



Elim Lutheran Church

The Messenger

JANUARY 2025

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A happy new calendar year to you, Elim!

In addition to the first month of 2025, we western Christians get to begin the season of Epiphany. As our stories go, the magi found Jesus on the 12th day of Christmas (December 25 + 12 days = January 6) and we celebrate it in the church on the first Sunday after January 1. I LOVE the season of Epiphany! During this time we think of the Light, thanks be. It is a celebration of the One in whom we know life. It's a delightful time and one that has taken many shapes for Christians around the world.

In worship, we celebrate. Outside of worship, we also celebrate.

When I first came to Elim, I thought I should have a Holiday Open House at my home. It seemed like the "right" time to do so was before Christmas. Our home was to have been newly completed as it was being built into the building I own in downtown Lindsborg. Surprise! It was not done. We still had the gathering. It was fine, completely fine. Everyone was kind about a huge ladder being out in the middle of everything. I, however, was a ball of stress. When it was time for Epiphany that year, I had an epiphany. The RIGHT time to have a gathering is during the season of celebration! When the Light has been born, sought and discovered! Since that time, we have enjoyed an Epiphany Party at Elim.

Traditionally, there is a King Cake at an Epiphany Party and a little plastic baby (an ugly representation of Jesus) is tucked into the bread. Whomever gets the piece of cake that has the baby is invited to host the next party. In different parts of the world, there are numerous parties in one year; however, we currently enjoy one annually.

Last year I couldn't find my little tiny baby so I stuck a kernel of corn in the bread to represent it. (Sometimes a bean is used, but I couldn't find a bean at the last minute either.) The corn worked just fine and we can all be glad that Julie Olson got that piece of cake.

I am always happy to co-host the gathering at my home, but Julie has been so kind as to open their house to us all! On Saturday, January 11, you are welcome at the Olson's home at 103 N. Lincoln any time after 7pm. In true Epiphany Party fashion, let's all bring a snack to share and whatever we wish to drink.

w/great thanksgiving for the Light and life we know from whom all blessings come – Pastor Amy Kay





Please keep in prayer: Nathan Hulvey, Lois Johnson, Michele Von Strohe, Blakely Weis, Art Mayfield, Deb McGinty, Donna Nelson (Deryl Nelson’s wife), Tom French, Rose Erickson and TACOL, Tammy Hopp, Lynda Krahl, and the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Lawrence Spohn.

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.]**



WELCA NEWS

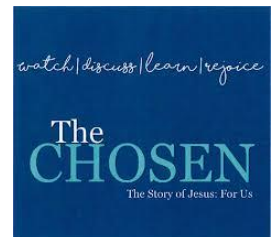
ALL Elim members: don’t forget Riverview Sing-alongs every 3rd Sunday at 4:00 PM. The next one will be **Sunday, January 19, 2025.** Everyone is welcome to join in.

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.

Starting in January 2025, WELCA members will be sponsoring a women’s Bible study on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The first one will be held January 15 at 9:30 AM in the Elim Parish Hall.

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!



DON’T MISS THE EPIPHANY PARTY
at Dana & Julie Olson’s house
Saturday, January 11 at 7:00 PM
103 N. Lincoln, Marquette, KS

Please bring a snack to share and your own beverage.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

To quote the program notes in the bulletin: *“What does a minister do when the costume closet is locked and there are only angel wings and a few shepherd’s props available? He invites everyone to wear their Halloween costumes! This is indeed a very mixed up pageant... and one that brings the Good News!”*

The Sunday School children and the Confirmands presented “A Very Mixed-Up Christmas Pageant” (written by Gwynne Watkins) during the worship service on Sunday, December 15. Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich and Allan Lindfors led the youth through rehearsals, with Jackie Larson and Brooke Olson assisting with the children’s choir. The pictures below are courtesy of Patty Kolling. Added thanks to Betsy Larson for playing the flute for the final song (so beautiful), and to Diane Hedberg and the parents for lining up costumes and insuring kids were there for rehearsals.



CAST MEMBERS

Reverend: Magnus Larson
Leslie (SS teacher): Ava Toll
Narrator: Gracie Brady
Gabriel: Miah Rogers
Mary: Emilie Snapp
Joseph: Leif Larson
Herod: Huck Toll
Magi: Olivia Peterson
Star: Aaliyah McGinty

Unicorn: Kenzie Brady
Animal: Kanin French
Duck: Mariah Rogers
Angels: Carly Patrick, Airalia Hulvey, Kinley Peterson
Shepherds: Kylan Lindquist, Acea Newton, Baylor Hopp,
and Kaeler Newton
Interjecting Kid: Autumn Carter

GOOD CHEER!



Thank you to Tammy Feil, Holly Toll and Dorine Cunningham for providing the colorful and inspiring Sunday School messages throughout the seasons on the bulletin board by the basement stairs. They are so delightful and warm our hearts, young and old alike. I especially love the scripture chosen to highlight the messages. GN

CHURCH CLOSINGS REMINDER

With winter weather on our doorstep, it's a good time to remind you about the policy for church closings. Pastor Amy Kay and Curtis Patrick, council president, will make the determination to cancel or delay church services, or other events scheduled to be held on church property. The intent is to keep our church members and their families safe. Driving to church on dangerous roads or getting out in sub-zero temperatures is noble but maybe not wise. To find out if church is cancelled, watch the local KAKE or KWCH news, or get on Elim's Facebook page. Cancellations will occur by 8:00 AM on Sunday morning or at least an hour and a half before any other scheduled event. This is to allow individuals who might leave early to travel to town an advance notice.

