



The Elim Scribe

Lenten Reflections from Pr. Bruce Kolasch

Plop! Kerplop! Plop! Kerplop! One wintry day, we were walking through the woods of northern Idaho. I was with a good friend, enjoying the quiet miracle of a wintry wonderland. A generous layer of fresh snow had fallen overnight. We were in a densely wooded area. The trees and ground were covered with a beautiful blanket of white.

It was early in the morning; the sun was just coming over the mountains. The temperature was slowly rising. There was no wind. The scene was magical, filling us with a sense of wonder and awe. We spoke in hushed tones. Even our footsteps were muffled as we stepped through the soft, freshly fallen snow.

We had been quietly walking and talking, taking in the beauty of the landscape and morning, when we began hearing: Plop! Kerplop! Plop! Kerplop! We looked around trying to find the source of the unusual sound. Then we realized it was the sound of clumps of snow falling and hitting the ground. Plop! Kerplop!

As the sun warmed the air and shown down on the snow-laden branches, clumps of snow would melt enough to lose their grip on the branches and fall to the ground. Plop! Kerplop! It was a mystical morning that still warms my memory!

Lent is the season of the church year when we reflect on our walk with God. It is a perfect time to slow down. Take time to take in the wonder of our world. Take time to listen and examine yourself. Listen for God speaking through the Word and through the many mystical ways of grace.

“Come, let's talk this over, says the Lord; no matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can take it out and make you as clean as freshly fallen snow. Even if you are stained as red as crimson, I can make you white as wool!”
Isaiah 1:18 (TLB)

God bless our journey through Lent!

Bishop Gonia's Visit to Elim Lutheran Church



Rocky Mountain Synod Bishop, the Reverend Jim Gonia, is coming to Elim Lutheran Church on Sunday, April 7th. We will host a potluck luncheon after the service, and Bishop Gonia will present his “Claiming Our Gifts” workshop afterward.

Please come and participate in this excellent opportunity to get to know our Bishop and to learn more about how we can serve together as a congregation. You are welcome for any/all of the

Christ's Church — Better Together!



Utah Youth Gathering

What does it mean to live out our Christian Vocation by getting caught up in the ways God is doing new things? We are taking the RMS Youth Gathering and bringing it to Utah. We will gather Friday night to build community, and then spend most of Saturday living out our Christian Vocation in serving our neighbors.

6th-12th graders are welcome to come.

Bring a friend, and \$5.

Friday, March 15 at 6:30 pm to Saturday, March 16 at 5:30 pm

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1070 Foothill Drive, SLC, UT 84108

Contact: Lisa Mensinger, youth@zelc.org or Alex Hilse, ahilse95@gmail.com

*****RSVP by March 10th, 2019*****

Thank you to Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church for hosting this event.
Thank you to Thrivent for providing the community meals for Saturday.

ELCA's World Hunger 40 Days of Giving:

A Lenten Invitation

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent – self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love – strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Leaders Desk Ed.)

Our congregation will be participating in ELCA's World Hunger this year.

We believe in a God of abundance, so as a church, we live out our baptismal call to strive for a just world where all are fed.

ELCA World Hunger is our church's ministry to end hunger and poverty. We walk alongside our partners and companions in the United States and more than 60 other countries.

Our gifts to ELCA World Hunger address hunger and poverty around the world with creative and courageous action.

"Miscellaneous Discoveries" by Karlene Widner

Recent discoveries by biblical archaeologists include: *Mosaics at Huqoq* (<http://huqoq.web.unc.edu>)

Excavations have gone on season after season at a fifth-century C.E. synagogue in Huqoq near Galilee. They have revealed stunning mosaics depicting Greco-Roman and biblical scenes. This season, one excavation revealed a mosaic panel portraying a biblical scene from Numbers 13:23, showing two men, sent by Moses to spy on the land of Canaan, carrying a pole with a cluster of grapes. The Hebrew inscription reads "A pole between two." A second panel depicts a young person leading an animal with a rope and features the quote, "A small child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6.)

Many finds illustrate how Judaism persisted after the last fall of the temple. In another temple, a *decorated brass weight* suggests what probably occurred in the 7th century when most Christians were under Islamic control. It was discovered that there was something under the heavy outer layer, and it was a cross.

In 1926, a French artist did a special biblical manuscript which featured the Torah and first 5 books of the Old Testament. It was discovered in an auction house. Now known as the *Rothschild manuscript*, it is in the Getty collection. (<http://www.getty.edu/art/>)



~ 2019 Lenten Services and Soup Luncheons ~

March 6: Ash Wednesday service at 6 pm

March 10 - March 31: Lenten service at 10 am, followed immediately by soup luncheon.

April 7: Lenten service with Bishop Gonias, followed by pot-luck luncheon and workshop

April 14: Palm Sunday service at 10 am (no soup luncheon)

April 19: Good Friday service at 6pm

April 21: Easter Sunday service at 10 am; continental breakfast before and after the service.

Don't' forget to sign up (on the bulletin board) to bring items for the soup luncheons!



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ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH