



THE
FORECASTER
ELIM CHURCH | NE MPLS
NOVEMBER 2021



A N O A S I S
I N T H E
C I T Y

October 31, 2021
Harvest Party: Trunk or Treat

“They’ll Never Come (Back?)...”

“Gathering like the good ol’ days is only a problem if we pretend the pandemic never happened or ignore the fact that friends haven’t come back. But gatherings can be designed to acknowledge reality and cast a new vision.” - Fresh Expressions USA, Chris Morton

Sometimes I fall into the trap of assuming that my neighbors...

- Will never come to church with me
- Aren’t interested in spirituality or Jesus
- Are happy and doing just fine with life
- Love the world too much, are too lost or depressed
- Have too much on their plate and are too busy

Moses commanded the people to enter the promised land, but they were afraid. Joshua and Caleb however believed that an opportunity (rather than death) awaited them in the land of giants (Canaan). So before we write people off, have we considered that we might be limiting what God can do through us?

Religion News Service recently published a story about a 76-year old man who returned to church after a 40-year hiatus. He was initially hesitant but accompanied his wife when she asked. When the church discovered that he could play guitar, they asked him to participate in the worship band.

What they didn’t know was that he was Bruce Cockburn, a well-known folk-guitarist who had released 35 albums and won 13 Junos (the Canadian Grammys) over his career. The word got out when he released an EP of songs written to raise money for the church’s work with the homeless. (Chris Morton, FEUS)



Maybe now is NOT the time to get the bullhorn out and preach to your neighborhood. Maybe right now, Jesus' command to 'go into all the world and preach' is now "go and ask". Their answers may surprise you, inform you, delight you or challenge you. Their answers might very well be the pathway to meeting a need or discovering the new life rhythms faced by families and individuals in this pandemic.

Some questions we can ask our friends and neighbors:

- How has the pandemic affected you and your family?
- What activities and experiences are you experiencing now that you find most life giving?
- Is there anything our church can be praying for you about?

To read more go to: <https://fresheexpressionsus.org/2021/10/21/5-ways-churches-leaders-can-respond-when-people-dont-come-back/>

Paul Stephen Olson

Lead Pastor

Events

DAILY PRAYER & SCRIPTURE TIME WITH OUR PASTORS

@ 12 noon Monday - Friday
Join us for Scripture and prayer time at GoogleMeet
(no software is needed) Meeting URL:
<https://meet.google.com/ast-cxmh-ykk>
Phone: +1 401-684-3085 PIN: 724 649 481#

YOUTH GROUP

Every Wednesday · 6:30 pm
Youth Rooms
Enter the building on 13th Ave.

RE-COVERING IN GOD STUDY

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

EVE. LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

November 8 and 22, at 6:30 pm, evening Bible studies every other Monday on spiritual gifts. You can join the class either in person in the Lounge or by using the link or phone number above.

MORN. LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

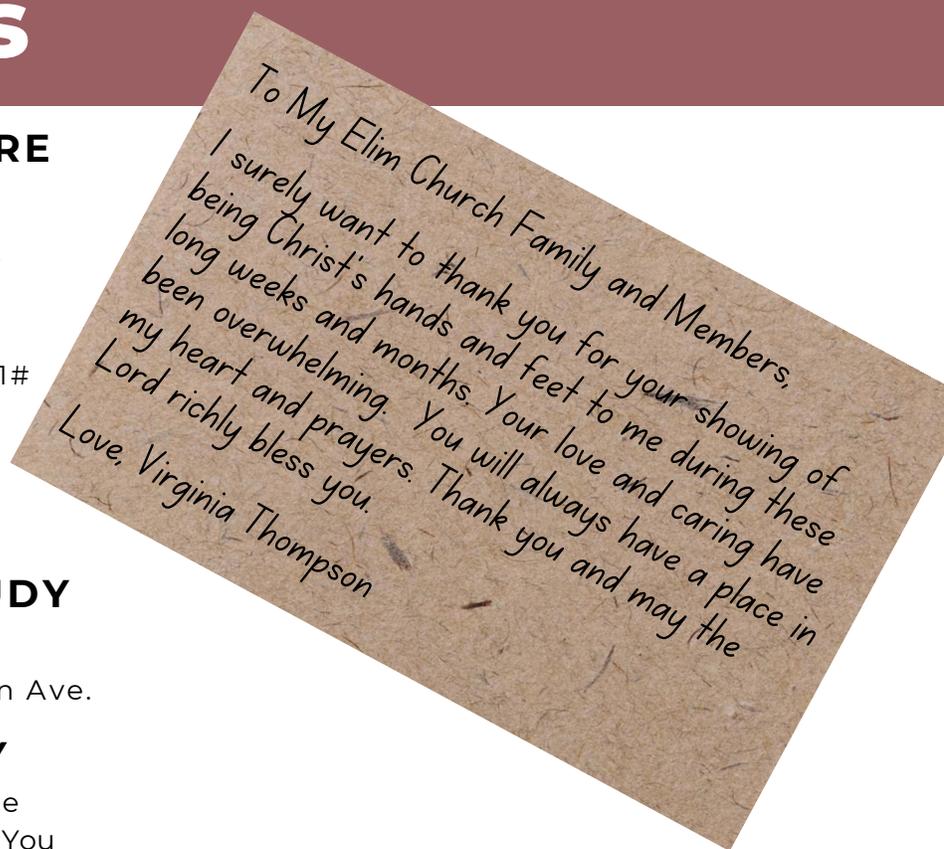
Every Tuesday · 10 am (online only). We will study the book of Mark. You can join the class by using the link or phone number above.

FREEDOM IN CHRIST RECOVERY EVENT WITH JAY COPE

November 16 · 7-8:00pm
Every Third Tuesday of the month
<https://zoom.us/j/98924511537?pwd=U3R2RHlwK3BoWHhpaTNXVk94eDE0QT09>
Meeting ID: 989 2451 1537 **Passcode:** 112233
Phone: +1 312-626-6799 **Passcode:** 112233#

MENS' BIBLE STUDY

Every Friday · 8-9:30 am
Email Stephen Murck (smurck@gmail.com) If you would like to join. He will add you to the list of persons to whom he sends the email with the ZOOM link.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/2 Junail Freeman-Anderson	11/17 Lloyd Kankeh
11/2 Rick Dischinger	11/17 Mary Westerberg
11/3 Chris Smith	11/18 Berit Turnquist
11/4 Ed DeHaan	11/19 Judy Moseman
11/5 Marissa Iverson	11/19 Tiffany Nelson
11/8 Jacque Osborn	11/20 Annika Paulson
11/10 Stephanie Iverson	11/22 Ruth Tyberg
11/10 Aaron Klaers	11/25 Noah Turnquist
11/10 Nick Knuth	11/27 Eric Fleming
11/12 Cassie Champion	
11/12 Svea Dickson	

UPCOMING EVENTS

MERRY MAKERS BREAKFAST

Tuesday, November 9, at 9 am
Fat Nat's Eggs, 2700 39th Ave. NE
St Anthony, Reservations by Nov. 5, 2021

NEWCOMERS' BRUNCH

Sunday, November 21 at 12:15 pm
Dining Room

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Tuesday, Nov 30, 6:30 pm in the Library.

Construction Site-- Preparing the Way

Isaiah had spoken of John when he said, "He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord's coming! Clear the road for him! The valleys will be filled, and the mountains and hills made level. The curves will be straightened, and the rough places made smooth. And then all people will see the salvation sent from God.'" Luke 3:4-6 (NLT)

There is nothing more frustrating when driving than being stopped by road construction! It's so inconvenient and we get impatient if we must adjust to a delay. What we don't always take time to consider is that providing safe roads is essential. Those who design roads want us to get from one place to another as easily and safely as possible. Construction crews are simply "preparing the way" for us to get to our destination.

As you read the beginning of Luke 3, you find John telling anyone who will listen... preparing their hearts to recognize and believe that Jesus is coming to offer love and forgiveness. He's "building the road" to bring people closer to salvation.

The lesson for us is that we, too, are in the construction business. We are not merely passive passengers on our journey to Heaven. We are to study God's Word, pray and live life in ways that honor Him. We are to act in faith, speak against injustice, encourage generosity, live sacrificially, love and serve others. We must always seek after God's active presence in our own lives. Thank You, Jesus, for giving us strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow!

Jill Jezierski

Chair of Leadership Team

It was a blast doing this together!
Thank you to everyone who came!!

Harvest Party: Trunk or Treat!



Hope Avenue Twin Cities... Christ Recovery Ministries

The Shelter Board is now raising the money needed for the establishment of a year-round Hope Avenue shelter. You can continue to partner in this important work of the Lord with your financial gifts for shelter, food, and clothing for those experiencing homelessness. Please designate your tax-deductible gift to Hope Avenue Shelter, and just put it in the offering or mail it to the church. Together we can make it happen!! You can contact us at www.hope-avenue.org or through our treasurer: candy@hope-avenue.org



Helen Mohl's Service

Please join us at Elim for the celebration of Helen's life on Friday, November 12.

Visitation at 10 am, Service at 11 am, at Elim, followed by a catered lunch.

We thank the Lord for the gift of her presence among us all these years.

You can also join us online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAJcbvCNH10&authuser=0>

Another Great Youth Retreat

The ECY group went together to Trout Lake Camp over the weekend of October 15th-17th, We had 14 students and 2 leaders attend (sadly 5 youth and 1 leader had to stay home with exposure to Covid). We left Elim around 5:00 on Friday and had a fun conversation filled with camp excitement, riddles, jokes and creatively coming up with nicknames while some of us failed to avoid getting carsick. Upon arrival, we settled into our cabins and rushed off to chapel. The speaker for the weekend was Daniel Young, the Director of student ministries at Eagle Brook Church. Daniel had engaging and powerful messages throughout the weekend. We talked about Gideon from Judges; Mary and Martha; the Prodigal Son; and our favorite, a message called "The Friend Zone". I encourage you to ask a youth about what they learned in any of these messages. Our key Scripture for the week was Hebrews 10:23-25 and the weekend was a cowboy theme so they told us to "Spur, on one another". Elim's youth particularly loved the band this year. The worship was wonderful each time we met, and the youth asked the band to join us in activities, so we were soon referring to our group as "Elim and the band". We participated in a ton of fun and games. To name a few: the football tournament, laser tag, leap of faith, high ropes, rock climbing, dodgeball tournament, round-robin, and the classic board game of "Guess Who" as well as two camp-wide games called "Gold Rush" where some youth ate a can of cold beans, and "Cowboys Vs. Aliens" where we had a blast catching aliens around camp.

Throughout the weekend I saw a number of students really open up to me and to each other. We had some hands in our group raised when Daniel asked if anyone was interested in rededicating their life to Christ. I could tell they were thinking through the tough questions asked in our discussion time. Our group is well-behaved, fun, and inclusive. I am truly blessed to learn from their experiences and hear their stories on a weekly basis. I hope that I am able to be a light in their lives. I pray continually that they will reach out for Jesus, that they will be seekers of Him, and in seeking they will find Him, that they will want to know who He is more deeply.

Please keep praying for our youth, keep loving them, ask them questions about their faith. They are smart kids and their faith walk has just begun. God bless you people of Elim.

Blessings,
Andy Johnson
Youth Leader

WORLD MISSIONS

FS2G INITIATIVE



FROM SCATTERED TO GATHERED – TWIN CITIES

Carolyn Pinke and the
World Missions Team

Living Out God's Command to Welcome Refugees And Immigrants in Minnesota

An Update on Refugee Resettlement

In the month of September alone we welcomed 32 refugees to Minnesota. This one month was busier than the entire past year!

Our Good Neighbor Coordinators are actively empowering church and neighborhood teams to walk alongside EVERY refugee family that we've welcomed.

What a thing to celebrate! That's 11 refugee families who are now supported and connected to local Christ-followers as they transition to life in Minnesota.

We also hired four new Reception and Placement Case Managers who will assist refugees from day one.



A devoted daughter welcomes her Karen mom to St. Paul, Arrive Ministries' immigration department helped from start to finish to make this reunion happen.

