



# Elim Lutheran Church The Messenger

DECEMBER 2024

Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich  
Cell Phone: (573) 808-1980  
Email: [elimmarquette@gmail.com](mailto:elimmarquette@gmail.com)

Gayle Nelson, Church Secretary  
Church Phone: (785) 546-2244  
Email: [elimsec@gmail.com](mailto:elimsec@gmail.com)

Elim Lutheran Church website: [www.elimmarquette.org](http://www.elimmarquette.org)

Greetings, Beloved –

It is with great thanksgiving and hope that I write this Pastoral Column on the cusp of the new church year. My heart is full of gratitude for Elim and the sacred words of beginnings that are upon us. I hope you are also ready for this beautiful season of preparation!

Again this year we are using resources from “A Sanctified Art” which is a company of talented Pastors and artists with guest contributors who are bright theologians and musicians. I appreciate these resources greatly because they are filled with blessings and based on important scriptures with relevant, helpful themes. There are lessons we may learn as children and then continue to learn and relearn as adults. Many are scriptures that are frequently used in weddings, ordination services or baptisms; important times of beginnings. The creators did this intentionally to invite us to enter this Advent season as if we are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster us for the journey ahead. They share these words with us:

*“In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings – large and small, personal and political. And yet, Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. As we also move through personal and political chapters, may these words for the beginning renew us and remind us of the ways we are called to live out our faith. No matter what you are facing, no matter what this new day brings, let love be your beginning.”*

Most comforting, the visual images for us this season are centered upon quilting! The creators were inspired to use a unique quilt block for each Sunday because the whole series feels like a blanket wrapped around us, providing warmth and comfort as we begin again. I’m not a quilter, but I love quilts! This is a grand quilt of Words for the Beginning in which to be enveloped. I can’t wait to get started! I hope to see you in worship soon.

w/anticipation and hope – Pastor Amy Kay



\*Advent calendars, photo Advent prompts and Advent Devotionals are available in the sanctuary.



**Please keep in prayer:** Wally Bunk, Lois Johnson, Michele Von Strohe, Mary Kay Lindh, Vicki Young, Adaline Arbuckle, Helen Weber, Blakely Weis, Leland Nelson, Terry Hopp, Art Mayfield, Deb McGinty, Donna Nelson (Deryl Nelson’s wife), Tom French, Rose Erickson and TACOL, Aaron Klassen, Eva Allen, Tammy Hopp, Lynda Krahl, and the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family of June Newman, and to the families of Daniel “Popeye” Guillon, Janelle Sanneman, and Diane Williams.

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.]**



## WELCA NEWS

**WELCA OFFICERS NEEDED:** Please consider serving as a WELCA officer in the coming year. The current officers will end their term the end of January 2025. Contact Carol Jones or Bernice Peterson if you are interested in becoming a WELCA officer.

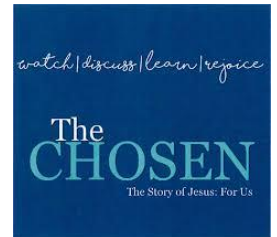
**The next WELCA meeting is Sunday, December 8 at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Please join us to discuss end-of-year donationa to charities and other important causes.**

**ALL Elim members:** don’t forget Riverview Sing-alongs every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 4:00 PM. The next one will be **Sunday, December 15**, but instead of meeting at Riverview at 4:00 PM, everyone gathered for the **caroling at 4:30 PM** will travel to Riverview to serenade the residents with Christmas carols. We usually have a hayrack to travel through town, so it’s lots of fun. Everyone is welcome to join in.

Starting in January 2025, Elim’s WELCA will be responsible for the Riverview Birthday Parties through April. Please watch for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and consider teaming up with one or more women to provide treats and conversation with the residents. They truly enjoy this, and it’s great that the other two churches in town participate in this as well.

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Adult Bible Study meets **every Sunday at 9:45 – 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall**. Bring your children to Sunday School and come join us! Julie Olson is the facilitator. We are studying the newest episodes of “The Chosen”. We have also delved into the Roundtable, which further discusses the episodes of “The Chosen” with the director, a rabbi, a Catholic Priest and an evangelical theologian. There is no obligation to attend all sessions. Just come when you can. **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



THERE WILL BE NO BIBLE STUDY DECEMBER 22 AND DECEMBER 29. Sessions will begin again January 5, 2025.

### MARQUETTE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Kelly Larson has come up with an idea for Elim’s participation in the Marquette Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7. This year’s theme is Polar Express. There will be a backdrop on the float with the train heading down the track. The beam from the engine’s headlight will illuminate the Christ child in the manger. Please consider helping with the float on Saturday morning, or walking beside or standing on the float to represent Elim. There will be golden tickets to pass out to the crowd with a message about Christ’s birth and Elim Lutheran Church. This would be a great project for our youth!!! Contact Kelly Larson or Gayle Nelson if you are interested in helping out.

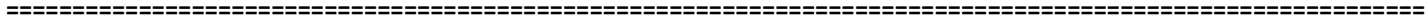


**ANGEL TREE**

If you are willing and able to be a quiet angel for a child in the community, please look at the descriptions of needs on the Angel Tree in the back of the sanctuary. You're welcome to take the angel ornament with the description of the child that fits you best. **There is a sign-up sheet at the tree; simply write your name by the angel number.**

If you and some of your friends would like to join up to adopt, please do so together! If you would like to give for more than one child and would like them to be in the same family, the wings of the angels are color coded to indicate households. If you would like to give, but not shop, each family we have adopted has one \$50 angel on the tree.

Please bring your gifts to the church on or before Sunday, December 15 so they can be distributed before Christmas. Please do not wrap your gifts and, if possible, please also share the receipts for the gift(s).



**76<sup>th</sup> SWEDISH SUPPER**

**Wednesday, December 4 – 5:00–7:00 PM**

The Elim Lutheran Church is once again holding its traditional Swedish smorgasbord on Wednesday, December 4. This is Elim's main fundraiser and requires each and every member to contribute food and time to prepare and serve the traditional Swedish foods: Swedish meatballs, Lutfisk, potato sausage, ostkaka, rye bread, traditional Christmas cookies, Ostbond cheese, and pickled herring, to name a few. Thank you for all your help in making this a success each and every year. A special thanks to Linda Johnson for all her hard work bringing it all together.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

**Sunday, December 15 - 11:00 AM**

Please join us for the annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant to be held during the worship service. Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich is directing the pageant. The Confirmands will be performing, and the younger children in the Sunday School department will also present their parts and sing Christmas songs. Come celebrate the birth of Jesus with our children and youth!!

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

**Sunday, December 22 – 11:00 AM**

Performed by the Senior Choir, directed by Allan Lindfors

The Christmas Cantata will be presented on Sunday morning during worship service. Please join us for a beautiful celebration of Jesus' birth through song.



**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**Sunday, December 15 – 5:00 PM**

A delightful tradition of Christmas Caroling around Marquette in conjunction with our Marquette UMC neighbors continues this year. We will gather at our church at 4:30 PM. Song books and bells will be ready for us. Please wear warm clothing and be ready to sing! After we have concluded sharing our joyful noises, we are invited to a soup supper at the Marquette United Methodist Church. Hope you can come!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Riverview Sing-along at 4:00 PM on December 18 is cancelled due to the Christmas Caroling at 4:30 PM.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**Monday, December 24 at 4:00 PM**

**JULOTTA**

**Tuesday, December 25 at 6:00 AM**

Julotta means Christmas morn in Swedish. This special service features the Senior Choir singing the Swedish Anthem "Ara" in Swedish, and the lighting of individual candles as the congregation sings "Silent Night". The congregation arrives in the dark, and leaves the church to witness sunrise. Julotta reminds us that the light overcame darkness when our Savior was born.





## 2025 Communion Set-up/Clean-up and Bread Volunteers

Please note that there are not bread bakers listed for every month. The recipe is large and the extra bread is stored in the freezer for future use. When no bread baker is listed, bread will be used from the freezer. Thanks so much to all who have agreed to serve in this way.

