



Elim Lutheran Church

The Messenger

FEBRUARY 2023

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I hope this season of Epiphany has felt filled with light and you've a strong sense God's presence with you, Elim!

We have a few more Sundays left in Epiphany with some wonderful scriptures before us, but I wanted to take this space to preview our Lenten series.

Freemount Church has decided to not join with us this year for a rotating Lenten series, but we are excited to still get to be with our friends at Marquette United Methodist Church (MUMC)! Pastor Brenda and I have met a few times already and are delighted to be inspired by the book *A Time to Grow: Lenten Lessons from the Garden to the Table*. This series was published by Rev. Kara Eidson, a UMC minister who lives in eastern Kansas!

Here a few words from Rev. Eidson about *A Time to Grow*:

The inspiration for this Lenten resource comes from two of my greatest passions, faith and food – particularly, the growing and tending of my own food. When I am in the garden with my hands in the earth, I feel deeply connected to creation, and thereby more connected to God, our Creator. Through stories of gardening and food, I hope to invite you into that space where you also may grow more connected to God. Whether you are a Master Gardener or struggle to keep houseplants alive, we are all united in our need for sustenance; we all need food.

We begin with dirt on Ash Wednesday, exploring the very soil from which we have come and to which we will return. The theme for each week will guide us through the elements of the garden: soil, order, life, water, light, restoration, time, remember, fast, and feast. We will journey through the intricacies of how faith is required to produce food and how that faith can lead us all to feast at the table on Easter morning. The art of growing and preparing food is more than simple sustenance; it is an opportunity to come together in community and share in abundance. Consider this your personal invitation on a journey from seed to table – your invitation to pull up a chair at God's heavenly feast.

Pastor Brenda and I are excited to study together, grow and to try to create meaningful worshiping opportunities for us all!

Months ago I planned a vacation with the wrong assumption that we would be with Freemount and MUMC again this year and that Freemount would again host Ash Wednesday. I hate that I made the mistake of assuming! Pastor Brenda has graciously worked with my schedule.



Here is how the series will move between our two churches:

Feb 22, Ash Wednesday, hosted at MUMC with Pastor Brenda preaching

March 1, hosted at Elim with Pastor Brenda preaching

March 8, hosted at MUMC with Pastor Amy Kay preaching

March 15, hosted at Elim with Pastor Brenda preaching

March 22, hosted at MUMC with Pastor Amy Kay preaching

March 29, hosted at Elim with Pastor Amy Kay preaching

Worship will begin at 6:30pm and we will try to keep services around a half hour each week following Ash Wednesday.

I hope you are interested in this theme and can come to worship on Wednesday evenings as well as Sunday mornings during Lent.

w/gratitude for the richness of our seasons together – Pastor Amy Kay



Please keep in prayer: Allan Lindfors, Mo Nelson, Jay Everhart, Sawyer Lysell-Alkire, Tanner Luttig, Delores Wallace, Luke Brown, James Write, Lesley, Laurie, Kenny Brown, Tom French, Charlotte Knackstedt, Bonnie Holopirek (Tammy Feil's friend), Danny Morel, Doug Anderson, Mary Nolan, Amy Jones, Ava Jones, Eva Allen, Ron Carlson, Tammy Hopp, Brian Miner, Rusty Young, Howard Richards (resident at Riverview), Dennis and Bunnie Hultgren and family, Lynda Krahl, Vernon Olson, Ruth Feil and all of the residents at Riverview Estates.. Our heartfelt sympathy to the families of Grant Lysell-Alkire and Steve Coney.

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 wish to have your name removed following recovery or for other reasons. Thank you.]**

ANNUAL MEETING

The Elim Lutheran Church annual meeting was held **January 29, 2022** in the sanctuary following worship service. The key items discussed and approved were as follows:

- Incumbents Curtis Patrick and Vicki Young were approved to serve a second term on the church council.
- Members of the Memorial Committee, Nominating Committee, and Audit Committee will remain the same as the previous year.
- The 2023 Proposed Budget was approved as presented, to include salary raises and budget increases to adjust for the expected cost increases for utilities, maintenance, etc.
- Council President Curtis Patrick commended the church for coming in under budget this past year through continuous giving and a good balance.
- The congregation voted to increase the spending limit from \$2000 to \$5000 due to increased costs. This will allow the council to approve expenditures up to \$5000 without requiring a congregational vote/approval.
- The majority of members present at the meeting would like to return to the potluck meal in the Parish Hall prior to the Annual Meeting.
- The majority of members present would prefer to keep the Christmas Eve service prior to supper time. [Currently 4:00 PM]
- No preference was expressed for early or late summer VBS. Elim will be hosting in 2023.

WELCA NEWS

The new WELCA officers began their term in February 2023. Highlights planned for the month will be:

- Valentines for all Riverview residents and our Elim members who are homebound.
- WELCA members will be conducting the church service on Sunday, February 26 for WELCA Sunday.



If anyone has ideas or suggestions for WELCA in general, or for activities or programs, please reach out to any officer: Carol Jones (President), Bernice Peterson (Secretary), or Donna Patrick (Treasurer), or our church secretary Gayle Nelson.

THANKS!
Carol Jones

SERVING THE LORD IN FEBRUARY

ACOLYTES

February 5 Breckyn Bauer & Layla Fleming
 February 12 Breckyn Bauer & Layla Fleming
 February 19 Breckyn Bauer & Layla Fleming
 February 26 Breckyn Bauer & Layla Fleming

LECTORS

February 5 Linda Johnson
 February 12 _____
 February 19 Brooke Olson
 February 26 _____

GREETERS

February 5 Nancy Hopp
 February 12
 February 19 Nancy Hopp
 February 26 Beth Thomas

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Vinita Harms

COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP:

February 5: Set-up: Matt and Holly Toll

USHER FOR FEBRUARY: Scott Johnson

Sign-up sheets for 2023 are posted on the bulletin board. Please consider signing up for lector or greeter, or for Youth Meals and Riverview Birthday parties.
THANK YOU!

Offerings and Attendance per week in 2022

<i>December 4</i>	<i>\$2148.00</i>	<i>87</i>
<i>December 11</i>	<i>\$1473.00</i>	<i>124</i>
<i>December 18</i>	<i>\$1817.00</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>December 24</i>		<i>34</i>
<i>December 25</i>	<i>\$3304.00</i>	<i>77</i>

COMING UP IN FEBRUARY:

February 11: Youth Group Valentine's Day Supper
 5:00 – 7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out
February 19: Gospel Sunday
February 22: Ash Wednesday Service at Marquette
 United Methodist Church at 6:30 PM
February 26: WELCA Sunday



NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

January 2, 2022

Council approved the 2023 Budget proposal. Topics for discussion at the Annual Meeting included increasing the spending limit without a congregational vote, changing the time of the Christmas Eve service, and returning to potluck and use of Parish Hall for annual meetings. Council also approved the Youth Group Valentine's Dinner to be held in February. Council also discussed replacing or updating the church Christmas decorations.

Worship & Music: No meeting. Allan Lindfors announced Gospel Sunday is scheduled for Feb. 19.

Finance & Stewardship: Beth Thomas reported on the 2023 Budget proposal.

Memorial Committee: No meeting.

Christian Ed: No meeting.

Evangelism/Social Ministry: No meeting.

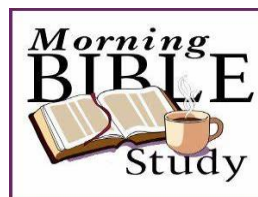
Property/Security Committee: Barry Nelson reported that the handicap sign needs to be replaced, and that the parking stalls in front, including the handicap stalls, need to be repainted. The back kitchen step needs fluorescent yellow strip or paint for safety purposes.

Next meeting to be held on February 6, 2023

Monthly Financial Report

[As presented to council 01/02/2023]

Beginning Balance as of 12/01/22:	\$ 47,955.07
Revenue:	\$ 14,437.69
Expenses:	\$ -12,676.85
Ending Balance as of 12/31/22:	\$ 49,715.91



Adult Bible Study continues at **9:30 AM** every Sunday with The Chosen, Part 2, followed by the next series written and narrated by Ray Vander Lann, entitled "Dust of the Rabbi". Julie Olson is the

facilitator. Grab a cup of coffee or beverage of your choice, and join us as we explore the life and times of Jesus. Both series brings an insight into the words of the Bible, and the life of Jesus and his followers, as we follow their journey, their interactions, their struggles, and their customs.

