

Grapevine

Apríl, 2024

Greetings Elim Family,

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.

By the time you receive April's *Grapevine*, I am thinking it will be close enough to Easter to say, "He is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!" So with that being said, I wish you the joy and peace of the risen Christ. Christ's victory from death and the grave comes to each of us because we are loved so much by the God of all, our Creator, who wants us to live eternally in the glories of heavenly splendor. What better gift could there be?

At the time of this writing, Elim has received one offer for our building and parking lot, but the Council did not feel it was a satisfactory offer. So we are "sitting on this offer" and waiting to see if any other offers come in. It is important to keep our Elim family informed of all that is going on, and that is what we have to share at this point. May our prayers bring us God's plans for Elim, and may we trust in what God has in store for us.

Of late, I have been praying for sufficient moisture for our land. With the planting season arriving soon for our farmers and the early presence of wild and grass fires in the Red River Valley, there is sure evidence of the need for rain or snow. We have gotten used to spring nearly year 'round, but we do need moisture in our soil. Please pray for the necessary rain to grow the crops which help to feed so many in our area and around the world and to prevent devastating fires.

Another thing we should be praying for is peace. It breaks my heart to see all the pain in this world; fighting over land and power, death and destruction of God's beloved children and homes and places dear to so many people. This world is not meant for hate such as this. Please, please, please pray for those caught in the midst of war. Once again, God does not intend for this to be a way of life in God's creation. May God restore peace to this battling and the selfishness of some leaders. May God grant comfort for those suffering with pain, starvation, and the grief due to loss of loved ones, and may we all lift our voices and pray for the restoration of peace as God intends.

We know we can't do everything to restore a hurting and broken world, but we can raise our earnest prayers for God's intercession into all that is horrible in this world. In this season of resurrection we raise our prayers to you, Lord God. In your Son's most holy name we pray, Amen.

In peace,

Pastor Caroline





2 Elim Grapevine

Special Elim Council Meeting Sunday, March 3, 2024, 11:10 am

Meeting called to order by President Cindy Wolslegel.

Members present: LuAnn Dutt, Steve Scheer, Cindy Wolslegel, Jennifer Rheault, Pastor Caroline, Barb Rising, John Lindstrom.

Absent; Curt Meyer.

Guest: Brian Kounovsky, real estate agent, by phone.

Discussion held regarding an offer Swanson, Northern owners, made on just the parking lot, for \$400,000. Offer is too low. Not planning to sell the parking lot and church property separately.

Discussion regarding the counter offer of \$1,250,000.00 from Latter Rain Ministries. Barb Rising moved to stay at Elim's most recent purchase price of \$1,400,000.00. Pastor Caroline seconded. Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55am.

Submitted by, Jennifer Rheault

March Council Meeting Sunday, March 10, 2023, 11:25

Present: John Lindstrom, Barb Rising, Pastor Caroline, Jennifer Rheault, Cindy Wolslegel, Curt Meyer, Steve Scheer, LouAnn Dutt

Call to Order: Open Prayer and Devotion provided by Barb Rising.

Minutes:

Barb Rising moves to approve the minutes from February meeting. Steve Scheer seconds. Motion carries

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report

Overspent first 2 months by \$2,950.75

Learning Committee

No report

No discussion

Worship & Music Committee

No report

Pastor Caroline noted the need for 8 volunteers for the Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service

Property Committee

Buried tank on Elim's property is being addressed by Don and Brian Kounovsky

Steve Scheer moves to purchase new battery for alarm bell button in elevator. Curt Meyer seconds. Motion carries.

Stewardship Committee

Discussed having potluck on Palm Sunday.

Barb will have sign up sheet next Sunday, March 17, for potluck

Service & Outreach

Women of Elim met and decided to combine service groups 1 and 2 into 1 large group with callers remaining the same. This group will be responsible for Sunday morning coffee, funerals, and any other special events that may occur.

A sign-up sheet will be placed in the kitchen with an opportunity for all to choose a Sunday of their choice to serve coffee and goodies.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact LouAnn, LaVonne, or Barb.

Mission Support Committee

No report

No discussion

Pastor Caroline moves to approve the Consent Agenda. LouAnn Dutt seconds. Motion carries.

Pastor's Report

3 visits in February, 1 service at Evergreen

Jennifer Rheault moves to approve Pastor's report. Barb Rising seconds. Motion carries.

Prior Business

An interested party is going to look at Elim again sometime this coming week. No new offer from Latter Rain Ministries

New Business

LouAnn Dutt had discussed the possibility of not having coffee after church during the summer months.

LouAnn has tabled this idea because of the positive response she received to have coffee fellowship after church during summer months.

Barb Rising moves to accept changes to the Office Report and to include the changed Office Report and the missing financial pages from the Treasurer's Report in the 2023 Annual Report in the April newsletter.

LouAnn Dutt seconds. Motion carries.

Jennifer Rheault moves to adjourn. Barb Rising seconds. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:08.

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, April 14, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Devotions-LouAnn Dutt Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Rheault

Treasurer's Report February, 2024

John Lindstrom

Balance Sheet

♦ The checking acct balance is \$132.50. The balance at the beginning of the year was \$3,413.87. General Acct Fund balance after January is -\$2,950.75.

Income and Expense (2/12 or 16.6% through the year)

- ♦ Monthly pledge income was under budget (budget \$5,834.00 vs. \$4,390.00).
- Monthly total income was over budget (budget \$7,938.00 vs. \$10,243,24).
- ♦ YTD pledge income is 15.18% of the budget \$70,000 (actual \$10,625.00).
- Monthly expenses were over budget (budget \$9,659.00 vs. \$16,676.32). The higher expense was due to the annual insurance premium.
- The utility bill was \$1,907.03. Paid the annual property insurance premium of \$8406.00. \$5,221 was taken from the Dishwasher designated fund. Sent \$1,000 to the Synod for Missionary Support that was given by the Foundation.

Corrected from 2023 Annual Report

CHURCH OFFICE REPORT
Submitted by Connie Rawls, Office Administrator/Secretary

Baptized Membership as of December 31, 2022 85
REMOVALS By Death (by date of death)
By Letter of Request or Resignation
**Other
TOTAL REMOVALS
NEW MEMBERS: By Baptism0
By Letter of Transfer or Affirmation of Faith0
Other-Members returned/Communed/Attended/Gave offering 1 (Sydney Owens)
TOTAL NEW MEMBERS:1
Baptized Membership as of December 31, 2023
Confirmed Membership as of December 31, 2023
Communing members
Average weekly Attendance
Total Weddings0
Total Funerals (by date of death)

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund

	2023 ACTUAL	2023 BUDGETED
INCOME		
Current Pledges	71,022.00	80,000
Past Year Pledges	400.00	0
Loose Offering	417.25	750
Lenten-Easter	200.00	300
Christmas	300.00	300
Budgeted Misc.		
Gifts	855.00	650
Service Group	200.00	200
Flowers	280.00	400
Coffee	523.94	400
Parking	22,027.00	24,000
Dedicated Funds Released	0.00	0
Other	1,032.74	600
Other	97,257.93	107,600
EXPEND THINE C	91,231.93	107,000
EXPENDITURES Benevolence		
	300.00	300
ELCA-END Synod	300.00	300
Worship	406 50	3.50
Altar Supplies	486.52	350
Devotional Materials	385.75	600
Flowers	395.26	250
Organ & Piano Maintenance	575.00	300
Learning		
Sunday School/VBS/Confirmation	0.00	0
Library	0.00	0
Witness		
Evangelism	0.00	100
Support		
Stewardship	0.00	0
Salaries		
Custodial Contract	16,632.00	16,632
Organists	4,837.00	5 , 500
Pastor	16,887.36	19,300
Secretary	13,587.31	14,000
Senior Choir Director	650.00	1,500
Other Hired Personnel	675.00	500
Benefits		
Housing	32,550.00	37,200
Pension and Medical	6,226.71	7,450
Pastor's Soc Security	3,781.92	4,322
Pastor's Continuing Ed.	0.00	1,000
FICA - Others	1,159.29	1,250
Medicare - Others	271.11	300
Pastor's Prof/Meeting Exp	0.00	500
Utilities	0.00	
	8,426.64	8,700
Electricity		10,200
Gas	9,336.07	
Telephone, Internet	1,693.44	1,550 1,500
Water/Sewer	1,511.66	
Garbage	899.80	900
Snow Removal	0.00	1,500
Travel		

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

Pastor's Mileage	169.21	300
Administrative		
Office Supplies	150.75	300
Office Equipment	0.00	300
Computer Equip/Fees	668.14	650
Copier Maint Contract	1,654.39	1,200
Postage	571.44	650
Maintenance		
Church Property	2,019.89	1,500
Elevator Maintenance	500.00	500
Insurance & Taxes		
Building Insurance	5,759.90	6,900
Workman's Compensation	250.00	250
Property Taxes	1,231.64	1,250
Miscellaneous		
Other	1,201.93	500
	135,445.13	150,004
2022 Balance (Deficit)	(38,187.20)	

Note: A General Fund deficit of \$199,121.29 remains from previous years.

D = 1	T 1 2022	Unbudgeted Misc.	\$205.00
INCOME	Jan 1, 2023		\$205.00
Con	tributions		0.00
EXPENDITU			005.00
	fing repair		205.00
Balance	Jan 1, 2024		\$0.00
		Missionary Support	
Balance	Jan 1, 2023		\$0.00
INCOME			
	ntributions	25.00	
Eli	m Foundation	1,000.00	
			1025.00
EXPENDITU			1 005 00
	bursements		1,025.00
Balance	Jan 1, 2024		\$0.00
		Good Samaritan	
Palango	Jan 1, 2023	GOOG Samalican	\$1,205.27
INCOME	Uaii 1, 2025		V1/200.27
	m Foundation		94.05
EXPENDITU			
Dis	bursements		0.00
Balance	Jan 1, 2024		\$1,299.32
		Pastor's Continuing Educ	
	Jan 1, 2023		\$513.15
INCOME			
	tributions		0.00
EXPENDITU			0.00
	bursements		0.00
Balance	Jan 1, 2024		\$513.15

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

	LULU HIMIDUIMIN D'IMIUNI
	Pastoral Internship
Balance Jan 1, 2023 INCOME	\$188,071.80
Transfer from LG Semin	nary Fund 35,000.00
EXPENDITURES	0.00
Disbursements	0.00 \$223,071.80
Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$223,071.80
	Parish Nurse
Balance Jan 1, 2023 INCOME	\$12,848.09
None	0.00
EXPENDITURES	
None	$\frac{0.00}{\$12,848.09}$
Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$12,848.09
	ELCA Disaster Relief
Balance Jan 1, 2023 INCOME	\$0.00
Contributions	1,232.00
EXPENDITURES	1 020 00
Disbursements Balance Jan 1, 2024	<u> 1,232.00</u> \$0.00
Balance Jan 1, 2024	Ÿ0 . 00
	Water Heater/AC Repair
Balance Jan 1, 2023	\$150.00
INCOME	
Contributions	0.00
EXPENDITURES Disbursements	150.00
Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$0.00
barance ban 1, 2024	
- 1 0000	Memorial Fund
Balance Jan 1, 2023 INCOME	\$14,438.37
Additions	2,177.00
EXPENDITURES	
Roofing repairs	380.40
Bat remediation	3,200.00
6-month insurance prem	4,247.00 7,827.40
Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$8,787.97
	15,707.57

	Memorial	Memorial Fund Balance Summary		
		Beginning	Ending	
Altar Guild		1,404.14	1,404.14	
Choir		2,122.57	2,202.57	
General Fund		0.00	10.00	
Library		2,328.54	2,360.54	
Music		236.14	271.14	
Parish Nurse		610.01	610.01	
Quilting		222.99	\$222.99	
Sunday School		341.10	341.10	
Undesignated		7,172.88	1,365.48	
-		•	\$8,787.97	

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH 2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

Other Assets

DP - Hammer Chapel DP - Projector DP - Refurbish Sign	Beginning 2,319.32 800.00 101.58	2,319.32
NL - Audio Visual	546.37	\$546.37
Loriena Graf Trust (Undesg) Loriena Graf Sound System Loriena Graf Stewardship Ed Loriena Graf Adult Bible Study Loriena Graf White/cork Boards Loriana Graf Trust (Seminary Students) (Intern - \$35,000.00)	3,161.13 2,070.61 3,500.00 2,000.00 1,061.28 40,111.49	2,070.61 3,500.00 2,000.00
Loriena Graf2 Trust (Undesg) Loriena Graf2 Dishwasher	74,400.00 12,989.74	74,400.00 12,989.74 \$87,389.74
Bob Pearson - Sign	9,747.48	\$9,747.48
Memorial Fund Interest	1,947.19	\$2,205.35
Relief Fund Cert of Deposit	8,328.40	,
Hi-League	9,154.17	\$9.154.17

Treasurer John Lindstrom



Unity Prayer Given by Our LORD Jesus

My adorable Jesus,

May our feet journey together,

Mlay our hands gather in unity,

May our hearts beat in unison,

Mlay our souls be in harmony,

Mlay our thoughts be as one,

Mlay our ears listen to the silence
together,

Mlay our glances profoundly
penetrate each other,

Mlay our lips pray together to gain
mercy
from the Eternal Father, Amen.



Service Group Change

When the "Women of Elim" met on Thursday, February 15, we discussed the need to reorganize our service groups. We are in agreement to combine groups 1 and 2 into 1 large group with our 3 callers remaining: LouAnn Dutt, LaVonne Black, and Barb Ris-

ing. A sign-up sheet will be posted each month in the kitchen with an opportunity for all to sign up for a Sunday of their choice to serve Sunday morning coffee. This can be 1 or 2 people, if desired, on any given Sunday. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please refer them to callers LouAnn, LaVonne, or Barb.



We are looking for donations for outdoor flowers around the church. If you would like to donate to this fund, please indicate on your check or envelope that it's for flowers. If you have any questions, please contact Curt at 701-793-6799. Thank you.

