but it is more fun if there is a second adult to help the kids engage. If a Burning Bush lesson involves something like fire, for instance, a second adult is most helpful in keeping everyone at a safe distance!

May this be a fulfilling year for us all as we consider our gifts and use them in ways that are fun and helpful as the body of Christ.

w/much gratitude for getting to serve at Elim – Pastor Amy Kay

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Please keep in prayer: Jayleen Sellhorn, Jana Foss (Maggie Lindfors' mother), Laney Gerlach**,** Jeremy Hedberg (Melinda Rogers' brother), Darrel Naegele, Terri Lynn and Jerry Marx, Larry Schumann (Holly Toll's dad), David Ferguson, Patsy Krause, Amanda Luttig, Glenn Spoon, Rhonda Lindstedt, Max Buffington, Art Mayfield, EMS, and the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities.

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 or they are feeling better. Thank you.]**



AND THEY CAME TO ELIM…

Well, glory be. It's not often you walk into a church sanctuary on Sunday morning and witness the pastor frying zucchini to share with all those who enter. Barry Nelson shared his zucchini with Pastor Amy Kay, so she donned her apron and set up a table at the back of the church to slice and fry until it was time to begin the service. What fun! All around there were church members nibbling on the savory slices of fried zucchini. THANK YOU, Pastor Amy Kay, for adding delight to our Sunday worship service. And thank you, Fred Peterson, for the awesome picture.

Left: Pastor Amy Kay frying up zucchini for the masses, a little like Jesus and his disciples shared fish and loaves with the crowd.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS
Sunday, September 13

If you have any ideas for work projects here at the church or throughout the community, please share with Pastor Amy Kay or one of the church council members. THANKS!

In past years our Elim members and friends have cleared yards for people with health issues, cleaned out the Parsonage (prior to renters), cleaned at Riverview, American Legion, Fine Arts Center, the museums, and Elim's Parish Hall kitchen and basement. We will do the work projects for God's Work, Our Hands on September 13, following worship.

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: Riverview Sing-alongs have changed from every 3rd Sunday to Songfests every 2nd Sunday at 4:00 PM. The next one will be Sunday, September 13. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Elim's women are responsible for the Riverview Birthday Parties through August. Thank you to the women who provided treats and conversation with the residents these past 4 months.

THANK YOU to Beth Thomas and Gayle Nelson for providing treats in August.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Women's Bible Study meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Kelly Larson is the facilitator. The next Women's Bible Study will be **Wednesday, September 9 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. Come for fellowship and a better understanding of faith in our daily lives.

RODEO CONCESSIONS

THANK YOU to all who participated in the rodeo concessions July 31 and August 1, whether you worked in the concession stand, grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, popped popcorn, donated water, offered the use of your grill, made a food or drink purchase, or gave a monetary donation. Below is a list of people who helped*:

Matt Toll	Linda Johnson	Matt Hedberg	Nancy Rawson
Holly Toll	Dorine Cunningham	Griff Hawkinson	Dana Olson
Zach Able	Jackie Larson	Barry Nelson	Jeremy Snapp
Sarah Able	Carylee Nelson	Kent Rawson	Amy Kay Pavlovich (and friend Chad)

**If I missed anyone, please accept my apology.*

And last but not least, thank you to Diane Hedberg who heads up the whole project and gives of her time and organizational skills to set it all up, from food and drink purchases, to workers, to tables, ice chests, crock pots, roasters… well you name it. We'd be lost without her. Bless you for doing this each year. It's a wonderful outreach to our community and visitors to the rodeo.

RIVERVIEW SONGFEST

Please note: per request from the Marquette United Methodist Church, Elim will now host Riverview Songfest (a.k.a. Sing-along) on the SECOND Sunday of the month instead of the third. The next Songfest will be **September 13 at 4:00 PM.** The second Sunday of the month will be the schedule from this point forward until further notice. Thanks to all who have felt called to minister in this way at Riverview Estates once a month.

Jackie Larson

SUMMER LAWN-MOWING



Griff Hawkinson, Allan Lindfors, Darren Able, and Matt Toll for mowing in AUGUST. We still need a few volunteers for September and October. Sad to say, but the warmth will probably continue through October. We'll see.

