



THE FORECASTER

ELIM CHURCH | NE MPLS

JANUARY 2020



Events

SUNDAY CONNECTIONS

Every Sunday except the 15th and 24th

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Every Monday • 10:00am • Lounge

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S GROUP

Every Friday • 6:30am

YOUTH GROUP

8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th • 6:30pm
Youth Rooms

SENIORS' BIBLE STUDY

4th • 18th • 1pm • Library

MARINERS BREAKFAST

10th • 9am • Hwy 36, Roseville • Bakers Square

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Wednesday, 11th • 6-8pm

STEP WITH SOUL

12th, 26th • 10:45am • Children's Church

THE PRODIGAL SON CLASS

12th • 12:00 noon

FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Saturday, 14th • 5-7pm • Dining Room

MERRY MAKERS

Wednesday, 15th • 10:30am • Saint Anthony
Falls Laboratory

ELIM BOOK CLUB

20th • 7pm • Library

We will not be having the
Better Together Luncheon in
January 2020.

Dearest Elim,

The words 'thank you' sound so simple as I reflect on the many ways you have covered me with your prayers, love and care! And yet those words are an arrow from my heart to yours! Thank you for covering me with the blessings of your visits and calls, your cards and meals. Thank you for standing in the gap for me as you brought me in prayer before the Father. Thank you for serving me as the hands and feet of Jesus. I love you, Elim. And I thank the Lord for the gift of each of you!

- Pastor Becky Hanson

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01-01 Reed Johnson

01-04 Glenn Lampi

01-06 Charles Fleming

01-08 Shirley Lindberg

01-08 Mary Howell

01-20 Michael Anderson

01-21 Beth Wickander

01-23 Barbara Walker

01-26 Evan Marsh

01-26 Rebecca Hanson

01-27 Troy Lubbers

01-28 Hailey Kriesel

01-31 Barbara Vincent

The Prodigal Son

Discovering the
Fullness of life
in the love of the Father



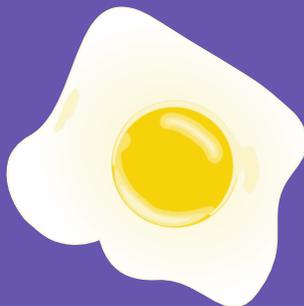
Sunday, January 12th at 12 noon.

Taught by Pastor Becky Hanson

At some point we have all been tempted by the allure of a life outside God's design. Thankfully, Jesus addressed this through the well-known parable of the prodigal son from the Gospel of Luke. In this story, we meet a young man who demands his inheritance and then squanders it in a far-off country away from the watchful eye of his father. When he realizes the world and its pleasures do not deliver on their promises, he arises and returns home. This Bible study walks through the parable verse by verse, showing us that the best life is found in the love of our Father.

Mariner's breakfast

**JANUARY
14TH
9:00AM**



**BAKERS
SQUARE
HWY 36,
ROSEVILLE**

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

Jesus Christ: the Hope of the Next Decade and For All Time

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead..."

- Phil 3:13

The 2010's will be a memorable decade for our country, for our world and for Elim Church. Pew Research reports several distinctive features of the 2010's.

- In 2018, social media sites surpassed print newspapers as a news source for Americans.
- Millennials became the largest generation in the workforce.
- The economy has rebounded significantly since the record crash of 2008 and the unemployment rate has continuously fallen and is now at a near record low.
- Non-white students became the majority in public schools in 2014.
- Support for legalizing marijuana and same-sex marriage is now well above 50%.
- U.S. church attendance has been declining markedly since 2010 - a fact that has not been lost on us.

But it's not just society that has changed. You have changed. A study from three major universities tracked five key personality traits in adults over 50 years.

It is in the throes of societal change that we are challenged and humbled by the prospects for growth, reassessing our priorities, counting our blessings, seizing opportunities, and recognizing what threatens to undermine our values.

The researchers found that people change cumulatively -- more in the course of decades than years. What is most consistent is actually the relationship among all our personality traits and that in general, cumulative personality change leans in a positive and helpful direction. ("Sixteen Going on Sixty-Six" Damian, Spengler, Sutu, Roberts)

The Apostle Paul was a man with a mission, to plant churches and start new places of worship all over Asia-minor. He spent long periods of time in places, knowing that it takes decades to do the work of discipleship and spiritual formation. In the 4th chapter of Galatians the apostle Paul expresses his hope in terms of his mothering the church.

