



The

Grapevine

November, 2023



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."



Greetings and blessings to you, Elim family and friends,

There are so many things to address for the month of November, so please be sure to read the entire newsletter, particularly the articles on upcoming Sunday service information and the *Future of Us* article. It doesn't make sense for me to repeat all of this. So I am asking you to be sure to take note of all information available to you in this month's *Grapevine*.

Thank you to all of you for the prayers, cards, and meals you provided after the recent accident I had. Your generosity is much appreciated. Now if anyone feels the need to assist me further, please wrap me in bubble wrap so these freak accidents don't affect me so much. (Just kidding)

This time of year, it seems as if the upcoming holidays should remind us of the many blessings God has given to us. Blessings are not only the "big things" we've been given. Think about the little things that so often go unnoticed – a smile from a stranger, a card to someone you haven't seen in a long time, picking up the phone and actually speaking with someone instead of email or text message, saying "I love you" to another for no particular reason, enjoying the smell of fall in the air, watching the birds soar overhead and the squirrels preparing for the upcoming cold weather.

We tend to forget the simplest things can be blessings, but please remember in your daily prayers, to say thank you to God for all He has given us and for all He does for us.

I love you with the joy only Christ can give.

In peace,

Pastor Caroline



October Council Meeting
Sunday, October 8, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

Meeting was called to order by President Cindy at 11:23 a.m.

Present: John Lindstrom, Barb Rising, Jennifer Rheault, Curt Meyer, Cindy Woslegel, LouAnn Dutt, Steve Scheer, Pastor Caroline (by phone)

Absent:

Call to Order: Open Prayer and Devotion provided by Cindy Wolslegel.

Minutes:

Accept minutes as amended. Corrections to minutes of regular and special September meetings:

- Under Treasurer's Report, should read – "\$535 was collected for Maui Disaster Relief"
- Under Stewardship Committee, should read – "Temple Talks will be on Sunday, November 5, and Sunday, November 12" and "In-Gathering will be on November 19"
- Under Mission Support Committee, should read – "Have \$1,025 made for contributions toward Mission Support"
- Under Pastor's Report, should read – Pastor will be on vacation from October 31 – November 12..."
- From Special September meeting – "Salary and housing will be cut in half, also part of Social Security and pension. Portico has been contacted."
- From Special September meeting – "Pastor will get 3 weeks, 4 of these days will be Sundays of vacation time. Will get paid 4 hours for each day off."

Barb moves to approve the minutes, with changes, from September meeting. Pastor Caroline seconds. Motion carries.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report

- Monthly pledge amount was under budget for September
- Big expense this month was \$3,200 for bat issues

Learning Committee

- Have had 3-5 in attendance for Wednesday morning Bible Study

Worship & Music Committee

- Pastor Caroline is on vacation from October 31st - November 12th. She has arranged for pulpit supply.
- October 29th - Reformation Sunday, the choir will sing.
- November 5th - Stewardship Temple Talk - LouAnn Dutt / Pulpit supply, Pastor Mark Ellingson - All Saints celebration.
- November 12th - Stewardship Temple Talk - ??? / Pulpit supply Pastor Dave Adams
- November 19th - Ingathering of Pledges / Thanksgiving Service. Choir will sing.
- There will be no evening Advent services.
- Christmas Eve Service will be at 4:30pm on December 24th. Choir will possibly sing. There will be no Christmas Day Service. There will be no regular Sunday service on Christmas Eve, only the late afternoon service.

Property Committee

- Continued usual cleaning work in and around church and church grounds
- Fargo Fire Department completed inspection
 - Need to have fire extinguishers serviced
 - Fire extinguishers serviced on 9/26/23-
 - AED equipment needs to be updated
 - \$550 to service both AED units, which have to be serviced every 5 years
 - If we choose to service the units, the company can provide on-site training, which is \$42 per person for adult CPR AED training
 - Rep suggested we check to see if any current members are trained or certified and willing to use unit in case of emergency
 - Can be used by untrained individuals
- Bat Guys completed roof repair
 - \$3,200 payment will be sent
- Completed inventory of custodian office, furnace room, and shed
- Elim's property insurance is being dropped end of December by company. Do not know why yet.
- Connie will help Curt with cleaning in building when caught up with her work to fill her hours
- Will work on updating emergency procedures to post in church
- Curt will check on percentage of what Elim pays for snow removal

Stewardship Committee

- Still looking for someone to give Stewardship Temple Talk on Sunday, November 12

Service & Outreach and Mission Support Committees

- Inventory completed and report made.

