



May, 2020 Elim Lutheran Church *Home Visitor*

Thoughts from Pastor Carol

Elim's Mission Statement

"With faith in the Triune God, the family of Elim Lutheran Church proclaims the Gospel of Jesus Christ through word and sacraments. In our life together as a Christian congregation, we provide a center for members and community to worship and pray; to meet and learn; to be welcomed, nourished, and strengthened; to rest and be comforted; to serve; and to go forth and witness to the world through the prayerful stewardship of our resources.



Blessings to you this day,

So here we are. Another month has passed since we began this "stay at home" preventative action against the COVID -19 virus. Thank you, Family, for listening to the medical experts who are telling us what to do to prevent a more dire spread of this deadly disease. In fact, listening to those who have authoritative and deep knowledge of the consequences resulting from not following health guidelines is loving our neighbor (protecting them from the spread of disease), as Jesus tells us to do.

When we listen and follow advice given, we are helping to prevent the spread of disease to our neighbors, friends, and others who we don't even know. Thank you, thank you, thank you. As a person who has two chronic immune-suppressed conditions, I greatly appreciate your good efforts. As a pastor, I am even more gratified by the members of our Elim family. You have listened and heard, and you have followed the Word of Lord by taking precautions and loving those near us.

To those of you who have continued to support the work of the church with your offerings, thank you. Those gifts are needed more than ever right now. However, when we are not attending worship in person, it is sometimes easy to forget the promise to support God's work. This is just gentle reminder...if you are able, please remit your offerings by mail, or drop them off in the church office on Tuesdays between the hours of 9:00 and 2:00. In order to make it easier for yourself, you can sign up for Simply Giving which will automatically deposit your gift into Elim's account. Simply Giving can be a short-term or long-term convenience and can be cancelled at the end of the "stay at home" time. Give Connie a call in the office if you are interested in signing up for Simply Giving.

Be sure to watch and listen to our worship services which continue every Sunday on Elim's Facebook page, our website, or YouTube. If you don't have access to audio or video internet, there will continue to be a readable copy of the Sunday worship on the website and through group email. Certainly, this is not how we prefer to worship, but as I am leading worship, I imagine you sitting in front of me. May you sense the nearness of our Elim family as you join our weekly worship.

I have been calling all our member families during this time. I have been through the entire directory one time and will begin to call everyone again. It is important for me check in with each of you. I want to make sure you are

doing well. In addition, I miss hearing your voices. And if you are lonely or just want to talk, please call. We can even pray together over the phone if you'd like.

I look forward to the day when we can all be back together. No one knows when that will be, but my heart is full when I think about and pray for you all. May you know Christ's presence at this time.

Sending you the peace and love of God,

Pastor Carol

May you find comfort in these two Bible verses while we are apart from one another. Know that others are thinking about and praying for you. Also know that God's promise for unity and life together is a gift we can look forward during this age and for eternity.

*"The LORD watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other."
(Genesis 31:49)*

*So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice,
and no one will take your joy from you. (John 16:22)*

Elim Church Revenue Jan-April 2020

by John Lindstrom

| Month | Total Pledge Offering | Simply Giving | Last Yr Pledge Off | Total Revenue (All Sources) | Total Expenses | Diff Rev and Exp |
|-------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Jan | \$9,206.00 | \$3,037.00 | \$3,600.00 | \$9,660.79 | \$14,072.28 | -\$4,411.49 |
| Feb | \$9,105.00 | \$2,937.00 | | \$9,729.99 | \$13,054.87 | -\$3,324.88 |
| March | \$8,878.70 | \$3,537.00 | | \$9,652.51 | \$11,393.24 | -\$1,740.73 |
| April | \$6,780.00 | \$3,117.00 | | \$7,240.06 | * \$9,958.12 | ^ -\$2,718.06 |

* Mail Offering/Simply Giving for last week of April not included (Est for total April revenue is \$8,500)

^ Not all expenses have been paid yet for April

During this time when our church doors are closed, we would like to you see how Elim is doing financially. The chart above shows our total income vs. total expenses per month to the end of April. This is just to let you know that our expenses continue even though the church is closed. We would appreciate it if you would please remember to send in your offerings. Also, thank you so much to those of you who have been regular contributors through this time! God Bless All of You!