- **Extraversion:** How outgoing, social, cheerful, or full of energy and enthusiasm you are in social settings.
- **Agreeableness:** How warm, friendly, helpful, generous, and tactful you are.
- **Emotional stability (or its opposite, neuroticism):** How calm, content, and unflappable—versus anxious, angry, jealous, lonely, or insecure—you are.
- **Conscientiousness:** How organized, efficient, and committed you are to finishing projects or reaching your goals.
- **Openness to experience:** How curious, adventuresome, and receptive you are to new ideas, emotions, and experiences.

He says, "*Once again, just like a mother in childbirth, I feel the same kind of pain for you until Christ's nature is formed in you.*" Gal. 4:19

The Apostle knows the gestation period of the church is not a short 9-months, instead it's an on-going process whereby the church is transformed and changed into the likeness of Christ unto all eternity.

A constant traveler of the sea, Paul described societal and outside pressures on churches like waves. He observed that the waves rise and fall, they hit our boats and carry us to new and diverse places. Paul combines the imagery of childhood and seafaring in Ephesians 4, "Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming." Paul knew there were forces outside his control that were both positive and promising as well as persuasive and destructive. Perhaps Paul was taking respite in Psalm 89:9 "You rule over the surging sea; when its waves

mount up, you still them." Or perhaps the word in Job 10, "...your forces come against me wave upon wave." Perhaps he was thinking of Jesus and the moment recorded in the Gospels where the disciples in the midst of a great storm call out to a sleeping Jesus and he stills the storm with a word. Jesus simply asks in the midst of all this, "where is your faith?"

Together we've ridden the wave of the 2010's. Perhaps we've been underwater or even sunk a few times. That's ok. The wisdom of James encourages and warns us in a different way. That is simply to not become the wave, saying "But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind;" James' encouragement -- don't become the wave, become a "servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ" (James 1:1). That is our hope for the 2020's and beyond.

See you in 2020!

Pastor Paul Stephen Olson



This year, Chosen Too, our Children's (Preschool and Elementary) Christmas Program offers fun for the entire family and an opportunity to invite friends, families and coworkers and neighbors to hear the gospel message. Our program includes skits, songs, and scripture to create a morning of worship, playful presentation, and fresh examination into the story of Jesus birth.

Two snowflakes, who happen to come to life every time a certain ice princess decides to make snow, share some adventures while recounting all the ways God has given them JOY.

Through the skits and music, you will learn the story of Jesus birth and all that Jesus means to us. It's message is relevant and is worthy of reaching out to those around you who need Jesus. No matter how dark our world may be, there is still a star shining bright to light our way back to Christ.

Mark your calendars for Epiphany Sunday, January 5th at 10:30, and come with your guests to celebrate with ElimKids.

You won't be disappointed!

Deborah Somody
Director of Childrens Ministry at Elim
Where Kids Matter

ELIM KIDS MINISTRY PRESENTS

JESUS CHOSE YOU

CHOSEN TOO

Sunday
January 5, 2020
10:30 a.m.



January 8th, 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 as we go caroling in the neighborhood. All ages welcome!

A Prayer Challenge for 2020

Jill Jezerski

Chair of Leadership Team

There's no question in my mind that Elim Church has God's heart and that 2020 will be a powerful year for us. As we enter into the New Year, pray with me for God's revitalization as He makes all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, and in our lives.

Father,

We pray for Your Spirit to lead us in each step of this New Year at Elim Church. We pray that You give us discernment and insight to understand Your will, hear Your voice, and know Your ways. We trust that You will guide our decisions. Turn our hearts to deeply desire You above all else.

We ask that You open the doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. Forgive us for the times we have worked too hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for You, living independent of Your Spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing pride to keep us distant from Your presence.

We ask for Your wisdom, strength and power to be present within us. Make us strong and courageous for what lies ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, letting Your gifts flow freely through us, so that You alone are honored.

Keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left when the enemy attacks. Remind us to keep focused on what is pure and right, believing that You will never be set aside from Your purposes. Help us to be generous and kind, always looking to the needs of others. May the fruits of Your spirit be evident in our lives - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Oh Father, shine Your light in us, through us, and over us. May the community of Elim Church make a difference for Your glory and purposes. Set Your way before us. May all Your plans succeed.



