



# THE FORECASTER

ELIM CHURCH | NE MPLS

APRIL 2021



# AN OASIS IN THE CITY

*The Somodys doing a Three Generation Mission Trip to Tizimin (Tee-zee-mean) Mexico. See page 9 for more information.*

# Avoiding Triumphant Christianity

For Christians, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the pinnacle moment in all of history. We celebrate this moment every Easter on Resurrection Sunday. Jesus emerges from the now-empty tomb leaving his grave clothes behind. *"The last great enemy to be destroyed is death,"* the Apostle Paul says, *"for God has put everything under his feet."* (1 Cor 15:26-27) The resurrection is a moment of victory over evil, death, and darkness.

In the midst of this great celebration, however, we tend to forget that it was a **crucified** body that was resurrected. In a book called *The Crucified God*, theologian Jurgen Moltmann explains,

*He died 'for us', to give us, 'the dead', a share in his new life of resurrection and in his future of eternal life. His resurrection is the content of the significance of his death on the cross 'for us' because **the risen Christ is himself the crucified Christ.*** (p. 182, emphasis added)

What does this mean? Separating the cross of Jesus from the resurrection of Jesus is impossible and without his suffering and cross, the resurrection would be a mere party trick. Jesus' death was not unlike others who had died on Roman crosses. But the meaning of Jesus' death was unique in that it proved God's love for us. Romans 5:6-8 says,

*For at just the right time, while we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God proves His love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

The resurrection has meaning because it is not only a victory but a vindication for the work of salvation on the cross for all those who believe. Jesus presented himself to the doubting disciple, Thomas, not as a perfected body, but as one riddled with scars. Jesus said to Thomas, *"Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"* (John 20:27)

"Triumphant Christianity" avoids and forgets the cross and seeks vindication on its own terms. It forgets the humble Jesus, who was as Isaiah says, *"He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering."* Is. 53:1 The suffering crucified Christ, was crucified **for us** and he is also risen indeed, **for us!** And because of this we also can be encouraged that in our suffering and pain and loss, our resurrection we will be all the more victorious in Jesus' name when we are raised with him in glory!

Let us avoid "Triumphant Christianity" by remembering that Jesus is with those whom the world deems outcasts and god-forsaken. Let us love and serve like the Lord Jesus himself served. May we too *"have the mind of Christ"*, and *"consider others better than yourself"* (Philippians 2:1-4) Elim, this the true victory of Easter, and the calling and 'triumph' of the Christian life-- may we walk this road together with all humility and grace.

**Pastor Paul Stephen Olson**



# Events

## DAILY PRAYER & SCRIPTURE TIME WITH OUR PASTORS

@ 12 noon Monday - Saturday  
Join us for Scripture and prayer time at GoogleHangout

(no software is needed) Meeting URL:

<https://meet.google.com/ast-cxmh-ykk>

Phone: +1 401-684-3085 PIN: 724 649 481#

## SUNDAY DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

Every Sunday • 4:00 pm  
We are doing a study in the book of Mark. You can join the class by using the link or phone number above.

## LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Every Monday • 10am  
You can join the class by using the link or phone number above.

## JESUS CALLING BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday • 6:30pm  
Contact Sue Watlov Philips for more details. Enter the building on Madison Ave.

## YOUTH GROUP

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th • 6:30pm  
Youth Rooms  
Enter the building on 13th Ave.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT CANCELED

April 17, Saturday  
"A Day of Hope and Healing" has been canceled at this time. We hope to reschedule at a future date.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04-01 William Turnquist

04-01 Marilyn Johnson

04-03 Heather Olson

04-04 Jan Torkelson

04-06 Colleen Knuth

04-12 Keith Wallin

04-14 Daniel Smith

04-14 Lois Froehlig

04-15 Emma Hadziefendic

04-15 Molly Wilson

04-15 Ray Halvorson

04-19 Beth Dischinger

04-19 Tommy Nollie


04-23 Kathy Huffman

04-25 Marilyn Pennoyer

We missed a birthday in  
March! 03-14 Mark Gregory

# THANK YOU

### Thank you to our retired nurses:

Patty Kelley, Marilyn Pennoyer, and Janice Schreck  for their connecting with the people of Elim to answer questions about the COVID vaccine and to address any needs people may have in this regard.

### Thank you!

Colossians 3:23 reminds us of you:  
"Work hard and cheerfully at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people."



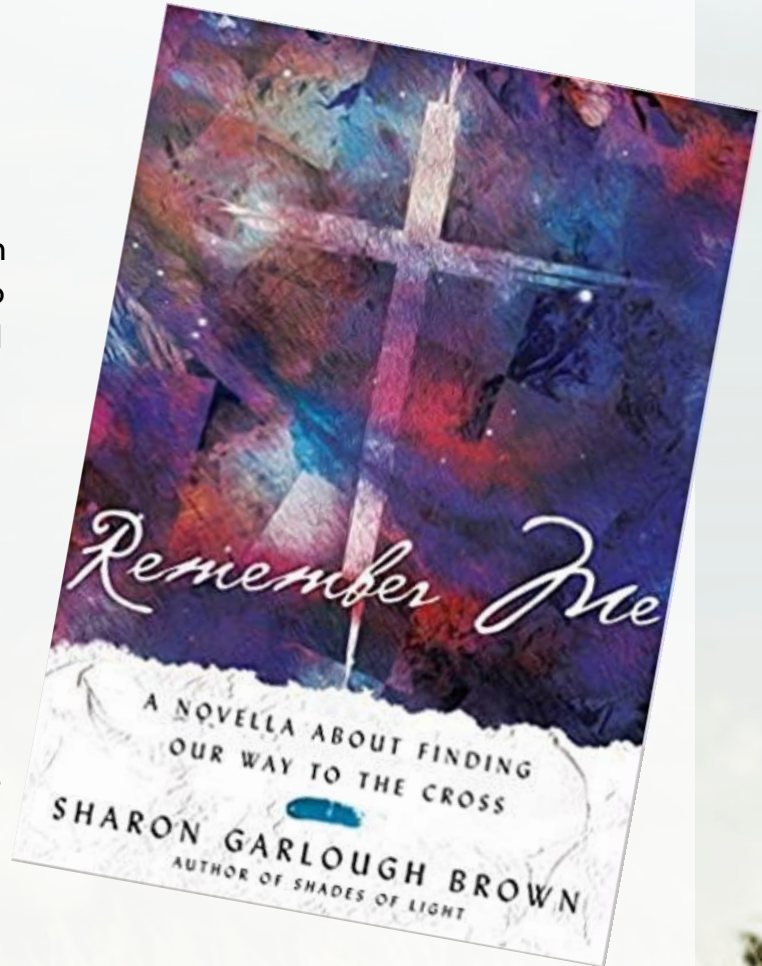
# EASTER 2021

## Holy Week

### Morning and Evening Devotional with Pastor Paul and Pastor Becky

"'It is finished,' Jesus says. It's a bold declaration for us to make too. What does it mean to say 'It is finished' when so much is unfinished? It means we are people who live hope in two directions, both backward and forward. We long for the kingdom to come in fullness, even as it has already come. And we trust that the One who has begun the good work in us and for us will indeed complete it.

Using the reflections of author Sharon Garlough Brown and artwork of Wren Crawford, Pastor Paul, and Pastor Becky will lead you through 10 days of reflections on the meaning of Christ's suffering and His life-giving word *hope*. Content will be sent out each day by email, also on Facebook, and our YouTube channel.



### Good Friday Reflection and Song – April 2, 7:00 pm

On Friday, April 2, Elim will hold a short service at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary and shown it online that is suitable for the entire family. We hope you will join us as we remember the death of Christ on our behalf. The nursery will not be staffed.

### Resurrection Sunday - April 4, 10 am

- During worship at 10 am, we will celebrate our new life in Christ through praise and worship. The ElimKids will present a video recording. The service will be live in the sanctuary and online.
- No 9 am Sunday Connection Classes (all ages). There will be no nursery, JAM (for Preschool kids), or Children's Church during worship.

# A Letter to the Elim Church Family

God is so good!

While we live in challenging times, we must also remember that God is not bound by times or seasons, and He remains steadfast. Praise is something that we all can do all the time – not only when we see an answer to prayer. Quite often the book of Psalms tells us to praise first and always!

- *I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. Psalm 104:33*
- *My mouth is filled with Your praise and with Your glory all day long. Psalm 71:8*

- *From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. Psalm 113:3*

So Elim Family...

I encourage you to praise God in faith with me. Let's encourage one another by speaking words of life and keeping our eyes fixed on Him, believing in His power. Radiate good cheer, display love for others, and strive to live joyfully, knowing that God is at work in every situation!

I love you!

