

Elim Lutheran Church

Sunday School/Adult Education 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

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THE Elim Scribe

Volume 67, Issue 9

November 2017 — January 2018

From our Pastor

Psalm 107:1 (NRSV)

“O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.”



Pastor Bruce Kolasch

Back in November of 2010, the Wall Street Journal posted an interesting article on the benefits of giving thanks—being grateful. Here are a couple of thoughts from it:



To encourage others to pray for peace in Jerusalem, LIKE and SHARE this verse
LIKE ME AT [facebook.com/DrMikeEvans](https://www.facebook.com/DrMikeEvans) FOLLOW US AT: @DrMichaelEvans

Adults who frequently feel grateful have more energy, more optimism, more social connections and more happiness than those who do not, according to studies conducted over the past decade. They're also less likely to be depressed, envious, greedy, or alcoholics. They earn more money, sleep more soundly, exercise more regularly, and have greater resistance to viral infections.

Now, researchers are finding that gratitude brings similar benefits in children and adolescents. [Studies also show that] kids who feel and act grateful tend to be less materialistic, get better grades, set higher goals, complain of fewer headaches and stomach aches, and feel more satisfied with their friends, families, and schools than those who don't.



The researchers concluded, "A lot of these findings are things we learned in kindergarten or our grandmothers told us, but now we have scientific evidence to prove them ... The key is not to leave it on the Thanksgiving table."*

Whoever you are, wherever you are, it is good to count your blessings and give thanks to the Lord our God, for He is good. His steadfast love never ends. We certainly give thanks for you and our relationship together in Christ.

God bless you this Thanksgiving. God be with you as we move into the season of Advent with anticipation and a growing sense of wonder regarding God's love for us in Jesus.



Pastor Bruce Kolasch

406-891-8434

* Melinda Beck, "Thank You. No, Thank You," *The Wall Street Journal* (11-23-10) | posted 11/14/2011 on CT/PT

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Elim Lutheran Church seeks to be a healing, equipping, and serving community of faith.

—Mission Statement



Left, Pastor Bruce blesses Lois Rathbandit's Lily at the **Blessing of the Animals** on October 4, 2017



Please pray for and/or visit
our sisters and brothers
who are sick, homebound, or imprisoned.



Robert & Roxanne Baker ▫ Darrell Ames ▫ Pat Blanche ▫ Ursula Brandenburg
Marilyn and Ben ▫ Trish Brubaker ▫ Ella Cady ▫ Margot Casias ▫ James Merrill Elmer
Shirley Evertsen-Taylor ▫ Bee Glismann ▫ Joan Goich ▫ Carlos & Elizabeth Guzman
Evelyn Hashlamoun ▫ Dave and Ruth Jackson ▫ Mark Johnson & Family
Jack Johnson ▫ Jackie Jones ▫ Andrea Kershner ▫ Cindy and Todd ▫ Patty ▫ Anna Kirchmann
Bonnie Morgan ▫ Jordan, Kathryn, and James Nygaard ▫ Kari Nuttal ▫ Craig Palmer
Greg & Cindy Pierce ▫ Ellen Finn Rausch ▫ Coy Reichert ▫ Anne Sedlock ▫ Krista Tonn ▫ Jeff Rogler
Traudel Rose ▫ Margaret Rude ▫ Stan and Jan Tixier ▫ Kathy and Bill Tomlinson ▫ Norm Soland
Jan Stary ▫ Joyce Wally ▫ Wangari & R. and their Families ▫ Kurt Wangler ▫ Karlene Widner

Please pray for



Kaylee Ann Wood, daughter of Lisa Wood and granddaughter of Les & Sharon Moore. Kaylee is in the United States Navy and is deployed.

Kaylee Ann
and Lisa Wood



Thanksgiving Service

Elim's 2017 Thanksgiving Service will be at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, November 23**. Please bring a non-perishable food item as part of your offering to donate to SHARE.



Advent and Christmas Worship



Sunday services in Advent will reflect the theme, "What Child Is This?" by the Skit Guys. These services will combine the midweek Advent services and Sunday services. There will be no special midweek services for Advent.

The theme for December 5 will focus on Mary.
The theme for December 12 will focus on Joseph.



The theme for December 19 will focus on the shepherds.

The theme for the December 24 morning service (10 a.m.) will focus on the wisemen. This service will be especially for children and youth and will take place of a special children's Sunday School program.

