

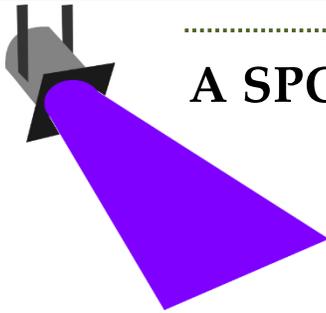


THE SOURCE

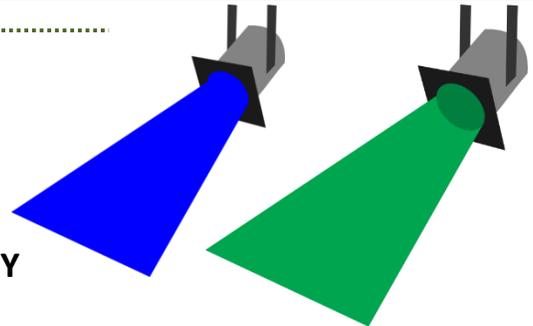
A Monthly Newsletter of Elim Lutheran Church

August 2017

ISSUE 8 / VOLUME 23



A SPOTLIGHT ON:



THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

If you tend to park in the parking lot when you attend Elim and haven't been by the office lately, you may have missed an exciting addition to the community garden.

Girl Scout Troop #10387 (Northern CA) just installed a "little free library" at the community garden, 504 Baker Street, right next door to the office. It's an impressive structure (see photos), beautifully decorated and designed to hold a lot of books.

This is an incredible gift of love and service to the Elim neighborhood by these exceptional young women. They could have chosen to install their little library project anywhere and they chose to install it here at Elim for our neighborhood and community.

We are blessed indeed. And check out the personalized stepping-stones each girl made and donated to decorate around the base of the little library. Each one is a little work of art.

So, "Spotlight" on, and many, many thanks, to Troop leaders Jennifer Inden (Don and Stephanie Bent's daughter) and Brenda Blackman and scouts Anai, Ava, Mara (Brenda's grand-daughter), and Olivia (the Bent's grand-daughter). As you can guess, these folks "bleed green." Come by, browse the current collection (quite impressive), and get your summer reading going- for free!



If you aren't familiar with the "little free library" concept, it's simple. Build a little free library (right, easier said than done) and stock it with a variety of books. Anyone can borrow a book or donate a book or both! The goal is to "build community, spark creativity and inspire readers." (littlefreelibrary.org)

FEAR

Failure. Looking dumb in front of others. That hot dogs really do cause cancer and that I've had one too many. Cancer. Stroke. Heart attack. Debt. Not being able to provide for dependents. Premature death. Car accidents. Blown transmissions. Being stranded in a remote and hot place. Venomous snakes. Venomous spiders. Drowning. Second hand drowning. Pesticides. Heights. Childhood sickness. Not making a difference. Letting my true self show. Vulnerability. Speaking out. That what I create isn't good.

These are just a few of the things that I have been at times and can be afraid of. I've been thinking about fear recently and about how powerful a thing it is. There's so much to be afraid of, or at least so much we can be afraid of. I've heard it said that fear can be a good thing. Perhaps. But it also seems to me that fear can really be debilitating. That it can hold us back in significant, and life draining ways. It can prevent us from making adventurous and risky life-giving moves.

Recently I was on my brother-in-law's boat on a lake in North Dakota. In my experience of being on water crafts, I have found that for me there is something that is both really energizing and scary about jumping into the middle of a deep lake or river. It was a hot enough day, and so I knew that I had to jump in. Call it my weak faith, or my inclination to irrational fear, or whatever else, but I could sense my mind paddling toward fear. What if the water was so cold it sent my body into shock? What kind of creatures are swimming in this lake anyway? What if the life jacket didn't hold me up? What about that invasive blue green algae that had been found in North Dakota waters? What if the boat drifted away and I wasn't able to swim back to it?

So, I jumped in.

I don't always jump in. I fear that way too often I stay in the boat. Fear keeps me in the boat. Fear keeps me from action, engagement, risk, creativity, and adventure. Fear keeps me from being honest, defined and true.

I think of one of Jesus' interactions with his friends. Jesus had been honest and true, he had been himself, he had been vulnerable, self-differentiated, and had made all kinds of well-defined stands. And all kinds of different people - religious, political, and otherwise didn't like him for it. And so, they were about to conspire to put a brutal, unjust and violent end to this Jesus. It seems to me that there would have been a lot to be afraid of in the moment. Yet Jesus spoke, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

I think one of the things that Jesus was really after time and time again was freedom from fear. Perhaps not that people wouldn't experience fear, but that in the midst of their fear, they wouldn't stay stuck there. That in the face of their greatest fears and in spite of their greatest fears they would be able to move on, take action, risk, adventure, laugh, hope, love, trust and find peace.

What are you afraid of? I have found that simply writing it down, and sharing my fears with others who are honest with their own fears can be a really good place to start in journeying and struggling towards peace.

#John 14

#*"...the two things that shut down the contemplative life are fear and holding on, grasping."*

– Sister Simone Campbell

Peace, **Patrick**

PRESIDENT'S POST: CH-CH-CH-CH-CHANGES

What is your response to the following combination of phrases?

1. "Change is hard."
2. "The only constant is change."
3. "Do strength-training exercises, weight-bearing exercises, flexibility & balance exercises and take Vitamin D."

Are you thinking:

- a) 'One of these things, is not like the other'?
- b) Hmmm . . .obviously, too much multi-tasking.
- c) What?
- d) All of the above

Let me explain - phrases one (1) and two (2) were my initial inspiration for this month's President's Post. Thank everyone for their support and patience in light of our (dear, dear, sniff, sniff) Becky's departure to Texas. I continue to be amazed and humbled by the love and energy of the Elim community and the Elim office staff (Doris, Barb, Cathe, Dolores, Alex, Audrey), the Leadership Team and Pastor Patrick, because (2) the only constant is change. Lots of folks are helping make this transition go smoothly, picking up the slack, and I am so grateful. Still, back to (1), change is hard. *It may be constant, but few of us like it.* And while my purpose in this post is to encourage us all to embrace change and view change as an opportunity to learn, grow and stretch, few of us naturally like change.

I REALLY don't like change. I'd be lying, if I pretended otherwise. I always order the same item on the menu and haven't rearranged the furniture in years. Which brings me to (3) which is from the Mayo Clinic's website on osteoporosis. The results of a recent bone density test showed that having even decent genes (thanks, Mom & Dad!) only takes you so far. It's time, according to my doctor, to remove my backside from the couch and exercise, eat more leafy greens, take a daily pill and supplement with Vitamin D, if I plan to have decent bones for the next 40 years (hey, I'm an optimist!). No cause for alarm, but it is time. I know it. Did I embrace this news and see it as an "opportunity to learn, grow and stretch"? No, I'm not a fan of either leafy greens (especially brussel sprouts) or exercise (in any form – I think I'm allergic to perspiration). Face it, change is hard – even if your bones depend on it.

My "little bit of bone loss" (and aversion to brussel sprouts) hardly equates with huge changes - the death of a partner/spouse, job loss, mental illnesses, health decline, divorce, relationship problems, family estrangement, homelessness, food instability or living in a war-zone and being carpet-bombed on a daily basis. It's barely a blip on that screen. But interestingly, specialists in theories of change and transition have found that whether change is chosen (I'm moving to a new town! I'm getting married! I got a new job!), minor (I'm going to eat more leafy greens! And exercise!), or is devastating and thrust upon us, as noted previously, aversion to change is almost universal.

There seem to be some commonly accepted strategies that resilience specialists suggest may help. Most of these we know - Accept the change, be patient, take your time, treat yourself kindly, make healthy choices, seek support,* stick with the change (make it a habit), become part of a community,* try to remain positive, and remember all the changes you've already faced and overcome despite how horrible

or unplanned. But, here's one thing we may neglect to remember, because I know I do, daily. As followers of Jesus, we have been promised that "all things work together for good." Every "hair on our heads and every sparrow that falls to earth" is known to our Creator and that we all matter. A lot.

There is no way to control when and what kind of change will come upon us. That's out of our hands, thank God. But this month, I encourage us all to remind ourselves that God's promises can help provide the strength, flexibility, and balance to build some "muscle and bone" we didn't know we possessed.

So, be on the lookout for Blessings. They ARE everywhere, Amen.

Lynn Harenberg-Miller
2017-18 Leadership Team President

Lynn Harenberg-Miller really, really hates brussel sprouts. However, she is NOT allergic to perspiration.

*Support and community
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Office email: (Alex@elimpetaluma.org)
Pastor Patrick (Patrick@elimpetaluma.org)
Pres. Lynn (Lynn@elimluthern.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS

POTLUCKS ON THE PATIO

Potlucks on the Patio are back this month! With the return of 7pm Wednesday evening services at Elim, we will once again be hosting our summer potlucks at 6pm. The end of August is the end of this summer's potlucks, so come over soon to grab an amazing plate of food, but don't forget to bring your own plate!



PINTS FOR PEP

August 15

Please join us from 5:30 – 8:30 at Lagunitas Brewing Company, 1280 North McDowell Blvd and help us raise funds for low-income seniors. Enjoy a delicious dinner (beer and wine available for purchase), auction, raffle and live music by Smoke House. Purchase your tickets here today at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2990946>.

SENIORS IN TRANSITION PROGRAM TRAINING SESSION

August 19 - Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1300 St. Francis Rd, Santa Rosa, 8:30 am - Noon

Health Ministries of Sonoma County has been providing a facilitated copyrighted program for the past few years. However, as the grant period draws to a close, they have decided to offer training to individuals within faith communities, so that these individuals have the resources to put a program together for their own communities. Individuals attending the 1/2 day training will receive a flash drive with more than 20 files to enable you to offer the program.



NON-COMMITTAL CHOIR

August 20

Like to sing but can't do weekly rehearsals? Is your choir taking a summer break but your voice doesn't want to? Cathe Kiler has been organizing pick-up choirs this summer, the last of which will rehearse at 9am on August 20 to prepare the special music during offering that day. This is a great way to get introduced to Elim's music programs and do something that you love. Thank you to all the voices who participated in the previous pick-up performances!

NEW ORLEANS REFLECTION SERVICE

Sunday, August 20

The R3 team, having recently returned from their service mission trip to New Orleans, will be presenting their experiences during the Sunday worship service on August 20.

As I sit down to write this Source article, I look over and I see my packing list of what to take to New Orleans on Saturday. Since we haven't left yet, I can't tell you how fantastic it was, how hard we worked or what we did.

I can say a huge THANK YOU! Thank you for all support that Elim gives this ministry. Thank you for the 20 people that are making this year's trip and all those who have gone before. Thank you for the prayers and good thoughts you send with us. We are so blessed!

YOUTH EVENTS CONTINUE!

Here are the upcoming high school events, a trip to Cal Skate on Tuesday, August 8, and a trip to Scandia on Saturday, August 12. The last junior high event is a bowling party on August 13. Bring your friends with you to these exciting youth outings to finish off your summer with a bang! If you are an interested youth, or an adult willing to drive or chaperone, send Sarah Labberton an email at Sarah@elimpetaluma.org.

RELAY FOR LIFE

August 26 - 27

Petaluma's Relay for Life will be held on August 26 and 27 and all are welcome to come and join us on the Casa Grande track. There is still room for others on the adult and youth teams so if you are interested or have any questions please contact Nancy L. Clarke.



"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS" SUNDAY

Save the date: Sunday, September 10

The idea for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is this: ELCA members are called to put their faith into action by engaging in service activities in their neighborhood, surrounding community, or designated area. The idea is to deepen a congregation's and/or member's experience in their community and offer some way for congregations to play a critical part in addressing community needs.



God's work.
Our hands.