Mission Support Committee

- No report.

Barb moves to approve the Consent Agenda. Jennifer seconds. Motion carries.

Pastor's Report

- One pastoral visit in September. One service at Evergreen.
- Curt Meyer will open church and greet the visiting pastors in November when Pastor Caroline is on vacation. He will also lock the church these Sundays.

Cindy moves to approve Pastor's report. Barb seconds. Motion carries.

Prior Business

- Future of Us
 - Scott will put together information for the necessary process to sell church.
 - Will be discussed at October 15 Congregation Forum.
 - A congregational vote will be held November 19. This will be a vote to determine if we hire a realtor to sell the church.

Barb moved to accept the *Future of Us* report. Cindy seconds. Motion carries.

New Business

- Curt will find out how much it will cost to service only one AED unit.

If cost is no more than \$250-\$300, he will go ahead with servicing one unit.

Pastor Caroline moves to service one AED unit if cost is under \$300. Curt seconds. Motion carries.

Barb moves to adjourn at 12:55. Curt seconds. Motion carries.

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, November 12, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.
Devotions-Jennifer Rheault

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Rheault

Treasurer's Report
August, 2023

John Lindstrom

Balance Sheet

- ◆ The checking acct balance is -\$641.01. The balance at the beginning of the year was \$9,372.02.
General Acct Fund balance after August is -\$29,787.08.

Income and Expense (8/12 or 66.6% through the year)

- ◆ Monthly pledge income was under budget (budget \$6,667.00 vs. \$5,130.00).
- ◆ Monthly total income was under budget (budget \$8,970.00 vs. \$7,854.50).
- ◆ YTD pledge income is 65.01% of the budget \$80,000 (actual \$52,009.00).
- ◆ YTD total income is 64.59% of the budget \$107,600.00 (actual \$69,502.06).
- ◆ Monthly expenses were under budget (budget \$12,500.00 vs. \$10,603.86).
- ◆ YTD expenses are 66.19% of the budget \$150,004.00 (actual \$99,289.14)
- ◆ The utility bill was \$756.15.

November Services Volunteers



USHERS/GREETERS

November 5 Betty Lindstrom
November 12 Barb Rising
November 19 Jennifer Rheault
November 26

FLOWERS

November 5
November 12
November 19
November 26

LAYREADERS

November 5
November 12
November 19
November 26

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

November 5
November 12
November 19
November 26

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

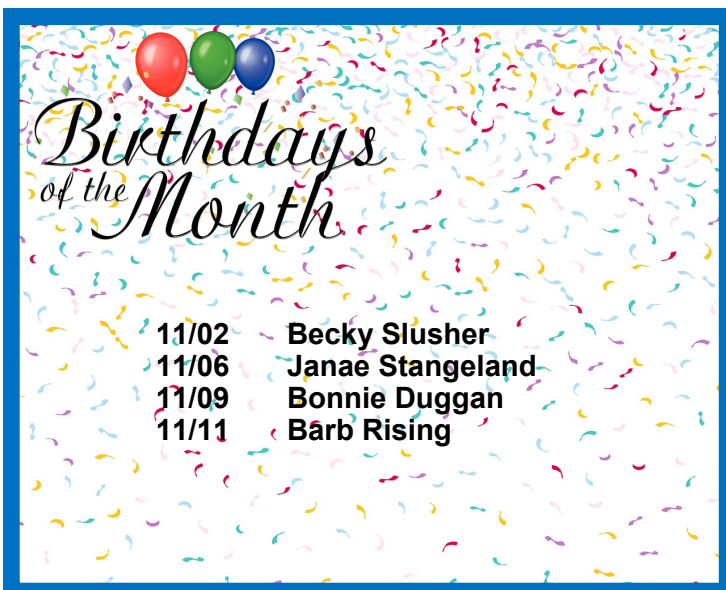
None needed until further notice

FUNERAL ASSISTANT

No one needed until further notice.