**Jill Jezierski**  
Chair of Leadership Team

# ElimKid's Families

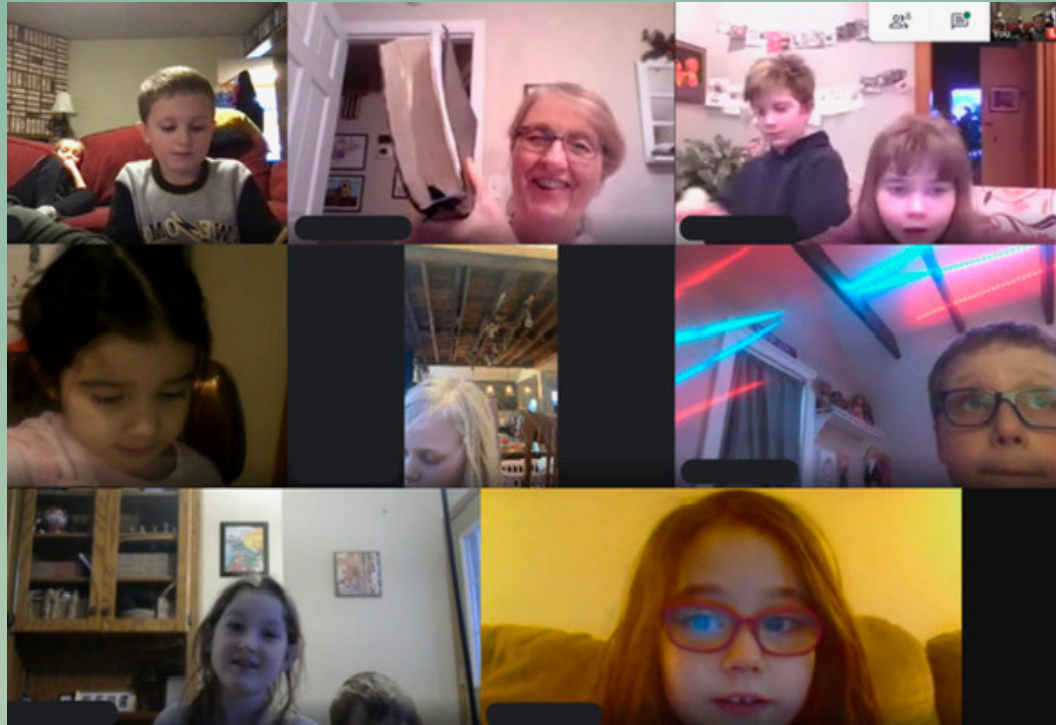
## RE-EMERGING STRONGER FROM COVID-19

Who would have dreamed we would see a virus cause this much hurt in the world? It's been a complicated time not only for adults but also for kids. We will look back and see this time in history as a major shaping force for the next generation. It may well be a defining experience for kids today.

Today's kids have spent extended time being quarantined from their friends and church family. Face masks and hand-sanitizer have become top priorities. Kids' schedules have been rearranged. Their sports games postponed or canceled and their school lessons and children's ministry switched to online learning from home.

But in spite of the ravages of COVID-19, some positive changes have occurred.

Romans 8:38 says that God can take tragedy and bring forth something good from it. And that is the case with COVID-19.





### Here are a few examples:

- Every Wednesday at 5:30, ElimKids gather for Wednesday Wave. Since October 7th we have memorized 22 Bible verses, shared our Ups and Downs with each other, laughed, and prayed together.
- Parents have gotten closer with their kids. This generation of kids is developing deeper relationships with their parents. Parents have spent more time with their kids working from home. Family game nights seem to be making a comeback.
- Kids are learning not to take their family and friends for granted. They are learning how to deal with anxiety and fear. Wednesday Wave has been a great opportunity to show them the hope found in Christ. In spite of all the technology today's kids have had to deal with for school, they have learned how to use it to find genuine relationships with caring adults who will walk through these days with them.

Thank you, parents, and Matt Knutson for making Wednesday Wave a positive impact on our ElimKids.

**Deb Somody**  
Director of Children's Ministry

# Small Groups — Cancun

MAY THE PEOPLE OF ELIM ALWAYS STAY CONNECTED!

As our flight descended into Cancun, Mexico, we were filled with excitement and anticipation. It was the dream of a lifetime! Most couples landing in Cancun are excited about their first or second honeymoon. But we were thrilled for another reason because we were on our way to do a Three Generation Mission Trip to Tizimin (Tee-zee-mean) Mexico with our daughter Gretchen, our Son-in-law David, and our grandchildren, Brady, Seth, Hallie, and Sawyer. Cancun was just the stopping-off point where we were beginning the 2 1/2 hour van ride to Tizimin. Our destination was the DCI Mission directed by Bill and Kathy Craver. (DCI stands for Direct Christian Influence)

Bill has been in Tizimin for over 20 years. He and Kathy have an extraordinary gift from God to be able to meet people where they are and encourage, mentor, and disciple them to Jesus with total honor and respect for their culture. It has been amazing to get to know the staff and to feel loved and valued by them as we serve alongside them. They exude the heart of Christ.

