



# THE FORECASTER

ELIM CHURCH | NE MPLS  
FEBRUARY 2020

THE CHURCH IS NOT...

Article on p. 4

Pastor Paul Stephen Olson



THE CHURCH  
IS —NOT—

# Events

## SUNDAY CONNECTIONS

Every Sunday

## LADIES BIBLE STUDY

### BETH MOORE'S STUDY ON JAMES

Every Monday • 10:00am • Lounge

## JESUS CALLING BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday • 6:30pm

## FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Not happening until further notice

## THE PRODIGAL SON CLASS

Begins February 2nd • 12:00 noon • Every Sunday

## KIDS CLOSET & THE UNLIMITED

Thursday, 6th & Sunday, 23rd • 9am-12noon

## BETTER TOGETHER LUNCH

4th • 12pm • Dining Room

## SENIORS' BIBLE STUDY

5th • 19th • 1pm • Library

## FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Saturday, 8th • 5-7pm • First Floor

## YOUTH GROUP

5th, 12th, 19th, 26th • 6:30pm  
Youth Rooms

As I return from my medical leave, I do it with such a grateful heart for your presence in my life, dear Elim. Your prayers have covered me in love and helped me to mend. You've put your faith in action as you've shoveled my walk and cleaned my house, beat me at board games, carried the work at church that I stepped away from, and made me laugh. May the Lord bless you for your many kindnesses!

My Love,

Pastor Becky Hanson

## STEP WITH SOUL

9th, 23rd • 10:45am • Children's Church

## MERRY MAKERS

Sunday, 9th • 10:30am • Bethel University

## MARINERS BREAKFAST

11th • 9am • Hwy 36, Roseville • Bakers Square

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Wednesday, 12th • 6-8pm

## WIDOWS' TIME OUT

14th • 11:30am • County Rd. D, New Brighton • Perkins

## BRUNCH FOR WOMEN NEW TO ELIM

Saturday, February 15th, 9am-Noon

## CHICKS, FLICKS, AND FLANNEL

Friday, 28th • 6pm-11pm

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02-01 Archie Thomas

02-14 Dorothy Larson

02-01 Jill Jezierski

02-21 Clayton Nolby

02-02 Launa Lewellyn

02-22 Samuel Howell

02-05 Paul Bremer

02-22 Jim Bremer

02-06 Jennifer Turnquist

02-25 Beverly Bonasera

02-07 Glen Champion

02-26 Benjamin Smith

02-09 Matt Hernick

02-28 Greta Wilson

# Chicks, Flicks, and Flannel

FRIDAY  
FEB, 28TH  
6PM-11PM



The women of Elim + our beloved teenage girls are invited to a fun night of partying, movies and good eats, and getting to know each other. Slip on your flannel pajamas for an evening of watching chick flicks together!

The evening will kick off with a soup supper. Later we'll nibble on popcorn and sip hot chocolate. Please bring a snack to share and your own pillow to hug.

If you'd like to help make this a fun time,  
talk with Pastor Becky or Heather Olson.



## Mariner's breakfast

FEBRUARY  
11TH  
9:00AM



BAKERS  
SQUARE  
HWY 36,  
ROSEVILLE

Come on over and spend time getting to know Elim's Mariners as we enjoy a meal together at Bakers Square this February!



Kidz Klozet is open from 9am-12noon on Thursday, February 6th and on Sunday, February 23rd from 9-10am.

**FREE CLOTHES** are available for birth to age 12. If you cannot come at these times, you may phone 612-789-3591 to make an appointment for any Wednesday.

# “The Church Is Not...”

Unsheltered people nearly doubled this year in our state. In Minnesota, on a single night in January 2019, HUD found nearly 8000 people homeless, a 10 percent increase from 2018. The number of people living outdoors increased 47%, unsheltered homelessness accounting for about one in five people who were homeless. What is striking is that people of color and the truly vulnerable are over-represented in the numbers. 65% were people of color. There are 3,391 people in families with children, 685 were unaccompanied homeless youth, 43% were African Americans, 12% were American Indian and Alaskan Natives.