We are looking for projects and ideas. Keep an eye out for updates! Plans will be finalized and posted in the next Source. And keep an eye out for the table where we will sell the yellow shirts.

In the past Elim members have helped out at the Mary Isaak Center/COTS, tied dog blankets for Petaluma Animal Services, cleaned up a creek with United Anglers at Casa Grande High School, eradicated invasive weeds at Shollenberger Park, and baked/delivered cookies to homebound seniors, people needing a lift, and emergency responders.

If you have any project ideas for this year or would like to help coordinate, please contact Athena Labberton.

FALL 2017 HOSPICE TRAINING

Starting September 18, Sign up soon

St. Joseph Health (416 Payran St, Petaluma, and 439 College Ave, Santa Rosa) is now interviewing applicants for the Patient Care and Grief Support Volunteer Training through April 31. You will learn about hospice philosophy, family dynamics, communication and listening as you prepare to support our hospice patients, families and grief clients. Become a part of a compassionate team providing caregiving and grief support services in homes and facilities throughout Sonoma and West Marin Counties. Call 568-1094 or 778-6242 to schedule the pre-requisite interview.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELIM STAFF TRANSITION

On Tuesday evening, July 12, we bid farewell to our beloved office manager, Becky. On Wednesday the 13, the office still had to operate. But how? Most of you know by now that Alex Miller was hired on an emergency basis as interim office manager to learn Becky's duties on the fly. Meanwhile, Doris (the only person other than Becky who really knows what's what in the office) has been trying to retire for the last 18 months. She has generously agreed to work some extra hours, but doesn't want to be chained to the office. So Audrey Norman was brought on as Staff Transition Manager, to provide staff supervision and continuity while conducting an inventory of all staff jobs that will help Leadership Team make future staffing plans.

Please be patient with us. We are all finding our way in Becky's absence. We might take a little longer to get answers to you, but we're doing our best to support Elim's ministries with the proficiency you've come to expect.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION IS COMING!

Lutherans all over the world will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Castle Church. Here at Elim, we are planning several ways to commemorate this momentous event:

- August 17th, 7:30 pm: Join Lutherans from all over Sonoma County at a special screening at Summerfield Cinema (in Santa Rosa) of "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World." Watch a preview on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9A7xvTFNpCQ> and buy tickets (\$12 per person) here: <http://luthermovie.link/thanksgiving>
- September 17th, after 10:30 service: Elim will screen Rick Steves' one-hour special about the Reformation: "Steves tells the story of a humble monk who lived a dramatic life by visiting key sites relating to the Reformation (including Erfurt, Wittenberg, and Rome) and exploring the complicated political world of 16th-century Europe — from indulgences to iconoclasts, and from the printing press to the Counter-Reformation." More details on food to follow!
- September - October: Our worship services will feature hymns written by Martin Luther and Sunday morning Adult Forum will study a book related to Luther and his wife, Katharina.
- Finally, we are planning a Reformation dinner in October. Date, time, and location to be determined! This is still very much in the brainstorming stage, so if you are interested in helping to plan food or entertainment, please contact Mary Wyrick.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, CALLING VOLUNTEERS

Summer is coming to an end, and that means Sunday school will be starting again! Sunday school classes will be kicking off on September 10. If you would like to volunteer to teach or assist during the year, please contact Sarah Labberton at Sarah@elimpetaluma.org. We appreciate all of those volunteers because Sunday School cannot happen without them.

CHILDREN OF LIGHT

Any children entering 2nd-5th grade who love to sing might be interested to know that the “Children of Light” choir will be rekindled in September! The plan is for them to sing once a month at the 10:30am service. Rehearsals would take place on either Wednesday afternoons or Thursday evenings for a half hour, depending on which time works for most

Please contact Cathe Kiler, Elim’s music director, at cathe@elimpetaluma.org if you have a child who would be interested.

ENDOWMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE

The **Elim Endowment for Mission** provides a long-term fund attracting both current and pre-planned future gifts, as people are inspired to leave a legacy for ministry. Apportionments from the “total return” of the fund can be distributed to support mission work at home and around the world.

Distributions from the endowment fund come from an amount set annually by the Church Leadership Team. The fund grows through additional gifting that is actively solicited by a five-member elected Endowment Committee. Prudent distribution strategies then protect the endowment fund principal, while a steady stream of returns is provided from which mission and ministry can be strengthened for years to come.

The Endowment Committee also administers an application process through which grant requests for mission projects can be received and considered. Grants are awarded upon the basis of criteria set each year by the Endowment Committee and Leadership Team. New applications for grants may be submitted beginning on June 1 of each year and can be considered as funds remain available until the following 1st day of March.

Additional information and application forms for grants are available at the church office and on our website at <http://www.elimpetaluma.org/news-blog/grant>

MEALS FOR THE NOCKLEBYS

Would you like to prepare and deliver a meal for our dear members, Diane & Daryll Nockleby, in their time of need? They would like meals on Sundays and Wednesdays. If you want to jump on this meal train, please contact the office for information on how to sign up.

ADULT MINISTRIES

MEN’S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Elim men meet for a pass-the-hat breakfast every Saturday in the church kitchen. Cooking at 7-8am, 8-9am eat and discuss. Topics include the Bible, fatherhood, and the great bacon vs. sausage debate. For more information or to sign up to cook, contact Brian Crosby.

ELCW – ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

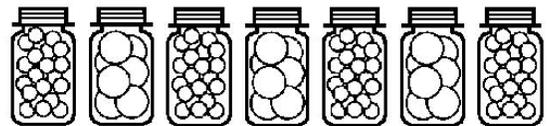
Would you like to attend a monthly women's group but not sure which one? Just contact one of the Circle Chairs and let them know you are interested. Below you will find Circle information and when they each meet.

- **Grace Friendship** (hosted by Carol Mayo) always meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month – August 10 – at 12pm in the back of the sanctuary. Robin Butts will lead the bible study.
- **Elizabeth** (hosted by Debra Jensen Orner) usually meets on the 3rd Monday of the month, but alternative plans are being developed for the summer. Watch for updates.
- **Esther** (hosted by Jo Ann Andrus) usually meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month – August 8 – at noon.

PREPARE NOW FOR FRUITS OF THE HARVEST

Fruits of the Harvest, the food-focused ELCW fundraiser to sell canned goods in the non-Bazaar years, is coming on Sunday, October 15. If you can, please consider setting aside a few jars for Elim. If you have fruit you don't know what to do with, hey, we'd love to get it and can it. You know those zucchini that grow to giant size and you can't face making any more zucchini bread? I can actually use those, so give them to me! I'll turn them into zucchini relish and chutney and jam. If you have empty jars from previous bazaars, we can use those too, so bring them to church. Any questions, contact Robin Butts.

What kinds of products sell well? Jams, jellies, fruit butters, lemon curd, fruit sauce, pickles, chutneys, conserves, preserves. Need ideas or recipes? Contact Robin.



Want to learn how to can? Again, contact Robin. If there is enough interest, she can teach a canning class. Why might you want to learn to do this? Canning prevents food waste (no one should let fruit rot on the tree!), you can moderate the amount of sugar in jams and jellies, and homemade stuff tastes better!

GEMS OF ELIM #2?

On March 24, 2007, Elim held a celebration to honor our 38 "Gems" – Elim members over the age of 75. In conjunction with this banquet, a booklet was assembled containing biographies of these lovely ladies written by Elim women of all ages. Several people have indicated an interest in developing an updated "Gems of Elim" document and bash but we are searching for a person or team willing to coordinate this project. Having a leader makes anything run smoother and gives us a name to call with our questions. If this is a position that speaks to your heart, please call Kathy Matt (a Gem). Nancy Clarke is also willing to speak to anyone with an interest as she helped coordinate the first "Gems of Elim" but now qualifies as a Gem herself.

EXPLORING THE STORY

Tuesdays at 7pm, Choir Room

Come and engage in deep, meaningful, and exploratory conversation about the Bible reading and sermon topic for the upcoming Sunday. A great group of regulars is always eager to welcome newcomers to the bunch.

CRAFTERS UPDATE

Let's hit the ground running in August. We have some great projects started for Relay, come add your input and talent to our ideas. We are also going to try some paper flowers later in the month. Pinterest has some great ideas. Saturday Brunch bunch will meet 10 -1 in room 1, please join us! No crafting on Relay weekend, August 26.

We could use crepe paper and tissue paper donations. We are also in need of an organizing group, to whip room 2 back into shape. If you get happy getting things in order, shoot me a text, we need you! September will begin the holiday season for us. Bring in your ideas and we'll set the calendar with our favorites. Don't be shy, we love a challenge and love to learn new techniques. Questions or comments, call or text the crafty gal, Diane Deardorff.

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY

SECOND MILE GIVING | CHANGE THE WORLD: PETALUMA BOUNTY FARM

"Second mile giving" refers to an extra offering towards a special cause. The August recipient will benefit the Petaluma Bounty Farm. Check off "Special Offering" on the pew envelopes, look for the special offering envelopes in the back of the sanctuary by the copper vase, click on the "Donate Now" button on our website, or send a text to 707-317-6431: \$(amount) 2nd to contribute.



Formed in summer 2006 as a result of a Community Needs Assessment with initial seed funding from the Hub of Petaluma Foundation, *Petaluma Bounty's mission is to create a thriving local food system with healthy food for everyone through collaboration, education and promoting self-reliance.*

Most small scale farmers can't afford to feed low-income people (since they are low-income) and most low-income consumers can't afford to buy locally grown produce. This is a systems problem and Petaluma Bounty seeks to design community solutions. We push beyond hunger relief toward community food security (and hunger prevention) through programming that expands our community's capacity to feed ourselves. *Petaluma Bounty's vision is to grow a thriving local food system where consumers make informed decisions; farmers make a decent living while prioritizing ecological stewardship of the land; and all people – regardless of income – have access to healthy food.*

To learn more about Petaluma Bounty visit their website at <http://www.petalumabounty.org/about/>.

EASTSIDE AND WESTSIDE INTERFAITH PANTRIES

This month Elim will host the Eastside Pantry on **Tuesday, August 1**, at Lucchesi Park, and the Westside Pantry on **Thursday, August 17**, in our Fellowship Hall. Come a little before 5pm to help set up. We start serving at 5:30pm and are usually done and headed home by 6pm. Bring the kids, a friend or neighbor, and a high school student who needs to fulfill community service hours. If you would like to be included in the reminder emails about pantries, please contact the office (elim@elimpetaluma.org / 762-4081).

LITTLE SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL

SUMMER PROGRAM

Enrollment is still open for Little Shepherd's summer program! Each week will have a theme with related activities. Open to all children ages 3 to 5 who are toilet trained and have attended a preschool program. Hours are 9am-2pm each day. Contact the school, church office, or see the preschool website (elimpetaluma.org/preschool) for the registration form.

The total cost of each weekly session is \$155, with \$50 of that total due with the registration form (this \$50 nonrefundable registration fee guarantees the spot in the class). The balance of \$105 is due the first day of class.



- Week 6: July 31-August 4 Exploring Outer Space
- Week 7: August 7-11 Down on the Farm
- Week 8: August 14-18 Bugs, Bugs, Bugs

FINANCIAL REPORT

Regular Giving Report

	JUNE	YEAR-TO-DATE
Regular Giving:	25,418	25,418
Budget:	27,000	27,219
Variance:	(1,582)	(1,801)
Change:	-6.2%	-7.1%
compared to Last Year:	29,232	29,232
Variance:	(3,815)	(3,815)
Change:	-15.0%	-15.0%
Full Year Budget:	344,485	
Last Fiscal Year Actual:	306,684	
Increase over last year:	37,801	We anticipate an 11%
Change:	11.0%	increase in giving

General Fund (Unrestricted) Summary of Activity

These are funds that we received as regular offering, cost sharing from the preschool and other groups; we use this fund to pay salaries and our operating expenses.

JUNE 2017	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue & Transfers to General Fund	27,280	29,105	(1,824)
Expenses	33,431	41,273	7,842
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$(6,151)	\$(12,168)	\$6,017

GRATITUDE

Dearest Friends at Elim,

The lovely card, phone calls, personal help, and above all – your prayers - are surely speeding recovery from my recent illness. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your loving kindness. With love to you all,

Corinne Christopherson

The Elim Lite team members thank all of you that supported our fundraiser, The Purple Fiesta, for the Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. Thanks for your attendance, donations and volunteering. All enjoyed David Penny's beautiful piano talents, the McCloud's and their kitchen crew's taco bar and Jordan Grout's emceeing. We also are grateful to Renate Bohn for securing Hermann Sons Hall and assisting us with all facets of the day.

Nancy Clark

Special thanks to Elece Hempel, for her talk at the Wednesday evening service on July 26, and for letting our congregation use the Petaluma Bounty Farm for our worship service.

WORSHIP NOTES

JULY ATTENDANCE

Sunday	#	Wednesday	#	Week total	Average Weekly Attendance in June 2016
July 2	119	-	-	119	
July 9	130	July 12	17	147	
July 16	86	July 19	26	112	117
July 23	77	July 26	14	91	
July 30	102				

ALTAR FLOWERS

August 6: Lorraine Johnson, August 13: The Svinths, August 20: *Open*, August 27: Lou & Viki Navarro

Help make the altar look special each Sunday! You are invited to pick a date that is significant to you (someone's birthday, anniversary, or ??) and provide the altar flowers on the closest Sunday. Put your name on the Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the Welcome Area. The cost depends on whether you use flowers from your garden (free), make your own arrangements, or use a florist.

WORSHIP HELPERS

Having a choice of which day to attend service (Wednesday or Sunday) also gives you the choice of which day you'd like to be a worship helper. The summer schedule is on the Worship Helper page of the Elim website (www.elimpetaluma.org/worship-helpers). Because of the new schedule, **we have not scheduled anyone automatically**. We want to give you the opportunity to attend whichever service you would prefer (Sunday at 9:30am or Wednesday at 7pm). If you haven't signed up before and would like to help, please contact Barb in the office (707) 762-4081. Every week we are looking for volunteers. Many of the positions only require your help during service. You do not have to make a commitment to do the task every week. Many hands, make light work.

BULLETIN COVER ART

It's hard to believe we are looking at the August schedule already. This month will wrap up our "We've Got Questions" series. Please look over the schedule below and if a question or reading piques your interest see if you can put it into artwork form. You don't need to be an artist to give it a try. All forms of art are welcome, even if we have to take a photo of it. So get those thinking caps on and explore your creative side.

We appreciate everyone who has shared their interpretation of the Wednesday/Sunday reading thus far. Come take a look at the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall to see all the artwork that's been submitted. We would like to continue featuring artwork each week submitted by members of any age that represents the text of the day. Drawings must be done in dark colors and easy enough to copy. Photographs may have to be adjusted for better quality copying. The due date will be the Tuesday before the service. Sign up for a date by contacting the office or online at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e49aea82aa4f49-bulletin> and submit artwork/photos to barb@elimpetaluma.org or drop off at the church office.

READINGS

Our summer sermon series was developed by you! Sermon topics were chosen from questions submitted in April. Enjoy!

August 2 & August 6

Question: There's one God, right?

Gospel/Reading: Genesis 21:1-21

Artwork Deadline: August 1

August 9 & August 13

Question: How do you balance science and religion?

Gospel/Reading: Matthew 22:34-40

Artwork Deadline: August 8

August 16 & August 20

Question: Would Jesus believe in liberal rioting? (i.e. Berkeley)

Gospel/Reading: John 2:13-22

Artwork Deadline: August 15

August 23 & August 27

Question: Why do babies get terminal illness?

Gospel/Reading: Job 38:1-18

Artwork Deadline: August 22

August 30 & September 3

Question: Does God justify violence? Why do we have wars?

Gospel/Reading: 1 Samuel 15:1-11; Matthew 5:9

Artwork Deadline: August 29

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Brooklyn Bailey	11 Kirsten Hilbert	16 Cliff Eveland	23 Kyle Yant
2 Chris Cooke	Sarah Romstad	Max Genovese	24 Matthew Oakes
4 Patrick Gholson	12 Dan Deardorff	Kathy Hudson	26 Kathy Fowler
5 Tasha Jensen Stone	Madison Eveland	Chari Nicely	Nick Rodkin
Lorraine Johnsen	Stella Prime	17 Carol Eaton	Georgia Kate Romstad
Jon Simon	13 Cate Curley	18 Kira Svinth	27 Philip Cannon
6 Max Bechtel	Tony Wright	19 Sarah Rabbitt	Max Wagner
7 Irene Thimm	14 Margaret Darroch	20 Austin Albertson	28 Julie Prime
9 Kathy Matt	Bonnie Koagedal	21 Robin Merrill	30 Karl Thimm
10 Jo Briner-Jones	Emma O'Connor	22 Fletcher Carter	
Dalton Shaw	Suzy Sellai	Brandon McKinley	
	Barb Villa		

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Living in God's love, it is Elim's mission
To invite all people
To grow in God
And to work together
To heal and transform the community
In Jesus' name.

Elim Lutheran Church

August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Summer schedule!</i> Sundays at 9:30am (childcare available in the nursery) Wednesdays at 7pm on the patio (potlucks at 6pm)</p>		<p>1 5pm Elim at Food Pantry (Lucchesi Park on McDowell) 5pm Women's Board Meeting (Fireside Rm) 7pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)</p>	<p>2 5pm Endowment Committee Meeting 6pm Potluck on the Patio 7pm Worship (patio)</p>	<p>3 7pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>4 9am Finance Team (Room 9)</p>	<p>5 8am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 10am-1pm Crafting Brunch Bunch (Room 1)</p>
<p>6 9:30am Worship</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 12pm Esther Circle (Andrus) 2pm High School Youth Group Trip: Cal Skate 5:45pm Worship & Music Planning Committee (back of sanctuary) 7pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)</p>	<p>9 6pm Potluck on the Patio 7pm Worship (patio)</p>	<p>10 12pm Grace Friendship Circle (back of church) 7pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 8am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 10am High School Youth Group: Skandia 10am-1pm Crafting Brunch Bunch (Room 1)</p>
<p>13 9:30am Worship 5pm Jr. High Bowling party</p>	<p>14 6pm Leadership Team (Fireside Room) 7:30pm Worship Team rehearsal (Choir Room)</p>	<p>15 Source Deadline 7pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room) 5:30 Pints for Pep (Lagunitas)</p>	<p>16 6pm Potluck on the Patio 7pm Worship (patio)</p>	<p>17 4:45pm Elim's turn at the Westside Pantry 7pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary) 7:30pm Screening of "Martin Luther" in Santa Rosa</p>	<p>18 7pm Danish Club Ice Cream Social</p>	<p>19 8am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 8:30am Seniors in Transition Training (Santa Rosa) 10am-1pm Crafting Brunch Bunch (Room 1)</p>
<p>20 9am Non-Committal Choir (Choir Room) 9:30am Worship, New Orleans R³ Reflections</p>	<p>21 7pm Elizabeth Circle (TBD)</p>	<p>22 7pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)</p>	<p>23 6pm Potluck on the Patio 7pm Worship (patio)</p>	<p>24 7pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 8am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 10am Relay for Life (Casa Grande HS track)</p>
<p>27 9:30am Worship</p>	<p>28 7:30pm Worship Team rehearsal (Choir Room)</p>	<p>29 7pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)</p>	<p>30 6pm Potluck on the Patio 7pm Worship (patio)</p>	<p>31 4:45pm Elim's turn at the Westside Pantry 7pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)</p>		