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DOUBLE THE DIFFERENCE FOR MLC

The Marquette Learning Center is seeking donations to help with the enormous cost involved in keeping the doors open. In their letter to members of local communities, they are asking to keep tuition costs down for parents, while maintaining a reasonable salary for good teachers. Not to mention the cost for food and supplies, and maintaining the facility. Any amount of donations given between now and September 30 will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to $50,000 – which means $25 becomes $50, $100 becomes $200, and so on. This match is made possible by generous donors – Roger Loder, Roy & Donice Applequist, and Darwin Larson. You can watch the progress your donations are making on one of the child-painted "thermometers" posted in front of the Marquette Learning Center, Marquette Community Library, or on the MLC Facebook page. If you did not receive a letter but wish to make a donation, please contact any of the Marquette Learning Center board members: Audrey Seely, Brandi Brady, Kerry Lindh, Matt Graham, Vicki Young, Beth Thomas, or Gayle Nelson. THANK YOU!!



FOOD BANK DONATIONS

The local Food Bank is in dire need of donations. We are once again setting out baskets at the back of the sanctuary to collect non-perishable donated foods. Please give when and what you can. Everything is needed! Kelly Larson or other volunteers will take the collected items to McPherson Food Bank on a weekly basis. **Thank you to Carylee Nelson for delivering the items to the Food Bank this past week.**

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MARQUETTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
65TH ANNUAL PIT-ROASTED BBQ

Marquette United Methodist Church is holding its 65th annual pit-roasted BBQ on **Wednesday, September 16 from 5:00-7:00 PM**. It is free will offering, and dine-in or carry-out. This is a tradition and fund-raiser for their church, so please plan to attend to support our fellow worshippers. The menu includes pit-roasted beef, REAL mashed potatoes and gravy, baked beans, butter corn, fresh garden salad, homemade bread and pie, with coffee or tea.

Please come support our friends at the Methodist Church and enjoy good food and good fellowship.

P.S. Some of our Elim members help with preparing the pit. It's great that members from both churches work together.

ELIM'S MESSENGER



At the present time, we are not mailing out the Messenger unless requested. We will continue to set the Messenger on the table at the back of the sanctuary for anyone that wants a copy. *Please do not hesitate to contact the secretary if you prefer it mailed*. Our main intent is to cut back on mailings, but we realize some members are not able to attend worship service on a regular basis. We will be glad to mail it.

The Messenger is also available online at WWW.ELIMMARQUETTE.ORG.

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SENIOR CHOIR PRACTICE resumes Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 PM.

The first Sunday the choir will sing is October 4.

YOUTH GROUP resumes Wednesday, September 9 at 6:30 PM.



If you are willing to help provide meals for the Youth Group on Wednesday nights, please check the sign-up list on the bulletin board, or call Carly Peterson at 785-280-2039. <u>If you sign up on the board, PLEASE contact Carly so she can put it in her schedule.</u> THANK YOU!!

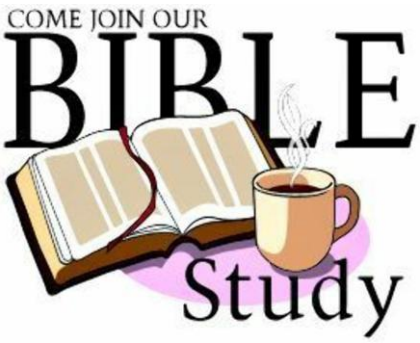


SUNDAY SCHOOL resumes <u>September 13 on Rally Sunday at 9:45 AM</u>. This is the day our church members welcome the Sunday School children back with Blessing of the Backpacks, a light lunch, and work projects throughout the community ("God's Work, Our Hands").

Junior Choir will resume the following Sunday, September 20.

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ADULT BIBLE STUDY BEGINS OCTOBER 11



I had a really difficult time deciding on a Bible study for our Adult Bible Study Class this fall. The studies I had originally planned to do were no longer available, and nothing seemed to jump out at me and say, **"Pick me!"**

Until I found this study.

The title immediately reminded me of something Adam Jones used to say when he and Hannah were our youth directors:

"If you don't know *why* you believe what you believe, you can easily go astray."

