



Elim Lutheran Church

The Messenger

JANUARY 2022

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Greetings, Elim –

I hope this newsletter finds you at peace and with joy after the Advent and Christmas seasons.



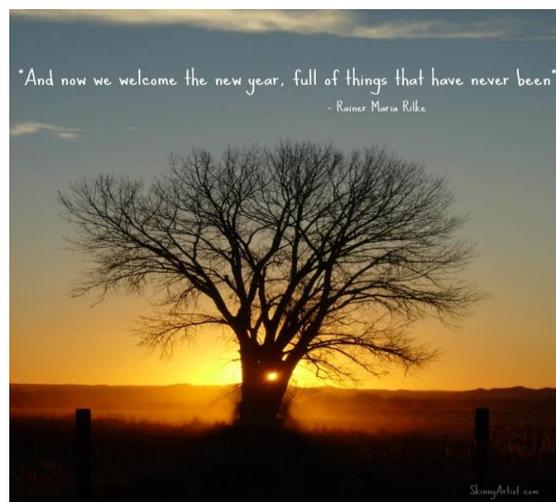
Oddly, we ended 2021 and began 2022 with the same gospel reading this year: the story of the Wise Men traveling to the baby Jesus. I've never repeated a scripture before, but there is plenty to reflect upon with the story of Jesus' birth... and I didn't want to follow the lectionary because Jesus would have been 12 years old the day after Christmas! That seemed ludicrous. Jesus would have been born, turned 12 and then the Sunday after was only a few weeks old again. We are certainly capable of hearing the stories in whatever order we wish, but I just couldn't do it this year.

I wonder if my emotional revulsion at the twelve-year-jump-in-a-day had something to do with the last couple of years. It seems my/our prayers for presence and peace became more fervent. We've had medical uncertainty, distrust, frustration and interruption. Some of us have had loss and grief related to and unrelated, but greatly affected by, the pandemic. Through it all, we've prayed to God for peace, justice and openness to God's guidance. We've talked about being present and full of God's grace for ourselves and one another.

As we begin 2022 together, let's continue to pray for all of these things and especially our ability to be present in each of God's moments. We can experience peace in this conscientious effort. I'm not suggesting we kick back in our easy chairs and be satisfied watching the world go by. By centering ourselves in the present with God, we will have the orientation and energy to press on to justice that brings hope for all people. Isn't that fascinating? It is when we are the most centered that we have the most direction and energy to be about God's work in the world. Let's let this be our call into the new year together.

It will be good to live on together as church in 2022.

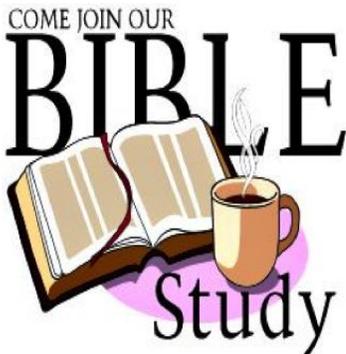
w/great thanksgiving to be called as your Pastor – Amy Kay





Please keep in prayer: JoAn, Dan, Wendy, Danny, Aaron, Anna, Steve, Greg, Billie Jo, Sandi, Mary, Vernon, Eva, Bethany Village, Riverview, and all healthcare workers.

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.



Pack your bags. We're going on a journey. A quest to uncover Scripture and its meaning across history. Filmed on location in Israel and throughout the Middle East, the Faith Lessons and DVD series is an adventure in biblical learning! **That the World May Know** is a unique video series that brings God's Word to life with astounding relevance.

We invite all ages of adults to come to a morning bible study, led by Julie Olson. **The start date will be January 30, 2022 at 9:30 am in the Parish Hall.** Please contact Julie Olson if you would like to attend at 785-577-5144. Please don't worry if you can't attend every session. You won't be lost if you miss a session. Drop in visits are encouraged!! We will always have extra books and materials.