Please call **Jennifer Rheault, 701-566-3949** if you would like to sign up to be an Usher, Lay Reader, or Communion Assistant.

Every Sunday is open for **Missionary Support**, which is \$25.00 and can be given in honor of or in memory of a loved one. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact the Elim office. Thank you.



11/02 Becky Slusher
11/06 Janae Stangeland
11/09 Bonnie Duggan
11/11 Barb Rising

If your birthday should be on this list and isn't, please contact the Elim office. I apologize for the oversight.

Dalbol Flowers has had a change in their procedure for ordering Altar flowers. In the past, the Church could order for the individual, with the person being invoiced; but in the future, the individual needs to call and order flowers themselves, with directions that the flowers be delivered the Saturday prior to the Service. With this, be sure you call Connie in the office at 232-2574, to let her know which Sunday you would like them for, so it may be noted in that Sunday's bulletin. The usual cost for Altar flowers is around \$26.00 for 2 vases, plus tax and delivery charges. If you wish to take the flowers home with you following worship, please let Connie know.

Thank you.



Elim Future Fact Sheet

Task	What it means
Congregational vote to sell property	This is NOT a vote to dissolve the congregation – only to authorize the Council to engage a realtor to put the property on the market. This includes the building and the parking lot.
Council identifies what property inside the church will be included in the sale	A full inventory of our property has been completed and this will be used to decide what property will go with the sale of the building and what property will be handled outside of the property sale.
Council works with realtor to set selling price	The property is listed at the agreed selling price. This price will include the building, parking lot, and property inside the church that we decide will be sold with the building.
Council works with realtor to identify a real estate attorney as needed	This may be necessary for us to understand the nuances of selling commercial property.
Council works with realtor to identify potential property to rent or lease	This will help identify locations that we can use for worship once the property sells.
Offer received for property	A potential buyer has made an offer to purchase our property.
Congregational vote to accept or reject offer	The congregation will vote to either accept or reject the offer from the potential buyer. This is NOT a vote to dissolve the congregation – only to authorize the Council to accept or reject the offer.
Congregational vote to decide on remaining open or closing once the property sells	This should happen once we have some more information from the realtor regarding potential properties for us to rent or lease. We do have the option of using the NDSU Crossroads building temporarily if our property sells before we have secured a more permanent location.
Next Steps	At this point, the congregation will need to make appropriate decisions depending on whether it has been decided to remain open or to close. These steps will be identified later.



Disaster Relief for all Natural Disasters

If you would like to donate to Disaster Relief, you may do so in one of three ways ---

Make your check out to Elim and put it in the offering plate, designating Disaster Relief on the memo line, or

You may mail your donation directly into Lutheran World Relief, P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061, or

You may donate directly on their website at <https://lwr.org/donate-emergency>



Change of Address

Gwen Pitsenbarger
c/o Andrea Stordahl
3590-110th Avenue North
Moorhead, MN 56560



Thank you, Elim family, for all your prayers, concerns, condolences, and cards during the illness and passing away of my sister, Arlene.

Blessings to all of you.
Adeline Geist

Time & Talent Sheet

After prayerfully considering my time, talents, and resources, I pledge the following:

Time and Talents: I would like to get involved – or get more information on involvement – with the following:

- ☐ Council Committees
- ☐ Emergency Food Pantry
- ☐ Forecast: Warmth
- ☐ Help with services (Readers, ushers)
- ☐ Women's Circle
- ☐ Choir
- ☐ Serving Groups
- ☐ Altar Guild
- ☐ Musical talents

Resources:

- ☐ I pledge the following
- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Other |

As a _____ Donation

- \$_____ Weekly
- \$_____ Monthly
- \$_____ Yearly

or, you may check one of the following:

- ☐ I am currently using Simply Giving for Electronic Giving.
- ☐ Please contact me about signing up for Simply Giving, a service that will automatically move my donation to Elim on the regular basis I indicate.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

If you have an idea not listed, please record above. In-gathering will be November 19. **Please return this form prior to November 19**, either by putting it in the offering plate, dropping it at the office, or mailing it in. Thank you.