### January 5

Set-up: Andi Willems & Whitney Weaver  
Bread: Jayleen Sellhorn

### February 2

Set-up: Matt and Holly Toll

### March 2

Set-Up: Beth Thomas & Carol Jones  
Bread: Beth Thomas

### March 5 – Ash Wednesday

Set-up: Craig & Jackie Larson  
Bread: Jackie Larson

### April 6

Set-Up: Kent & Nancy Rawson

### April 13 – Palm Sunday

Set-Up: Sandra Myers & LeAnn Everhart  
Bread: LeAnn Everhart

### April 17 – (Maundy Thursday)

Set-up: Craig & Jackie Larson

### April 20 – (Easter)

Set-Up: Gayle Nelson and Kayley Fleming  
Bread: Gayle Nelson

### May 4

Set-Up: Dana & Julie Olson  
Bread: Julie Olson

### June 1

Set-Up: Cynthia & Mike Hulse  
Bread: Cindy Bunk

### July 6

Set-up: Darryl & Diane Talbott

### August 3

Set-up: Kent & Nancy Rawson

### September 7

Set-Up: Darryl & Diane Talbott

### October 5

Set-Up: Sandy Edwards & Bernice Peterson  
Bread: Bernice Peterson

### November 2

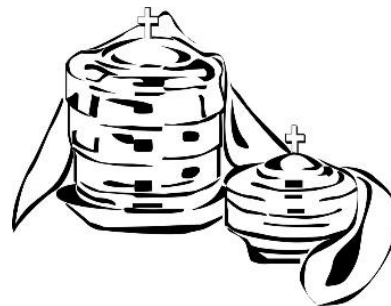
Set-up: Brooke Olson & Pam Morel

### December 7

Set-Up: Betsy & Curtis Patrick  
Bread: Betsy Patrick

### December 24

Set-Up: Craig & Jackie Larson



# SERVING THE LORD IN DECEMBER

## ACOLYTES

Kylan Lundquist and Braylon Mitchell

## LECTORS

December 1 Curtis Patrick  
 December 8 Betsy Patrick  
 December 15 Linda Johnson  
 December 22 Allan Lindfors  
 December 24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 December 25 Darren Able  
 December 29 Jackie Larson

## GREETERS

December 1 Barry and Carylee Nelson  
 December 8 Nancy and Kent Rawson  
 December 15 Scott and Linda Johnson  
 December 22 Nancy Hopp  
 December 24 \_\_\_\_\_  
 December 25 Matt and Diane Hedberg  
 December 29 \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMUNION ASSISTANT

December 1 Curtis Patrick  
 December 24 \_\_\_\_\_

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

December 1 Curtis and Betsy Patrick  
 December 24 Craig and Jackie Larson

**USHER FOR DECEMBER: Barry Nelson**

### Monthly Financial Report presented to council 11/04/24

Beginning Balance as of 10/01/24:	\$	37,105.02
Revenue:	\$	6,414.37
Expenses:	\$	--9,182.93
Ending Balance as of 10/31/24:	\$	34,336.46

### Offerings and Attendance per week in 2024

<b>November 3</b>	<b>\$2766.00</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>November 10*</b>	<b>\$3326.00</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>November 17</b>	<b>\$928.26</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>November 24</b>	<b>\$1359.50</b>	<b>64</b>

**\*Noise Offering: \$100.12**

## NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

November 4, 2024

The date of the annual meeting in January 2025 was discussed, as well as the number of council members who have finished their terms and will need to be replaced. Sandy Edwards asked if Elim was interested in participating in the Marquette Christmas parade December 7.

**Worship & Music:** Amy Kay announced the Sunday School Christmas Pageant is scheduled for Dec. 15.

**Finance & Stewardship:** No meeting.

**Memorial Committee:** No meeting.

**Christian Ed.:** Carly Peterson announced the Youth Group will be returning to Tennessee for a mission trip in March. They are asking for donations to assist with the costs of the trip.

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

**Property/Security Committee:** Met Nov. 4. Johnny Myers to paint eaves at Parsonage. No parsonage rental agreement to date.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, Dec. 2, 2024

## 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 20 meals. This number may change with differing schedules.

THANK YOU to those who have provided meals to date: Holly Toll, Scott and Tammy Feil, Cindy Bunk, Tyler and Kelly French, Linda Johnson, Patty Kolling and Carylee Nelson, Megan Anderson, and Lars and Carly Peterson.

