



# Elim Lutheran Church

## The Messenger

**FEBRUARY 2024**

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Greetings, church!

I hope you are well and able to enjoy the beautiful weather that brought us into February.



At the end of January we received the Annual Report and had the Annual Meeting of the church. Some years we do not have a Messenger this month because the Annual Report includes so much, but Gayle was kind to share this abbreviated newsletter with word of our Lenten Series.

This year we are again blessed to get to be with our siblings in Christ at Marquette United Methodist Church for a Wednesday night Lenten worship series. Pastor Brenda at MUMC had the wonderful idea to focus on Lenten disciplines and rituals that are important to Christians in other parts of the world. She gets to meet with a clergy group that includes ministers from many other countries and has also had a continuing education experience that prompted this series. I am grateful to follow her lead!

Pastor Brenda and I hope that those who are able to come will connect with God through worship and experience a deepening of faith through understanding other Christian's important rituals and experiences. As a part of the journey, we will have a special Passport for you with which you can travel through the Lenten season.

Each Wednesday evening we will gather for worship at 6:30pm.

**February 14**, Ash Wednesday, we will meet at Elim and I will preach. The Christians we will focus on live in Brazil.

**February 21** we will meet at Elim and Pastor Brenda will preach. The Christians we will focus on live in South Korea.

**February 28** we will meet at MUMC and I will preach. The Christians we will focus on live in El Salvador.

**March 6** we will meet at Elim and I will preach. The Christians we will focus on live in Guatemala.

**March 13** we will meet at MUMC and Pastor Brenda will preach. The Christians we will focus on live in India.

**March 20** we will meet at Elim and Pastor Brenda will preach. The Christians we will focus on live in Nigeria.

**March 28**, Maundy Thursday, we will meet at Elim and I will preach.

**March 29**, Good Friday, we will meet at MUMC and worship will be led by Pastor Brenda.

Pastor Brenda and I are excited about this series and the opportunity to lead worship together through this season. We hope you are able to come along with us as we travel to Christians around the world!

w/gratitude – Pastor Amy Kay



**Please keep in prayer:** Tom French, Kendra Hopp, Merle Walker, Rose Erickson and TACOL, Rita Brown, Nancy Rawson, Kasey Weis, Tanner Luttig, Bob Jones, Allan Lindfors, JoAn Lindfors, Connie Conforti (Carylee Nelson and Patty Kolling’s cousin), Aaron Klassen, Helen Weber, Anna Caesar and family, Joann Reedy (Mindy Nicholson’s mother), Linda Everhart (Jay & LeAnn’s sister-in-law), Nevin Surface, Ron Hazelwood, Mary Ellwood, James Wright and family, Bonnie Holopirek, Bev Alstatt, Laurie, Eva Allen, Ron Carlson, Tammy Hopp, Dennis and Bunnie Hultgren and family, Lynda Krahl, Vernon Olson, Ruth Feil and all of the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities. Our heartfelt

sympathy to the family and friends of Margarett Larson, Rocky Wheeler, and Ryan Martin.

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](mailto:elimmarquette@gmail.com) or [elimsec@gmail.com](mailto: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.]**



**DON'T MISS GOSPEL SUNDAY  
February 11**

Bring your family and friends for a spiritual and joy-filled service of gospel songs. Allan Lindfors is back to lead the choir in rousing songs of praise. The Junior Choir will also be performing on this special Sunday. Come celebrate with us!



**ANNUAL MEETING**

The Elim Lutheran Church annual meeting was held **January 28, 2024** in the sanctuary following worship service. The key items discussed and approved were as follows:

- Incumbents Sandy Edwards, Beth Thomas, Carly Peterson, and Janis Larson were approved to serve a second term on the church council.
- Members of the Memorial Committee and Nominating Committee will remain the same as the previous year.
- Kayley Fleming was appointed to the Audit Committee to replace Susan Buffington.
- The 2024 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 by members and donors, and wise spending.
- Matt Toll will be joining the Property Committee.
- Allan Lindfors suggested adding a pension to the pastor’s salary.
- Pastor Amy Kay expressed gratitude for everyone in this church. Everyone plays a role in making it work. Council president Curtis Patrick also congratulated members of the church for being a team and doing their part.
- Duration of the meeting: 15 minutes.
- Attendance at the meeting: 53

# WELCA



WELCA sponsored “Stepping On” for all members of the congregation and community on Tuesday, January 23. Thirteen attended the program at Elim’s Parish Hall. Cynthia Woodard from Lindsborg Community Hospital presented the purpose of the program – to prevent falls – and invited everyone to attend the workshop provided by Lindsborg Community Hospital. The workshop consists of 2-hour sessions for 7 weeks. Topics include balance and strength training, information on how vision and medications can affect your balance, and ways to eliminate fall hazards. There is a brochure on the bulletin board for further information and a registration form if you are interested in attending the workshop. It is provided at no cost.

