



# Elim Lutheran Church

## The Messenger

JANUARY 2021

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### Elim Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Minutes - January 26, 2020

*[Minutes from last year's annual meeting are included here to remind members to please attend on January 31, 2021.]*

**Meeting to Order:** Dana Olson, Church Council President, called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM.

**Devotions:** Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich thanked Elim members for being adaptable, resourceful and practical people to serve the Lord.

**Volunteer Lists Distributed:** Lists were passed around for Greeters, Lectors, Altar Flowers, Coffee Hosts, Riverview Singalong and Birthday Parties, and Youth Meals. An attendance sheet for members attending the annual meeting was also distributed. Approximately 62 members attended.

**Approval of 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes (held January 27, 2019):** Lois Johnson moved and Terry Hopp seconded that the 2019 Annual Meeting minutes be approved as submitted. The motion passed unopposed.

**Congregational Vote Number of Council Members:** Dana Olson reported that the nominating committee was unable to find enough candidates for council openings. Council suggested a reduction in the number of council members required from 12 to 10. The church constitution only states that there should be no more than 12 members on the council. JoAn Lindfors suggested the nominating committee present a single slate of candidates [only number required to fill open positions] for successive years. Darren Able moved and Linda Johnson seconded to reduce the number required to 10 members. Members voted by show of hands, and the motion passed.

**Report from the Nominating Committee and nominations from the floor:** There are currently two positions open on the Church Council. Dana Olson presented the following candidates: Steve Patrick (incumbent) and Curtis Patrick. Diane Hedberg moved and Lana Rock seconded that nominations cease. The motion passed.

**Election of Council Members:** Council members elected in 2020 to serve for 3 years will be Steve Patrick and Curtis Patrick.

**Election of Memorial Committee:** Committee members include Janis Larson, Diane Hedberg, Diane Talbott, Dorine Cunningham, Cindy Bunk, Charlotte Knackstedt, Pam Morel and Vicki Young. Allan Lindfors moved and Linda Johnson seconded to accept current committee members for 2020, with the addition of a council representative to be selected at the February council meeting. Motion passed unopposed.

**Election of Nominating Committee:** Matt Hedberg, Scott Johnson, Brooke Olson, Mike Hulse, and Rita Brown were nominated to serve on the committee. Lois Johnson moved and JoAn Lindfors seconded for nominations to cease and to accept the nominations as presented. The motion passed unopposed.

**Appointment of Auditing Committee Member:** Dana Olson thanked the audit committee (Marci Fox, Susan Buffington, and Sandra Myers) for their service in 2019. Allan Lindfors moved and Cindy Bunk seconded to accept the current committee members for 2020. The motion passed unopposed.

#### Reports:

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich thanked the members for calling her to be part-time pastor and for their willingness to help in whatever capacity needed. Secretary Gayle Nelson amended the Pastor's Report, noting that the

statistics reported reflected only the time period she was called as pastor for Elim Lutheran Church, October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

**Council's Report:** Dana Olson encouraged members to consider joining the council in subsequent years, and to participate on committees.

**Committee Reports:** Tammy Feil thanked the Sunday School teachers for their participation and help (Christian Ed.). Carly Peterson reminded members of the upcoming Valentine's Dinner and mission trip for the Youth Group. Gayle Nelson and other club members (Cindy Bunk, Tammy Feil, Cathy French, Janis Larson, Kay Larson, Carylee Nelson, and Patty Kolling) presented the Youth Group sponsors Hannah Jones and Carly Peterson with a donation from Starlight Literary Club for their mission trip. Dana Olson reviewed uses for the Memorial Fund in maintaining the church (Memorial Committee). Dana Olson reported on projects completed by the Property Committee, to include restroom renovation, replacement of windows in the Parish Hall, and replacement of the water heater and garbage disposal in the parsonage for renters. JoAn Lindfors made corrections to the WELCA Financial Report as follows: Added expense of \$300.00 to the Marquette Celebration Committee for total expenses of \$1426.11, and changed receipts for Celebration Cookie Sale from \$409.05 to \$307.05, and Hanson-Lindfors Open House from \$198.00 to \$300.00 with no change to total receipts. Overall total corrected to \$2921.51. She also noted a \$200 donation to Bethlehem Revisited, and the upcoming commitment to support the Christmas Shoebox project led by the Freemount Lutheran Church. Scott Feil reported on the Security Committee, with the hope that there will be more meetings this year.

