



The Elim Scribe



Pastoral Reflections ~

New Beginnings

During my first week at Elim, I attended an in-person luncheon of Interfaith Works, the local interfaith clergy group in Ogden. Dave Thomas introduced me, and we toured the food pantry at First Baptist Church two blocks from us. The pantry's lay leader shared that, near the beginning of the ministry, he prayed for God to give a sign that their efforts would have life. Well, the next day they got a donated pallet of Life Cereal!

I too have seen many signs of life at our church in my short time here so far. A word I hear around here is "adventure." We got coverage in the local paper, letting people know about our warm welcome and my many-flavored background as the newcomer in your midst. Many of you have shown me the ropes in countless ways, and my office teammate Peggy and tireless editor Gloria have joined me in the battle to harness our technology! Diane is picking out beautiful old hymns that feed our spirits, even as we miss Pastor Bruce's guitar. Church Becoming was well attended, with many fun ideas brewing for the fall, when I will be back from parental leave after the birth of my second daughter Kinley.

And, of course, the adventure of faith isn't always easy. We have had two unfortunate incidents of vandalism and theft in the last month. I am assured this is not our pattern. However, it is a reality of the world we live in. Let us feel confident in our safety and know we can handle any challenge together. My two year old Lyra has been working up her own courage to befriend new adults on Sundays under the safe wing of her Dada Pegasus. Let us also openly befriend our community, knowing that God calls us on journeys of faith where strange people and places can bless and change us.

Blessings on your summer travels and life events. I look forward to getting to know all of you!

Love, Pastor Chelsea



Following is a table indicating what to anticipate in Pr. Chelsea's sermons for the upcoming Sundays in July -

Date:	Theme:	Focus Text:	Scripture:
July 9th	Crossroads	Isaac marries Rebekah	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
July 16th	Hearth and Home	Esau gives up his birthright	Genesis 25:19-34
July 23rd	Dreamland	Jacob's ladder	Genesis 28:10-19

If we are lucky, Pr Chelsea will be able to lead the service and deliver all these messages - unless daughter #2 (Kinley) shows up earlier than her due date on July 24th. During Pr. Chelsea's maternity leave, we will have substitute pastors - primarily Pr Rick Brenton.

Elim hosted its first Bingo night on Saturday, June 24th, for our interested members and friends. Plans include repeating the event in the future. Please come, and bring a friend, if you are a Bingo aficionado. The upcoming dates, when they are determined, will be posted on our facebook page and via emails to those on our email list. Let us know if you would like to be added to that list.



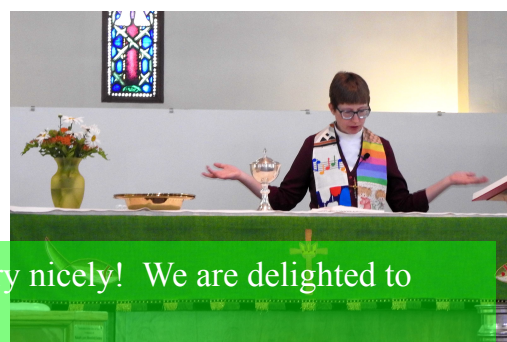
Players and prizes



Intense focus is required.



Suma's new buddy



Pastor Chelsea is settling into this new "Lutheran Pastor" role very nicely! We are delighted to have her in the Elim family!

Notes and Needs:

- On July 20th between 10 am and 3 pm, Prs DanaLee Simon and Lorrie Gaffney will offer a retreat: Re-remembering with Awe and Wonder @RITA (Retreat in the Aspens), Hunstville, UT. The cost is \$60 and scholarships are available. Lunch is included and \$10 of each registration will be donated to Family Promise in Ogden. The group size is limited to 12 people, so reserve your spot today by emailing compassionatelivingcommunity@gmail.com.
- One of our members needs to borrow a used computer - desktop or laptop - to assist with job applications. Please let Pr Chelsea or Peggy know if you could provide one; call 801-394-5543.



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ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH