



# THE SOURCE

A Monthly Newsletter of Elim Lutheran Church

October 2018

ISSUE 10 / VOLUME 24

Elim Lutheran Church  
**Presents**  
**Elim's Fall Bazaar**  
 Come & See      Fun for All  
**Saturday, October 13**  
**9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**HOLIDAY CRAFTS**  
**JAMS, JELLIES, PRESERVES**  
**NEEDLE CRAFTS**  
**DECORATIVE ART**  
**PLANTS**  
**BAKED GOODS**

**Lasagna LUNCH**  
**COFFEE & DESSERT**

**Join Us**

Elim Lutheran Church  
 504 Baker St.  
 Petaluma, CA



Saturday, October 20

9 am - 3 pm

Come help clean up and clean OUT the church!

## October Second Mile Giving: Lutheran Disaster Response

"Second-mile giving" refers to an extra offering toward a special cause. Our second mile giving for October will go to Lutheran Disaster Response for Hurricane victims, and others suffering from weather disasters.

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## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

“Every one of us is assigned to master something in our lives.”

These are some of the very first words by author Alan Morinis in his book *“Everyday Holiness”*. In saying this, Morinis explains how each of us has these unique things in which we are challenged to become aware of, work on, and overcome. Morinis calls these “life’s curriculum”.

Several years back when I was an intern pastor on the east coast I would “preach” or give a meditation on a set of ancient readings about one Sunday a month. Each Saturday I was so nervous the night before that I would toss and turn, hardly getting any sleep. It may have gotten a little better as the year progressed, but not much. In any case, these terrible nerves beckoned me to wonder about what was lying underneath them. There were some things in my life that needed some “mastering”. I don’t pretend to have all of these issues worked out, but I do sleep much better on Saturday nights now, and I think in part due to my wondering about where this anxiety was coming from. (Or maybe I sleep much better at night because of our three kids.)

In any case, Morinis makes the argument that there are these things that have the potential to “dunk us in the same soup” over and over again. We can remain unaware, letting these behaviors and patterns affect our health, our relationships, our finances, etc., or we can become aware of these things and get to work on them. Morinis offers up “Mussar”, a Jewish spiritual perspective and a discipline of transformative practices as a guide. Mussar has its origins in 19th century Lithuania under the leadership of Rabbi Yisrael Lipkin Salanter. Morinis explains in his book, “The word mussar itself means ‘correction’ or ‘instruction’ and also serves as the simple modern Hebrew word for ‘ethics’. But Mussar is most accurately described

as a way of life. It shines light on the causes of suffering and shows us how to realize our highest spiritual potential, including an everyday experience infused with happiness, trust, and love.” Within Mussar are various “soul-traits”, these are things in which we might find ourselves needing to work on and grow in. Things like humility, patience, gratitude, compassion, order, equanimity, honor, simplicity, enthusiasm, silence, generosity, truth, moderation, loving-kindness, responsibility, trust, and faith. If you’re anything like me, you may have just read that list and said “yep, yep and yep.” Of course, this list is not exhaustive, but it’s a start.

Here isn’t the place to describe Mussar in all its fullness. However, one of the simple practices of Mussar is to work on a particular soul-trait through writing out a “daily reminder phrase”. For example, for faith you might write “The righteous live by faith.” For enthusiasm you might write “Just do it – enthusiastically!” For honor “Each and every one, holy soul.” The idea is that you put this reminder phrase in a location you’ll see it each morning. Each morning you read the phrase of the soul-trait you are working on.

So what’s something you and I might be sensing we need to work on? That thing that has been “dunking us in the same soup” again and again? Yours might be different than mine, but we are both becoming. What phrase might you write? Where would you put it? What’s stopping you from trying it for the month of October?

peace,

Patrick

P.S. The phrases I’ve used come directly out of the book *“Everyday Holiness”*. Let me know if you’d like me to send you a phrase.

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

### “Cleanliness is Next to Godliness”

October’s message continues the “quote” theme. As the title implies, the focus is on cleanliness. But not cleanliness of the soul. I will let Pastor Patrick tackle the cleanliness “inside” us. I want to focus on the external, visible cleanliness of our church environment. My focus is on restoring the spaces in and around our church home to a clean and neat condition.

Simply put, Elim is due for a major clean up. We have had cleaning days in the past as many of you know and they are often scheduled before major church holidays. The Leadership Team has scheduled

**Saturday, October 20** as the fall 2018 cleanup day.

However, the October 20 emphasis will differ from past cleanup days – we’re not just cleaning up, we’re “cleaning out”. It’s time to rid Elim of all the unused items that no longer serve a practical or mission purpose here.

Our campus has many rooms, closets, etc. that all need to be gone through to determine what is worth keeping and what can be recycled or thrown away. The house at 506 Baker Street is also part of this effort. There may be items that have value but no longer serve an Elim purpose. A parking lot sale may also happen the same day for these still useable items.