By weaving together the Bibles' fascinating historical, cultural, religious, and geographical contexts, teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan reveals unique insights into the Scriptures' significance for believers. In this ten-session small group Bible study, you will discover why Jesus turned the world upside down with his compelling call to follow Him. It will let you walk with Jesus through the days of his ministry on this earth. The insights you gain will transform your reading of the Gospels and inspire a deeper faith commitment.

LADIES' NEW YEAR GATHERING FOR FRIENDS



Please join us at Nancy Hopp's house for a gathering. Let's start off the New Year seeing our friends. We need one another's fellowship and this is a good opportunity. Clean out your last leftover Christmas goodies and bring a plate to share.

January 9, 2022 between 6:30 and 8:30 PM

Confirmation Schedule for January 2022

**Wednesday, January 12 at 6:30 PM
Sunday, January 16 at 10:00 AM
Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30 PM
Sunday, January 30 at 10:00 AM**



WELCA NEWS

As we say goodbye to another year and walk bravely into a New one, we cannot help but wonder what our good and great God has in store for us this year. We are leaving a year that has once again been full of Covid uncertainties and many tests, trials and tribulations that we sometimes just do not understand. But we must not fail to remember and count our many blessings, and remember that whatever we've been through this year, from joy to pain and everything in between, that our Lord Jesus Christ has been there too, and He does understand absolutely every human emotion that we may have been called to endure this year.

It's been a good WELCA year, thanks to the leadership of our President, JoAn Lindfors. As many of you know, she suffered a minor stroke recently and we praise God for his provision and protection over her as she heals and recovers.

We are thankful to many who have shared their abundance with us the last several months, boosting our WELCA treasury to a healthy balance, and we continue to SHARE with others what has been SHARED with us by using these funds for God's glory to further the work of WELCA into a needy and imperfect world.

A group of 22 traveled to Keats, KS in early December to attend "Bethlehem Revisited", a living nativity experience which began with the prophets proclaiming the "coming One" and ended with the truth and hope of the resurrection. What a wonderful way to start the Advent season with the TRUE story that never grows old – of a tiny boy born in Bethlehem, born to die to save us from our sins, thanks be to God! Many thanks to Wayne and Ruth Gfeller for their hospitality and delicious meal following Bethlehem Revisited. How fun to get to see where our dear Amy Kay grew up and get to meet her parents and extended family.

As we walk into the coming year, it is my prayer that you may:

Walk humbly with our God and watch and pray that you may not fall to temptation.

Enter into His gates with much Thanksgiving and praise

Love God and love your neighbor and lean not on your own understanding but on God, and that you will let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Cast your cares on Him, because He cares for you and will carry you through.

Acknowledge Him in all thy ways and see that He will direct all your paths, and approach Him in confidence and faith and trust that He makes ALL things beautiful in His time, not ours, and may you Abide in Christ and HE in you as a branch cannot bear fruit unless it abides with the vine.

It is my hope that my prayer for you shall also be your New Year's Resolution for 2022!

And as Pastor Amy Kay would say, "May it be so!"

Jackie Larson, WELCA Secretary



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 and Confirmation Class. **Meals are to be served each Wednesday at 6:30 PM.** Volunteers (pair up if you can) who provide the food will be asked to wear gloves while serving the food, and can use paper plates and plastic ware provided by the Youth Group. Prepare to serve 25-30 meals. This number may change with differing schedules. THANK YOU for continuing this service for our youth, who are often leaving school sports practices and events and coming directly to the church for their meeting or class.

Thank you again to the following for providing meals Sept. – Dec.: Tammy Feil and Cindy Bunk, Darren Able and Trish Reed, the Boughfman family, Carylee Nelson and Patty Kolling, Linda Johnson, Pastor Amy Kay, Carol Jones, Gayle Nelson and Jeremy Snapp, Carly and Lars Peterson.