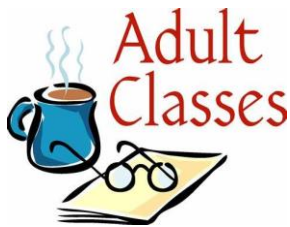
WELCA also served the Lion’s Club dinner at Elim on January 22. Thank you to all who provided food and served.

**BE WATCHING FOR MORE INFORMATION on the program scheduled for Thursday, February 22 at 6:30 PM. Jennifer Larson from Salina (sister-in-law of Craig and Jackie Larson) will be presenting the program.**

Elim’s WELCA hosts the Riverview Birthday Parties on the last Friday of the month at 2:00 PM. The next one will be February 23. Thank you to Riverview staff for working out a split schedule with the other churches so that **Elim only serves the Riverview Birthday parties January through April**. Valley Community Church will serve the residents May through August, and Marquette United Methodist Church will serve September through December.

ALL Elim members: don’t forget Riverview Sing-alongs every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 4:00 PM. The next one will be February 18. Everyone is welcome to join in.

The Quilting Group has lost members throughout the years. If you like to sew, please contact one of the members. They could use help sewing the quilts. They meet in the Parish Hall on the last Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM to tie the quilts. It has been suggested that WELCA hold a Quilt Night during one of the evening meetings so that everyone can help stitch!



## Adult Classes

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**The next session of the Adult Bible School begins next Sunday, February 4.** It is a study of the New Testament. Julie Olson, facilitator, shares this about the new material: “have you been wanting to read the Bible consistently but aren’t sure where to start? Or do you struggle to find the time to dig into God’s Word? Elim’s newest Adult Bible Study will be a Study of the New Testament. We will take you on a journey through the entire New testament. Each week we will complete an overview of one book from the New Testament with a video from the Bible Project, which includes a brief summary and explanation of that book from Chuck Swindoll. This study is intended to help you understand the text, and help you grasp the major themes in each book of the New Testament. This study is designed to assist you in understanding the context of each book and hopefully give you a fresh perspective on familiar passages by showing you how they point to Christ. I hope to see you all there.”





The following is a thank you from the Marquette Learning Center for Elim’s contribution of \$1,423.14. The proceeds from the Swedish Supper were divided evenly between the Learning Center, Riverview Estates, and Elim’s Improvement 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](http://marquettelearningcenter.com).

We sincerely appreciate your support.

Very sincerely,  
Audrey Seely, Director

And on behalf of the Marquette Learning Center staff and Board of Directors

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### THANK YOU TO YOUTH GROUP & WELCA

Another thank you was received from Circle of Friends, the volunteer organization headed by Marilyn Spohn to promote and manage Operation Christmas Child Shoebox in our community. WELCA and other church members donated money for the purchase of items for the shoeboxes, as well as for shipping costs to send the boxes overseas. The Youth Group spent 2 evenings filling the Shoeboxes and loading the truck for delivery to the distribution center.

Our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Mission Project was able to pack 500 boxes because of your participation! Our boxes are being distributed in Haiti. Many children will be blessed and feel the love of God because of your servant’s heart.

God bless you!  
Circle of Friends

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### SOUP SUPPER



The Marquette Methodist Church ladies are serving a soup supper on Tuesday, February 20 at 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Come enjoy homemade chili, vegetable beef, and chicken noodle soup along with pie and drinks. The supper is free-will donation.

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### A HISTORY OF KANOPOLIS LAKE

Dr. Boo Hodges from Salina, KS is once again presenting a program on the history of our area. Last year he presented a program on Camp Philips, and raised a lot of interest in the history of it. This year he will delve into the construction of Kanopolis Lake. Starlight Literary Club is sponsoring the event, to be held at the Marquette Fine Arts Center on February 19 at 7:00 PM. There is no charge for the program, but there will be free-will donation if you wish to contribute for the speaker and venue.

# SERVING THE LORD IN FEBRUARY

## ACOLYTES

FEBRUARY: Colter Patrick and Conway Patrick

## LECTORS

February 4 Holly Toll  
 February 11 Gayle Nelson  
 February 18 Allan Lindfors  
 February 25 \_\_\_\_\_

## GREETERS

February 4 Matt and Holly Toll  
 February 11 Barry and Carylee Nelson  
 February 18 Griff Hawkinson  
 February 25 \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNION ASSISTANT

February 4: Barry Nelson

## COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP/BREAD

Matt and Holly Toll

## USHER FOR FEBRUARY: Scott Johnson

Sign-up sheets for 2024 are posted on the bulletin board for Greeters and Lectors, as well as Riverview Birthday Parties.