SERVING THE LORD IN JANUARY

ACOLYTES

Lilly Anderson and Olivia Peterson

LECTORS

January 5 Linda Johnson
 January 12 Gayle Nelson
 January 19 Brooke Olson
 January 26 _____

GREETERS

January 5 Kelly Larson
 January 12 Griff Hawkinson
 January 19 _____
 January 26 _____

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

January 5 Allan Lindfors

COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP/BREAD

Set-up & Clean-up: Andi Willems & Whitney Weaver

Bread: Jayleen Sellhorn

USHER FOR JANUARY: Craig Larson

The new year is upon us! PLEASE check the 2025 sign-up sheets on the bulletin board to volunteer your time as a greeter, lector, assist with Riverview Birthday parties, or prepare food for the Youth Group. THANK YOU!!!

Offerings and Attendance per week in 2024

December 1	\$1903.00	95
December 8*	\$1788.00	66
December 15	\$2070.56	92**
December 22	\$2146.50	96***
December 24	<i>(combined with 25th)</i>	31
December 25	\$1366.00	77
December 29	\$1565.00	93

END OF YEAR (Dec. 31, 2024) \$3564.76

*Noise Offering: \$71.65

**Christmas Pageant

***Christmas Cantata

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.

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

December 2, 2024

Council members assisted in setting up for the Swedish Supper scheduled for Wednesday, December 4. Council discussed continuation of the Christmas Eve service and the Swedish Supper. Both will be discussed further at the annual meeting in January. Council voted to give one-third of the Swedish Supper proceeds to the Youth Group to help fund their mission trip in March 2025.

Worship & Music: No report.

Finance & Stewardship: No meeting.

Memorial Committee: No meeting.

Christian Ed.: Sunday School students will watch the video of the Christmas pageant on Dec. 22. There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 29.

Evangelism/Social Ministry: No meeting.

Property/Security Committee: The parsonage has a new renter scheduled to move in by the end of December.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, Jan. 6, 2025.

Monthly Financial Report

[As presented to council 12/02//24]

Beginning Balance as of 11/01/24:	\$	34,336.46
Revenue:	\$	8,973.38
Expenses:	\$	--9,516.36
Ending Balance as of 11/30/24:	\$	33,793.48

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.

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.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Huck Toll
- 5 Kelly French
- 5 Whitney Weaver
- 5 Colter Patrick
- 5 Rylee Larson
- 6 Ken Hedberg
- 6 Kamryn Lindfors
- 7 Janis Larson
- 8 Kris Hudson
- 10 Tom Emery
- 12 Thayne Rawson
- 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. & Mrs. Frank Rock 59 years
- 21 Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Lindh 47 years

YOUTH GROUP MISSION TRIP

Members of the Youth Group, along with their leaders Lars and Carly Peterson, are planning another mission trip to Nashville, Tennessee this coming March. They will once again do missionary work for CSM Nashville, a nationwide Christian non-profit organization that focuses on those in need in urban areas, spreading the Gospel, and helping youth volunteers grow in their faith. Please consider donating to the Youth Group to help with the costs for the trip. Thank you!

BENEFIT SOUP SUPPER



A soup supper is planned for Sunday, January 19 at 6:00-7:30 PM in Elim Parish Hall to help raise funds for the Hulvey family. Nathan Hulvey will be undergoing open heart surgery to transplant an artificial aorta on January 9. Please keep Nathan and his family in your prayers.

MARQUETTE LEARNING CENTER

The Marquette Learning Center is asking members of the community to sponsor a child. They are asking a monthly commitment of \$84.00, or \$1000.00 for a year. Any donation amount will be appreciated and will be acknowledged on the Building Blocks for the Future board outside of the MLC entrance. Further acknowledgement will be listed in the Marquette Tribune at the end of the year, as it was in the previous year. There are several options for donating. Contact Marquette Learning Center for ways you can contribute to the childcare center established in 2019.

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.



Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4
5...2nd Sunday of Christmas EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Jr. Choir Practice 10:10 AM – Sunday School 11:00 AM –Worship Service w/ Communion	6 EPIPHANY 7:00 PM – Church Council Meeting	7	8 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM Youth Group Mtg. 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	9	10	11
12 Baptism of Our Lord 9:45 AM – Sunday School 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM – Worship Service	13	14	15 9:30 AM – WELCA Bible Study 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM Youth Group Mtg. 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	16	17	18
19 2nd Sunday of Epiphany 9:45 AM – Sunday School 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service 4:00 PM – Riverview Sing-along 6:00 – 7:30 PM – Soup Supper for Hulvey Family	20	21	22 1:30 PM – Quilt Group 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM Youth Group Mtg. 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	23	24	25
26 3rd Sunday of Epiphany 9:45 AM – Sunday School 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM – Confirmation Class 11:00 AM –Worship Service	27	28	29 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM Youth Group Mtg. 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	30	31 2:00 PM – Riverview Birthday Party	