



THE FORECASTER

ELIM CHURCH | NE MPLS
NOVEMBER 2019



Events

SUNDAY CONNECTIONS

Every Sunday

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Every Monday • 10:00am • Lounge

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Every Friday • 6:30am

STEP WITH SOUL

3rd, 17th • 10:45am • Children's Church

BETTER TOGETHER LUNCH

Tuesday, 5th • 12:00pm

YOUTH GROUP

6th, 13th, 20th • 6:30pm
Youth Rooms

SENIORS' BIBLE STUDY

6th • 20th • 1pm • Library

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Saturday, 9th • 5-7pm • Dining Room

MARINERS BREAKFAST

12th • 9am • 8299 University Ave., Spring Lake
Park • Keys Café

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Wednesday, 13th • 6-8pm

BOOK CLUB

18th • 7pm • Lounge

MERRY MAKERS TO FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Tuesday, 19th • 9:15am
Lunch will be served and Childcare is provided.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

30th • 4-8 PM • Sanctuary

**Ethel Peterson has a
new Address!**

965 40th Ave NE #323
Columbia Heights MN 55421

**Congratulations
to Ethel Peterson who
turned 98!**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11-02 Richard Dischinger	11-17 Mary Westerberg
11-04 Ed DeHaan	11-18 Berit Turnquist
11-08 Jacqueline Osborn	11-19 Judy Moseman
11-10 Aaron Klaers	11-20 Annika Paulson
11-10 Stephanie Iverson	11-20 Sarita Venkatrathnam
11-10 Nicolas Knuth	11-21 Nataly Gentolizo
11-12 Cassie Champion	11-22 Ruth Tyberg
11-13 Janice Heide	11-25 Noah Turnquist
11-16 Arlene Bruins	11-26 Vicki Gjesvold
	11-27 Eric Fleming

**Steve Efteland has a
new number!**

**You can reach him at:
(651) 442 - 1550**

Dear Elim,

I surely want to thank every one of you who so generously became God's hands and feet to me these past weeks and months. Thank you for the cards, prayers, visits, gifts, and food. The Lord has been very good to me. He has used you to be a blessing to me.

He has used you to be a testimony to the hospital and rehab workers too, as they have commented to me on what a special church I must have to show such caring and interest.

Thank you Lord, and thank you Elim!

Virginia Thompson

The Power of DISRUPTION and Gratitude

“This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us.”

- John 9:3a-4b

As I've been preaching and teaching through the Gospel of John this year one word I keep coming back to is *disruption*. The first public ministry of Jesus was to overturn the tables of the money changers in the temple courts and claim they had turned God's house into a den of robbers. He heals a man on the Sabbath and tells him to pick up his mat and walk-- In the **TEMPLE** of all places! Not only did Jesus cause disruptions, he saw 'disruptions' as an opportunity to display the works of God. In John 9, a man born blind comes into the synagogue where Jesus was teaching and at the

behest of his Father, Jesus disrupts normal modes of conversation, he heals on the Sabbath (again), he preaches a message of repentance (which literally means to stop what you are doing and turn your life around 180 degrees).

'Disrupters' in today's business speak are people with new innovative ideas that 'disrupt' well established norms and institutions. If that's the case, Jesus is the disruptor in chief! While we might understand Jesus to be the great disruptor, we tend to focus negatively on disruptions in our lives, in our faith and in our churches. We want things to go smoothly and according to our plan and our expectations. Even though we may know better, habits that we form around our daily lives translate into a world where we are ultimately in control. When we aren't in control we are unhappy.

Another word I keep thinking about is gratitude. Thinking negatively about our lives and the disruptions we experience day to day is to be human, but it's not Christ-like. We can only invent a Jesus who 'wanted things to go as planned', and made sure everything 'went smoothly'. The human paradox is that while negative thinking is the norm, no one questions the power of positive thinking. Health researchers tell us that gratitude and positive thinking has a significant effect on our mental and physical health. Studies

tell us that people who practice gratitude exercise more, make fewer doctor visits, better their relationships, are happier, and feel better about their lives. (Univ. of Miami, U. Penn, and others) A recent Harvard Medicine article recommended and encouraged prayer and meditation as a way to achieve gratitude.

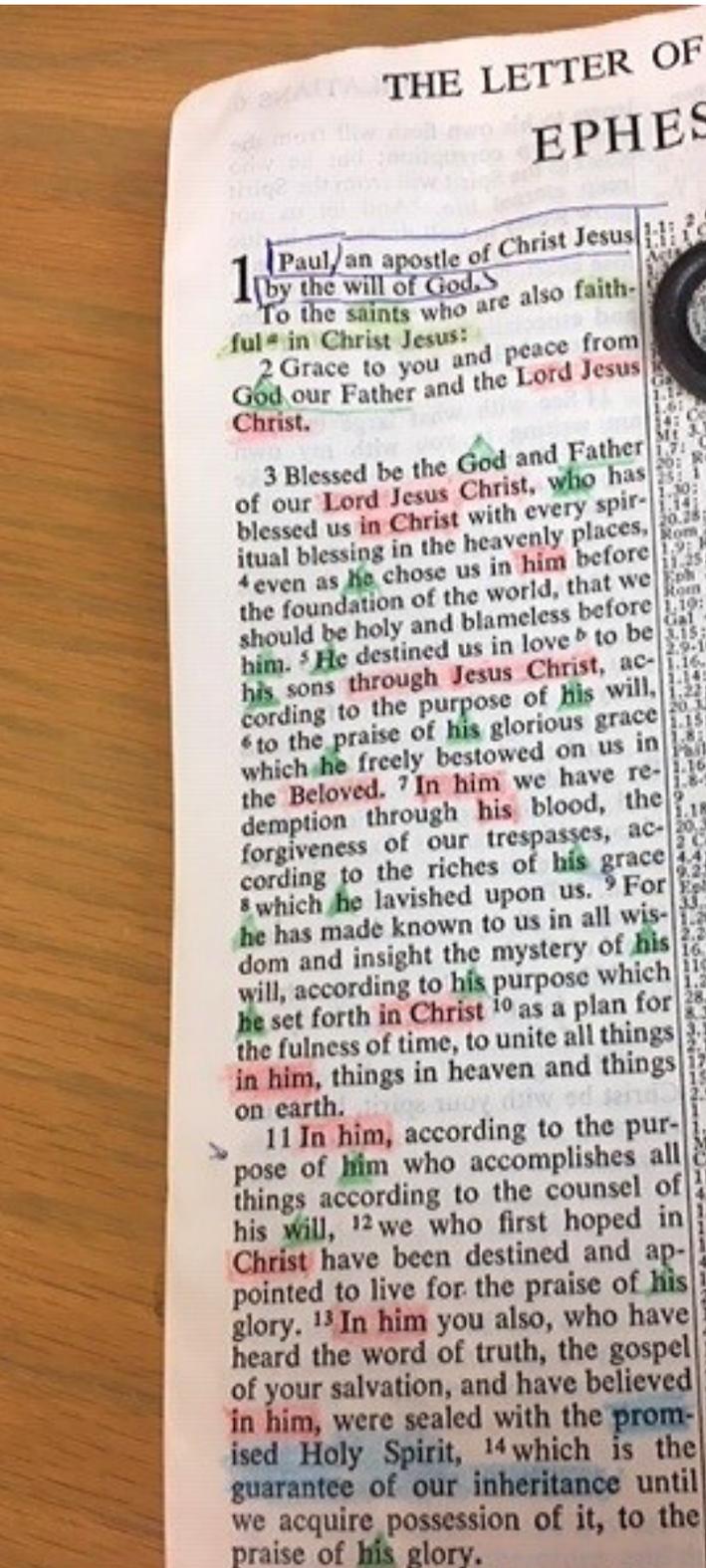
Prayer — Thank you Lord Jesus that you disrupted our thanksgiving festivals and our human expectations. Thank you Lord that you are showing us a better way, and revealing your grace and love for us. Thank you Lord that the disruptions I face today can become an opportunity to give you the glory and praise you deserve. Amen.

For the King and the Kingdom,
Pastor Paul Stephen Olson



Thankful

Pastor Becky Hanson



There are common ways that each of us defines our identity. As I finish 'I am' comments about myself, I am telling you who I am: "I am the wife of Jeff." "I am the mother of Dan, Kristen and Bethany." "I am 32 yo." "I am a teacher." "I am homeless."

Who has the accurate and final word on who I am? So who do I listen to?

I am currently teaching a Bible study called *Defined*, as created by Stephen and Alex Kendrick. In it we are challenged to not allow changing things and emotions to define who we are. But as we examine the Scripture, we discover that God has the right to declare who you and I are because 1) He created and owns us, 2) He has the authority, and 3) He knows us better than anyone else (Isaiah 64:8, 55:8-9; Psalm 24, 139; Gen 1:26; 1 Sam 16:7; Jer 17:9-10).

As Paul begins Ephesians 1, he declares three 'I am' statements about himself: I am Paul. I am an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am an apostle by the will of God.

Paul belongs to the Lord Jesus and lives as one empowered by the Lord to accomplish His purposes and plan. In the Greek Ephesians 1:3- 14 is one very long sentence wherein the Apostle Paul teaches us that all the promises of God have their fulfillment in Christ. It has... and will... come true in Christ. The theology focuses us in worship. Because of the promises, purposes and plan of God in Christ, as a believer you can proclaim the following:

I am

- Blessed in Christ Jesus with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places
- Chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world
- Holy and blameless before God
- Predestined according to His purpose
- Adopted as God's child
- Lavishly covered in grace because of the work of Jesus
- Redeemed and forgiven
- 'In on' the mystery of God's will
- The recipient of God's kind intention
- The heir of an inheritance
- To the praise of God's glory
- Sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of my inheritance

God receives glory in and through Christ. And God's glory shines in and through you and me as believers. Listen to the action words woven into your life: blessed, chosen, destined, bestowed, lavished, made known, purposed, sealed, revealed.

During the season of Thanksgiving, we are traditionally mindful to be thankful of what we have in our lives including people; things; our homes, jobs and cars. This season I challenge you to consider *whose* you are and how that defines you, and to do it with a thankful heart.

THE CULTURE OF INVITATION PART II

Deborah Somody
Director of Childrens Ministry at Elim
Where Kids Matter

Creating a Culture of Invitation here at Elim can change your neighborhood and your family for eternity. I remember when I first started at Elim as Children's Ministry Director, and Naudeanne St Hallaire brought one of her grandchildren to Sunday School. I told Naudeanne how much I enjoyed meeting her grandchild. The next week Naudeanne brought all four of her grandkids with her and continued to do so over the next two years. She told me recently that her job was to bring them and my job was to teach them. What a great vision she had. To invite them to come and see and taste who God is and how He much He loves them. We love Kyle, Kristen, Bridget and Liam and have seen them make decisions to follow Jesus.

It all starts with an invitation and a knowledge that lost people matter to God and therefore should matter to us.

This time of year is a great opportunity to invite your friends, neighbors, coworkers and family to come to Elim with you. Here are some opportunities to invite them:

WNL, Nov 13, Dinner at 6:00
Hanging of the Greens, Nov 30 at 4:00
WNL, Dec. 11, Dinner at 6:00
Christmas Brunch, Dec 15 at 9:00 am
Christmas Eve Service, Dec 24 at 4:00
Epiphany Kids Christmas Program, Jan 5 at 10:30

Begin by praying as to whom you invite. Remember it is more important to be interested than to be interesting. The truth is most people naturally want to talk about themselves. Be an active listener, using this skill, you'll gradually build rapport, increasing your level of influence. Then share your story of how Christ has changed your life. Be bold and invite them to come with you to church. Be apart of how God is doing an all out search for the people in your lives.



November 11th, 2019

WEDNESDAY

NIGHT

Start Time: 6pm

Dinner: 6 - 6:30pm

After Dinner Activities: 6:30 - 8pm

LIVE

Want to meet new people at Elim and get involved?

Wednesday Night live is a great place to introduce yourself to the community of Elim in a relaxed and Christ-centered way. Come and join the fun!

Our Hope

Jill Jezerski

Chair of Leadership Team

Daily I am overwhelmed with the depth of God's love for us and for Elim Church. God sees us for who we are. He knows our flaws and failures. But He also sees the community of Elim faithfully following the call of Jesus.

There may be times we are discouraged and face setbacks, but oftentimes those are the very experiences that point us

directly to the power of God's light. Our strength is not found in our attempts to work harder, rather our power is found in the comfort of the Gospel and the love of Christ. He alone is our hope and encouragement!

This is our conviction at Elim Church. We believe God is still calling this historic church, founded in 1888, to continue to serve as a storyteller of the Gospel.

So let's work together to illuminate truth and inspire others to consider following Jesus Christ.

"O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them." John 17:25-26

Freedom in Christ

Are you struggling with sin? No? The words in 1 John 1:10 state, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." Sin comes in many forms: idolatry (placing anything before God whether it's work, relationships, family, drugs, alcohol, sex, food, etc.) anger, unforgiveness, gossip, complaining, dishonesty, seeing the speck in your brother's eye while missing the log in your own. Sin is our universal problem and at Freedom in Christ we're living in the Solution! At Freedom in Christ we learn through the Word of God and the 12 Steps of AA to be "Doers of the Word" (James 1:22).