ALL ARE WELCOME! Any or every Sunday.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Skye Farris
- 4 Joel Nelson
- 5 Jim Peterson
- 6 Eric Edwards
- 7 Justin Rock
- 7 Sandra Myers
- 8 Dori Staggs
- 10 Korbin Niegsch
- 11 Bob Jones
- 16 Blakely Weis
- 16 Katrina Sickmon
- 18 Karen Teague
- 18 Brynne Weber
- 19 Gracie Brady
- 20 McKenzie Brady
- 24 Kendal Brueggen
- 25 Jody Lindh
- 26 Jamie Nelson
- 27 Tom French
- 27 Jake Loder
- 28 Liam Edwards
- 28 Wyatt Reid
- 28 Maggie Lindfors

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

14 Mr. and Mrs. Roger Hudson 30 years



VALENTINE'S DAY SPAGHETTI SUPPER

The Youth Group will be serving their annual Valentine's Day Supper on **February 11 from 5:00 -7:00 PM** as a fundraiser to earn money for their mission trip in March. This year there will be an in-person meal along with to-go orders! There will also be a raffle of items from local businesses at the supper. If you are a Thrivent member please consider donating a gift card from Piper's to help with the spaghetti meal cost. Please contact Carly Peterson at 785-280-2039 if you are willing to donate your Thrivent Dollars. **THANK YOU!**



The following are thank-you's from the Marquette Learning Center and Riverview Estates for Elim's contribution of \$1606.03 to each. The proceeds from the Swedish Supper were divided between the Learning Center, Riverview Estates, and Elim's Money Market Fund.

Dear Elim Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your kind and generous donation of \$1,606.03 to the Marquette Learning Center. Your donation is making it possible for us to sustain a developmentally appropriate environment for children the Marquette area.

We are so lucky to have you as a donor. Thank you for investing in our organization and in the children we serve in the Marquette area. You can always keep posted on our activities at our Facebook page @MarquetteLearningCenter or on our website marquettelearningcenter.com.

We sincerely appreciate your support.

On behalf of the Marquette Learning Center Board of Directors,

*Ronnie Larson, President
Kerry Lindh, Vice President
Betty Amos, Treasurer
Darryl Talbott, Board Member
Michele Von Strohe, Board Member
Audrey Seely, Director*

Elim Lutheran Church members and volunteers,

Thank you kindly for your generous donation to Riverview Estates! A lot of hard work goes into what you do, and we appreciate it. Thank you!




Candace Carlson & staff

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. There is also a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. **Meals are to be served each Wednesday at 6:30 PM. 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 to the following for providing meals in January:
Amy Kay Pavlovich, Betsy Patrick, and Linda Johnson.

Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>The Season of Lent</i></p> 			<p>1</p> <p>6:30 PM – Meal for Youth 7:00 PM - Youth Group & Confirmation Class 7:30 PM – Sr. Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 5th Sunday of Epiphany</p> <p>9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:20 AM – Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM – Worship Service w/ Communion</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 – Council Mtg.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 PM – Meal for Youth 7:00 PM - Youth Group & Confirmation Class 7:30 PM – Sr. Choir Practice</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>Youth Group Valentine's Dinner 5:00-7:00 PM</p>
<p>12 6th Sunday of Epiphany</p> <p>9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:20 AM – Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM – Worship Service</p> <p>4:00 – Riverview Sing-along</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 VALENTINE'S DAY</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 PM – Meal for Youth 7:00 PM - Youth Group & Confirmation Class 7:30 PM – Sr. Choir Practice</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Transfiguration of Our Lord</p> <p>9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:20 AM – Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM – Worship Service</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>1:30 – Quilt Group</p> <p>6:30 PM – Meal for Youth 6:30 PM – Ash Wednesday Service @ Methodist Church 7:30 PM – Sr. Choir Practice</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>2:00 – Riverview Birthday Party</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 1st Sunday in Lent</p> <p>9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:20 AM – Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM – Worship Service</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	