**Financial Report:** Dana Olson reviewed the report presented by Treasurer Diane Hedberg. He thanked Linda Johnson for all her work and leadership with the Swedish Supper. Lois Johnson stated that the Swedish Supper presented goodwill to neighboring communities. In conjunction with the Contingency Fund, Janis Larson reminded members of the commodities available at the Senior Center. It was also mentioned that cans of food had been donated by a disc golf event that could be used by the Ministerial Alliance for families in need. Dana Olson thanked Beth Thomas, Diane Hedberg, and Gayle Nelson for the jobs they do for the church. He further discussed the General Fund, including the additional line item for parsonage rental, and the ability to recoup from negative balances due to no pastor salary for a large portion of the year.

#### Old Business:

- **Fiscal Reminders:** Dana Olson stated that Elim is lower than before on giving, and encouraged members to increase their giving and to utilize the online giving.

#### New Business:

- **Adoption of 2020 Budget:** Scott Johnson presented the proposed budget approved by council. He noted the addition of \$2000 annual salary to the Treasurer, and the \$0.50 increase in the secretary hourly pay. Scott thanked Diane Hedberg for all her help with the Finance and Stewardship committee, and stated that it was good to have a lower budget, in part due to part-time pastor. Lois Johnson moved and Allan Lindfors seconded to approve the 2020 proposed budget as submitted. The motion passed.
- **Parish Hall Windows:** Two window sets in the Parish Hall need to be replaced. Sandy Edwards moved and Beth Thomas seconded to improve replacement of the window sets for the cost of \$3388.40. The motion passed.

**Blessings and Gratitude Moments:** Scott Johnson thanked Dana Olson for serving as council president this past year. Dana Olson complimented Pastor Amy Kay for her leadership in our church, and encouraged all of us to get on the "A" train, per his message in the Annual Report.

**Adjournment with Prayer:** Pastor Amy Kay reminded us that we are all new in Christ, and told us that we are a great church. She ended in prayer. Darren Able moved and Jeremy Snapp seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 1:40 PM. The motion passed unopposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Nelson  
Elim Lutheran Church Secretary



**Please keep in prayer:** Mo, Will, Twila, Steve, Greg, Mary, Doug, Leslie (friend of JoAn), Bunnie, Jim (Dennis's brother), Tim, Ed, Suzy, Wes, Kenny (Rita's husband), Betty, Don, Darren (Donna's grandson), Norm (Mari's father), Jill, Bethany Village, Riverview, and Kansas Healthcare workers. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Merle Larson.

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 [amykay@connectedfairtrade.com](mailto:amykay@connectedfairtrade.com), or email [elimsec@gmail.com](mailto:elimsec@gmail.com).

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

The Elim Lutheran Church annual meeting has been rescheduled for **January 31, 2021**. It will take place following worship service, in the sanctuary with social distancing observed. It is important for members to attend and to vote on new council members, as well as participate in discussions with suggestions or concerns. Committee reports will be due no later than **January 11** in order to allow time for mailing out the annual report to members. We realize this year has prevented us from meeting with our committees regularly, and that many of the events our church committees normally plan and sponsor were curtailed due to Covid restrictions. Please explain the cancelled events and other plans in your reports to provide a record for the year's activities, or lack thereof. THANK YOU!

Please contact council members if you have any suggestions or concerns for discussion at the annual meeting. Also, please contact the nominating committee with possible candidates for the church council. **Four positions will need to be filled.** Consider joining the council to share new ideas and expertise for the growth of your church.

COUNCIL MEMBERS (2020): Dana Olson, Allan Lindfors, Patty Kolling, Scott Feil, Lana Rock, Curtis Patrick, Barry Nelson, Andrea Willems, Steve Patrick, and Jeremy Snapp.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Scott Johnson, Brooke Olson, Matt Hedberg, Mike Hulse, and Rita Brown. Volunteers to assist: Lois Johnson and JoAn Lindfors

## **~ CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES ~**

*Church Council – Met December 7, 2020. Dana Olson reported that the parsonage has a new renter as of December 1. Council discussed when to return to the sanctuary for worship service, with no decision made at this time. Council voted to reschedule the annual meeting to January 31, 2021 to allow time to complete the annual report for mailing out to members.*

**Worship & Music:** No meeting. Allan Lindfors has lined up special music and hymns for the December services.

**Finance & Stewardship:** No meeting. Will be meeting in December to complete the 2021 budget proposal.

**Evangelism:** No meeting. Little River FCA breakfast rescheduled for February 12. Dorine Cunningham and Pastor Amy Kay will coordinate sponsorship of this session.

