



Elim Lutheran Church The Messenger

OCTOBER 2025

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Greetings, Elim –



For everything there is a season. We know this from living life and from Ecclesiastes 3 as well. Although these words aren't specifically in the scripture, the polarity fits: there is a time to end and a time to begin. This truth feels especially real in my little family this year as Atticus, my youngest son, is graduating from high school and contemplating college.

We were fortunate to get to meet with his high school counselor last week who not only checked in with him about his progress towards graduation, but also about what he wants to do with his life. She spent a good amount of time on careers that interest him and how he might discern his path. I appreciated her encouragement greatly.

Listening to my son contemplate his future reminded me of when I was in my first year of seminary. We were assigned a reading from *The Purpose of the Church and Its Ministry* by H. Richard Niebuhr which describes four types of calls to ministry. I'm not sure if I completed the reading (it wasn't always a given), but I definitely remember the discussion. One type of call, according to Niebuhr, is the "ecclesiastical call". Basically, people in the church pipe up and say they see gifts and graces in a person that would be helpful in professional ministry. Someone says something like, "You know, I appreciate how strong of a faith you have and I think you would be a great Pastor. You are a people person and you are organized. You've got all kinds of gifts for ministry! It's too bad you can't sing. That's okay. There are other people who can lead the music in other churches like Allan does here." That small conversation might lead to a sense of calling into professional ministry. It makes sense to me! Niebuhr had it going on.

The importance of naming and celebrating a person's gifts isn't limited to one career. I hope we lavishly communicate all the good we see in one another especially when a friend (or son) is thinking of career paths. It certainly doesn't hurt anything and can only help. I'm going to try to be more intentional in this way and I invite you to do so with me. After all, God's call to any profession can be known through us normal people. Ecclesiastes reminds us: *there is a time to keep silent and a time to speak*. When it comes to affirming the gifts we see in one another, I believe it's always a time to speak. Let's pipe up for each other, friends.

I hope I get to see you soon ~ Pastor Amy Kay

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SUNDAY SCHOOL IN ACTION

This month's topic for Sunday School was stewardship. Pastor Amy Kay selected 3 possible sources for the noisy offering collected by the children during worship service on the second Sunday of each month. She and Leesa Larson allowed the Sunday School children to pick which one they wanted to receive their donation. The options were: 1) Heartland Early Education Weekend Food Support in Salina, KS; 2) the preschool in Guatemala that Elim has donated to in previous years; 3) ELCA Good Gifts that allows children to send their offering for the purchase of farm animals for needy families throughout the world. The children chose #1 – Weekend Food Support. It's so delightful to see the Sunday School children participating in good causes.



Please keep in prayer: Sophia Allen, Bunny Hultgren, Scott Kolling, Glenda Julian, Deb Rush, Greg Hopp, Dee “Deena” Winslow, Piper Schultze, Ewald Bunk, Steve Patrick, John Hudson, Mary Kay Lindh, Max Buffington, Ike Bauer (Dawson Feil’s friend), Pastor Tim Leaf, David Ferguson, Ava Jones, Doug Schneider, Art Mayfield, Deb McGinty, Tom French, Rose Erickson, and the residents at Riverview Estates and all care facilities. Our sympathy to the family and friends of Ross Spohn, Tammy Hopp, Lisa Christopher, Ron Carlson, and Verna French.

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

Even though there are no longer WELCA officers in place (except Donna Patrick as treasurer), the women of Elim will continue to serve in the following ways, and welcome any suggestions for projects or outreach.

COMMITTEES:

- WELCA Treasurer: Donna Patrick (785-212-1752)
- Funeral Luncheon: Carylee Nelson (785-820-1838), Nancy Hopp (620-242-9102)
- Riverview Songfest: Jackie Larson (785-376-1931), Pastor Amy Kay Pavlovich (573-808-1980)
- Riverview Birthday Party – January through April: Cindy Bunk (629-755-6185)
- Lion’s Club Meals: Linda Johnson (785-826-5544), Carol Jones (785-577-5926)
- LWR Quilts: Donna Patrick (785-212-1752)
- Kitchen Committee: Linda Johnson (785-826-5544)
- WELCA Women’s Bible Study: Kelly Larson (785-212-0323)



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

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

The next Women’s Bible Study will be Wednesday, OCTOBER 8 at 9:30 AM in Elim’s Parish Hall. We continue to invite women from our community, including our sisters at Marquette United Methodist Church, to join us. Please come along and bring a friend. Expect lively discussion accompanied by wisdom and laughter as we explore the Bible and our faith in everyday life.