VALENTINE'S DINNER

The Youth Group are planning to host the Valentine Dinner again this year for Elim members and the community. Stay tuned for the exact date - Saturday, February 12 or 19 - and whether it will be take-out only or served in the Parish Hall. THANK YOU for supporting our church's youth.

K-STATE LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

Madison and Michele Loder are members of the K-State Lutheran Campus Ministry in Manhattan, KS. They sang during the worship service on Sunday, December 26 – thank you! your voices are beautiful. Madison told members about their involvement in the Lutheran Campus Ministry at K-State. It has provided them both with a secure and safe place to stay during their studies at K-State, and they thanked WELCA for donating to the organization to help fund their ministry, which includes the pastor's salary, scholarships, building maintenance, supplies for Bible studies and other events. Any and all donations would be appreciated. Donations may be sent to Lutheran Campus Ministry, 1810 Todd Road, Manhattan, KS 66502, or online at <https://www.ksulcm.org>. There is also a building fund for Luther House to replace siding, windows, and insulation. Other ways you can help is to refer students using the following link: <https://lumin-networkreferral.org/student-referrals>. Or you can donate to the Pastor Shelby Bailey Scholarship for ELCA students, or just pass the application form on to a current or new student attending K-State. Application forms are on the bulletin board for anyone interested. It is a worthwhile organization that provides opportunities for our youth on campus.



We are proud of Madison and Michele for their participation in LCM, and wish them continued success in their studies. And congratulations to Michele on her engagement to Justin!

Annual Meeting of the Congregation – Minutes

Elim Lutheran Church, Marquette, KS

January 31, 2021

Meeting to Order: Dana Olson, Church Council President, called the meeting to order at 11:45 AM. Approximately 28 members attended.

Devotions: Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes (held January 26, 2020): Allan Lindfors moved and Andi Willems seconded that the 2020 Annual Meeting minutes be approved as submitted. The motion passed unopposed.

Report from the Nominating Committee: There are currently four (4) positions open on the Church Council. Scott Johnson presented the following candidates: Beth Thomas, Sandy Edwards, Janis Larson, and Carly Peterson. Diane Hedberg moved and Patty Kolling seconded to accept the nominations as presented. The motion passed.

Election of Council Members: Council members elected in 2021 to serve for 3 years will be Beth Thomas, Sandy Edwards, Janis Larson, and Carly Peterson.

Election of Memorial Committee: Committee members include Janis Larson, Diane Hedberg, Diane Talbott, Dorine Cunningham, Cindy Bunk, Charlotte Knackstedt, Pam Morel and Vicki Young. It was agreed by consensus to accept current committee members for 2021.

Election of Nominating Committee: Scott Johnson suggested one additional member be added to the committee to replace Matt Hedberg. Julie Olson volunteered to fill the position. Jeremy Snapp moved and Andi Willems seconded to accept the nominating committee as it stands with the addition of Julie Olson. The motion passed unopposed. Members of the committee for 2021 are Scott Johnson, Brooke Olson, Mike Hulse, Rita Brown, and Julie Olson.

Appointment of Auditing Committee Member: Dana Olson thanked the audit committee (Marci Fox, Susan Buffington, and Sandra Myers) for their service in 2020. JoAnn Lindfors moved and Steve Patrick seconded to accept the current committee members for 2021. The motion passed unopposed.

Reports:

Pastor's Report: Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich thanked the members leaving council for serving the church: Dana Olson as president, Patty Kolling, Lana Rock, and Scott Feil.

Council's Report: Dana Olson added that "we have got to come back to church", encouraging members to attend worship on a regular basis and to become involved with the various committees and events.

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed.: Diane Hedberg reported that Sunday School will resume February 7 at 10:15-10:45 AM, pending council approval on February 1, 2021. Sunday School will remain in the single open classroom through May, with Diane Hedberg and Tammy Feil conducting the Bible lessons.

Youth Group: Dana Olson thanked Lars and Carly Peterson for serving as youth sponsors.