**Social Ministry:** No meeting.

**Christian Education:** No meeting.

**Property:** Meeting December 7. Council looked at carpet tile samples for Parish Hall, and Dana Olson will get more from another source for the committee and council to review in December.

**Memorial:** Discussed using Memorial money to replace PC in office, purchase church-owned laptop for Pastor's use, and to pay for internet connection improvements.

**Security Committee:** No report.

*Next meeting to be held on Monday, January 4, 2021.*



## WELCA NEWS

WELCA and Elim missed many of the December events that we love so much, i.e. Swedish supper; Christmas programs, choir cantatas, Julotta, and even just singing carols together, **but we still spread our blessings and hopefully some joy to needed families.** We thank Pastor Amy Kay for delivering nine (9) Thanksgiving Blessing Boxes to families within our community in November. Because the need is so great this year due of Covid-19, we also did **Christmas Angel Boxes** for December. Again, Pastor has said she would deliver, and we thank her for all this extra work she does for us. It does bring great joy to these families. WELCA will report in January, 2021 how many Angel boxes were delivered.

Though we were not able to have the Swedish Supper, Linda Johnson and her committee are still gathering any donation(s) that you are willing to give. Since this is a major fundraiser for Elim, every bit helps. Any other donation is welcomed as well. Donna Patrick gave a donation to our treasury by not billing for the batting for the quilts that her committee works on all year long. Thank you Donna.

In this season of much need, WELCA got requests from different agencies for assistance, and the Executive Board made a decision to give \$125.00 each to **Mt. Hope** (McPherson agency that assists parents and children); **Ashby House** (Salina agency that helps the homeless, delivers essential items to struggling families, assists families with rent and utilities who are unable to work because of Covid-19); and, **Child Safety and Drug Education Program** (McPherson Sheriff's Department that uses materials to keep children safe and drug free - \$125.00 provides for 50 children). We are open to any other requests that members might have.

The officers for WELCA (listed below) have agreed to **remain** on the Executive Board for the new year of 2021-2022. We still welcome younger women to become involved, and share your needed ideas and concerns for our organization of Elim. Please consider it seriously.

Our community is really suffering from Covid-19. Many persons have been or are ill because of this virus. Our most vulnerable at Riverview Estates have been infected, and we must all do our part to take this virus seriously, wear masks, wash hands regularly, social distance from others, and stay home if at all possible. Even with the glorious news of a vaccine, the CDC says we must continue to practice these precautions so that this world can become healthy again. **Elim wants to go to church again, sing together again, see our families, and hug each other again, so we should do as our doctors and scientists tell us to do.....and then pray as God would want us to do.**

During this health pandemic, an article in FIRST for Women, November 9, 2020 article entitled, **"Remedy for Loneliness"**, reads, "On days when you're feeling lonely and can't see loved ones in person, take a moment to reflect on the fact that this tough experience is a shared one. Turns out a **sense of community** is a source of resilience, according to a study in *American Psychologist*. Researchers surveyed more than 2,000 people during the original COVID-19 stay-at-home order and found that most people displayed 'remarkable resilience' and had a greater sense of social support than before the pandemic, even when they were physically isolated. Study authors speculate the sense of 'we're all in this together' helps temper feelings of loneliness."

Pastor Amy Kay's sermons each Sunday reminds Elim's congregation how awesome we have all been during this difficult time. Her encouraging words are truly welcomed and needed. We owe Pastor a lot for bringing us through these months, and reminding us that "THIS TOO WILL PASS" with the help of our **LORD**.

We continue to thank Gayle Nelson for all the work she does, and to Jeremy Snapp and Taton Tubbs for making our Sunday virtual services so nice. We do appreciate it.

Please be safe and keep praying for our nation, community, and churches.

President: JoAn Lindfors; Vice-President: Diane Talbott; Secretary: Jackie Larson; and Treasurer: Cindy Bunk.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

WELCA and the members of Elim are back on board to help collect items for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes in 2021. Listed below are the items needed each month. Elim joins Freemount Lutheran Church and Marquette Methodist Church in gathering these items for the Shoeboxes to be filled in November. Lists for each month will be posted on the bulletin board, in the bulletin, and in the Messenger. Baskets for the items will be in the Parish Hall and the back of the sanctuary. Please consider gifting a few items throughout the year.