We will meet the second Saturday of every month for food, fun and fellowship! Come worship the Lord through song, praise, thanksgiving, and a desire to grow more into his image! Next meeting: Saturday, November 9, 5pm in the dining room.

This monthly recovery event is led by Jay Cope, a recovery coach and intervention specialist.

For more info, please connect with Pastor Becky.

Elim Preschool

Welcome to a beautiful month of giving and love at preschool! We are so excited to be starting our 3rd month of preschool and are looking forward to learning more about friendship and love and getting along with everyone we meet.

The children have been busy playing outdoors and have all been very busy in the classrooms learning about fall and how the weather changes, our friends, pumpkins, apples and more! There is never a dull moment at preschool! Our month of November will be filled with making soup, preparing for the coming holidays and learning how to be thankful.

We are all excited about the coming months and remembering the reason for the beautiful season that is upon us. We look forward to discovering exciting things about winter, the holidays and the birth of Jesus. He came for all of us...

Michelle Espelien
Elim Preschool Director

Merry Makers Event

Tuesday, November 19 at 9:15 a.m.

You are invited to pack food for
Feed My Hungry Children!



Feed My Hungry Children
401 93rd Avenue NE
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Arrive by 9:15 am to sign in
for 9:30-11:30 am scheduled
event

Afterwards we will have
lunch at Culver's,
611 Coon Rapids Blvd NW,
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Make reservations by email:
bonniejohnson@yahoo.com
Or phone: 651-604-0094

Better Together Luncheon

November 5th, 2019
12:00PM

Come one come all, join us for a Thanksgiving meal and share the love of Jesus as we reflect on how much Jesus means to us! Please bring the fixings (side dish) to fill in for our Thanksgiving celebration. Homemade turkey will be provided along with beverages. 3595 Owasso St., Shoreview, MN, 55126

Questions?

Contact Kathy Huffman at 612-406-8907

Second Quarter Treasurers Report

Total Giving
(Through September 30th)
\$209,902.62
Budget: \$244,500.00
Deficit: \$34,597.38 (14.2%)

Total Income
(Through September 30th)
\$225,959.04
Budget: \$263,062.97
Deficit: \$37,103.93 (15%)

Total Expenses
(Through September 30th)
\$269,238.21
Budget: \$262,455.30
Deficit: \$6,782.91 (2.6%)

Elim Church now has online giving!

Visit: elimchurch.com/give

Elim Book Club

Book Club meets on Nov. 18, 2019 at
7:00 pm in the Lounge.

We will discuss *The World in a Grain: The Story of Sand and How It Transformed Civilization* by Vince Beiser.

"Beiser peppers research with first-person interviews in an engaging and nuanced introduction to the ways sand has shaped the world..... stunning."

- NPR



Read the Bible in One Year

Many at Elim have decided to read the Bible through in a year. You can get on pace by following the schedule as laid out each month in the Forecaster. Start today and don't worry about catching up. We will re-start the reading on January 1.