SUMMER MUSIC



Thank you to the performers in September: Rhylen Rawson, Allan Lindfors, Darren Able, Tammy Malm, Tammy Feil, and Mike Hulse. The Senior and Junior choirs will resume in October.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Sunday, Sept. 14

There were a number of work projects selected for God's Work, Our Hands this year. Following are the list of projects:

1) Continue work on the area in front of the Parish Hall. Matt and Holly Toll, Curtis, Colter, and Conway Patrick, Linn Nelson, Sandy Edwards, Griff Hawkinson, Scott Johnson, Dana Olson, and Gayle Nelson reworked the area by leveling the dirt, laying down weed barrier and installing landscape edging.

Julie Olson, MaRyan Hulvey, Betsy and Carly Patrick took on weeding and trimming bushes in the front of the church.

2) Assemble playground equipment at Marquette Learning Center. Diane Hedberg, Darren Able, Ethan Able, Hans Woelfel, Barry Nelson, Lars Peterson, and Craig Larson helped assemble small bikes and other play equipment.

3) Assemble IKEA furniture (display cases) for City Museum. Allan Lindfors headed up this project. Linda Johnson, Craig Larson, Nancy Rawson, Leesa Larson, Curtis Patrick, Scott Johnson, Brooke Olson, Lars Peterson, Diane Hedberg, and Carylee Nelson helped with the assembly.

Along with the furniture assembly, many of these helpers cleaned the museum, depot, and schoolhouse.

4) Clean up flower bed in front of Post Office. Carol Jones, Jackie Larson, Mike and Cynthia Hulse, Barry Nelson, and Amy Kay Pavlovich helped cut down overgrown bushes and perennials. Many of those helping with the Post Office also cleaned up weeds and overgrown bushes in front of the museum, depot and schoolhouse.

5) Clean up limbs and brush at Pioneer Trail/Disc Golf Course. Amy Kay Pavlovich, Kent Rawson, Thayne Rawson, Donna Patrick, Steve Patrick, and Matt Hedberg helped load trucks to take to the tree dump. There were approximately 6-8 loads taken.

As you may have noted, there were several who finished one project early and went on to help with other projects. THANK YOU to all of you for your hard work. If I missed listing your name, please let me know! That's the tough part of trying to thank all the individuals who participated. I feel it is important to be individually thanked and appreciated.



Mike and Cynthia Hulse, Barry Nelson, Craig Larson, Griff Hawkinson, Jackie Larson, and Carol Jones clean up weeds and brush at Post Office and museum grounds.

Right: Carylee Nelson tidies up museum.



ELIM LUTHERAN TO HOST "HERITAGE SUNDAY"

Elim's Worship and Music Committee is sponsoring a special service on Sunday, October 26 in conjunction with Reformation Sunday. We are calling it "Heritage Sunday" because it will reflect our Lutheran heritage from Martin Luther, and our own heritage as Elim.

We will be using liturgy from the Lutheran Book of Worship (green hymnal). It will be the same type of service we had back in 1979 when we first started using the green hymnal. It will be fun to remember the past, both the service and the history of our church - our heritage.

Please make an effort to join us for this special service on October 26. We believe you will enjoy it!!

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ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Jonah: You Can't Outrun Grace

The Book of Jonah recounts the story of the reluctant prophet Jonah, who flees from God's command to preach repentance to the wicked city of Ninevah. After being swallowed by a great fish and miraculously spat out, Jonah learns that you can't outrun God. While we might not board a boat to flee halfway across the world like the Old Testament prophet did, we run from the call of God every day. Most times, we don't even realize we're running. The Good News of the gospel is that we can never outrun grace. In this short, bizarre and powerful book of Jonah we see the fact, in which we human beings were made to live for something bigger than us! Jonah was called to live for something bigger than Jonah's comfort and Jonah's vision of what his life should be. Every human being was created for transcendent life, way, way bigger than what we would normally choose for ourselves.

PLEASE join us on Sundays at 9:45 AM in the Parish Hall for Adult Bible Study, facilitated by Julie Olson.

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FREE INTERACTIVE ORGAN CONCERT

Redeemer Lutheran Church in Salina, KS has invited our members to a free interactive organ concert on Sunday, October 12 at 2:00 PM. The featured organist is David Rankin. There will be a free will offering collected for Lutheran Disaster Resources for flood victims in North Carolina, New Mexico, and Texas. A small Fellowship Reception will follow the performance. Redeemer Lutheran Church is located at 743 E. Magnolia Road in Salina. Pastor Delvin Strecker is the interim pastor at Redeemer Lutheran.

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Assembling play equipment for the Marquette Learning Center.



Linda Johnson and Nancy Rawson have a chuckle over the confusing instructions.



Allan and Leesa lay out parts for display cabinets.



Above: Scott Johnson, Diane Hedberg, and Lars Peterson assemble cabinet.



Middle picture: Julie Olson trims bushes on left front of Parish Hall.



Above: Betsy Patrick, Conway and Colter Patrick, and MaRyan Hulvey weed front beds.

Front of Parish Hall

It seemed like a long journey to spruce up the front of the Parish Hall. It would never have happened without all these wonderful members willing to help. THANK YOU!!!

The first step was clearing the piled rocks, old weed barrier and landscape edging left behind after the foundation repair the previous year. It also included removing the remaining scrubby little bush and returning dirt piled at the side of the church back to the front beds. Griff Hawkinson, Lou Nelson, Michele and Stan Von Strohe, and Gayle Nelson completed this task June 21. See picture below.



Step 2 was completed on Rally Sunday as part of God's Work, Our Hands September 14. Pictured above: Carly, Curtis, Colter, and Conway Patrick, Holly and Matt Toll, Griff Hawkinson, Linn Nelson, Sandy Edwards. See picture below for end result.



The final step was completed the following week: river rock was added, and planters for seasonal flowers. Thank you to Craig Larson and Barry Nelson for making not one but two trips to pick up the rock. Thank you to Linda Johnson, Carol Jones, Griff Hawkinson, Scott Feil, Stan Von Strohe, Gayle Nelson, Barry Nelson, and Lou Nelson for loading the rock into the beds on Sept. 25. It looks great!

SERVING THE LORD IN OCTOBER

NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

September 2, 2025

LECTORS

October 5
October 12
October 19
October 26

GREETERS

October 5
October 12
October 19
October 26

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

October 5 Sandy Edwards

COMMUNION SET-UP & CLEAN-UP/BREAD

October 5 - Set-up: Sandy Edwards & Bernice Peterson
Bread: Bernice Peterson

USHER FOR OCTOBER: Scott Johnson

We only need a few greeters for December. THANK YOU to all those who sign up faithfully to help out.

Offerings and Attendance last month:

August 17	\$9889.00	77
September 7	\$2344.00	81
September 14	\$1170.00	79
September 21	\$1440.50	74
September 28	\$698.00	67

Monthly Financial Report

[As Presented to council 09/02/25]

Beginning Balance as of 08/01/25:	\$	36,294.71
Revenue:	\$	17,209.88
Expenses:	\$	-- 8,623,76
Ending Balance as of 08/30/25:	\$	44,880.83



Carly Patrick raking leaves from beds in front of church.



Matt Hedberg and Thayne Rawson loading limbs for dump.

Pastor Amy Kay announced there would not be confirmation classes this year due to limited number of students eligible. Unable to purchase new choir chairs to fit narrow choir loft. Will consider padded folding chairs. Jackie Larson will purchase new electric piano for church with Memorial funds. Work projects were determined for God's Work, Our Hands on September 14. Council voted unanimously to discontinue the Swedish Supper due to existing circumstances prohibiting the traditional event.

Worship & Music: No meeting.

Finance & Stewardship: No meeting.

Memorial Committee: No meeting.

Christian Ed.: SS resumes Sept. 14.

Evangelism/Social Ministry: Suggestion to appoint members to welcome new members and guests.

Property/Security Committee: No meeting.

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

SERVICE IN SONG

Assaria Lutheran Church will be hosting their annual Service in Song on Sunday, October 26 at 4:00 PM. It is an afternoon of song, expressing our thanks and praise to God, serving God through music. They invite area congregations and singing groups to join in the service. They will also plan an anthem for a joint choir to sing. Elim's choir has participated in this for several years. Contact Pastor Jim Strasen or the church at strasen@cox.net or alcassaria@hometelco.net, or call 785-404-2155 or 785-667-2031 if you are interested in participating.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Hannah Jones
3	Cari (Nelson) Daniels
5	Kent Rawson
5	Erin Hudson
6	Jon Arnold
7	Frank Rock
7	Mary Kay Lindh
7	Josh McMahan
9	Nancy Hopp
9	Elsie Boughfman
10	Nic Traugott
11	James Rix Samford
12	Evan Talbott
13	Dana Olson
13	Will Hedberg
14	Fred Peterson
14	Olivia Peterson
16	JoNell Lindh
16	Logan Windholz
17	Jodi Reazin
17	John Sommerfeld
20	Brooke Olson
20	Darin Amos
20	Zach Weis
23	Kayley Fleming
24	Matthew Wickstrom
24	Shannon Weis
25	Kasey Weis
26	Brett Edwards
26	Lars Peterson
26	Emma McBride
27	Chris Edwards
28	Kaydee McMahan
30	Nic Farris
31	Marci Fox
31	Morgan Loder

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

2	Mr. & Mrs. Morris Nelson	43 years
5	Mr. & Mrs. Dean Beagley	12 years
6	Mr. & Mrs. Chris Lohrey	18 years
18	Mr. & Mrs. Scott Feil	28 years
25	Zach & Kasey Weis	5 years
25	Mr. & Mrs. Stacy Kaufman	22 years

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Lars and Carly Peterson on the birth of their daughter Kora Leigh Peterson. Kora was born August 28, 2025, weighing 6 lb. 9oz. Her siblings are Kinley, Bren, and Grant. Grandparents are Patty Kolling and Scott Kolling, and Mark and Joyce Peterson.



SUMMER LAWN-MOWING

Thank you to all who have signed up to mow this summer. GREAT JOB, MOWERS!!!



Thank you to Allan Lindfors, Darryl Talbott, and Griff Hawkinson for mowing in September.

FOOD DRIVE



The McPherson Food Bank is low on supplies and needs your help filling the shelves. Kelly Larson has asked that Elim members bring non-perishable food donations to church and place them in the basket or tote provided at the back of the church. She will deliver them to the McPherson Food Bank. Or you can bring your donations directly to McPherson Food Bank. All non-perishable foods are needed: canned foods; dry goods such as pasta, rice, flour, sugar, cereals; box dinners and other dry packaged foods; peanut butter and other jarred items. Thank you for your participation.

Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for OCTOBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	2	3	4
5 17 th Sunday in Pentecost 11:00 AM – Worship Service w/ Communion	6 7:00 PM – Church Council Mtg.	7	8 9:30 AM –Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	9	10	11
12 18 th Sunday in Pentecost 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 11:00 AM –Worship Service	13	14	15 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	16	17	18
19 19 th Sunday in Pentecost 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service 4:00 PM – Riverview Sing-Along	20	21	22 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	23	24	25
26 20 th Sunday in Pentecost Reformation Sunday 9:45 AM – Sunday School/Jr. Choir Practice 9:45 AM – Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM –Worship Service	27	28	29 1:30 PM – Quilt Group 6:30 PM – Youth Meal 7:00 PM – Youth Group 7:00 PM – Sr. Choir Practice	30	31  Halloween	