### Monthly Financial Report [As presented to council 01/02/2024]

Beginning Balance as of 12/01/23:	\$	32,706.65
Revenue:	\$	16,867.26
Expenses:	\$	--15,179.80
Ending Balance as of 12/31/23:	\$	34,394.11

### Offerings and Attendance per week in 2024

<b>January 7</b>	<b>\$2576.00</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>January 14</b>	<b>\$3490.00</b>	<b>*</b>
<b>January 21</b>	<b>\$1873.50</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>January 28</b>	<b>\$1574.00</b>	<b>83</b>

*\*Church service cancelled due to sub-zero temperature; worship service online only.*

## NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

January 2, 2024

The 2024 budget proposal presented by the Finance & Stewardship Committee was approved by the council. It was agreed to continue holding the annual meeting in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service, with no potluck dinner. Treasurer Diane Hedberg reported on the proceeds from the Swedish Supper.

**Worship & Music:** No meeting.

**Finance & Stewardship:** Met in December to prepare the 2024 budget proposal.

**Memorial Committee:** No meeting.

**Christian Ed:** No meeting. Diane Hedberg reported that Tammy Feil resigned as co-superintendent but will continue to help with Sunday School as her schedule permits.

**Evangelism/Social Ministry:** No meeting.

**Property/Security Committee:** Barry Nelson reported that Brian Krinhop with Pestinger's inspected the furnaces per the service agreement on Dec. 21. New lines were installed for drain repair, and bearings were replaced on blower motor for furnace in Parish Hall.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, February 5, 2024

## RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE



**REMINDER:** The next Red Cross Bloodmobile is scheduled for **TUESDAY, April 2** from 12:00-6:00 PM at Elim Lutheran Church Parish Hall. Please come at your appointment time. **THANK YOU FOR GIVING**

## BEST CHOICE LABELS

PLEASE continue to bring your Best Choice labels from the cartons and containers you purchase at Piper's or other 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. Elim received \$90.00 from the Associated Wholesale Grocers for the 200 Best Choice labels sent in December 2023. Thank you to those who collected the labels, and to Dorine Cunningham for continuing to manage this project each year.





### 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 Katrina Sickmon
- 18 Karen Teague
- 18 Brynne Weber
- 19 Gracie Brady
- 20 McKenzie Brady
- 22 Denny Jaye
- 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. & Mrs. Roger Hudson 31 years



### YOUTH GROUP SPAGHETTI SUPPER



The Youth Group will be serving their annual Spaghetti Supper on **February 17 from 5:00 -7:00 PM.**

Enjoy your meal on-site in the Parish Hall or order a carry-out meal. 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!**

### 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. You can also sign up on the bulletin board.



**Meals are to be served each Wednesday at 6:30 PM.**

Volunteers (pair up if you can) who provide the food can use paper plates and plastic ware provided by the Youth Group. Prepare to serve 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 Tammy Feil, Diane Hedberg, Dorine Cunningham, Holly Toll, Boughfman's, and Linda Johnson for providing meals in January.

### NOISY OFFERING

The "noisy offering" is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month when the Junior Choir sings in church. The children of Elim carry tin buckets around to every pew for church members to add their "noisy" coins.



The monies will go to the Gathering Table, a Lutheran ministry to help underprivileged families in Kansas City.

### BULLETIN BLOOPERS...

"Next Wednesday night the church will have a potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow."

"Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get."

"Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered."

# Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
<b>4 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Epiphany</b>  9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM –Worship Service w/ Communion	5  7:00 PM – Church Council Meeting	6	7  6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	8	9	10
<b>11 Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> GOSPEL SUNDAY  9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM – Worship Service	12	13	14  6:30 PM – ASH WEDNESDAY @ Elim  6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	15	16	17  5:00-7:00 PM YOUTH GROUP SPAGHETTI DINNER
<b>18 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>  9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM – Worship Service  4:00 – Riverview Sing-along	19	20	21  6:30 PM – Lenten Service @ Elim  6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	22  6:30 PM WELCA program w/ Jennifer Larson	23  2:00 PM - RIVERVIEW BIRTHDAY PARTY	24
<b>25 2nd Sunday of Lent</b>  9:30 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM –Worship Service	26	27	28  1:30 PM – Quilting Group 6:30 PM -Lenten Service @ Methodist Church  6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	29		