Elim Book Club

Jan. 20th 2020 7:00 PM

We will discuss *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

My Own Words is a 2016 book by American Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and her biographers Mary Hartnett and Wendy W. Williams. The book is a collection of Bader Ginsburg's speeches and writings dating back to the eighth grade. It is Bader Ginsburg's first book since becoming a Supreme Court Justice in 1993.

Elim Preschool

Welcome 2020!

We are so excited to start a new year! The children and families are back on January 6th, excited, healthy and ready to take on the winter! I know everyone had a wonderful break and time off and the teachers relaxed and spent some much needed downtime.

I want to thank you all for the wonderful gifts you shared with our families this holiday season. So many of them came to me to express their gratitude for the kindness of the church and it's members. The gift cards were used to purchase gifts and snow clothes as well as some holiday treats. They all want you to know how much the gifts are appreciated.

Thank you Deb, for setting this up and gathering the gifts and to Jill for accepting them for the preschool. (I couldn't get out of my garage that day, but my thoughts were with you all.) Your support of this preschool is amazing.

We begin our registration for the new school year-2020-2021 in January. We open to everyone the end of the month as we register our current families first. I look forward to another year filled with new friends and new memories to share. We continue to laugh, play and have fun everyday at Elim Preschool!

Michelle Espelien & the Preschool

Merry Makers

Wednesday, January 15th
at 10:30 a.m.

On the day of our Tour:

- Dress wisely. SAFL is a fluid mechanics lab, and you may get dusty, wet, or muddy, and you will definitely be walking a great deal. Please wear closed-toed shoes – no flip flops or sandals permitted.
- Parking is reserved for SAFL personnel only. If you require handicap accessible parking, there is a spot available near the front door. Otherwise, we ask that you park off-site at one of these locations:
 - Garage: 212 SE 2nd Ave
 - Lot: 200 University Ave SE
 - Metered street parking is available along SE Main St, portions of SE 3rd Ave, and 2nd St SE

<https://www.safl.umn.edu/>

Merry Makers are invited to take a tour of the Saint Anthony Falls Laboratory. We will be guided by our own Matt Hernick, who is an Associate Engineer at the facility. This should be an enjoyable insider's look at this busy research laboratory located by the famous St. Anthony Falls, the highest waterfall on the entire stretch of the Mississippi River.

Come and enjoy a bit of science and a lot of history. The tour begins at 10:30 AM. Because of the limited parking we will car pool from church leaving at 10 AM

After the tour we will go to
Kramarczuk's Deli and Restaurant for
lunch at 12 noon.

215 East Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Phone: (612) 379-3018
<https://kramarczuks.com/>

Please let Harley know either by via
h-schreck@bethel.edu or 651-357-2222

IT'S NOT WHETHER OUR LIPS SAY AMEN, BUT WHETHER OUR LIVES DO.

MARK LABBERTON

TOBYMAC #SPEAKLIFE

When I was in college, I became a Christ follower and soon afterwards joined the Navigators campus group who were well known for their intentionality in studying the Bible. This team taught me to pray and to love the Scripture. The following is the plan I used when I read the Bible through for the first time.

Join me as we begin in January with reading the Scripture through in a year. It's an easy pace – you'll read just 25 days each month. The other days you can study a particular passage or catch up on days you missed. I like to write in my Bible and use it as my textbook for life. I invite you to grab your colored pencils and mark passages that speak to you.

And finally, pray as you read the Scripture asking the Lord to open your eyes and give you a hunger in your heart for His Word. I pray often using Psalm 119:9-16.

Use it as your own prayer:

“9 How can I keep my way pure? By living according to your word.