This family arrived from Guatemala. We were able to pair them with a Spanish-speaking Good Neighbor team from Hometown Church in Bloomington. Bienvenidos!

A Good Neighbor team from Church of the Redeemer welcomes a family from Syria. Mom gave lots of hugs, kids were tired from travel.



Stories of Hope

Duo-Language Book Club Bolsters Friendship



Katie (L) and Angella (R)

“I’m delighted to have met Katie and become friends with her, and the English I can speak now is because of her help,” said Angella.

The month before the pandemic hit, Katie met Angella. It was an interesting time to start a new friendship. But these two were up for the challenge.

Angella speaks French and sought asylum in the U.S. from the Democratic Republic of Congo. She wanted to practice her English socially to help her get a better job.

Let’s partner up, so you can practice English, and we can use your language strengths, so I can improve my French,” Katie proposed. Katie found an old copy of “The Little Prince” in French from college, and obtained a copy in English, and a duo-language book club was born! Read more about how the two women found this model of volunteering to be a mutually beneficial way to value what each person has to offer:

<https://arriveministries.org/duo-language-book-club-bolsters-friendship/>

Maneuvering Between Two Worlds

Over the past four years through our Afghan Women’s English Language Learners (AWELL) program, Molly has built a friendship with Nilofar, her husband Sher Mohammad, and their children.

Sher Mohammad and his 13-year-old daughter were visiting family in Afghanistan during the Taliban takeover in August. His green card helped them escape, but his family wasn’t completely relieved. Their concern for loved ones back home and angst over the future of their homeland are an ever-present worry.



5-year-old Maryam and Molly, an Afghan Women’s English tutor



Sher Mohammed and his youngest daughter, Maryam in their Bloomington apartment.

Molly spent many days during the U.S. military's pullout from Afghanistan offering a comforting presence to Nilofar and her family.

"I cry when I think of all they have sacrificed to be in America. It's really important that we welcome them," said Molly. This sentiment causes Nilofar to cry and Molly consoles her.

"I look forward to when Molly comes. I am happy I can learn English from my teachers, they are my friends," said Nilofar.

Molly and her co-tutor Flo have gotten to know three Afghan families who live in the same Bloomington apartment complex.

"They are very dear families who have opened up their homes, prayed with us, and welcomed us," said Molly.

"My family is happy that the teachers are helping my wife a lot," said Sher Mohammed.

Haley: Living through the Waiting Game of Immigration

"When I met my husband in 2015, God began a new phase of my journey. During our engagement, my husband ran into issues with his DACA status that resulted in his deportation to Mexico.

This process threw us into a whirlwind of lawyers, paperwork and forced both of us to move to Mexico, a country neither of us knew.

The following four years have been spent waiting..."

[Read more from Halen at](https://arriveministries.org/waiting-immigration/)

<https://arriveministries.org/waiting-immigration/>



Elim Book Club

The Elim Book Club will meet Nov. 15, 2021 via Zoom at 7:00 pm.

Book: *A Good Time for the Truth, Race in Minnesota* (There are many contributors to the book). Mary Westerberg will be the discussion leader.

If you would like to read and discuss this book and haven't been a regular Book Club member, contact Suzanne Dahl for a Zoom invitation (651 497 5188, suzmdahl@gmail.com).

Thank you,
Barb Gable

Newcomer's Lunch

If you are new to Elim and would like to meet the pastors and learn more about us, please join us for a fun and casual welcome lunch on Sunday, November 21, at 12:15 pm in the Library.

WELCOME

Merry Makers

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

**You are invited to pack
food for
Feed My Hungry Children
401 93rd Avenue NW
Coon Rapids Mn 55433
Arrive by 8:45 am
to sign in for 9:00 – 10:45 am
scheduled event.**



**Make reservations by
email: bonniejohnson@yahoo.com**

Or phone: 651-604-0094

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

P. S. Jewelry Policy

To comply with FDA requirements: remove all opportunity for foreign objects to fall into our life-saving meals (which could cause choking, tooth breakage and more), FMSC volunteers must remove all jewelry and/or accessories before packing. Special lockers and plastic bags will be available.