This week we are: Leading a children's ministry including songs, stories, and crafts; Painting one of the DCI buildings; Leading games for teens and young adults; Participating in a prayer and testimony service and Attending seminars with Bill and Kathy to learn more about the mission and reaching the people of Tizimin.

I can already tell that the hardest part of the week will be leaving. It's amazing what can happen when we immerse ourselves in a situation of which we are not in control. Our prayer is simple: "Lord, show us why we're here and what you would have us do."



*Life-change happens best in Small Groups!*

**PASTOR RANDY SOMODY**

DCI Missionary Camp



# WORLD MISSIONS

## In the Midst of a Lost Generation

*Would you like to see hundreds, even thousands, of our neighbors in this city come to Jesus?*

David Watson, in his book *Contagious Disciple Making*, says that when they started looking at the movements of thousands to Christ that God is doing around the world right now, they noticed a critical element: a PRAYER movement precedes every Disciple-Making Movement.

There are two sides to this prayer: first, we must become people of prayer. Second, we need to mobilize people to pray.

Of course, I won't pray unless I am a disciple—an obedient disciple of Jesus—not because others think so, but because I love Jesus more than anything.

How do we need to change? Re-arrange our schedule, our priorities? Cut the unnecessary, the wasting, the busywork? I need one hour or two hours! So, say I begin. I talk to God; I listen to God. I ask him how he feels about my day, my movie, my book. What do you think, God? I listen.



Here's another side to it. David was impelled to change his approach to prayer. First, instead of asking people to pray for him, he decided to pray for them. There are thirty days on the calendar. He decided to call one friend each day, ask how he could pray for them, and then pray on the spot if they had time. Or he would text or email, writing out the prayer.

Let's try it!

Or what else is God showing you?

(David Watson and Paul Watson, *Contagious Disciple Making*, p. 78, 79)

Carolyn Pinke and the World Missions Team

# A Prayer for the Newest Hernick

May you bless this baby with a deep and abiding love for you, O Lord...



may he come to saving faith at a young age and live with you all the days of his life

may he be as John Mark who began to walk with you at a young age as he sailed with his Uncle Barnabas to teach others the name of Jesus



may he be as David who as a boy proclaimed his passion for the Lord and who twice as a man was called by you 'a man after your own heart.'



may he be as Timothy and learn to understand and exercise his God-given spiritual gifts from a young age



In the name of Jesus we ask that you would bless this baby.



Amen.

**Beth Moore DVD studies** have been donated to Elim's library and will be soon available for your use as an individual or small group:

**Esther:** *It's Tough Being a Woman*

**Jesus:** *The One and Only*

**Living Beyond Yourself:** *Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit*

**Beloved Disciple:** *The Life and Ministry of John*

**Stepping UP:** *A Journey through the Psalms of Ascent*





## Free & Weekly Fresh Food Distribution

A Community Food Program For Families

1888651FOOD(3663)



### Details:

Grocery bag contains

- Dairy products (milk, eggs, etc)
- Fruits
- Vegetables & grains
- No Contact drive through. Walkins Welcome!

**Location:** SUMNER LIBRARY  
611 Van White  
Memorial Blvd.  
Mpls, MN. 55411

**Time:** 2PM-4PM  
**Every Sunday!**  
612-543-6875

info@farmhousecateringmn.com

facebook.com/farmhousecateringmn

NORTHEAST  
MPLS

# Egg Hunt

ELIM CHURCH  
2021

PICK UP EVENT

EVERY CHILD GETS  
AN EASTER BAG

APRIL 3RD  
10AM-12PM

MILL CITY  
CHURCH

MORE DETAILS AT  
MILLCITYCHURCH.COM

# EVERY SUNDAY

## Sumner Library has a new partnership with Farmhouse Catering!

Sumner Library has a new partnership with Farmhouse Catering!

Every Sunday from 2:00-4:00pm, families can stop by to pick up a week's worth of free fresh groceries - fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs, cereals and grains. Look for the truck in our parking lot beginning Sunday, February 28, 2021.

No paperwork or ID needed. The only requirement is that the receiving household has at least one child under the age of 18. Drive-through and walk-ups are welcome. Don't forget to wear a mask!