Day 1 , November 1 Ezekiel 1:1-3:15 Hebrews 3:1-19 Psalm 104:1-23 Proverbs 26:24-26	Day 8 , November 8 Ezekiel 18:1-19:14 Hebrews 9:1-10 Psalm 106:32-48 Proverbs 27:10	Day 15 , November 15 Ezekiel 31:1-32:32 Hebrews 12:14-29 Psalm 113:1-114:8 Proverbs 27:18-20	Day 22 , November 22 Ezekiel 44:1-45:12 Peter 1:1-12 Psalm 119:17-32 Proverbs 28:8-10	Day 29 , November 29 Daniel 6:1-28 Peter 3:1-18 Psalm 119:129-152 Proverbs 28:21-22
Day 2 , November 2 Ezekiel 3:16-6:14 Hebrews 4:1-16 Psalm 104:24-35 Proverbs 26:27	Day 9 , November 9 Ezekiel 20:1-49 Hebrews 9:11-28 Psalm 107:1-43 Proverbs 27:11	Day 16 , November 16 Ezekiel 33:1-34:31 Hebrews 13:1-25 Psalm 115:1-18 Proverbs 27:21-22	Day 23 , November 23 Ezekiel 45:13-46:24 Peter 1:13-2:10 Psalm 119:33-48 Proverbs 28:11	Day 30 , November 30 Daniel 7:1-28 1 John 1:1-10 Psalm 119:153-176 Proverbs 28:23-24
Day 3 , November 3 Ezekiel 7:1-9:11 Hebrews 5:1-14 Psalm 105:1-15 Proverbs 26:28	Day 10 , November 10 Ezekiel 21:1-22:31 Hebrews 10:1-17 Psalm 108:1-13 Proverbs 27:12	Day 17 , November 17 Ezekiel 35:1-36:38 James 1:1-18 Psalm 116:1-19 Proverbs 27:23-27	Day 24 , November 24 Ezekiel 47:1-48:35 Peter 2:11-3:7 Psalm 119:49-64 Proverbs 28:12-13	
Day 4 , November 4 Ezekiel 10:1-11:25 Hebrews 6:1-20 Psalm 105:16-36 Proverbs 27:1-2	Day 11 , November 11 Ezekiel 23:1-49 Hebrews 10:18-39 Psalm 109:1-31 Proverbs 27:13	Day 18 , November 18 Ezekiel 37:1-38:23 James 1:19-2:17 Psalm 117:1-2 Proverbs 28:1	Day 25 , November 25 Daniel 1:1-2:23 Peter 3:8-4:6 Psalm 119:65-80 Proverbs 28:14	
Day 5 , November 5 Ezekiel 12:1-14:11 Hebrews 7:1-17 Psalm 105:37-45 Proverbs 27:3	Day 12 , November 12 Ezekiel 24:1-26:21 Hebrews 11:1-16 Psalm 110:1-7 Proverbs 27:14	Day 19 , November 19 Ezekiel 39:1-40:27 James 2:18-3:18 Psalm 118:1-18 Proverbs 28:2	Day 26 , November 26 Daniel 2:24-3:30 Peter 4:7-5:14 Psalm 119:81-96 Proverbs 28:15-16	
Day 6 , November 6 Ezekiel 14:12-16:41 Hebrews 7:18-28 Psalm 106:1-12 Proverbs 27:4-6	Day 13 , November 13 Ezekiel 27:1-28:26 Hebrews 11:17-31 Psalm 111:1-10 Proverbs 27:15-16	Day 20 , November 20 Ezekiel 40:28-41:26 James 4:1-17 Psalm 118:19-29 Proverbs 28:3-5	Day 27 , November 27 Daniel 4:1-37 Peter 1:1-21 Psalm 119:97-112 Proverbs 28:17-18	
Day 7 , November 7 Ezekiel 16:42-17:24 Hebrews 8:1-13 Psalm 106:13-31 Proverbs 27:7-9	Day 14 , November 14 Ezekiel 29:1-30:26 Hebrews 11:32-12:13 Psalm 112:1-10 Proverbs 27:17	Day 21 , November 21 Ezekiel 42:1-43:27 James 5:1-20 Psalm 119:1-16 Proverbs 28:6-7	Day 28 , November 28 Daniel 5:1-31 Peter 2:1-22 Psalm 119:113-128 Proverbs 28:19-20	

Contact Pastor Becky
for more information:

(612) 789 - 3591

becky@elimchurch.com

Elim Youth

Andy Johnson & Pastor Paul Stephen Olson

First, thanks for entrusting your youth to Elim - we've been working extremely hard to engage your students in fun, exciting, and memorable ways for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our attendance has been full and steady on both Wednesdays and Sundays and we have seen a few new youth come too. As we try some new methods for instruction and new formats for teaching this year we remain prayerful and open to making adjustments and changes as we go.

Wednesday Nights: Oasis! Includes high energy music, fun, a Bible lesson video from the Bible Project along with supplementary teaching to help break down each lesson, as well as discussion, snacks and activity time. We've been doing a series called "How to Read the Bible". Each video covers a different aspect of the Bible and is about 4 minutes long. It has helped us reflect on the basic makeup of the Bible (did you know that 33% of the Bible is poetry?), and the overarching story of the Bible. **The refrain of this series is "The Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus."** After the lesson and teaching time (lead by Paul, Andy or another adult) there is a small group discussion broken down by age group and then a group activity/game and snacks. Each night has a theme from beginning to end that revolves around the Bible lesson. This week's theme is the role of "Character" in the Bible, perfect for thinking about and reflecting upon Halloween. We've had a lot of fun on these nights. We are looking forward to an Ugly Sweater Christmas party during OASIS! (Dec 18th).