(Results from 2019): Each bag provided 6 meals. The box held 36 bag packets. Merry Makers filled 19 boxes. So we provided 4,101 meals.

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

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

November 2021

	John	James	Ecclesiastes	Jeremiah
1.	• 1:1-18	• 1:1-11	• 1	• 1-2
2.	• 1:19-28	• 1:12-18	• 2:1-16	• 3-4
3.	• 1:29-34	• 1:19-27	• 2:17-26	• 5-6
4.	• 1:35-42	• 2:1-13	• 3:1-15	• 7-9
5.	• 1:43-51	• 2:14-26	• 3:16-22	• 10-11
6.	• 2:1-11	• 3:1-12	• 4	• 12-13
7.	• 2:12-25	• 3:13-18	• 5	• 14-15
8.	• 3:1-15	• 4:1-10	• 6	• 16-18
9.	• 3:16-21	• 4:11-17	• 7:1-14	• 19-22
10.	• 3:22-36	• 5:1-6	• 7:15-29	• 23-25
11.	• 4:1-14	• 5:7-12	• 8	• 26-29
12.	• 4:15-26	• 5:13-20	• 9	• 30-31
		1 Peter		
13.	• 4:27-42	• 1:1-9	• 10	• 32-34
14.	• 4:43-54	• 1:10-16	• 11	• 35-38
15.	• 5:1-15	• 1:17-25	• 12	• 39-43
			Song of Songs	
16.	• 5:16-30	• 2:1-8	• 1	• 44-46
17.	• 5:31-47	• 2:9-17	• 2	• 47-48
18.	• 6:1-15	• 2:18-25	• 3	• 49
19.	• 6:16-24	• 3:1-7	• 4:1-7	• 50
20.	• 6:25-40	• 3:8-12	• 4:8-16	• 51
21.	• 6:41-59	• 3:13-22	• 5	• 52
				Lamentations
22.	• 6:60-71	• 4:1-11	• 6	• 1
23.	• 7:1-13	• 4:12-19	• 7	• 2
24.	• 7:14-24	• 5:1-7	• 8:1-7	• 3
25.	• 7:25-36	• 5:8-14	• 8:8-14	• 4-5

Elim Church Staff

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

MONTHLY GIVING UPDATE

September Giving

Needed \$35,833

Actual \$26,253

Fiscal Year-to-Date (4/1/21 - 9/30/21)

Needed \$215,000

Actual \$222,345

Paul Olson
Lead Pastor
Extension 106
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Becky Hanson
Pastor, Congregational Care
Hope Avenue
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Melanie Eslinger
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Anissa Lubbers
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Heather Olson
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Elim Church
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November 2021

Noon Prayer Time is Monday-Friday

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	1 Women's Bible Study	2 Women's Bible Study	3 Re-Covering In God Elim Youth	4 HA Shelter/Housing	5 Men's Bible Study	6 Hope Ave. Ministry
7 Sunday Activities	8 Women's Bible Study	9 MerryMakers Bkfst Women's Bible Study Bldg.Main.Team Mtg.	10 <i>Re-Covering In God</i> Elim Youth	11 HA Shelter/Housing Staff Meeting	12 Men's Bible Study	13 Hope Ave. Ministry
14 Sunday Activities Newcomers Brunch	15	16 Women's Bible Study Freedom in Christ	17 <i>Re-Covering In God</i> <i>Songwriting/Poetry</i> Elim Youth	18 HA Shelter/Housing	19 Men's Bible Study	20 Hope Ave. Ministry & Thanksgiving Dinner ??
21 Sunday Activities	22 Women's Bible Study	23 Women's Bible Study	24 <i>Re-Covering In God</i> Elim Youth	25 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED Men's Bible Study	27 Hope Ave. Ministry
28 Sunday Activities	29	30 MerryMakers Event Women's Bible Study Leadership Team Mtg.	1 <i>Re-Covering In God</i> Elim Youth	2 HA Shelter/Housing	3 Men's Bible Study	4 Hope Ave. Ministry

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