



# Elim Lutheran Church

## The Messenger

June 2018

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### Pastor's Ponderings . . .

I have had weeks now to ponder many things. I continually come back to thoughts of the heart. Not so strange since I had open heart surgery. I have many questions upon which to ponder. Where does love reside within us? If we love with our hearts where does that love go when we have surgery on our hearts? (Thinking literally with that one.) Whenever I think of the heart I naturally think of love. We are indoctrinated at a young age to do so. Love and the heart are somehow intertwined in our minds. Maybe April 17<sup>th</sup> will become my new Valentine's Day – that was the day they did surgery on my heart.

Through these weeks I heard from many voices the words, "I love you!" I heard those words from my adult children and from my grandchildren. I heard those words from dear friends. I heard those words from my sisters and from nieces and nephews. I heard those words from some of you. I heard those words from God.

Take a moment and hear those three words in all the different voices I mentioned. Add to the voices I mentioned the voices from whom you might hear the words, "I love you". Each time you hear the words they sound different depending on who is saying them. There are many types of love and I won't even go into the idea that there are at least three words for love in Greek.

How, you may ask, did I hear those three beautiful words from God? Because I heard them from those I know – I heard them from God, as well.

Did you know the word "love" is in the Bible 586 times? In fact, we hear in I John that, "God is love." God not only loves us but also is love. Since we are made in the image of God are we also love? My answer would be only in the perfect world. Only before the fall of humanity or after Jesus returns. But we can strive for a world filled with the love of God.

Sitting in cardiac rehab I heard a woman say, "It breaks my heart." I will never here those words in the same way again. I literally had a broken heart and the surgeon repaired the problem. Too bad we can't fix our figuratively broken hearts. Many people walk around hurting and we say they have a broken heart for one reason or another. If we could somehow harness the power of love the way we have other powers this world would be a better place to live and love. It would be a far better place to raise our children. It would be a far better place in general. Love is centered in God and flows to each of us. Jesus gave us a new commandment in John 13:34: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

I have to say that Elim is a wonderful place to serve as there is indeed love here – Jesus abides with you.

Healing in peace,  
Pr. Katherine

## **LOVE ONE ANOTHER... HOW HARD CAN IT BE?**

As I prepared to write this article for the Messenger, the song that kept going through my head was, "They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love." I began thinking about those words, and wondered why those words kept repeating in my mind. If a stranger, a person nobody knew, walked into our church, could they tell we are Christians? Would that person know we were Christians by the way we reacted to them and showed our love toward them and others?

In today's society, with all of the happenings of the world and the security issues we face every day, it is difficult to say exactly how we might treat a stranger who showed up at our church. Our church council has been discussing security issues and how we would handle "intruder" situations similar to what has happened in many churches across our nation. We talk about "stranger danger" with our children. We know the violence that has happened in many places, including churches. So, exactly what is a Christian person supposed to do?

The Scriptures say, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13: 34-35.

I had already started to prepare this article when I attended church on Mothers' Day. If you were there, you heard the inspirational sermon from our PMA Wally Bunk. He talked about this very scripture: the who, why, and how we can follow this command from our Lord to love one another. Yes, "the who" is everyone; "the why" is because Jesus tells us to do this. It is His command. And, of course, "the how" is always the hardest. We must strive to love one another just as our Savior has loved us. Remember, Jesus gave his life for us. He died on the cross because he loved us and wanted us to be saved. That is how much he loves us and showed his love for us.

Every day we must strive to love one another. I believe that Jesus wants us to be safe and to evaluate every situation, but He also wants us to love one another, no matter what. He wants us to work with each other in a loving way in our church, in our community, in our homes, at our work places, wherever we may be. This is not always easy as many times we want our own way and we want to do things our own way, even have the last say. Many times we have to work with difficult people. And often the most unlovable person really needs the most love. Showing Christian love in all situations is challenging, but it is the command we have been given. It is the goal we must set for ourselves so that we will be disciples of our Lord in this walk on earth.

Loving one another means we have to communicate kindly with one another. We have to share our hopes and fears without criticism and blaming. At our last two Church Council meetings we have spent some special time talking about the hopes and fears we have as members of our church, the good happenings in our church that we can capitalize on and also what we can improve in our church, if we want to continue to grow and thrive as a congregation. We want you as members of our congregation to share your thoughts and ideas with us, as we continue to discuss this topic and do some strategic planning for the future. Let your church council members (names are listed below) know your hopes and fears for our church. As we continue to communicate in a loving way, we want to grow spiritually as a congregation always striving to be Jesus' disciples, loving one another. "Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!"