Sunday Mornings: We've found that students on Sunday mornings are often groggy and ill prepared to learn in a traditional way. One of the most powerful and effective ways to learn is through active learning. In active learning students will commonly engage in small or large activities centered around writing, talking, problem solving, or reflecting. **To learn more about active learning see:** <https://cei.umn.edu/active-learning>. Andy is facilitating active hands-on-learning and serving during the 9am-10am period on Sundays and is focusing on finding ways to make faith come alive at Elim. **We long for our youth to build their confidence and knowledge and to find their voice here at Church and for them to feel comfortable and excited about expressing the faith God has put in their hearts.** So far this year Andy and the group have written and performed a drama, made get well cards, began working on a VLOG (video log), and on two occasions learned alongside other Elim adults around the purpose of God's Church (with Andy and Pastor Paul). Over the past few weeks we've been focusing on the theme of thanksgiving by talking about and writing down things we are thankful for, with the plan of making a video to be shown during the Sunday before Thanksgiving Nov 24th. We are excited to show it to you! We will be serving at Hope Avenue as a group during the Sundays of Nov 17th and 24th.

Special Events: We've had a great fall so far with three special events: State Fair, Rock Climbing, and the Corn Maze. This weekend will be the Youth Retreat at Trout Lake Camp. Make sure to follow the youth calendar and emails to keep up to date! Elim, here's what we would like you to do: **Prioritize the Highest Good** - If you make church and youth group a priority, your students are more likely to make it a priority in their lives when they grow older. **Lead by example** - and don't apologize for it! **Please continue to pray** - for our youth who handle, stress, school work, extra curriculars, emotions, and the expectations laid upon them by others. Pray for Andy as he facilitates and interacts with our youth. Pray for Pastor Paul as he helps direct and mentor Andy this year! **Invite Neighbors and Friends** - When your youth have friends to go with, they are more excited and likely to want to come to the group. Ask your student if there's a friend at school they could invite. Make it a fun thing! We've designed these times for education but also for the seekers too! God is at work! **Volunteer to be a youth sponsor.** Want to make an eternal investment? Want to meet a need for our youth? How much time do you have? What are you passionate about?

Stay Informed: As always keep up to date with what's going on by accessing the youth google calendar at ElimChurch.com/youth. If you have questions about youth at Elim church please contact andy@elimchurch.com.

Elim Church Staff

Our staff here at Elim Church encourage meaningful, Christ-centered relationships and communication with all people.

You can get in touch with our staff through the contact information below

Paul Olson
Lead Pastor
Extension 106
paul@elimchurch.com

Becky Hanson
Pastor, Congregational Care
Hope Avenue
Extension 108
becky@elimchurch.com

Randy Somody
Pastor, Spiritual Formation
randy@elimchurch.com

Deb Somody
Director of Children's Ministry
Extension 102
deb@elimchurch.com

Linda Bonasera
Children's Ministry Admin
elimkids685@elimchurch.com

Andy Johnson
Youth Leader
andy@elimchurch.com

Melanie Eslinger
Worship Coordinator
melanie@elimchurch.com

Stephen Murck
Safety and Security
security@elimchurch.com

Michelle Espelien
Elim Preschool Director
michelle@elimpreschool.org

Carlos Martinez
Graphic Designer, Office
carlos@elimchurch.com

Jill Jezierski
Chair of Leadership Team
jill@elimchurch.com

Mark Gregory
Intern, Children's Ministry
mark@elimchurch.com

Elim Church
 685 13th Ave NE
 Minneapolis, MN 55413



NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 Sunday Activities STEP with Soul	4 10am Bible Study	5 Better Together Lunch	6 Elim Youth Jesus Calling Bible Study Senior Bible Study Kids Ministry Appreciation	7 Kidz Klozet The Unlimited	8 Men's Group Network Retreat Begin	9 Freedom in Christ Network retreat Ends
10 Sunday Activities	11 10am Bible Study Merry Makers	12 Mariners' Breakfast	13 Elim Youth Jesus Calling Bible Study Wednesday Night Live	14	15 Men's Group	16
17 Sunday Activities STEP with Soul	18 10am Bible Study Book Club	19 Merry Makers to Feed My Starving Children	20 Elim Youth Seniors' Bible Study Jesus Calling Bible Study	21	22 Men's Group	23
24 Sunday Activities	25 10am Bible Study	26	27 Jesus Calling Bible Study	28	29	30 Hanging of the Greens!

Phone
 612-789-3591

Fax
 612-789-9601