10 I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

12 Praise be to you, O Lord; teach me your decrees.

13 With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth.

14 I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.

15 I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.

16 I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.”

The Discipleship Journal

Bible Reading Plan

Contact Pastor Becky
for more information:

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becky@elimchurch.com

January

Matthew

1. • 1:1-17
2. • 1:18-25
3. • 2:1-12
4. • 2:13-23
5. • 3:1-12
6. • 3:13-17
7. • 4:1-11
8. • 4:12-17
9. • 4:18-25
10. • 5:1-12
11. • 5:13-20
12. • 5:21-32
13. • 5:33-48
14. • 6:1-15
15. • 6:16-24
16. • 6:25-34
17. • 7:1-14
18. • 7:15-29
19. • 8:1-13
20. • 8:14-22
21. • 8:23-34
22. • 9:1-13
23. • 9:14-26
24. • 9:27-38
25. • 10:1-20

Acts

- 1:1-11
- 1:12-26
- 2:1-21
- 2:22-47
- 3
- 4:1-22
- 4:23-37
- 5:1-16
- 5:17-42
- 6
- 7:1-38
- 7:39-60
- 8:1-25
- 8:26-40
- 9:1-19
- 9:20-43
- 10:1-23
- 10:24-48
- 11:1-18
- 11:19-30
- 12
- 13:1-25
- 13:26-52
- 14
- 15:1-21

Psalms

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18:1-24
- 18:25-50
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22:1-11
- 22:12-31
- 23

Genesis

- 1-2
- 3-4
- 5-8
- 9-11
- 12-14
- 15-17
- 18-20
- 21-23
- 24
- 25-26
- 27-28
- 29-30
- 31
- 32-33
- 34-35
- 36
- 37-38
- 39-40
- 41
- 42-43
- 44-45
- 46-47
- 48
- 49
- 50

WORLD MISSION

Carolyn Pinke and the World Missions Team

What is going on in the the world of Jesus' Kingdom?

There was a fascinating article called Unleashing the Kingdom... in the Mission Frontiers magazine. When I want to know what God is doing around the world, I check this magazine!

Why are there 660 movements of people coming to Jesus all around the world, but not much happening in Europe and the USA? Here are some ideas of why.

The Church in the Global North has slowly absorbed a dangerous level of humanistic ideas into our worldviews over the last one hundred years. These ideas have resulted in a weakened version of Christianity that is powerless to transform communities and culture.

Say someone says that their Christian faith is a personal journey with Jesus, it's a relationship; each person individually makes the decision for Jesus. Their faith involves personal morality. That doesn't sound bad, does it? However, this can become a privatized religion, one that involves "me and Jesus" but does not have much to say to the world except on a few hot topics.

In contrast to this, the gospel Jesus taught would be more accurately described as the gospel of the kingdom. Jesus' message centered on the fact that in Him, the kingdom of God had broken into the world and that God was taking back His proper authority over a world in rebellion against Him. That is why Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom included a call to repent:

since we are in rebellion against our rightful King, the only proper response is to turn from our rebellion and give Him our undivided allegiance.

The message is inescapably public and political: the most basic confession of Christianity is "Jesus is Lord," with the unspoken implication that "Caesar is not." Caesar had legitimate authority in some areas but not in others. God and God alone has authority over everything, including conscience, and that authority resides in the person of Jesus, who alone is Lord of all.

Let's pray this for ourselves and our workers overseas:

May the glory of God in heaven be manifested where I live, even as it is in heaven!

May Your kingdom be manifested where I live, even as it is in heaven!

May Your will be manifested in my life and where I live, even as it is in heaven!

(Taken from article by *Jerry Trousdale and Glenn Sunshine, Co-authors of The Kingdom Unleashed: How Jesus' 1st-Century Kingdom Values are Transforming Thousands of Cultures and Awakening His Church*. Mission Frontiers, March-April 2019, p. 8-10.)

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, January 11, 5pm in the dining room.

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

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Elim Church
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JANUARY 2019

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

29 Sunday Activities	30 10am Bible Study	31	1 Seniors' Bible Study Office Closed	2 Kidz Klozet The Unlimited	3 Men's Group	4
5 Sunday Activities	6 10am Bible Study	7	8 Elim Youth Senior's Bible Study Wednesday Night Live	9	10 Men's Group	11 Freedom in Christ
12 Sunday Activities STEP with Soul Prodical Son Class	13 10am Bible Study	14 Mariner's breakfast 9:00 am at Bakers Square(Roseville)	15 Elim Youth Jesus Calling Bible Study MerryMakers Event	16	17 Men's Group	18
19 Sunday Activities	20 10am Bible Study Elim Book Club	21	22 Elim Youth Senior's Bible Study	23	24 Men's Group	25
26 Sunday Activities STEP with Soul	27 10am Bible Study	28	29 Elim Youth	30	31 Men's Group	

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