That's not all! Sumner Library continues to offer a variety of shelf-ready food from our partner Every Meal. Everyone is eligible. No questions asked. Available in the library during all of our open hours. See you at the library!

# The Bible Reading Plan

Regular Bible reading is one of the most important spiritual disciplines that you are encouraged to develop.

- It anchors you in God's wisdom and hope,
- strengthens your faith,
- and reminds you of the Lord's instructions and promises.

Contact Pastor Becky  
for more information:

(612) 789 - 3591

[becky@elimchurch.com](mailto:becky@elimchurch.com)

Join us at this point in the reading plan. Knowing the Word of God promises to change a life... yours!

## April 2021

### Matthew

- 21:23-32
- 21:33-46
- 22:1-14
- 22:15-33
- 22:34-46
- 23:1-12
- 23:13-24
- 23:25-39
- 24:1-14
- 24:15-35
- 24:36-51
- 25:1-13
- 25:14-30
- 25:31-46

### Romans

- 1:1-17
- 1:18-32
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5:1-11
- 5:12-21
- 6:1-14
- 6:15-23
- 7:1-12
- 7:13-25
- 8:1-17
- 8:18-39
- 9:1-18

### Psalms

- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51
- 52
- 53
- 54
- 55
- 56
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61

### Numbers

- 1-2
- 3-4
- 5-6
- 7-8
- 9-11
- 12-14
- 15-17
- 18-20
- 21-22
- 23-25
- 26-27
- 28-30
- 31-32
- 33-36

### Deuteronomy

- 26:1-16
  - 26:17-35
  - 26:36-56
  - 26:57-75
  - 27:1-10
  - 27:11-26
  - 27:27-44
  - 27:45-56
  - 27:57-66
  - 28:1-10
  - 28:11-20
- 9:19-33
  - 10
  - 11:1-24
  - 11:25-36
  - 12:1-8
  - 12:9-21
  - 13
  - 14
  - 15:1-13
  - 15:14-33
  - 16
- 62
  - 63
  - 64
  - 65
  - 66
  - 67
  - 68
  - 69:1-18
  - 69:19-36
  - 70
  - 71
- 1-3
  - 4-5
  - 6-8
  - 9-12
  - 13-17
  - 18-21
  - 22-26
  - 27-28
  - 29-31
  - 32
  - 33-34

# 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

**Melanie Eslinger**  
Worship Coordinator  
melanie@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

**Anissa Lubbers**  
Family Ministries Coordinator  
anissa@elimchurch.com

**Stephen Murck**  
Safety and Security  
security@elimchurch.com

**Michelle Espelien**  
Elim Preschool Director  
michelle@elimpreschool.org

**Jill Jezierski**  
Chair of Leadership Team  
jill@elimchurch.com

**Carlos Martinez-Luhmann**  
Graphic Designer, Office Assistant  
carlos@elimchurch.com

**Gloria Metz**  
Office Assistant  
info@elimchurch.com

Elim Church  
 685 13th Ave NE  
 Minneapolis, MN 55413



# APRIL 2021

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

28	29	30	31	1 Noon Prayer Time	2 Men's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	3 Noon Prayer Time
4 EASTER SUNDAY Sunday Activities Class on Mark	5 Women's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	6 Noon Prayer Time	7 Noon Prayer Time Wed. Wave with Mrs S Re-Covering In God Elim Youth	8 Noon Prayer Time Staff Meeting	9 Men's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	10 Noon Prayer Time
11 Sunday Activities Class on Mark	12 Women's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	13 Noon Prayer Time	14 Noon Prayer Time Wed. Wave with Mrs S Re-Covering In God Elim Youth	15 Noon Prayer Time	16 Men's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	17 Noon Prayer Time
18 Sunday Activities Class on Mark	19 Women's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	20 Noon Prayer Time <i>Freedom in Christ</i>	21 Noon Prayer Time Wed. Wave with Mrs S Re-Covering In God Elim Youth	22 Noon Prayer Time	23 Men's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	24 Noon Prayer Time
25 Sunday Activities Class on Mark	26 Women's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	27 Noon Prayer Time Leadership Team Mtg.	28 Noon Prayer Time Wed. Wave with Mrs S Re-Covering In God Elim Youth	29 Noon Prayer Time	30 Men's Bible Study Noon Prayer Time	1

Phone  
612-789-3591

Fax  
612-789-9601

Elim Website  
elimchurch.com

Elim Facebook  
elimchurchmpls

Elim YouTube  
elimchurchmpls