A Message from your Admirer

Many of you will remember Sister Stephanie Mongeon, formerly of St. Benedict's Hospital and St. Benedict's Monastery in Ogden. She has been the recipient of many humanitarian and civic awards. Sr. Stephanie is now retired and living in the Mount Benedict Monastery in St. Joseph, Minnesota.

What you probably do not know is that Sr. Stephanie is a reader of *Elim's SCRIBE*, which we mail to her each quarter.

We recently received this email from her:

Dear Pastor Bruce and all members of the Ogden Elim Lutheran Church,

I had just received your latest newsletter and thought of you as we at our College of St. Benedict had the most profound celebration of the **500th Anniversary** of the Reformation, initiated by Sisters of our Monastery.

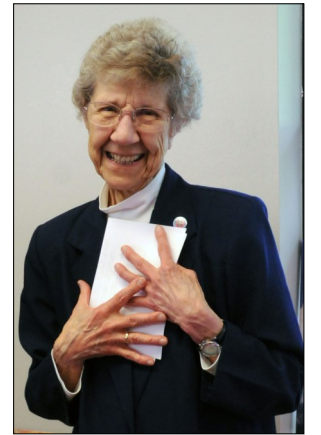
We were blessed to have as our speaker, Dr. Kathryn Johnson from the Ecumenical Center in Chicago. She gave us an hour and half presentation without notes, sharing her experiences of meetings with Pope Francis and many clergy. I could not be more thankful for the work being done by the Lutherans and Catholics and the efforts toward unity. She also was our guest homilist at our Eucharistic celebration on Sunday.

When I told her I had spent 48 years in Utah and had the most meaningful and spiritually rich relationship for all at Elim, she stated that Utah is the leading state in ecumenism and positive outcomes.

I stay in touch with Jennifer James for we spent many years working together on health issues for youth and Weber county.

Holding you all in prayer as we continue to let love guide in all that unites us.

Warmest regards,
Sister Stephanie Mongeon, OSB
Mount Benedict Monastery,
St. Joseph, MN



Sister Stephanie
Mongeon

Photo courtesy
Intermountain Catholic

Pastor Bruce met with our youth and parents on Sunday, October 22. We did some "green light" thinking on what we might do for the coming year. Below is a synopsis of our meeting.



"Coffee with Reba" will continue. Pastor Reba will meet with our youth periodically to have informal conversations at a local coffee shop.

We will do a youth Bible Study at the church on the **fourth Wednesday** of the month. The curriculum and time are to be determined.

We will do a quarterly youth activity. This activity will either be a service project, outdoor activity, class of some sort on a topic to be determined, or a movie night. Youth will shop for Sub-for-Santa on Monday, November 20, time to be announced.

Sub for Santa 2017

Our 10th Annual Sub-for-Santa ministry gets started this month. We're so grateful, once again, for the help and support of Elizabeth Guzman at New Bridge Elementary School (New Bridge is the new school which replaced Dee.). Forty dollars (\$40) sponsors a single student. Sign up November 5 and 12 to take part! We hope to receive \$250 from Thrivent this year as this project is available for a Community Action Team grant. You can take part in various ways or a mix of options. Here's what each entails:



Sue Munson

1. Buy a book. Purchase a book that shares the real meaning of Christmas – in other words, the story of Jesus' birth. Once we have the names of the students we'll be sponsoring, there will be a tree with their names. Choose a student to whom you want to gift your book. Label the book with the child's name that you chose and bring it to Elim by Sunday, December 3.

2. Be a designated shopper. Head out shopping with the youth on Monday, November 20. We'll meet at church at 6 p.m. and carpool together to Walmart. You'll shop in groups for your designated students. Other shoppers are invited to join us on this shopping spree.

3. Hospitality. Be part of the give-away to families on Sunday, December 17, starting at 1:00 p.m. Provide treats, be an elf and help carry gifts from the Oasis Room to people's cars, etc.

We hope to sponsor 40 students this year. Speak with Sue Munson, Elim's Head Elf, if you have any questions.

Discounted Tickets for Salt Lake City Stars

The Salt Lake City Stars is a new G-league professional basketball team. They are having a special faith-and-family night on November 18.

The game will be held at the Lifetime Activities Center on the campus of Salt Lake Community College in Taylorsville. The doors will open up at 6pm, with tip-off being scheduled at 7. During the game, we will have Christian music playing, a pregame prayer, a player testimonial and a potential Christian rock band performing afterwards.