In Christian love, Dr. Betty Amos, Church Council president

Church Council Members: Matthew Everhart, vice-president; Diane Hedberg, treasurer; Dorine Cunningham, Scott Feil, Kelly French, Bob Jones, Patty Kolling, Dana Olson, Steve Patrick, Lana Rock, Jeremy Snapp

Gayle Nelson, Church Secretary

**UPDATE AND THANK YOU:** We continue to pray for Pastor Katherine's full recovery. Thanks to everyone who has helped in so many ways during Pastor's absence. Special thanks to PMA Wally Bunk, church secretary Gayle Nelson, Music and Worship chairperson and choir director Allan Lindfors, and organist Jackie Larson for all of their extra efforts to keep the worship times flowing smoothly during this time. Additional thanks to Allan Lindfors, Brooke Olson, Jackie Larson, and all of the singers and musicians for the wonderful Patriotic Sunday service which is always a highlight of the church year for our community.

## Prayers



Please keep in prayer: Pastor Katherine Kolodziejczyk, Don Lundquist, Ronnie Larson, Sarah Jane Smith, Diane Deckard, Carol Dugan, Connie Dugan, Mary Olson, Ike Bauer (friend of Dawson Feil), Joan Schaechterle (niece of Pr. Katherine), Tim Thatcher (nephew of Pr. Katherine), Helen Weber, Janet Lampe, Zeb Larson, and Pastor Rick Raymer of the Zion Lutheran Church in Beloit, KS.

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 the church office: leave a note on the bulletin board, or email Gayle Nelson at [elimsec@gmail.com](mailto:elimsec@gmail.com).

### ~ CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES ~

*Church Council* – Met May 7. Discussed Synod Meeting, Youth Gathering, and Summer Lunch Program.

*Worship & Music* – No meeting.

*Finance & Stewardship* – No meeting.

*Evangelism* – Met May 7. Hosting End of School Year Party and Movie on the Lawn May 23.

*Social Ministry* – No meeting. Discussed pancake feed for Thunder on the Smoky May 19.

*Christian Education* – No meeting. VBS planned for June 4-8.

*Property* – No meeting.

*Memorial* – No meeting.

*Elim Cookbook Committee*: Met May 2. Deadline for recipes May 31.

*Next meeting to be held on June 4, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.*

**CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!** If you or someone you know would be willing to provide instrumental or vocal special music for church this summer, please contact Allan Lindfors at (785) 546-2348.

**OPPORTUNITY TO REPRESENT ELIM:** ELCA Synod Assembly is being held June 7-9 at Bethany College, Lindsborg, KS. Two adult church members are still needed to attend the assembly. Rylee Cunningham is our youth volunteer. Please consider volunteering for this opportunity to represent Elim. Contact Betty Amos at (785) 493-1276 if you are interested.

### **COFFEE HOUR HOST/HOSTESSES NEEDED:**

We offer a time of fellowship between Sunday School and Worship Services and are in need of people to be a host or hostess. Take some time to share moments of Christian fellowship. Please sign up in the kitchen!

**RIVERVIEW SING-ALONG:** We still need a volunteer for the JUNE 17 Riverview Sing-along at 2:00 PM.

**REMINDER:** Summer worship service will be at 10:00 AM starting June 3 through September 3. Coffee and Fellowship will be at 9:30 AM.



## Christian Education News

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** VBS will be hosted by Elim Lutheran Church this year. Many volunteers are needed. Please consider helping in any way you can. It is scheduled for **June 4-8 from 9:30 AM – 12:00 NOON**. Contact Tammy Feil at (620) 242-4764 or Kelly French at (785) 643-0964 for more information or if you are interested in helping with VBS. THANK YOU.

The theme of VBS will be Maker Fun Factory: Created by God, Built for a Purpose. Youth from age 4 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to attend for a fun-filled week of adventure, music, games, experiments, and friendship. At noon, please plan to stay for the free summer lunch program.

### SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

We are once again gearing up for our FREE Summer Food Service Program sponsored and funded by KSDE. This program provides FREE lunch to all children in the community under the age of 18, and all meals are served at Elim Lutheran Church. The Marquette Methodist Church and Elim work together to provide staffing on alternate weeks. We need volunteers to prepare, serve and clean up Monday through Friday from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM during the weeks Elim is responsible. The first meal will be served Thursday, May 24. A sign-up sheet will be available on the main bulletin board. Please consider volunteering for the church and the children of our community. Call Linda Johnson @ (785) 826-5544 or Lana Rock @ (785) 546 2501 for more information.