Memorial Committee: No further discussion. Dana Olson reported that a \$1500 gift was received from the family of Marlin and Marilyn Young.

Property Committee: Scott Johnson reported that the Parish Hall flooring will be the next big project, at approximately \$10,000 cost. Council approved the bid. A congregational vote of members present approved the expenditure. Dana Olson offered the old folding tables from the Parish Hall for free to any members interested.

WELCA: JoAn Lindfors reported on donations and projects in 2020. She stated that she appreciates everyone's help and donations. Jackie Larson thanked JoAn for her leadership, especially during Covid, and added that JoAn handled many of the tasks herself and kept it going.

Worship and Music: Dana Olson thanked Allan Lindfors for his many years of leadership as choir director [it will be 50 years this month, January 2021].

Security: Dana Olson reported that the new Parish Hall doors with panic (crash) bars enhances safety and security. Jeremy Snapp reported that MTC fiber-enhanced WiFi will improve internet connection, including security cameras.

Financial Report: Dana Olson stated that he was thankful for the church outreach despite Covid via the online services. He noted that the Swedish Supper Committee were considering changes to the preparations and other facets of the traditional fundraiser. He thanked members and their families for giving to the church.

(continued on next page)

New Business:

- **Adoption of 2021 Budget:** Scott Johnson presented the proposed budget approved by council. He noted the increases, and that the cut in utilities due to less usage of the church building lowered the budget costs marginally. Jeremy Snapp mentioned the new budgeted item for the service fee for processing electronic giving, which had not been noted previously. Darren Able moved and Linda Johnson seconded to approve the 2021 proposed budget as submitted. The motion passed.

Blessings and Gratitude Moments: Dana Olson thanked members (Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich, Jackie Larson, Allan Lindfors, Linda Johnson, Diane Hedberg, Beth Thomas, and Gayle Nelson) who do so much. He read a quote from Tony Dungy re: being a part of the one team. He again pleaded for members to come to church.

Adjournment with Prayer: Pastor Amy Kay ended the meeting in prayer. Patty Kolling moved and Andi Willems seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 12:30 PM. The motion passed unopposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Nelson
Elim Lutheran Church Secretary

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OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

WELCA and other members of Elim are joining with Freemount Lutheran Church and Marquette Methodist Church to collect items for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes in 2022. Listed below are the items needed each month. 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 2022

(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	Fun stuff!! 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. Soccer balls with pumps.
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	For boys: 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</u> , solid deodorant for boys and girls
October 2021	<u>Collect donations for shipping costs (\$9.00 per shoebox)</u>

SERVING THE LORD IN JANUARY

ACOLYTES

January: Lily and Elsie Boughfman

LECTORS*

January 2: Allan Lindfors

January 9: _____

January 16: _____

January 23: _____

January 30: _____

GREETERS*

January 2: Barry and Carylee Nelson

January 9: _____

January 16: _____

January 23: _____

January 30: _____

COMMUNION ASSISTANT:

Barry Nelson

COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP:

Andi Willems and Whitney Weaver

COMMUNION BREAD:

Jayleen Sellhorn

USHERS (1st Sunday):

Craig Larson and Curtis Patrick

ANNUAL MEETING

The Elim Lutheran Church annual meeting is scheduled for **January 30, 2022**. Committee reports will be due no later than **January 12** to allow time for mailing the completed annual report to members prior to the meeting.

Please consider joining the council to share new ideas and expertise for the growth of our church. If you feel called to serve on the council, or know someone you feel would be willing to serve the church in this role, please contact a member of the nominating committee: Scott Johnson, Julie Olson, Brooke Olson, Mike Hulse, and Rita Brown. If you have any suggestions or concerns for discussion at the annual meeting, please contact a council member.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Curtis Patrick (President), Barry Nelson (V. President), Allan Lindfors, Sandy Edwards, Beth Thomas, Andrea Willems, Vicki Young, Carly Peterson, Jeremy Snapp, and Janis Larson.