(Please cut out and return to Church office.)



None in October

October Baptisms, Funerals, Membership Transfers In, and Transfers Out

**Church
Membership**

Baptisms: None

Funerals: None

Membership Transfers Out of Elim: None

Membership Transfers In to Elim: None

Deaths: Jim Voytovich



Choir will rehearse at 9:15 a.m. and sing on the following Sundays:
October 29 and November 19

Church Council Meeting

Will be held Sunday, November 12, following Worship in the Small Fellowship Hall. ANY AND ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.



Serving Groups

November 5	Group 1
November 12	Group 2
November 19	Group 1
November 26	Group 2

Did you know.....that Bethany Retirement Living offers a broad range of senior care services to meet just about any need a senior may have? At Bethany on University, Skilled Nursing Care, Memory Care, Transitional Care, Basic Care, short stays and Assisted Living are available. Bethany on 42nd features Skilled Nursing Care, Assisted Living, Senior Living with Services, and Senior Apartments. Ethos Home Care offers services in your own home. Are you looking for living opportunities for someone you love? Visit our web site at www.bethanynd.org or call Bethany on University at 701.239.3000 or Bethany on 42nd at 701.478.8900.



Lines of Communication

If anyone has any questions or concerns regarding church operations, please contact the appropriate person below for correct information. Thank you.

Pastor Caroline - Services / Worship
Prayers
Personal concerns
Visitation Schedule

Curt Meyer - Church building / property cleaning
Event set-up

Jennifer Rheault, Robyn Vinje, or Scott Strand -
Services / Worship
Music

Barb Rising - Kitchen / Altar

Elim Church Council Members

Pastor Caroline Strand, Pastor
cstrand@elim-lutheran.org
701.232.2574 - - 507.398.3166 (after office hours cell)
Cindy Wolslegel, President
Barb Rising, Vice President
(Mission Support-temporary, Service/Outreach)
Jennifer Rheault, Secretary
(Learning, Worship/Music)
John Lindstrom, Treasurer
Curt Meyer (Property)
LouAnn Dutt, (Stewardship)
Steve Scheer

Elim Office Hours

Monday	All Church offices are closed
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Thursday:	8:00 a.m. to Noon
Friday:	All Church offices are closed

As Council Committee heads, you are asked to submit your written Committee Report to the office 1 week prior to the month's Council meeting. This report will then be included in the individual Council packets for each meeting. If you do not have a written report for that month, please let the office know that, as well. Thank you.

Halloween Word Search

P	E	A	O	F	R	I	G	H	T	F	U	L	E	O	I	T	U
S	P	O	O	K	Y	L	A	N	T	E	R	N	C	A	N	D	Y
S	C	A	R	Y	H	T	R	I	C	K	S	B	O	N	E	S	T
C	A	R	V	I	N	G	I	W	V	B	O	G	E	Y	M	A	N
P	E	R	T	O	G	A	P	P	A	R	I	T	I	O	N	N	D
F	B	W	K	N	D	A	R	K	N	E	S	S	A	R	R	Y	E
L	P	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N	U	Q	E	C	K	P	D
O	Z	U	A	F	T	E	R	L	I	F	E	B	Y	C	A	E	P
W	O	N	M	C	G	H	O	S	T	S	O	R	A	C	T	M	M
E	M	O	U	P	G	C	H	K	L	T	E	L	S	N	O	S	D
R	B	R	N	O	K	F	Y	L	C	T	B	E	U	N	P	E	H
E	I	D	B	U	C	I	A	O	E	Z	M	A	S	I	K	S	S
W	E	L	S	D	U	B	N	M	Y	U	H	T	D	C	O	L	T
S	I	U	L	P	E	W	E	S	T	J	E	E	I	E	B	C	R
N	M	A	A	Y	I	C	S	S	X	R	R	W	E	A	R	O	E
B	O	C	E	T	O	E	O	S	C	A	R	E	C	R	O	W	A
A	O	I	C	M	B	C	G	H	O	U	L	O	W	B	O	B	T
T	N	H	C	A	C	K	L	E	N	M	A	S	K	R	M	A	S