Those words have stuck with me. And in a world filled with AI, social media, countless opinions, and an endless stream of information, I believe that knowing **what** we believe—and, even more importantly, **why** we believe it—is an incredibly important spiritual journey for all of us.

Believe

Believe is a study designed to encourage spiritual growth and take us on a journey toward thinking, living, and becoming more like Jesus.

(continued on next page)

Pastor Randy Frazee guides us through **10 key beliefs of the Christian faith, 10 key practices of a Jesus-follower, and 10 essential virtues** that characterize someone who is becoming more like Jesus.

At the heart of the study are three important questions:

What do I believe?
What should I do?
Who am I becoming?

These 10 core beliefs, 10 key practices, and 10 essential virtues have helped unite followers of Christ around the world for more than 2,000 years.

It's one thing to know the story of the Bible. It's another thing to live it.

What we believe in our hearts shapes who we become. God desires for each of us to become more like Jesus. It is one of the most truthful, meaningful, and powerful ways we can live—and that journey begins by learning to **think like Jesus**.

When we study the life of Jesus, we see a distinct pattern: **Jesus lived faithfully, intentionally, and purposefully.**

Jesus compared the Christian life to a vine. **He is the vine, and we are the branches.** When we remain connected to Christ, something beautiful happens over time. We begin to grow, change, and produce fruit that others can see and experience.

We become more like Jesus.

And perhaps that is the most important question we can ask ourselves—not simply *"What do I know about Jesus?"* but:

"Am I becoming more like Jesus?"

I hope you'll join us this fall as we explore what we believe, why we believe it, how our faith should shape the way we live, and who God is calling each of us to become.

Thanks to a little procrastination on my part—and Dana's birthday weekend celebration—we will officially begin our fall Adult Bible Study on **Sunday, October 11th!**

Please join us at **9:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall** as we begin our new study together.

Be sure to invite a friend—everyone is welcome! We'd love to have you join us for this time of fellowship, learning, and growing together in faith.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Julie Olson
Bible Study Facilitator

SERVING THE LORD IN SEPTEMBER

LECTORS

September 6	Allan Lindfors
September 13	Holly Toll
September 20	Ava Toll
September 27	Mike Hulse

GREETERS

September 6	Nancy Hopp
September 13	Matt & Holly Toll
September 20	Nancy Hopp
September 27	Fred Peterson

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

September 6	Sarah Able

COMMUNION SET-UP & CLEAN-UP/BREAD

Set-up: Darryl and Diane Talbott

USHER FOR AUGUST: Craig Larson

Offerings and Attendance:

August 2	***$2003.00***	***64***
August 9	***$1669.00***	***66***
August 16	***$1531.00***	***50***
August 23	***$4955.50***	***60***
August 30		

Monthly Financial Report

Presented to council 08/03/26]

Beginning Balance as of 07/01/26:	$	33,566.89
Revenue:	$	10,390.46
Expenses:	$	--8,631.19
Ending Balance as of 07/31/26:	$	35,326.16

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

REMINDER: The next Red Cross Bloodmobile is scheduled for TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 from 12:00-6:00 PM at Elim Lutheran Church Parish Hall. Please come at your appointment time. THANK YOU FOR GIVING!

American Red Cross

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

August 3, 2026

Council discussed Rally Sunday and possible work projects for God's Work, Our Hands. Diane Hedberg reported on the rodeo concession stand and thanked church members for volunteering to help. Council approved Hedlund Electric's bid of approx. $1300 to install canister surge protectors for computer equipment and soundboards.

Worship & Music: Met July 29. Liturgy for communion Sundays will remain the same. Traditional liturgy will be used for Heritage Sunday, which is also Reformation Sunday, in October. Allan Lindfors stated that Elim's 150th anniversary is March 28, 2028, and that a committee is needed to organize activities for the commemoration.
Finance & Stewardship: No report.
Memorial Committee: No report.
Christian Ed.: Rally Sunday Sept. 13. Sunday School begins.
Evangelism/Social Ministry: No report.
Property/Security Committee: Painting and repair of parsonage soffet is complete. Plumbers have been contacted for bids on the basement bathroom renovation. Bat control is being researched. Further discussion to remove old dishwasher and possibly replace with ice machine or chest freezer for ice.