**NOTICE:** Elim will no longer be providing annual offering envelopes due to the increased cost. If you prefer to continue using the envelopes, please contact Gayle Nelson or Beth Thomas for a book of generic offering envelopes.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Elim's annual meeting will be held January 26, 2025. Reports from committees will be due January 15, 2025. Annual reports will not be mailed out to members this year.



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Carly Peterson
- 1 Diesel Sellhorn
- 2 Peter Hamma
- 4 Marti Bauer
- 4 Steve Coney
- 5 Grant Peterson
- 6 Gail Lindstedt
- 6 Frankie Brown
- 7 Rusty Young
- 7 Susan Hamma
- 8 Matt Toll
- 8 Matthew Larson
- 9 Conway Patrick
- 10 Randy Jirak
- 11 Jake Coney
- 14 Nancy Rawson
- 14 Steve Patrick
- 14 Makaela Hedberg
- 20 Monte Loder
- 22 Kendall Hopp
- 24 Holly Toll
- 24 Erik Weber
- 25 Tom Spohn
- 30 Beth Thomas
- 31 Carol Jones
- 31 Alan Gasper
- 31 Melissa Wheeler
- 31 Megan Loder

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Russell Malm 21 years
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Linn Nelson 34 years
- 31 Mr. & Mrs. Monte Loder 39 years
- 31 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Everhart 35 years
- 31 Mr. & Mrs. Kurtis Sjogren 15 years



Elim welcomed Eveleigh Marie Weis into the family of Christ through baptism on November 10, 2024. Parents are Zach and Kasey Weis. Siblings are Kasyn and Blakely Weis. Sponsors were Scott and Tammy Feil. Grandparents are Patty Kolling, Scott and Laurie Kolling, and Ron and Lisa Weis. Great-grandparents are the late Kenny and Helen Olson, and Larry and Deanna Kolling. Great-great grandparents are Ron and Lou Weis.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Elim’s Nominating Committee is asking for volunteers to serve on the church council. There will be four (4) positions open in January 2025. All members are welcome to apply for a 3-year term, or a 6-year term if accepted for an additional 3 years. Contact Scott Johnson if you are interested.

**BEST CHOICE LABELS**

Don’t forget to save Best Choice labels from the cartons and containers you purchase at Piper’s or other stores offering Best Choice products. PLEASE turn them in before the end of December so they can be sent in for 2024. The Christian Education Committee continues to collect them to help fund youth projects. Be sure to cut the labels with the words “Best Choice” at the top of the UPC symbol. A container for collecting the labels is available in the narthex when you enter the church. Thank you to Dorine Cunningham for continuing to manage this project each year.

=====

**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER**

McPherson Community Dinners is hosting its annual FREE Christmas dinner for the public on **Wednesday, December 25 from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM.** Everyone is welcome. The dinner will be served at the McPherson Community Building, 122 E. Marlin, McPherson. No reservations are required. Donations can be mailed to CTI, PO Box 14, McPherson, KS 67460. Email address is [McPhersonCommunityDinners@gmail.com](mailto:McPhersonCommunityDinners@gmail.com) or for more information, go to [www.facebook.com/McPhersonCommunityDinners](http://www.facebook.com/McPhersonCommunityDinners). On Facebook, use the donate button, or drop the donation in the donation box at the dinner.



# Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1...1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>  9:45 AM – Sunday School 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM – Worship Service w/ Communion	2  6:00 PM – Church Council Meeting	3	4  SWEDISH SUPPER	5	6	7  Marquette Christmas Celebration  Parade @ 5:30 PM
<b>8...2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>  9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Jr. Choir Practice 10:10 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM –Worship Service	9	10	11  6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM Youth Group Mtg. 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	12	13	14
<b>15 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> <b>Christmas Pageant</b>  9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School Rehearsal 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM –Christmas Pageant  4:30 PM – Christmas Caroling Supper following	16	17	18  6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM Youth Group Mtg. 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	19	20	21
<b>22 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> <b>Christmas Cantata</b>  11:00 AM –Worship Service	23	24  4:00 PM - CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE	25  CHRISTMAS  6:00 AM - JULOTTA	26	27	28
<b>29 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b>  10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM –Worship Service	30	31  NEW YEAR'S EVE				