



The Elim Scribe

Welcome to Vicar Lisa Mensinger from Pr. Bruce!

Mrs. Lisa Mensinger is coming to Elim as our intern for a year, starting this July. Luther Seminary has suggested that she have a formal title; therefore, she will be Vicar Lisa. Her installation as our intern will be at the 10 a.m. Sunday morning worship on July 7th, with a reception for her following the service. Please note her biography and photo (below)!

Lisa's internship is possible because Zion Lutheran Church, Salt Lake City, is agreeing to collaborate—to partner with us in ministry. This is to Lisa's and our advantage because they are making the internship financially possible. Pastor Steve Klemz, Zion's council and congregational members are also committing themselves to strengthen and encourage our witness of the Christian faith through our Lutheran expression in Utah.

Vicar Lisa will be in the church office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Welcome to our family! Thank you, Zion Lutheran Church and Pastor Steve! We look forward to our working together!

A Message from Lisa Mensinger, Seminarian Intern



“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Excuse me, Jeremiah, are you sure this is what the Lord said?

Well, Jeremiah was writing to the exiles in Babylon at the time, but the words are alive and vibrating in my life as well.

Here I am a wife and a mother of two adult children (Alex - 25, and McKayla “Mack”- 21) on a journey to become an ordained pastor! Are these the plans that the Lord has for me? Yes, indeed!

However, along the way I took many detours in my life like being a Director of Human Resources, an Adjunct Professor, and earning an MBA. And now, I'm near the end of completing my Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary. Some of you may know me as the Director of Youth Ministry at Zion, which has been one of the best jobs ever. My wonderful husband of 26 years, Brian, has been my biggest cheerleader, as I truly listen to what the Lord's plans have been for me and discover my voice in ministry.

“Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me if you seek me with all your heart.” (Jeremiah 29:12-13)

These were the words that I prayed often at the beginning of this year as I wondered about internship. Thanks to the creative minds of Pastor Bruce and his wife, Pastor Reba, an internship plan began to unfold. With the blessings from the people of Elim and Zion, we are walking together searching with our hearts and listening to the ways God is moving in and through our lives together. I look forward to meeting you all and hearing your stories beginning July 1st.

This spring, we marked the passing of several members and friends of Elim. On April 13, Bee Dawes Glismann passed; her funeral was held April 19 at Elim. We lost Tom Cook on May 3; his celebration of life at Leavitt's Mortuary was on May 10. Long-time member Jack Johnson died May 22; funeral services were at Elim on June 4. Former member Joyce Toone died on June 2; funeral services were held at Our Savior's L.C., June 6. David Coon died mid-June. We offer prayers and our supportive thoughts to the grieving families.



Thanks to Hunter, Kasey and K-2, and leaders Holly Bender and Paula Valenches, for toughing it out during the June 11-12 Lock-In.

There will be no July activity at Elim, although Kasey V. and Lydia L. will attend Lutheran Heights Bible Camp in Idaho, July 14 - 19.

The youth will have a barbecue in August; time and date to be announced. See Holly Bender or Paula Valenches for more information.

Egyptian Papyrus Amherst 63
by Karlene Widner

This papyrus was a "dynamite find" - in Luxor in the late 1800's. Despite clearly legible Egyptian writing, it was hard to read and was sent to NY in 1924. Experts found, years later, that Egyptian Demotic script had been used to write Aramaic, a very unexpected combination, and, as a result, it took over 200 years to decipher the entire text. One amazing inclusion was three Israelite psalms - only one of which made it into the Hebrew Bible: Psalm 20.

Many hundred years before Christ, the Egyptians, as well as the later Persian occupiers, set up garrisons from different regions. They were in distinct areas according to their region of origin (Jewish, Syrian & Babylonian), and troops were given homes and land. Each area had different beliefs and practices, with 5 gods among them. The papyrus has 35 sections discussing these in detail. Three main sections relate to the deities of each group; a fourth section draws parallels among them. One interesting look at the lives of the Jewish people was through a marriage document included in the papyrus.

One of the most interesting and famous stories of the Israelite prophets concerns Elijah and the prophets of Baal. It took place after three years of drought when everything alive was dying of thirst. A confrontation occurred to determine which god would answer the animal sacrifice with fire - Baal or Yahweh. Yahweh was the only one who answered with fire, and rainstorms soon followed. So Yahweh was superior - the Storm God. There are so many interesting stories, among the three groups as well as the Israelites. Some built beautiful buildings that stood after centuries, although many were destroyed by ISIS. The few Jews that survived that time had an interesting story of the return to Israel, perhaps the subject of a future article. [More on this topic at, e.g., <https://www.baslibrary.org/biblical-archaeology-review/44/4/3>]

VBS Returns to Elim!

After a two-year hiatus, Elim will once again sponsor a session of Vacation Bible School, on Monday evenings, July 22 & 29 and August 5 & 12, from 3:30 - 6 pm, with dinner included. There will be no formal fee for attending, but donations will be accepted. Children aged 5 years through 6th grade are invited to participate. The theme is "Roar - Life is Wild * God is Good." Please encourage eligible family and friends to attend! It will be great fun for all!

Life is wild * God is good