If you have questions or concerns regarding church activities or property, please contact one of the council members: Darren Able, Sarah Able, Sandy Edwards, Diane Hedberg, Linn Nelson, Conway Patrick, Bernice Peterson, Carly Peterson, Beth Thomas, or Matt Toll.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

"Peace is not the absence of problems. Peace is the presence of the Lord."





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Rylee Cunningham
1	Tim Lindfors
3	Audrey Seely
4	Kaeler Newton
4	Diana Hernandez
5	Kade Kaufman
6	Mike Hulse
6	Kurtis Sjogren
6	Beau Boughfman
7	Lou Nelson
7	Barbara O'Loughlin
8	Erica Faust
9	Braden Young
10	Morris Nelson
11	Wally Bunk
11	Cade Young
15	Jayleen Sellhorn
17	Alissa Holmquist
19	Sawyer McDonnell
20	Megan Amos
21	Charity Weis
21	Brandi Brady
22	Raven Caesar
22	Courtney Cook
22	Sharon Chandler
24	Maia Forssberg
24	Charles Martin
25	Ava Toll
26	Kiera Mullen
27	Brock Reid-Carpio
28	Julie Loder
28	Brandon Weis
29	Matt Hedberg

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne McBride	37 years
2	Mr. & Mrs. Terry Hopp	48 years
11	Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Cunningham	30 years
13	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Johnson	46 years
15	Mr. & Mrs. Adam Jones	14 years
23	Mr. & Mrs. Kent Rawson	48 years
24	Mr. & Mrs. Allan Lindfors	20 years
29	Mr. & Mrs. Randy Lillard	14 years
30	Mr. & Mrs. Danny Morel	54 years

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR PROVIDING MUSIC IN AUGUST:

August 2: Janna Nelson
August 9: McMahan Family
August 16: Allan Lindfors
August 23: Mike Hulse
August 30: Airalia Hulvey and Julie Olson



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THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SUMMER LUNCH VOLUNTEERS:

Beth Thomas	Griff Hawkinson
Roberta Jaye	Dorine Cunningham
Cindy Bunk	Kay Larson
Brooke Olson	Amy Kay Pavlovich
Danielle Beckham	Michele Von Strohe
Peg Kugelman	Kim Kratzer
Allan Lindfors	Diane Talbott
Holly Toll	Lori Beth James
Rhea Carter	Gayle Nelson
Alexis Lustfeld	

And from the Methodist Church:

Mary Piper	Steve Piper
Atticus Piper	Marcene Kempke
Susan Brock	Janet Rock
Brenda Hogan	Megan Eisenbarth
Brenda Graham	Art Mayfield
Diana Rawson	

AND most importantly, **Linda Johnson,** who manages it every summer.

Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	**5**
6 15th Sunday in Pentecost **11:00 AM –Worship Service w/ Communion**	**7** **LABOR DAY**	**8** **7:00 PM – Church Council Mtg.**	**9** **9:30 AM – Women's Bible Study** **6:30 PM – Youth Meal** **7:00 PM – Youth Group**	10	11	12
13 16th Sunday in Pentecost **RALLY SUNDAY** **God's Work, Our Hands** **9:45 AM – Sunday School** **11:00 AM –Worship Service** **12:00 NOON – Lunch in Parish Hall** **12:30 – 3:00 PM – Work Projects for God's Work, Our Hands** **4:00 PM – Riverview Sing-Along**	14	15	**16** **6:30 PM – Youth Meal** **7:00 PM – Youth Group** **7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice**	17	18	19
20 17th Sunday in Pentecost **9:45 AM – Jr. Choir Practice/Sunday School** **11:00 AM –Worship Service**	21	22	**23** **6:30 PM – Youth Meal** **7:00 PM – Youth Group** **7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice**	24	25	26
27 18th Sunday in Pentecost **9:45 AM – Jr. Choir Practice/Sunday School** **11:00 AM –Worship Service**	28	29	**30** **6:30 PM – Youth Meal** **7:00 PM – Youth Group** **7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice**			