We live in a time of unprecedented homelessness in our city state and nation. In December the Walz-Flanagan Administration rallied philanthropy, corporate donors and public entities and started the MN Homeless Fund of \$5 million. The Governor announced that *“the fund will provide nimble funding for crisis response, shelter and low-barrier affordable housing across the state.”* When I think of the sheer numbers of people living outside in the middle of January I not only shiver but I shudder. What has gone so desperately wrong in the lives of these dear beloved people? What has gone wrong in our housing system? Where are the families of these individuals? What has gone wrong with our approaches to rehabilitation and mental health? Where are the government agencies? Where are the community groups? Where are the churches?

As I pondered all this I began to reflect. There have certainly been times when we the church have not lived up to the call of Jesus and have not reflected the character of God. But consider this...

## **The church is not a hospital.**

But when the black plague hit it was the Christians who nursed victims back to life.

## **The church is not a school.**

But it fostered learning, research and knowledge on every topic. It even educated minorities and girls.

## **The church is not a tool for social change.**

But it was the churches that advocated for women's suffrage and the end of slavery... and won.

## **The church is not a philosophy guild.**

But it created the intellectual and moral basis for the Declaration of Human Rights.

## **The church is not a family or genealogical entity.**

But it together families by promoting healthy human sexuality and human relationships..

## **The church is not a business.**

But its social teachings drove work ethics, produced markets and encouraged fair business practices.

## **Finally, The church is not a homeless shelter.**

But it has (since the very beginning) shown hospitality to the destitute, wandering, hungry and ill-clad.

Elim Church is not any of these things. But we are the church of Jesus Christ who is called to live a life in the manner of Jesus - the way, the truth and the life. We are called to respond, to serve, and to *“love one another as He loved us.”* (John 13:34) But can we be who God is calling us to be? Can we respond to that challenge?

That is the question.

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## **Pastor Paul Stephen Olson**



# Unless we become like...

LITTLE CHILDREN



**God is at work in the hearts and lives of the children at Elim.**

The kids are authentic and transparent in sharing their lives with one another during sharing and prayer. They love sharing their gifts and talents and passions when they preform or sing or ring bells. Serving in the Children's Ministry is a bucket filler. We look at one another and marvel at the growth and community we see. If you are desiring to grow and be challenged in your own faith come and join our team.

**Deborah Somody**  
**Director of Children's Ministry at Elim**  
**Where Kids Matter**



February 12th, 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. All ages welcome!

# *Sometimes It's the Little Things*

YOU PROBABLY DON'T ALWAYS SEE THEM DOING SO, BUT  
PEOPLE AT ELIM ARE FAITHFULLY...

- Checking that the sound system is working properly Sunday after Sunday.
- Making phone calls to ensure that there will be enough food and servers at funerals.
- Arriving early on Sunday morning to set up the juice, coffee and cookies for the Gathering Time in the dining room between Connections and worship.
- Preparing food and opening their homes to small groups.
- Managing schedules and arrangements for the music at the worship services.
- Lining up and training volunteers for the children and youth programs.
- Keeping track of giving records for those who regularly tithe.

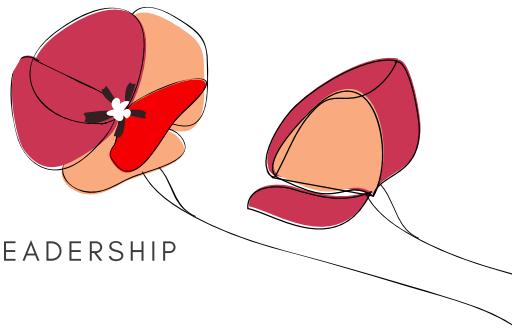
The list could go on and on, but my point is simple:  
it's the little things - the details - that help Elim Church thrive! In and of themselves, they may seem insignificant, but the cumulative effect of little things can shape our future.

God cares deeply about the little things that we do to bless others. He considers them precious acts of service that carry on His work in the world.

May God give all of us grace to cultivate faithfulness in the little things that we do.

**Little things make big things happen!**

*For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.  
Philippians 2:13 (NLT)*



JILL JEZIERSKI | CHAIR OF LEADERSHIP

## Better Together Lunch

February 4th, 2020 @ Noon

Come ONE come ALL and share the love of Jesus Christ over a wonderful meal.  
We will be discussing our favorite Book and how it has impacted our lives.

Please, bring a dish to share. Beverage and dessert will be provided. All are welcome!

**Questions:** Kathy Huffman 612-406-8907



# Elim Preschool

Greetings to all!

The preschool is back in the swing of winter after a fantastic break! January flew by with fun activities and playing in the snow! The children really do love it!