▶ 10 Elim Grapevine

April Services Volunteers

USHERS/GREETERS	FLOWERS	Those Assisting
April 7	April 7	Those Assisting
April 14	April 14	in Worship
April 21	April 21	ui we wup
April 28	April 28	

LAYREADERS MISSIONARY SUPPORT

April 7	April 7
April 14	April 14
April 21	April 21
April 28	April 28

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS FUNERAL ASSISTANT

None needed until further notice No one needed until further notice.

Please call <u>Jennifer Rheault, 701-566-3949</u> 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.

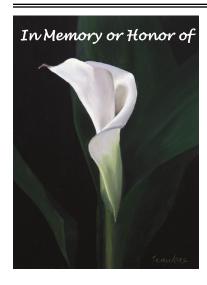


If your birthday should be on this list and isn't, please contact the Elim office. I apologize for the oversight.

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 Grapevine 11



In memory of Dianne Clark Flowers Undesignated

Helen Armstrong Kevin Hakanson Kris & Julie Condon Jane Schmidt Dave & Patty Sesharnais Mark & Connie Osfern

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



Baptisms: None

Funerals: None

Membership Transfers Out of Elim: None

Membership Transfers In to Elim: Myran Moen

Deaths: None

12 Elim Grapevine



Choir will rehearse at 9:15 on Sunday, April 21, and will sing at the service that morning.



Serving Group

Be sure to sign up for a Sunday of your choice to serve Sunday morning coffee in April. Thank you.



Did you know......that Bethany Retirement Living is one of the 30 largest employers in the region, according to the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce? More than 800 professionals serve residents in roles as nurses,



nursing assistants, dietary and housekeeping staff, Chaplaincy, engineers, social services, administrative, activities, therapy and others. If you know of someone who would like to join the Bethany team, contact Human Resources at Bethany at 701.239.3000 or visit our website at www.bethanynd.org/careers.

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 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. to Noon

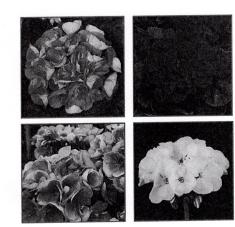
Thursday: All Church offices are closed Friday: All Church offices are closed

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.

Bethany Auxiliary

Flowers feed your soul and lift your spirits!

The Bethany Auxiliary is selling geranium plants in 4%" pots for just \$6.00 each. These beautiful plants are locally grown from cuttings at *Bloomfield Garden*



Center in Sabin MN. They are available in four colors: red, pink, salmon and white.

The Auxiliary Geranium Sale helps raise money to provide items for Bethany residents – such things as *Portals of Prayer* devotional booklets, blanket warmers, aromatherapy, Netflix services, heat lamps, aviaries and the Chaplaincy program, just to name a few. These purchases enrich the lives of all residents at both Bethany campuses.

For every plant purchased, \$2.65 will be used by the Auxiliary to benefit the residents.

Orders must be placed by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 24, 2024.

Plants may be picked up from 10:00am to 2:00 pm on Wednesday, May 1, at Bethany on University or Thursday, May 2, at Bethany on 42nd. (orders will NOT be available for pick-up prior to 10:00am)

Questions? Call 701.238.5419 or email carol.johnson.623.cj@gmail.com.

	Geranium Plant Order Form	
Name:	Phone:	
Address:		
Email:		
# of plants/Color	# of plants/Color	
Red	Salmon	
Pink	White	11
Total # of plants:	@ \$6.00 ea =	Dothony
Pick up at: 🗖 Bethany	on University (5/1/24) \Box Bethany on 42 nd (5/2/24)	Bethany
Please make checks pay	able to Bethany Auxiliary, 4255 30 Ave S, Fargo ND 58104	retirement <u>living</u>
Lwould like to	make an additional donation to Bethany: \$	

◆ 14 Elim Grapevine



Elim Lutheran Church April, 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	April Fools	2 AA-noon	3 Bible Study- 10:00	4	5	6
7 Worship w/ Communion- 10:00	8	9 Evergreen- 10 to 11 AA-noon	10 Bible Study- 10:00	11	12	13
14 Worship w/ Communion- 10:00 Council meeting following Worship	15	16 AA-noon	17 Bible Study- 10:00	18 Elim Women- 10:00, Sons of Norway	19	20
21 Choir re- hearsal-9:15 Worship w/ choir-10:00	22	23 AA-noon	24 Bible Study- 10:00	25 Evergreen- 10 to 11	26	27
28 <u>Worship-</u> 10:00	29	30 AA-noon				

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED





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

www.elim-lutheran.org

"Built on a Triangle with Faith in the Triune"

Maintenance: Music Staff:

Missionary Organist Choir Director

Caroline Strand
Connie Rawls
Curt Meyer
Robyn Vinje
Scott Strand

Office Administrator:

Pastor:

Katie Narum Miyamoto

Monthly Newsletter April, 2024