THE FORECASTER

ELIM CHURCH | NE MPLS
NOVEMBER 2022

Trunk or Treat 2022

What's inside?

Read more about

- Pastor Paul's: "A New Name?"
- Reflections on Better Together
- Upcoming Better Together Meetings

AN OASIS IN THE CITY

A New Name?

Why I Believe We Should Adopt "Mill City Church" As Our New Name

Our recent “Better Together” conversations address the proposal to merge with Mill City Church, adopting its name and mission, and becoming one congregation at 685 13th Ave. NE Minneapolis. This has sparked discussions specifically around the name “Mill City” and how to honor the legacy of the Elim name in the new entity. That’s what I want to address below.

Birth, marriage, re-marriage or separation, adoption, changing cultures, or a life-altering spiritual experience - these seem to be the most common occasions for the changing of a name these days. Re-naming people or places are very common in ancient Scripture too.

In the Bible...

- Abram became Abraham (father of a nation → father of many nations)
- Sarai became Sarah - (renamed at the birth of the promised son, Isaac)
- Jacob became Israel (supplanter → wrestles with God)
- Saul became Paul (Hebrew to Latin reflecting Paul’s work among the Gentiles)
- Simon became Peter (Jesus nicknamed him ‘Rock’ after his confession)
- And many more examples...

A new name marks the passage of time, of a new movement, a shift in how one can be perceived and understood. It is a signal to one’s self and to others that something significant has happened. So, should Elim change its name?

When Elim's leadership team knew we needed significant change and direction, WE were the ones who approached Mill City Church asking for their partnership. And, when I first thought about what a merger might look like between our church and Mill City, my mind thought up a myriad of possibilities.

But after reading, praying, researching and thinking more, I realized that adopting the name “Mill City Church” would be a great blessing to our congregation. Here’s why.

Mill City Church has a great reputation. MCC is a well-known church in the area because of their outreach and meaningful relationships they have built an exceptional reputation in a relatively short time through loving the community.

“Mill City” is a friendly and familiar name to our Minneapolis neighbors and evokes the image of a working Church that is on mission with God -- now our main worship space would be located just 1 block from the old General Mills towers!

This is our opportunity to re-ignite our mission! I've heard some from Elim propose a "Mill City Church at Elim" name; indeed, Elim has long loved Northeast Minneapolis. However, Mill City is known for being the church in the community and not bound to a single place. We are Mill City at home, work, school, the world, and wherever we are gathering. This is our heart as well!

A new name opens us to what God is doing in our midst. Despite our culture’s ever-changing cultural values, Mill City and Elim share similar values and theological emphases which are based on God’s eternal word. Empowering the faithful at Mill City Church through the gift of a building and a dedicated group of “joiners” will empower this younger church to thrive for years to come.

We’ve enjoyed these 12 wells and 70 palms approaching 135 years now. Are we ready to move forward to the next destination God has for us?

With love,

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.

MORN. LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Mondays • 10 am (online only) on the Book of Mark. You can join the class by using the link or phone number above.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Please contact Steve Murck for details.

BIBLE STUDY:

Tuesdays, 6:30-8 pm--In-Person (Lounge) and online. Study on "Find Your People"

KIDZ KLOZET/THE UNLIMITED

The first Thursday of the month, 9-11 am.

GRIEF SHARE Meetings

Wednesday 6:30-8 pm, This group meets in the Lounge. (Meets for 13 weeks, 9/14-12/7.)

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/2 Rick Dischinger
11/3 Christopher Smith
11/4 Ed DeHaan
11/6 Marissa Iverson
11/8 Jacque Osborn
11/10 Aaron Klaers
11/10 Nick Knuth
11/10 Stephanie Iverson
11/12 Cassie Champion
11/17 Lloyd Kankeh
11/17 Mary Westerberg
11/18 Berit Turnquist
11/19 Judy Moseman
11/22 Ruth Tyberg
11/25 Noah Turnquist
11/27 Eric Fleming

ANNOUNCEMENTS

11/1: Building Maint. MTG

6-8:30 pm in the Library.

11/6: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

11/8: MERRYMAKERS BRKFAST.

Breakfast will be at 9 am. At Denny's, 2045 Twin Lakes Pkwy, Roseville

11/8: LEADERSHIP TEAM MTG

6:30-8:30 pm in the Library.

11/16: MERRYMAKERS EVENT

We will be volunteering at Feed My Starving Children. [See page 10]

11/16: WED. NIGHT LIVE

Watch for Wednesday Night Live each month at 6 pm on the 2nd Wed. of the month.

CONNECTIONS CLASSES

Connection Classes

- There will be two Adult Connection Classes:
  - Discussions on *The Chosen* TV series
  - Discussions on *Practicing the King's Economy*
- Youth Connection Classes
- Children's Classes

Reflection on Better Together

As a church we have been praying, thinking, and planning about the Better Together process. There are so many questions to work through. At times this can feel very heavy and overwhelming. At our last Leadership Team Meeting we were deeply involved in discussions and planning. It was a lot to think about and felt very burdensome.

Then we decided to take a break and show our sanctuary to a guest from Converge who was meeting with us. As we entered the sanctuary and saw the beauty of that sacred space, I was reminded of something that Cathy, from Mill City's Leadership Team said, "There were many tears that flowed in these pews over Elim's past." I was struck by the beauty of that statement. There were tears of grief, certainly, but there were also many tears of joy and laughter as we have shared life together. This is a blessed community.

Then I walked around and looked at the plaques listing the names of founders and saints who have walked these halls and sat in these pews. Names of beloved saints I have known and still know popped into my mind. I was reminded that we are in the midst of sacred work led by our faithful and loving Father. I was convicted that I should take heart, be brave, and walk with confidence in my Lord. As a community we can do this together.

In reflecting on the evening, I have thought about the devotional which our chair, Leslie, shared with us. We read Psalm 20 together. I was reminded of what God has promised to do:

He will answer us when in distress
He will protect us
He will remember our sacrifices and offerings
He will give us the desire of our hearts
He will make our plans succeed
He will grant our requests
He saves His anointed

Finally, verse 7 rang in my mind as I thought of one of my favorite choruses: "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." Indeed, there are challenges ahead for us, but we have a great God who will guide us, sustain us, and love us. As I think about the many blessings in our life together over the past fourteen decades as a church, I am encouraged and excited about what God is going to do at and through Elim.

Harley Schreck

For the Leadership Team

"Better Together" Meetings

Here are the things that are being organized to continue the discussion and discernment of the "Better Together" proposal:

- Sun, 11/6:
  - 10 am Elim joins Mill City at Las Estrellas for worship and connecting time after the service. At 1201 University Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413
  - 6:30 pm Elim congregation Prayer & Sharing
- Tues, 11/8, 6:30 pm Elim Leadership Team meeting
- Wed, 11/9, 6:00 pm Wednesday Night Live w/supper by Hot Wok connecting time after the dinner
- Sun, 11/13, 11:00 am Mill City & Leadership Team Q&A during connections
- Wed, 11/16 Leadership teams meet for Discernment Meeting

https://elimchurch.com/

https://millcitychurch.com/

A Prayer for Elim

It is serious work to listen for God's leading as we discern together whether Elim Church and Mill City Church are "Better Together." It is serious, not because we might make a bad decision, but because the decision is not ours alone to make.

God does not need our permission to work, but he gives us permission to explore how we might work with him. God is already at work in your life and mine. God is already at work in Elim Church and Mill City Church. God is already at work in Minneapolis and in the world. We are invited to participate in the work that God is doing because God desires for us to work with him. And we are invited to prayerfully consider different ways that might look, including "Better Together."

Let me assure you, God will not let us miss our future by hiding his will from us; God is not in the business of trickery or deceit. God dwells and delights in each one of you and God gives us the gift of each other so we can test our thoughts and recognize God's voice.

Listen to Jesus' words in Matthew 18 (MSG):
"Take this most seriously: A yes on earth is yes in heaven; a no on earth is no in heaven. What you say to one another is eternal. I mean this. When two of you get together on anything at all on earth and make a prayer of it, my Father in heaven goes into action. And when two or three of you are together because of me, you can be sure that I'll be there."

As you settle into God's presence to seek direction, take these words with you:

Eternal God, who is Father, Son, and Spirit,
We trust that when we gather in your name, the space between us becomes a holy sanctuary. A place of peace, a place where we can rest and be easy for a moment. We bring our burdens and our fears because we have forgotten that they are not ours to carry. It is here we lay them down.

We bring our guilt and our shame because only you can set us free from the sins that are too real to name and too deep to undo. We confess those to you now.

We bring our expectations and our well thought out plans, and we humbly release them, because we have forgotten that we are not God. Help us to let them go.

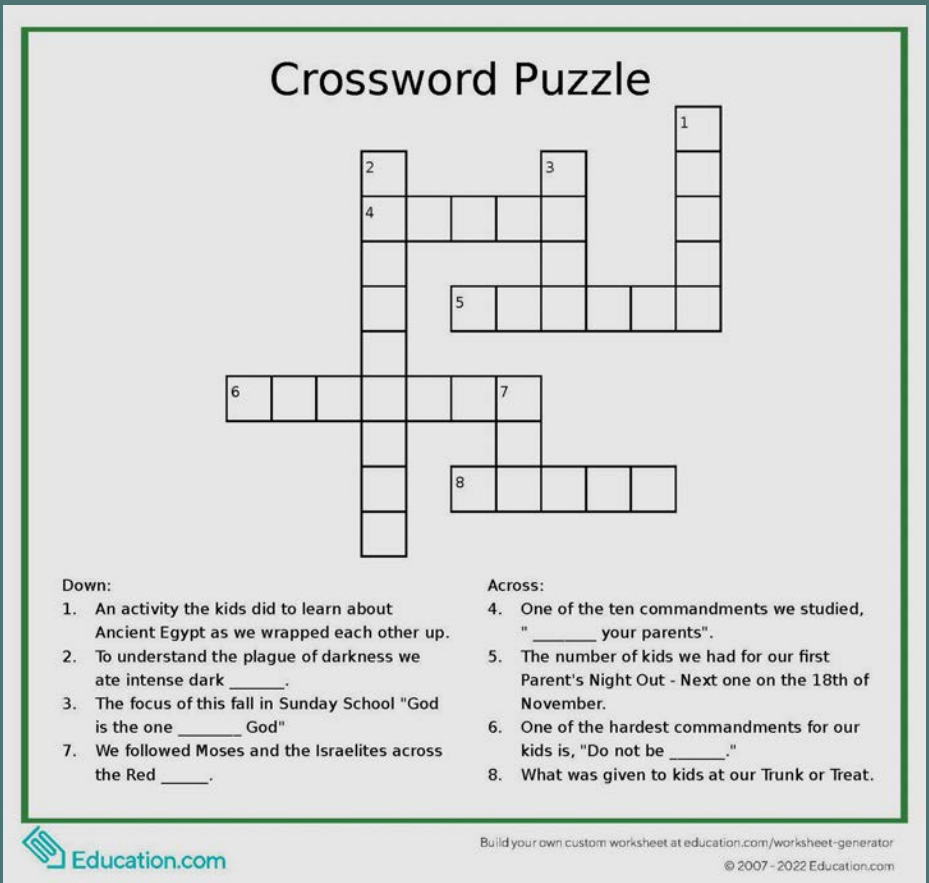
We bring our comforts and our traditions and hold them before you, knowing in our hearts that comfort and contentment do not mean the same thing. Teach us how to tell the difference.

We gather in your presence, Lord, because when we do we become a visible expression of the body of Christ. Here you show us that we are not alone on our journey. The Kingdom of God is the Kingdom Among Us and you call us to do your Kingdom work together. Give us courage to seek your Kingdom, trusting you will use us to fulfill your purposes.

Kristin Wilson

Kid's Ministry Update

This month to help you feel youthful, I made a crossword puzzle to introduce you to what has been happening in the kids' department. Hope you get all the answers!



PARENTS NIGHT OUT
November 18, 2022, 5:30-8:30 pm, 3rd-floor Atrium

Parents of 1-10 year olds, mark your calendars for Parents Night Out and our older youth and ministry leaders will watch the kids at Elim. We are providing affordable childcare at $10 a kid or $30 for a family and helping the Youth raise money for camp registration. Children will need to be fed supper before they come and PJs are encouraged. Our Youth are ready to tire your kids out with lots of activities, snacks and games. Registration for this event will be at the door. See Kari Nelson for any questions. kari@elimchurch.com

(answers 1. Mummy 2. Chocolate 3. True 4. Honor 5. Twenty 6. Jealous 7. Sea 8. Candy)

Kari Nelson
Children's Pastor

WORLD MISSIONS!

"I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified [made holy! pure!] by faith in me." Acts 26:17b, 18

We remember to pray for Father's workers overseas:

Jeff and Mary Ann Anderson---They were all set to go and serve and teach in Asia when they got covid. May you strengthen and bless them in this month's work of service, Father!

Pam Isenhower (and Merro)---Pam was here end of October! We lift up each part of Worldbridge school's work and ministry.

Ashram and Nivin Ibrahim---They came back recently from teaching in Egypt. We pray that the believers and leaders in Egypt will be strengthened to share Jesus and love their neighbors in Jesus' name.

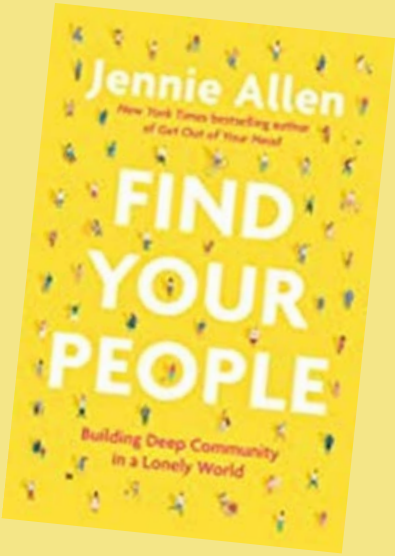
John and Elaine Mehn---A recent trip to Asia gave them great joy. We pray for peace in Jesus and rest. He is finishing another book for the Japanese church.

Jim and Barbara Chapman---Through prayer with Japanese pastors and Bible studies in their focus area, they share Jesus!

Steve and Nopaluck Cable---We were happy to see them recently and pray for the spiritual prospering of each group of passionate believers! Remember the pickleball and the basketball ministries!

Carolyn Pinke
and the World Missions Team

Tuesday Bible Study



Tuesday ~ weekly, 6:30-8 pm
In-person in the lounge and Online (see link below)
Leaders: Pastor Becky Hanson & Gloria Metz

Join us each week as we work through Jennie Allen's *Find Your People: Building Deep Community in a Lonely World*. "You Aren't Alone in Feeling Alone: Jennie looks at the original community in Genesis, the Trinity, and the creation of people to see what God had planned for us all along, Jennie offers practical solutions for creating true community in a world that's both more connected and more isolating than ever before. Because while the ache of loneliness is real, it doesn't have to be your reality."

The Meeting URL: https://meet.google.com/ast-cxmh-ykk or by phone at 1-401-684-3085, PIN: 724 649 481#.

Please register your interest with the church office and to receive a book. info@elimchurch.com

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Merry Makers

The Merry Makers Breakfast will take place on Tuesday, November 8th at Denny's, 2045 Twin Lakes Pkwy, Roseville, at 9:00. We will meet in the back area of the restaurant.

Reservations are due by Friday, November 4, 2022, by emailing barbara.gabel@gmail.com or calling 952-255-9591. Hope to see you there!

Merry Makers November Event: We will be volunteering at Feed My Starving Children. [See next page.]

Merry Makers

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

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: bonniejjohnson@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: Please 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 2021): Last year our group of 12 volunteers packed 2,299 meals to feed 6.3 kids for a year. The meals we packed went to Guatemala through Cross International and Cuba through Convoy of Hope.

November/December Programming

Sunday
- 9:30 am Gathering
- 10:00 am Worship Service
- Join us in person or online at www.facebook.com/elimchurchmpls/live
- 11:15 am-Noon Connections Classes

Monday
- 10:00 am Women's Bible Study online

Tuesday
- 9:00 am Merry Makers Breakfast ~ 2nd Tuesday of the Month
- 6:30 pm Evening Bible Study ~ in person and online

Wednesday
- 6:00-8 pm Wednesday Night Live! (Community Meal - $5/person $10/family) ~ 2nd Wednesday of the Month
- 6:30 pm Youth Group Meeting

Thursday
- 9:00-11:00 am Kidz Klozet and The Unlimited
  OPEN ~ 1st Thursday of the MONTH

Friday
- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study on Zoom
- 6:30 pm Parents Night Out ~ Friday
  EVERY OTHER MONTH (Nov. 18th)

Other Regular Events
- Noon Prayer Online, Monday-Friday, 12:00-12:30 pm
- GriefShare ~ Wednesday, 6:30-8:00 pm in the Lounge
- Building Maintenance Meetings ~ 1st Tuesday of the MONTH
- Leadership Team Meetings ~ 2nd Tuesday of the MONTH

Special Events
- Hanging of the Greens – Nov 26th
- Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24th at 4 pm!
- Christmas on Sunday, December 25th!

2022 Bible Reading Plan

We hope that you will bring out any reference and study material you may have in your library at home to do an in-depth study of the chapter for the day.

There are also Bible Study tools on the website (commentaries, etc.). Otherwise, go to Bible Gateway where you can find other resources.

November 2022

1. Isaiah 62
2. Isaiah 63:1-14
3. Isaiah 63:15-64:12
4. Isaiah 65
5. Isaiah 66
6. Break

7-8. **The Word became flesh**
John 1:1-18; Galatians 4:4-5; Deuteronomy 18:15-18

9-10. **The birth of Jesus is foretold to Mary** -- Luke 1:26-38; Isaiah 7:14

11-12. **The birth of John the Baptist is foretold to Zechariah**
Luke 1:5-25; Malachi 4:5

13-14. **Mary visits Elizabeth, the mother of John**
Luke 1:39-56; 1 Samuel 2:1-10

15-16. **John the Baptist is born** -- Luke 1:57-80; Malachi 4:5-6

17-18. **An angel appears to Joseph** -- Matthew 1:18-25; Genesis 3:15

19-20. **The ancestors of Jesus, part 1** -- Matthew 1:1-17; Genesis 22:18

21-22. **The ancestors of Jesus, part 2** -- Luke 3:23-38; Jeremiah 23:5

23-24. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

25-26. **Jesus is born in Bethlehem** -- Luke 2:1-7; Micah 5:2

27-28. **Shepherds visit Jesus**
Luke 2:8-20; Judges 6:22-23; 13:22

29-30. **Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple**
Luke 2:21-40; Isaiah 25:9

December 2022 Reading Plan

1-2. **Visitors arrive from eastern lands**
Matthew 2:1-12; Isaiah 60:6

3-4. **The escape to Egypt --** Matthew 2:13-18; Hosea 1:11

5-6. **The return to Nazareth --** Matthew 2:19-23; Isaiah 49:7

7-8. **Jesus speaks with the religious teachers**
Luke 2:41-52; Psalms 119:99-100

9-10. **John the Baptist exalts Jesus --** John 3:22-26; Isaiah 40:3

11-12. **Jesus claims to be God**
John 5:16-30; 8:48-59; 1 Kings 17:17-24

13-14. **Jesus eases John the Baptist's doubts**
Matthew 11:2-15; Isaiah 35:5; 61:1

15-16. **The transfiguration**
Matthew 17:1-13; Isaiah 6:5; Ezekiel 1:28

17-18. **Jesus is the Good Shepherd**
John 10:1-21; Isaiah 40:11; Psalms 23:1-6

19-20. **Jesus blesses the children**
Luke 18:15-17; Psalms 43:11; 103:13

21. **Jesus predicts His death, part 1**
Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-34; Isaiah 53:1-7

22-25. HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!

26-27. **Jesus predicts His death, part 2**
Luke 18:31-34; John 12:20-33; Isaiah 53:8-12

28-29. **Most of the people do not believe in Jesus**
John 12:37-43; Zechariah 12:10

30-31. **Resurrection, ascension, and invitation of Jesus**
Luke 24:1-53; John 3:13-17; Psalms 16:10; Numbers 21:6-9

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Elim Church Staff

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

Paul Olson
Lead Pastor, Youth
Extension 106
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Becky Hanson
Pastor, Congregational Care
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Melanie Eslinger
Worship Coordinator
melanie@elimchurch.com

Leslie Smith
Chair of Leadership Team
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Kari Nelson
Pastor, Children's Ministry
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Michelle Espelien
Elim Preschool Director
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Gloria Metz
Office Manager
info@elimchurch.com

MONTHLY GIVING UPDATE

September Giving

Needed	$39,500
Actual	$30,069

Fiscal Year-to-Date (4/1/22 - 9/30/22)

Needed	$237,000
Actual	$232,324

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday	9 am-12 pm
Tuesday	9 am-4 pm
Wednesday	9 am-4 pm
Thursday	9 am-4 pm
Friday	Closed

November 2022

Noon Prayer Time is Monday-Friday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Building Main. Mtg.	2 *Re-Covering In God* Elim Youth GriefShare	3 Kidz Klozet & The Unlimited open	4 Men's Bible Study	5
		Ezer Collective Meetings for Christian women leaders				
6 DAYLIGHT SAVIONGS ENDS Morning worship with Mill City at Las Estrellas Eve. Prayer & Share	7 Women's Bible Study	8 MerryMakers Bkfst. Leadership Team Mtg. Evening Bible Study	9 Wed. Night Live *Re-Covering In God* Elim Youth GriefShare	10	11 Men's Bible Study	12
13 Sunday Activities Communion Elim / Mill City Q&A	14 Women's Bible Study	15 Evening Bible Study	16 MerryMakers Event Combined LT Mtg. *Re-Covering In God* *Elim Youth* GriefShare	17	18 Men's Bible Study Parents' Night Out	19
20 Sunday Activities	21 Women's Bible Study	22 Evening Bible Study	23 *Re-Covering In God* Elim Youth GriefShare	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 OFFICE CLOSED Men's Bible Study	26 Hanging of the Greens
27 Sunday Activities	28 Women's Bible Study	29 Evening Bible Study	30 *Re-Covering In God* Elim Youth GriefShare	1 Kidz Klozet & The Unlimited open	2 Men's Bible Study	3

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Elim Facebook elimchurchmpls

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