Our registration is under way and we are looking great for the fall. We opened enrollment to the public on the 28th of January! If you know anyone looking for a preschool, send them our way.

Our Summer school is booked and ready to go! We are serving around 60 children this year with about 35 -40 per day. The teachers are already planning!

This month, as we focus on love and kindness, we remember all that has been given to us from above. From the birds and the trees to the rainbows and oceans, we see God's love everyday. In our little people, we are helping to instill love and kindness, gentleness and faith. God is good.

We will celebrate our love and the love of all the people around us with the exchange of Valentines and treats. Everyone loves to get the cute little greetings and the treats are fun as well. There is nothing like the gift of a valentine from a child...

Have a wonderful month,

Michelle Espelien & the Preschool

*Widow's  
Time  
Out*

**February 14th  
11:30am at Perkins  
on County Road D.  
New Brighton**

**We'd love to get together with  
you for a special time on  
Valentine's Day.**

**Your lunch is paid for, and we'll  
coordinate transportation. We  
love you and thank the Lord for  
your presence with us!**

**Please indicate your RSVP to the  
church office, and we'll will get  
back to you with the details.**



We will step out of the daily pace of our lives to focus on Jesus. We have done six of Priscilla's Bible studies here at Elim so many of us can readily attest to her excellent teaching, relatability to the issues of life... of her love for our Lord. The day promises to be full of praise and teaching, laughter, old and new friends... a day all about Jesus!

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 9:00am

Last year's Priscilla Shirer simulcast was a favorite with the women of Elim! Save the date as this year's simulcast will include a new theme and teachings, and worship with Anthony Evans and the Going Beyond praise team.

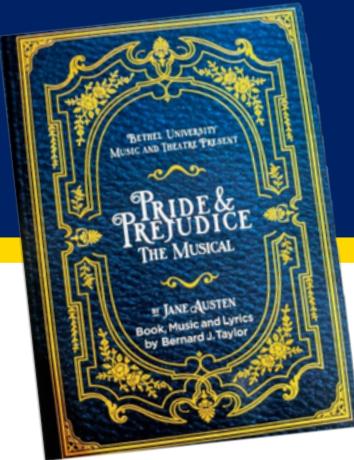
The Simulcast will begin in the Sanctuary at 9am. Please:

- Come early for registration and a continental breakfast.
- Dress comfortably — afterall, we are on a retreat!
- Bring your Bible and pen. You will receive a workbook to take notes.
- Relax and be pampered through lunch, and a variety of snacks and beverages. Non gluten options will be available.
- Bring someone not previously registered. The cost is \$30 which includes food and beverages; seniors and students are \$20.

Feel free to connect with Pastor Becky with your questions or comments: [becky@elimchurch.com](mailto:becky@elimchurch.com); 612.789.3591 x108.

## Merry Makers

Sunday,  
February 9th  
at 10:30 a.m.



This delightful musical version of Jane Austen's well-loved novel comes to life on the Bethel Stage in Benson Great

Hall. The musical revolves around Elizabeth Bennet, who learns the error of making hasty judgments and comes to appreciate the difference between what is superficial and truly essential. Jane Austen's story of the Bennets and their exploits as the family goes on a quest to find husbands for their five daughters in 18th century England is one of the most enduringly popular novels of all time and now comes to life as a musical. Don't miss this beloved story!

Bethel University Benson Great Hall  
Sunday, Feb 9th, 2:30pm Tickets:  
Seniors \$13, Adults \$15

Purchase your general admission tickets online at [tickets.bethel.edu](http://tickets.bethel.edu) or call the Bethel Ticket Office at 651.638.6333, weekdays, 1-5 p.m  
Park in the West lot

David Walden has arranged a special price of \$7.50 for lunch if you choose to eat there. Pay at the dining hall entrance, cash, check, or credit card.

David needs an approximate count by Feb 6th so please RSVP to:

Barb Gabel 651-697-9613  
[barbara.gabel@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.gabel@gmail.com) or Paul

Marilyn Pennoyer 763-780-9898  
[mapenny@comcast.net](mailto:mapenny@comcast.net)

# The Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Plan

According to LifeWay Research:

- More than half of Americans have read little to none of the Bible.
- About 30 percent look up things in the Bible only when they need to.
- Some, about 17 percent, simply flip it open to read a passage at random, and
- Less than a quarter use a systematic plan for reading the Bible on a daily basis.

Contact Pastor Becky  
for more information:

(612) 789 - 3591

becky@elimchurch.com

As your pastors, we encourage you to join others from Elim as we read the Bible through in 2020. As Josh McDowell says, "Know why it is true. Know what you believe. Know how to live it out!"

## February 2020

### Matthew

- 1. • 10:21-42
- 2. • 11:1-19
- 3. • 11:20-30
- 4. • 12:1-21
- 5. • 12:22-37
- 6. • 12:38-50
- 7. • 13:1-23
- 8. • 13:24-43
- 9. • 13:44-58
- 10. • 14:1-21
- 11. • 14:22-36
- 12. • 15:1-20
- 13. • 15:21-39
- 14. • 16:1-12
- 15. • 16:13-28
- 16. • 17:1-13
- 17. • 17:14-27
- 18. • 18:1-14
- 19. • 18:15-35
- 20. • 19:1-15
- 21. • 19:16-30
- 22. • 20:1-16
- 23. • 20:17-34
- 24. • 21:1-11
- 25. • 21:12-22

### Acts

- 15:22-41
- 16:1-15
- 16:16-40
- 17:1-15
- 17:16-34
- 18:1-17
- 18:18-28
- 19:1-22
- 19:23-41
- 20:1-12
- 20:13-38
- 21:1-26
- 21:27-40
- 22
- 23:1-11
- 23:12-35
- 24
- 25:1-12
- 25:13-27
- 26:1-18
- 26:19-32
- 27:1-26
- 27:27-44
- 28:1-16
- 28:17-31

### Psalms

- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36
- 37:1-22
- 37:23-40
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43
- 44
- 45
- 46
- 47

### Genesis

- 1-3
- 4-6
- 7-9
- 10-12
- 13-15
- 16-18
- 19-20
- 21-23
- 24-26
- 27-29
- 30-31
- 32-33
- 34
- 35-37
- 38-40
- 1-4 LEVITICUS
- 5-7
- 8-10
- 11-13
- 14-15
- 16-17
- 18-20
- 21-23
- 24-25
- 26-27

# WORLD MISSION

Carolyn Pinke and the World Missions Team

## Pam Eisenhower sends us her news:

I praise EL ROI, "God who sees," for he sees everything—even details, and cares for me and the school. I have had some time to reflect during 2019, and I started practicing a more balanced lifestyle. I tend to be a Martha.

As I led the young teachers' Bible Study on "Emotionally Healthy Spirituality," I was reminded to take care of myself. This last year I have had small personal retreats that have been good for me—body, soul and heart. This new year I plan to do the same. I will even take a few-month sabbatical after our June and July English Camp.

The Blitar women studied financial discipleship for nine months. This amazing study taught them things they had never known on making a budget, living without debt, saving money, the benefit of health insurance and the freedom of practicing generosity. The university girls in the Malang church learned to be rooted in Christ and to practice discipline in their personal life.

### Highlights:

...Indonesia has re-elected the same President for another term, which is very good for the whole country.

...ECHO INTERNATIONAL, our school NGO, has received approval from the USA government and become a non-profit organization in the United States!

...A Singaporean and Indonesian medical team held medical camps in three villages in Blitar.

Praise Father with me!

(January 2020)

# 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, February 8, 5-7pm on the 1st. Floor.

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

# 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](mailto:paul@elimchurch.com)

**Becky Hanson**  
Pastor, Congregational Care  
Hope Avenue  
Extension 108  
[becky@elimchurch.com](mailto:becky@elimchurch.com)

**Randy Somody**  
Pastor, Spiritual Formation  
[randy@elimchurch.com](mailto:randy@elimchurch.com)

**Deb Somody**  
Director of Children's Ministry  
Extension 102  
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**Linda Bonasera**  
Children's Ministry Admin  
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**Jill Jezierski**  
Chair of Leadership Team  
[jill@elimchurch.com](mailto:jill@elimchurch.com)

**Mark Gregory**  
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[mark@elimchurch.com](mailto:mark@elimchurch.com)

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# FEBRUARY<sup>2020</sup>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 Sunday Activities Prodigal Son Class	3 10am Bible Study	4 Better Together Lunch	5 Elim Youth Jesus Calling Bible Study Seniors' Bible Study	6 Kidz Klozet The Unlimited	7	8 Freedom in Christ
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