Word List:

HALLOWEEN
CEMETERY
CANDY
MASK
BAT
BONES
AFTERLIFE
EYEBALLS
MONSTER
SCARECROW

WITCH
PUMPKINS
TRICKS
SCARY
BLACK
BOO
APPARITION
GHOUL
LANTERN
ZOMBIE

GHOST
CARVING
TREATS
SPOOKY
CAT
BROOM
CAPE
BOGEYMAN
MOON
WICKED

HAUNTED
COSTUMES
GOBLIN
SPIDER
CAULDRON
CACKLE
DARKNESS
FRIGHTFUL
OCTOBER
WEREWOLF



FUEL ASSISTANCE INCOME AND ASSET GUIDELINES

LIHEAP



Low Income Home Energy
Assistance Program

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps eligible individuals and families pay part of

their home heating costs.

Applications will be accepted until May 31, 2024.

LIHEAP can help pay for the fuel you use to heat the home you live in from October through May if you buy your heating fuel from a fuel dealer or a utility company (fuel oil, propane, natural gas, electricity, wood coal or kerosene), or if your

rent payments include heat and you do not receive a rent subsidy. The amount of benefits you may be eligible for depends on your income, the type and size of your home and the type of fuel used to heat your home.

This program also covers:

- Weatherization Services (insulation, weather stripping around doors and windows, etc.)
- Furnace cleaning, repair and replacement
- Chimney cleaning and inspection
- Emergency assistance

To be eligible, the total income of all persons living in your household must be counted. Total income, after allowable deductions, must be below these limits:

1 person household:

\$2,977 per month/\$35,724

2 person household:

\$3,893 per month/\$46,716 per year

Written proof or verification of your income, your heating bill and medical expenses that can be deducted from your income is needed to be sure your eligibility and benefits are calculated correctly.

You can apply online by going to hhs.nd.gov/applyforhelp/liheap or in person at your local Human Service Zone office:

Cass County Human Service Zone

1010 2nd Ave. S.

Fargo, ND 58103

Ph: (701) 241-5761

October 2023

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Taken from October, 2023, issue of Valley Senior Services *Silver Quill* newsletter



Elim Lutheran Church

November, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <u>No Bible Study</u>	2 Pastor-vacation	3	4
5 <u>Worship w/ Communion- 10:00</u> <u>Stewardship</u> <u>Temple Talk</u>		7 AA Group-noon	8 <u>No Bible Study</u> Pastor-vacation	9	10	11 VETERANS DAY <small>HONORING ALL WHO SERVED</small>
12 <u>Worship w/ Communion- 10:00</u> <u>Stewardship</u> <u>Temple Talk</u> <u>Council mtg.- 11:00</u> Pastor-vacation	13	14 AA Group-noon	15 <u>Bible Study- 10:00</u>	16 <u>Elim Women- 10:00, Sons of Norway</u>	17	18
19 <u>Choir rehearsal-9:15</u> <u>Thanksgiving</u> <u>Worship w/ choir-10:00</u> <u>Stewardship</u> <u>In-gathering</u> <u>Information</u> <u>Gathering Forum</u>	20	21 AA Group-noon	22 <u>Bible Study- 10:00</u> <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	23	24	25
26 <u>Christ the King Sunday</u> <u>Worship- 10:00</u>	27	28 AA Group-noon	29 <u>Bible Study- 10:00</u>	30		

Elim Lutheran Church
321 9th Street North
Fargo, ND 58102

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Grapevine

321 Ninth Street North
Fargo, ND 58102
(701) 232-2574

www.elim-lutheran.org

"Built on a Triangle with Faith in the Triune"

Pastor:	Caroline Strand
Office Administrator:	Connie Rawls
Maintenance:	Curt Meyer
Music Staff:	Robyn Vinje
Organist	Scott Strand
Choir Director	Katie Narum Miyamoto
Missionary	

Monthly Newsletter
November, 2023