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

December 6, 2021

Council voted to return to full communion at the altar starting January 2, 2022. Communion will take place on the first Sunday of each month, as established.

Worship & Music: No meeting. Sunday School Christmas program will be Dec. 12, and the Christmas Cantata will be Dec. 19.

Finance & Stewardship: No meeting set to date. Will be scheduled before end of year for 2022 budget proposal.

Memorial Committee: No meeting. Meeting scheduled for January 5, 2022.

Christian Ed: Diane Hedberg that there will be no Sunday School on December 26. Sunday School will resume January 2, 2022.

Property/Security Committee: No meeting. Current members of the committee are Scott Johnson, Barry Nelson, Daryl Talbott, and Dana Olson.

Nominating Committee: Committee will meet end of December to determine possible candidates for council.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, January 3, 2022

Offerings and Attendance per week in 2021

Dec. 5:	\$3147.00	56
Dec. 12	\$2390.00	145
Dec. 19	\$2702.00	67
Dec. 24	\$ 250.00	33
Dec. 25	\$ 407.00	66
Dec. 26	\$3309.00	48

Monthly Financial Report

[As presented to council 12/06/2021]

Beginning Balance as of 11/01/21:	\$ 55,299.65
Revenue:	\$ 8,899.21
Expenses:	\$ - 36,754.84*
Ending Balance as of 11/30/21:	\$ 27,444.02

**Explanation: \$30,000 transferred from General Fund to Money Market Account. Not an expenditure or loss of revenue.*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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
- 12 Pastor Katherine
- 19 Terry Hopp
- 20 Terri McBride
- 26 Lisa Johnson
- 26 LeAnn Everhart
- 29 Scott Feil
- 29 Magnus Larson
- 31 Carolyn "KK" Larson

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rock 56 years
- 21 Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Lindh 44 years



BAPTISM

We welcome Sawyer May McDonnell into the family of Christ through baptism. Sawyer was baptized by Pastor Amy Kay on Sunday, December 26, 2021. Parents are Kevin and MaryAnne McDonnell. Paternal grandparents are Kim McDonnell and Mike McDonnell. Maternal grandparents are Daryl and Diane Talbott. Great-grandparents are Kenny and Freda Talbott. Sponsors for Sawyer were Evan Talbott and Taylor McDonnell, who attended the baptism via Facetime from Hawaii.

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 30. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE EVERYONE'S INPUT, AND A GREAT WAY TO SHARE IDEAS AND FELLOWSHIP. The annual report will be mailed to members the week of the 16th so you will have plenty of time to review the reports before the meeting. SEE YOU THERE!

Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for JANUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
2 Second Sunday of Christmas 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:10 AM – Jr. Choir 11:00 AM - Worship Service w/Communion	3 7:00 PM Council Mtg.	4	5 6:15 – Memorial Committee Mtg. 6:30 – Meal for Youth 7:00 – Youth Group 7:00 – Senior Choir	6 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD	7	8
9 Baptism of Our Lord 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:10 AM – Jr. Choir 11:00 AM – Worship Service	10	11	12 <i>Committee Reports Due for Annual Report</i> 6:30 – Meal for Youth 7:00 – Youth Group & Confirmation Class 7:00 – Senior Choir	13	15	18
16 Second Sunday in Epiphany 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 10:10 AM – Jr. Choir 11:00 AM - Worship Service	17	18	19 1:30 – Quilt Group 6:30 – Meal for Youth 7:00 – Youth Group 7:00 – Senior Choir	20	21	22
23 Third Sunday in Epiphany 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:10 AM – Jr. Choir 11:00 AM - Worship Service	24	25	26 6:30 – Meal for Youth 7:00 – Youth Group & Confirmation Class 7:00 – Senior Choir	27	28	29
30 Fourth Sunday in Epiphany 9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 10:10 AM – Jr. Choir 11:00 AM - Worship Service	31					