**REMINDER: No Sunday School during the summer starting June 3 through September 2. Classes will resume on Rally Sunday, September 9.**



April 1 (Easter Sunday): Given in loving memory of family and friends by Dana and Julie Olson.

April 15: Given in memory of Virginia (Weis) Swisher by Tom and Cathy French.

April 29: Given in memory of loved ones by Craig and Jackie Larson.

May 20: Given for God's blessings to our youth at Elim by Adam and Hannah Jones & family.

**FAITH, FOOD, AND FUN:** Calling all adults, young and old! We are interested in starting up an informal adult fellowship time on Wednesday evenings, starting at 7:00 PM. Bring a snack and meet at Elim Parish Hall. If you need a sitter, please let us know beforehand and we will arrange for childcare in the church basement. It is tentatively scheduled to begin in July. Contact Kelly French at (785) 643-0964 or Tammy Feil at (620) 242-4764 if you are interested in participating. Please let us know if you have ideas for topics of discussion, Bible study, and related activities. This would be a great opportunity to share your beliefs, your concerns, and your blessings with others.

# SERVING THE LORD

## IN JUNE

### **ACOLYTES:**

June 3: Madison Loder, Michelle Loder  
June 10: Brynne Weber, Kylie Fox  
June 17: Jake Feil, Emma McBride  
June 24: Christine Weber, Kayla Fox

### **GREETERS:**

3 – Merle and Sandy Larson  
10 – Darren Able & family  
17 – Patty Kolling, Kasey Kolling & Kasyn  
24 – Beth Thomas

### **LECTORS:**

3 – Allan Lindfors  
10 – Sandy Larson  
17 – Julie Olson  
24 – Lois Johnson

### **CHILDREN'S SERMONS:**

10 – Kelly French  
24 – Brooke Olson

### **ALTAR FLOWERS:**

3 – Betty Amos  
17 – Merle and Sandy Larson

### **COMMUNION SETUP/CLEANUP (June 3):**

Setup: Andi Willems and Greg Hopp  
Bread: Cindy Bunk

### **COMMUNION ASSISTANT:**

3 – Dorine Cunningham  
24 – Jeremy Snapp

### **COFFEE HOSTESS:**

3 – Tracy Bunk  
10 – Sandy Larson  
17 – Julie Olson  
24 – Beth Thomas

### **RIVERVIEW SING-A-LONG:**

June 17 – \_\_\_\_\_

## **2018 USHER SCHEDULE**

### **JUNE:**

Scott Johnson – Captain,  
Randy Jirak, Layne Patrick,  
Scott Feil, Dixon Johnson,  
Bob Jones, Monte Loder,  
Joel Nelson, Linn Nelson, Steve Patrick,  
Kenny Talbott, Tyler French



### **Monthly Financial Report**

#### **May 2018**

Beginning Balance as of 04/01/18:	\$-1402.18
Revenue:	\$8,537.17
Expenses:	\$-9,515.65
Ending Balance as of 04/30/18:	\$-2,380.66

### **Giving Opportunities**

**ELCA World Hunger Global Farm Challenge:** Please consider donating to this cause. Sunday School offerings also go towards the Global Farm project.

**Camp Tomah Shinga:** Our Church Camp is in need of chain saws, log splitter, 8 toilets, chipper/shredder, work gloves, and window A/C units.

**Central States Synod:** Our Synod is in need of donations for Mission support.

**Noise Offering:** Children's Memorial Lutheran in Kansas City for outreach ministries.

**McPherson County Habitat for Humanity Bread for the World**

**Campaign for the ELCA (\$198 million)**—special emphasis this year on the \$115 million goal for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

*Checks may be made out to Elim Lutheran Church. Please memo to indicate where you would like your donation to go.*

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**SUMMER LAWN MOWING:** Signup sheet on bulletin board, or contact Scott Johnson at (785) 577-4058 if you are willing to help.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Maddison O'Loughlin
- 1 Auley Boughfman
- 1 Brian Hayden
- 2 Gracy Feil
- 3 Kirk Young
- 6 Molly Martin
- 6 Wayne McBride
- 6 Julie Miller
- 8 Todd Nickel
- 12 Greg Hopp
- 13 Eleanor Lundquist
- 14 Barry Nelson
- 14 Darryl Talbott
- 14 Ben O'Loughlin
- 15 Kendra Hopp
- 16 Kate Emery
- 16 Morgan Willems
- 18 Traci Forssberg
- 20 Hunter Peterson
- 25 Emily Forssberg
- 27 Glenda Julian
- 30 Jessica Beagley
- 30 Jordan Lillard



## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- |    |                            |          |
|----|----------------------------|----------|
| 1  | Mr. & Mrs. Shayne Fox      | 22 years |
| 5  | Mr. & Mrs. Steve Forssberg | 13 years |
| 11 | Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Reazin | 7 years  |
| 19 | Mr. & Mrs. Eric Thies      | 14 years |
| 24 | Mr. & Mrs. Mike Hulse      | 39 years |
| 26 | Mr. & Mrs. Jack Chandler   | 4 years  |

## ~ Messenger Mailings ~

Members who signed up to view the Messenger online will be notified via email when it is posted on the Elim Lutheran Church website ([www.elimmarquette.org](http://www.elimmarquette.org)). Thank you for going green and saving the church printing and mailing costs. Please contact the church secretary at [elimsec@gmail.com](mailto:elimsec@gmail.com) if you want your name removed from the Messenger mailing list. Hard copies of the Messenger will still be available to all members unless you ask to view it online. Addressed copies will be available at the back of the church sanctuary the last Sunday of the month. Those not picked up will be mailed the following week.

## ~ BAPTISMS ~

**Brett Lanae Edwards** was welcomed into the family of Christ through baptism on April 29, 2018. Parents are Chris Edwards and Kaley McKee. Grandparents are Chris and Rhonda McKee, and Sandy Edwards and the late Bob Edwards. Great grandmother is Caroline McKee. Sponsors are Dennis and Marie Shields.

**Nolan Clayton Morel and Marcie Anne (Blackburn) Morel** were welcomed into the family of Christ through baptism on May 6, 2018. Parents of Nolan are Neal and Marcie Morel. Grandparents are Danny and Pamela Morel, and Margaret Cartmill. Godparents for Nolan are Bryan Morel and Brittany Blackburn. Great grandparents are Twila Lindfors and Margarette Larson.

## SECURITY COMMITTEE

Elim Church Council is asking for volunteers to serve on a security committee to discuss options for enhancing safety and security at Elim Lutheran Church. If you are interested in participating, please contact Scott Feil (620-242-4891) or Matt Everhart (785-643-0835).

## ~ Electronic Giving ~

If you need a convenient way to make recurring offering contributions to Elim, we encourage you to check out the online giving option available at [www.elimmarquette.org](http://www.elimmarquette.org). To set up a recurring giving schedule, locate the "Give Online" button on the home page. Please contact Jeremy Snapp at (785) 820-0005 if you have questions. Thank you for your generosity and support.

## ~ BEST CHOICE LABELS ~

The Christian Education Committee is still collecting **Best Choice Labels**. Please save and cut the UPC symbol from the product labels or cartons. Be sure to cut the labels with the words Best Choice at the top of the symbol. Each label is worth 3 cents. There are two boxes at the church, one in the kitchen and the other next to the bulletins in the narthex when you enter the church. **Thank you for your support.**

## Elim Lutheran Church Calendar for JUNE 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Pastor's Sabbath	2
<b>3 Lectionary 9</b> <b>Holy Trinity</b> Coffee Hour 9:30 Worship 10:00 with HC	4 Church Council Mtg. 7:00 PM  <b>Vacation Bible School</b> <b>9:30AM-12:00 NOON</b>	5  <b>Vacation Bible School</b> <b>9:30 AM-12 NOON</b>	6  <b>Vacation Bible School</b> <b>9:30AM-12:00 NOON</b>	7  ELCA Synod Assembly  <b>Vacation Bible School</b> <b>9:30AM-12:00 NOON</b>  Bulletin Printed	8 Pastor's Sabbath ELCA Synod Assembly  <b>Vacation Bible School</b> <b>9:30AM-12:00 NOON</b>	9  ELCA Synod Assembly
<b>10 Lectionary 10</b> Coffee Hour 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Message	11	12	13  Bulletin Deadline	14  Bulletin Printed	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16
<b>17 Lectionary 11</b> <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> Coffee Hour 9:30 Worship 10:00 with HC	18  Messenger Deadline	19	20 1:30 PM – Quilting  Bulletin Deadline	21  Bulletin Printed	22 Pastor's Sabbath	23
<b>24 Lectionary 12</b> <b>John the Baptist</b> Coffee Hour 9:30 Worship 10:00 Children's Message	25	26	27  Bulletin Deadline	28  Bulletin Printed	29 Pastor's Sabbath	30  KEY: HC = Holy Communion HS = High School