We also have a free kid zone (face painting, balloon artist, bounce houses, and mini basketball games), post-game autographs and other festivities for our fans to take part in. Tickets for the evening will start at \$5 and then go up to \$8.50, \$12.75, and \$17.00 (the blue section is not going to be discounted). Please see the seating chart for pricing details.

Rick Widner is coordinating Elim's participation. He recommends the \$12.75 tickets for the good price and view of the court. Seating charts are available in the coatroom. People interested in carpooling may check with Rick.



An Invitation to Give



Elim is blessed to have an extended community of faith through people who receive our SCRIBE but cannot necessarily participate in the day-to-day life and ministry of the congregation.

As this year comes to a close, we invite you to consider giving an end-of-the-year, tax-deductible gift to Elim in gratitude for, and support of, our ongoing ministry. It would mean so much as we try to wrap up 2017 in the "black" and make a faithful plan for 2018.

Thanks so much for your consideration and for your partnership in helping us share God's love from this corner of 23rd and Jefferson in Ogden.

In Faith,

Congregational President David Glismann



Great Opportunities for Evangelism during November and December!

As the Holidays approach, we are all given a set of great events to which we could invite our friends and relatives.



"I brought a friend today. Just call me The Great Commissioner."

There will be All Saints Sunday on November 5, the Thanksgiving Evening Service on Tuesday, November 23, Advent worship services, the Christmas Eve morning worship service., and the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

So, why not invite a friend to join you for one of these? They might get inspired and come back! It could happen!

Statements of Giving

2017 Statements of Giving will be prepared as soon as possible after all 2017 contributions are posted. They will then be handed out after church. After January 28, any unclaimed statements will be mailed.

Your contribution must be made during 2017, brought to the church office during 2017, or have a 2017 postmark if mailed to count as a 2017 donation for income tax purposes.



If you would like a copy of your statement of giving to date to help plan your contributions for the remainder of 2017, or to review before the budget meeting on December 17, please speak with Dave Thomas or Walt Rodie after church.

**2017
General Fund Income/Expense Comparison**

	Income	Expense	Difference
January	\$6,490.94	\$8,449.26	-\$1,958.32
February	\$7,089.57	\$11,576.57	-\$4,487.00
March	\$7,738.25	\$8,952.43	-\$1,214.18
April	\$10,303.37	\$9,879.03	\$424.34
May	\$6,999.79	\$10,655.92	-\$3,656.13
June	\$6,425.01	\$8,777.59	-\$2,352.58
July	\$8,248.00	\$8,281.84	-\$33.84
August	\$9,802.22	\$4,701.54	\$5,100.68
September	\$6,401.00	\$10,918.81	-\$4,517.81
October	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
November	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
December	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Increase/deficit	\$69,498.15	\$82,192.99	-\$12,694.84

For the year:	Sep 2017	Aug 2017
Average Income:	\$7,722.02	\$7,887.14
Average Expenses	\$9,132.55	\$8,909.27



BUDGET Meeting

Elim's annual budget meeting will take place immediately after the worship service on Sunday, December 17, in the Fellowship Hall.

Please attend for the financial report on 2017 and to review and approve the budget for 2018.

**Christmas Caroling, and
Cookies for Homebound**



Elim carolers sing at Harrison Regent on December 19, 2016.

Elim will go Christmas caroling the afternoon of Sunday, December 10. We will carol at:
2 p.m. at the Harrison Regent. (Ursula Brandenburg lives here.)
3 p.m. at Mountain Ridge Assisted Living. (Traudel Rose lives here.)

We may possibly add some other sites, so please watch the announcements in the Sunday bulletin.

Once again, Deanna, Jonathan, and Lydia Lee will coordinate a cookie giveaway for our homebound when we go caroling on December 10.

Please sign up to make (or bring) a dozen cookies for our shut-ins. Lydia will have a sign-up sheet beginning on November 26. Also, donations of empty cookie tins would be appreciated.

There will be a sign-up sheet each Sunday. Cookies need to be at the church, by Sunday, December 3, to allow the Lee family time to package them up for delivery. The Lee family has been doing this cookie ministry since 2012!



Lydia gives cookies to Ella Gamble on December 17, 2012.

Finally!



The steeple has a new roof, and the missing shingles on the outside have been replaced.

The Twenty-third Street Foyer has been repaired, and the whole foyer has a new coat of paint.

Thank you, David Glismann and Steve Munson, for all the work you have done to make this happen.

I am very grateful to all of our Congregation for not only their donations, but also the encouragement they have given me to continue

to get our beautiful building looking new again.

God bless all of you!

Nancy Jorgensen (Property/Restoration)

Annual Meeting



and a final financial report on 2017.

Also, at this meeting, members may bring up

new business from the floor.

See you there!

Elim's annual meeting has been set for 11:15 a.m. after worship, on Sunday, January 21.

Please plan on attending to hear reports from Pastor Bruce, Congregational President David Glismann, all ministries and programs of Elim,

**Lutheran Ladies' (and Gentlemen's)
Night Out For November**



Lutheran Ladies' & Gentlemen's Night Out will be *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* on Monday, November 13, at Weber High School. Elim's **Mandy Widner** is in the ensemble.

Weber High has kindly reserved twenty seats together for this performance. To order seats in this block, please give your payment of \$7.75 per ticket to Mandy in a sealed envelope. This price reflects Mandy's discount and also the group discount. On the outside, print your name and the number of tickets being ordered.

The deadline to order is Sunday, November 5. On November 6, any seats that were not purchased will be released to the general public.

If you can't go Monday the 13th, but would like to go another night, use promo code Mandy for a \$1.00 discount. Tickets may be purchased through weber.wsd.net"

☞ **Coffee Cadre** ☜

November

- 5 – Mary Mills & Diane McDonough
- 12 – Joan Dawes & Gloria Wurst – “donations”
- 19 – Widner family
- 26 – Jane Beasley & Jackie Jones



December

- 3 - Joan Dawes
- 10 – Joan Dawes & Gloria Wurst – “donations”
- 17 – Joan Tonn and Bonnie Rembacz
- 24 – Marion Landon & Katie Young
- 31 – Dave & Gloria Glismann

January, 2018

- 7 - Lynn Purdin & Deanna Lee
- 14 - Joan Dawes & Gloria Wurst – “donations”
- 21 - Gloria Wurst.

To join “Coffee Cadre” and host a coffee hour, contact Joan Dawes or Gloria Wurst

Why I like to worship at Elim, and why that moves me to give.

I haven't always been known as a "regular" to worship each Sunday. I was baptized and confirmed here more years ago than I like to admit to! I remember a time when the Glismann clan took up four or five rows of pews. Kind of like a family reunion every week. Aside from pretending to be sick once in awhile, I had to be here! Back then it was easy.

Then, as with many of you, I was faced with situations that made me question my faith. My six-year-old daughter was called home to her heavenly Father, and just over a year later my mom. Needless to say, I was very mad at God for many years. Back then it was hard.

Over time I saw how my father’s faith served him. He was a regular here at Elim. Because of his continued invitations for the last few years of his life, to "come back to the fold, it would be nice to see you," ever since, I have been coming back to Elim. Back home for worship. Now it’s become a necessity. I find that worship and fellowship sustain me from one week to the next.

In talking with my dad one time, I asked, “How much should I give?”

He told me, “You give what you can, and feel good about it, whether it’s one percent, five percent, or ten percent. And giving doesn’t mean just money. You give of your time and your service. And you feel good about that. Don’t feel bad about what you can’t do.”

Good words to live by.

Thanks be to God!



David Glismann

—David Glismann

Biblical Archaeology and the Bible



By Karlene Widner

Hebron

Hebron was mentioned nearly one hundred times in the Jewish Bible. It was a significant Biblical city. There were references to the area found early in the New Testament. Recent excavations have uncovered the town as it was during the second temple period. The Hebron of the Bible was centered on what is now known as Tel Rumeida

There have been many questions as to what happened after the **destruction in** and **after the first Jewish revolt against Rome**.

According to the ancient Jewish historian Josephus, during the first revolt against Rome (66-76 CE *), the Zealot leader Simeon Bar-



Excavations at Tel Rumeida. ¹

Gion captured Hebron. However, the Roman army under General, and later Emperor, Vespasian retook Hebron and burned it to the ground.

The site of Tel Hebron resides 3,000 feet above sea level in the Judean Hill Country, about twenty miles south of Jerusalem. Excavations in 2014 revealed four levels of occupation during the Second Temple Period., 100 BCE to 135 CE.

Babylonian Trigonometry

According to new interpretations of a **3800 year old** clay tablet, the ancient Babylonians may have developed the first inkling of trigonometry more than a thousand years before Pythagoras (the namesake of the Pythagorean Theorem) or Hipparchus,

considered to be the father of trigonometry. The examination of the tablet could revolutionize our understanding of Babylonian math.



The Plimpton 322 clay tablet, with numbers written in cuneiform script. ²

How Ancient Jews Dated Years

During the first Jewish Revolt against Rome, from 61 to 70 CE, which ended with the destruction of the Temple, Jews minted their own coins dated to the first, second, third, fourth, and, more rarely, the fifth year. In other words, the dating began with the beginning of the revolt.



1632 sketch of the First Jewish Revolt coinage. ³

Many of the coins also have legends such as, “Jerusalem the Holy,” or “Freedom to Zion.” Some, starting with the second year, also said, “Freedom of Israel.”

* BCE: Before Common (or Christian) Era, formerly BC.

* CE: Common (or Christian) Era, formerly AD.

Photo Credits

¹ By eman - Own work, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1839054>

² Public Domain due to age.

³ Public Domain. The coins were published and translated as early as 1631, in Jean Morin’s work on the Samaritan Pentateuch.

Wahlen Worship Team



Elim and Ascension leads worship at the Wahlen Veterans' Home on August 27, 2017.

Elim and Ascension led the Protestant Worship Service at the George E. Wahlen Veterans' Home on Sunday, October 1.

Future dates are November 12, and December 24.

You are invited to join this worship team.

If you have any questions, please speak with Dave Thomas.

Worship Services at Assisted Living Centers

Pastor Bruce, assisted by Bonnie Rembacz, has begun leading worship services at two assisted living centers on the second Sunday of each month.



Left to right: Traudel, Pastor Bruce, and Ursula.

Worship at Harrison Regent, where Ursula Brandenburg lives, is at 2:00 p.m. Worship at Mountain Ridge, where Traudel Rose lives, is at 3:00 p.m.

Please speak with Pastor Bruce if you would like to help with these services or if you would like to attend them.

Photo by Bonnie Rembacz

Bible Readings

Readings from the Revised Common Lectionary



Since the SCRIBE is now published quarterly, it is not practical to print the Bible readings for every Sunday.

You may find them in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (also known as the new red book), beginning on page 18.

We will be in year A until Advent 2017, when year B will begin again.

Or, you may read them online, courtesy of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Camp Hill, PA, which lists every lesson!

Here is the URL. <http://tinyurl.com/hcgoytx>

Bible Readings from The Narrative Lectionary
(These are the lessons we are currently using during Sunday Worship.)

For a copy of the readings from the Narrative Lectionary for each Sunday, speak with Pastor Bruce or with Dave Thomas, Elim's office administrator.

For Future Reference

- Thanksgiving Eve, November 23 2017
- First Sunday in Advent, December 3, 2017
- Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year.
- Ash Wednesday, February 14, 2018
- Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018
- Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

Would you like to be on Council or be an Officer of the Congregation?

Elections will be held at the January meeting for two of three Council positions and for all officers.

If you would like to be nominated to serve in one of these positions, please contact any member of the Council.

All Saints Sunday



Candles **burn** in honor of loved ones who have passed on **burn** at the front of the Sanctuary on All Saints' Sunday, November 6, 2016.

We will celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 5. during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Please join us for this special day as we remember Elim members and others close to

Dear Fellow Members of Elim,

For many years, it has been a tradition to give our dedicated staff members a Christmas bonus. I would like to invite you to donate again this year.

This is a voluntary gift. The recipients will not know who contributed nor how much. All money donated will be handled by our financial counters. It will be divided evenly among our staff members: Pastor Bruce Kolasch, Nancy Jorgenson, Diane McDonough, and Dave Thomas.

If you wish to give, place your donation in an offering envelope and write "Staff Bonus" on one of the blank lines. Thanks for helping give this Christmas bonus to our staff members, who do so much more than is expected of them. And thank you for all you do to make Elim the great place it is.

Peace,

David Glismann, Congregational President

us who have died over this past year or in other years.

As per our tradition, there will be an opportunity for you to light a votive candle for a loved one and process it to the front of the church.



Left to right, Pam Deitsch, Tom Rodberg, Rick Widner, and Mandy Widner process votive candles to the front of the church in memory of loved ones who have passed on.