



The Elim Scribe



Editor's Note: Pastoral Transition

For those who haven't heard, Pastor Chelsea is leaving Elim on September 30th to move to Vermont to be closer to family. We will miss her and wish the family well on their new adventures. Her final service will be on Sunday September 29th, followed by a Blessing of the Animals. Please bring your dog or pictures of another animal (living or deceased) for a blessing downstairs at 1 pm. Additionally, on Saturday September 14th, Chelsea and Pegasus invite you to a bagel brunch at their home, 777 Jepson Ave, Salt Lake City between 9 am and noon. No presents please.

Read on for an idea about how you could thank Pastor Chelsea, as well as a message from Elim President Craig Bjorklund about the pastoral transition process.

Pastoral Reflections ~

The Feedback Tax

Beloved friends at Elim, you have given me more this year than I could ever repay you for. If you want to give me one more thing, consider giving me the gift of constructive criticism. I know there are many things about me that are weird that I'm not even aware of. I have surely done a few little things that bothered you at the time I did them or said them. Pay me the feedback tax. If you write me a card or send me a goodbye email, or when you wish me farewell in person, give me a suggestion of how I could do better. Tell me something I could improve. There are so many barriers to getting this kind of practical advice from the people who love us. Pastors are wise not to accept anonymous feedback, and it takes courage for congregants to share their observations and opinions directly with their pastor. So don't wait, and give the gift of paying your feedback tax today! No anonymous feedback accepted, terms and conditions apply.

And now I leave you with a parting gift....my blessing. Elim has a bright future because of your deep faith in God, open creative spirits, and the warm love you extend to one another. I am confident that the God who brought Elim to birth many years ago, who inspired and guided you through the many staggering changes in our society, is the same trustworthy Spirit of innovation who will guide and bless you as you step into this new season. Your next pastor is going to be so lucky to join you at this very special Historic Oasis of Liberation for Christ.

with love, Rev. Chelsea Page



Message from Elim's President, Craig Bjorklund....

We were very sad to hear Pastor Chelsea is leaving, but we do understand her desire to be near family. Pastor Chelsea has been a wonderful addition to our Elim Family with her great sermons and energetic approach to our life and growth as a congregation.

Your Church Council has now become the Call Committee looking for a new pastor to serve Elim. We have been in contact with the Synod Office in Denver and hope they will be able to help. Because Pastor Chelsea has only been here a year, we will be able to skip certain steps in the call process. Our biggest issue is that we need a part-time pastor. We will keep the congregation informed of the steps moving forward.

We will have a farewell potluck and gathering for Pastor Chelsea after services on 22 September even though Pastor Chelsea's last Sunday with us will be 29 September. The potluck will also help to welcome new members. Please coordinate your potluck items with Gloria Wurst, Joan Dawes or Peggy Fink. On the 29th, we will have a special blessing of the animals at 12:15 pm. We are thankful for all Pastor Chelsea has done for, and with, us and wish her all the best for her future service to our Lord and Savior.

A note from Pegasus on behalf of the rest of the family

Our family is very grateful to have had 16 months at Elim, and morose to be departing so soon, as we move to New England, leaving the beloved Mountain West in our past. On behalf of our children, Lyra and Kinley, I want to thank all the folks of Elim who have showered loving kindness and sweet blessings upon these adorable heroes of the 21st century! We'll always remember Elim as an exemplary oasis of Christianity in the modern world.



Upcoming Events to Note:

- September 1st - Austin Buckius preaching
- September 8th - God's Work Our Hands Sunday - Making manna bags
- September 14th - Goodbye Open House in Salt Lake City, 9-12
- September 15th - Pr. Chelsea preaching, Council meets
- September 22nd - Potluck luncheon celebrating Membership Sunday (Affirmation of Baptism) and Farewell for Pr. Chelsea
- September 29th - The Lesser Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, Blessing of the Animals, Blessing of Release for Pr. Chelsea

Special People's Church service - September 15, 2:30 to 4:00 PM - Pastor Chelsea will deliver a repeat of Elim's morning sermon, with Spanish interpretation by Pastor Angel. Elim members are invited to consider attending church later in the day to experience worship with our siblings in Christ. Pastor Chelsea will serve communion in the sacristy at the conclusion of the afternoon service.

Ogden's Interfaith Concert will happen on September 15th at 7 pm. Elim will be one of the faith groups recognized in attendance at the Interfaith Concert

Elim's New YouTube channel is now fully operational, with our initial streaming attempt on August 18th. We welcome any feedback on how it's working out for our online audience. You can post comments on the channel, post on our facebook page, send an email or a note to the office, or let a more internet-savvy friend know and ask them to convey your comments. Thanks for subscribing and for watching!

A huge and heartfelt THANKS (in advance!) to My Hometown Ogden for returning to do yet more clean-up work at Elim on Sept.14th. We encourage Elim members to join in and help out!

Time flies ... too fast!