### **MONTHLY COLLECTION OF ITEMS TO FILL SHOEBOXES IN NOVEMBER 2021**

(Underlined items are needed for EVERY box, the remaining items are extra)

January 2021	<u>Socks all sizes, boys and girls</u> ; scarves, stocking hats, gloves/mittens (can be handmade too!)
February 2021	For Girls - Small sewing kits: fabric squares (Fat Quarters), seam rippers, tape measures, pins, needles, etc.
March 2021	<b>Fun stuff!!</b> Small cars, balls, harmonicas, kazoos, yo-yo's, slinky's, small Etch-a-Sketches, jump ropes, noise makers, Legos, puzzles, jacks, small games, dolls, Barbies, Beanie Babies, stuffed animals, BOOKS.
April 2021	<u>Brushes, Toothbrushes</u> and floss
May 2021	T-shirts, sunglasses, ball caps, visors, hairclips, play jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), umbrella. <i>Use your imagination for useful items children of all ages can use!</i>
June 2021	Flip-flops, canvas shoes, clothing (shorts, leggings, t-shirts, dresses)
July 2021	<b>For boys:</b> small hammer, nails, rolls of twine, fishing supplies
August 2021	<u>School supplies:</u> pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamps with ink pads, glue sticks, coloring books, solar calculators, rulers, etc.
September 2021	<u>Bar soap, washcloths, solid deodorant</u> for boys and girls
October 2021	<u>Collect donations for shipping costs (\$9.00 per shoebox)</u>

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY**

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**ANGEL TREE**  
**and**  
**CHRISTMAS ANGEL BOX**

Thank you to all who donated gifts for the Angel Tree, and food for the Angel Boxes. Your generosity helped make this a better Christmas for others. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS OF LOVE.

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Altar flowers during Advent and Christmastide are silk poinsettias. Christmastide ends at Epiphany (January 6, 2021). The Worship and Music Committee has decided to forego fresh flowers for the altar until after Easter. JoAn Lindfors will provide silk flowers for the altar during this time, as well as the traditional pussy willows for Lenten season. Elim will resume fresh flowers for the altar and the accompanying dedications after Easter (April 11, 2021).. A sign-up sheet for altar flowers will be passed around during the annual meeting, and will be posted on the bulletin board for additional members to sign up. THANK YOU!

**Offerings per week in December**

<b>December 6:</b>	<b>\$2327.00</b>
<b>December 13:</b>	<b>\$1094.50</b>
<b>November 15:</b>	<b>\$2932.00</b>
<b>November 22:</b>	<b>\$1200.00</b>

**Online services only during the month of December.**

**Monthly Financial Report**

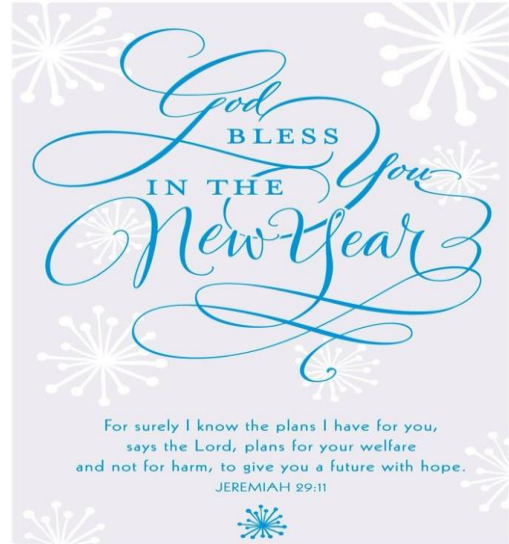
[As presented to Church Council 12/07/2020]

Beginning Balance as of 11/01/20:	\$ 32,992.65
Revenue:	\$ 8,491.48
Expenses:	\$ -6,165.76
Ending Balance as of 11/30/20:	\$ 35,318.37

Worship service will remain online only until council's decision to return to the sanctuary. Please view the live services on the Elim Facebook page, or at a later time at [elimmarquette.org](http://elimmarquette.org). Youth Group and Sunday School have been cancelled until further notice. Continue to check online for the bulletin. It is normally posted an hour before the service.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Devotional books for January are in the pouch on the Parish Hall doors.

**SWEDISH SUPPER FUND:** Although the Swedish Supper has been cancelled for this year, donations are always welcome and appreciated. The Swedish Supper is Elim's main fundraiser for the year, and proceeds help with church improvements and expenses as well as community organizations. Donations may be given online at [elimmarquette.org](http://elimmarquette.org), left at Marquette Farmers State Bank, or mailed to Elim Lutheran Church, c/o Swedish Supper Fund, 403 N. Lincoln, PO Box 236, Marquette, KS 67464. Thank you to those who have donated thus far, with the hope that the Swedish Supper will once again take place in 2021.



A message from the editor...

2020 is a year we will not forget. A year of heartache for many, a year of fear and frustration, a year turned upside down. We have truly been in this together fighting a war against Covid no one fathomed would last this long, or that would dismantle our lives in so many ways.

2021 is a year of hope. We look to 2021 with hope that the end of this pandemic is in sight; hope that the fears and restrictions of Covid will lessen with each passing month; hope that medical scientists have truly found the answer to end this crisis through the vaccine; hope that healthcare workers will find reprieve from the long and exhausting hours needed to care for an ever-escalating number of Covid patients; hope that we will return to life as it should be – in our churches, in our schools, in our jobs, in our gatherings and celebrations and events.

Our dear Pastor Amy Kay often reminds us that God is with us. The new year holds God's promise of renewal – in our faith and in our lives. God's promise isn't marked by the year. It is with us always, even during the worst of times. Here's to 2021, and the peaceful promise of God's love.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

5	Kelly French
5	Whitney Weaver
5	Colter Patrick
5	Rylee Larson
6	Ken Hedberg
6	Kamryn Lindfors
7	Janis Larson
8	Kris Hudson
9	Geraldine Hopp
10	Tom Emery
19	Terry Hopp
20	Terri McBride
26	Lisa Johnson
26	LeAnn Everhart
29	Scott Feil
29	Magnus Larson

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

7	Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rock	55 years
21	Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Lindh	43 years

### WES Carnival

Windom Elementary School will be hosting a school carnival on March 26, 2021 to raise funds for student activities such as field trips and other events. The carnival will be done differently this year due to Covid concerns. WES will not be having an in-person carnival as in the past, but they will be holding a silent auction which will be held on a virtual platform. Some of the game activities will take place during the regular school day with the kids, with awesome prizes to hand out. PAWS (Parents at Windom School) are asking for donations from area businesses and communities to help out with these prizes as well as the silent auction. A list of ideas follows:

SILENT AUCTION: iPod, trampoline, basketball goal, sports tickets, cooler, tailgate grill, gift certificates, car care products, hair care products, tools, bikes and helmets.

PRIZES FOR KIDS/SILENT AUCTION: Toys, gift cards, sports equipment, candy, nail polish, electronic games, board games, craft kits, card games, stuffed animals, books.

Monetary donations can be mailed to PAWS, 130 Illinois St., Little River, KS 67457. Donations received by January 31, 2021 will be recognized on Facebook, the local newspaper, and at the auction site.

*[This information was sent to Elim Lutheran Church by PAWS]*



It has not yet been determined when Youth Group will meet again. If you were listed to provide meals for the meetings that were cancelled, please consider volunteering in future months when meetings resume. THANK YOU!

YOUTH GROUP MEALS: Please call or text Tammy Feil at 620-242-4764, or email her at [feilt@usd419.org](mailto:feilt@usd419.org) if you are willing to help prepare meals for the Youth Group. Meals are to be served each Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Volunteers providing food will be required to wear masks and gloves, and will serve the food using paper plates and plasticware. THANK YOU for continuing this service for our youth.

### ATTENTION PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Elim members love to hear about the accomplishments of our Sunday School children and youth. We know many of you have news to share. Covid has interrupted our lives and made it difficult to be together, especially with no Sunday School or Youth Group meetings in the past few months. Please share with us the major events and accomplishments your children have been involved with since the start of school in September. Send your information to [elimsec@gmail.com](mailto:elimsec@gmail.com), or call or text Gayle at 785-201-7675. THANK YOU! We hope to be together again in our church soon.

# Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for JANUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<p><b><i>Please note:</i></b>  <b><i>Services are online until further notice. Please check the Elim website or Facebook for an update on the return to worship in the sanctuary.</i></b></p>						<b>1</b>  <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>	2
<b>3 Second Sunday of Christmas</b>  11:00 AM - Worship Service w/ Holy Communion	<b>4</b>  <b>7:00 PM – COUNCIL MTG.</b>	5	<b>6</b>  <b>EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD</b>	7	8	9	
<b>10 Baptism of Our Lord</b>  11:00 AM - Worship Service	11  <b>Committee reports due for annual report</b>	12	13	14	15	16	
<b>17 Second Sunday of Epiphany</b>  11:00 AM - Worship Service	18  <i>Messenger Deadline</i>	19	20	21	22	23	
<b>24 Third Sunday of Epiphany</b>  11:00 AM - Worship Service	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>31 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</b>  11:00 AM - Worship Service <b>12:00 NOON – ANNUAL MEETING</b>							