To prepare for this day I respectfully ask all Elim teams that store items onsite to go through your stuff with an eye toward what can be sold or thrown away. Please be realistic in this decision-making process. The decision to “keep” an item should be made only if you have used it

within the last year or two. Examples include kitchen utensils (knives, serving spoons, etc.), of which there are way too many. We simply don’t need them all, and many of the knives are dull or of poor quality which makes them unsafe to use. The garage at 506 Baker Street holds another example – several buckets full of old saws that were used by the Mexico Mission team. We have new saws now so why keep these old ones?

A little (and maybe more than a little in some spots) TLC is also needed on the church landscaping. Our October 20 cleanup day will also include landscaping activities. The first thing visitors to Elim lay eyes on is our

landscaping, so maintaining curb appeal is in our best interests. Cleaning up the grounds at 506 Baker is part of this effort, too.

In concert with this month’s theme of cleanliness, LT invested considerable time, thought, research, and discussion on how best to meet the custodial needs of our church and preschool, which culminated in the decision to outsource this function. Redwood Building Maintenance is now providing this service to Elim. Audrey and I also rewrote the cleaning requirements, so our new service focuses on cleaning and sanitation of the most important areas of the church (bathrooms, fellowship hall, nursery, sanctuary, etc.). What this means for Elim groups and other organizations that use our facilities is these groups will have to clean up after themselves if it is beyond RBM’s list of duties. The kitchen is the most notable example. The janitors will not be washing dishes left in



**Saturday, October 20**

the sink or on counters. In short, all of us need to be helpful stewards of Elim's facilities.

Research shows that a clean environment creates a welcoming atmosphere, often subconsciously encouraging collective effort and improving all-around well-being. For most of us a clean house

is a source of satisfaction – it makes us feel good on the inside, too. So maybe external cleanliness IS good for the soul!

Peace,

Roger Davis

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## OCTOBER EVENTS

### OUR BAZAAR IS ALMOST HERE!

The Main Event: **Saturday, October 13, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Bazaar Part 2: **Sunday, October 14, 9:30 a.m. - Noon**

If you check the calendar, you'll see it's time for the ELIM FALL BAZAAR 2018! This large biennial event raises funds that are distributed both to worthy nonprofit organizations as well as important projects here at church. Please invite your friends and family to our grand event!

These final days find us pushing ourselves to complete so many wonderful projects. We will keep the candles burning and burn the midnight oil . . . enough burning . . . let's just say we'll work really, really hard to fill our tables with items you simply cannot live without.

Our door is always open, so I hope you join us and share the grace that can be found with our crafting Brunch Bunch every Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. If Saturdays are booked, please stop by Room 1 on Sunday mornings between services to pick up a craft to take home.

Here are some special events coming up:

☺September 29: Brunch Bunch focuses on finishing up & sprucing up crafts

☺October 6: Brunch Bunch will be pricing items

☺October 12: Brunch Bunch will be setting up in the Fellowship Hall

If you have been creative at home, please bring your completed masterpieces to church by October 7 unless you have made other arrangements.

We need a bunch of volunteers! Yes, this event is sponsored by the ELCW (Elim Lutheran Church Women), but this is a church-wide event that requires assistance from all our members. We need a variety of volunteers – guys and gals – to lend a hand. Set-up happens on October 12, all kinds of help will be needed on the day of the event at times between 8am and 5pm, and we'll sell leftovers on October 14 that will require help that morning and clean-up in the afternoon. Bazaar signups are on the bulletin board at the Baker Street entrance.

We still need starter plants or any other form of foliage: winter fruits and vegetables, flowers, shrubs, herbs, succulents, house plants. If you

are planning on donating plants please contact Fran Wilson.

Calling all bakers! We need donations of cakes, candies, and cookies to sell at the Bake Sale as well as treats to enjoy in the Café with a cup of coffee. Bake Sale items should be brought in at 8am on October 13 wrapped and ready to sell. More information is in the envelope on the bulletin board. Delightful coffee cakes, special cakes, and nice pieces of pie are requested for the Café. These do not need to be packaged – bring them whole. Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board.

**MOST IMPORTANT:** We need to get the word out that this is the place to be on October 13! Download a flyer off our website (one is included with this newsletter) or pick up extra bulletin inserts at church, share us on Facebook, tell at least 5 friends, post a flyer at work and school, invite friends to meet you for the lasagna luncheon. Tell all your friends with a sweet tooth about the awesome bakery of goodies. Plan to meet someone here for lunch. Then tell 5 more friends!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### **Cherub Choir Fall Session!**

All children ages 3 through first grade are invited to join Miss Vicki for some fall fun making music. We will be

meeting Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., beginning October 18 in Room 9. Please bring your friends!

Questions? Contact Vicki Olivas Navarro.



### **Attention All Past, Present, And Future Festival Choir Members**

#### **Please Save The Dates!!**

Festival Choir Sunday has been scheduled for **December 9**. Rehearsals are scheduled for **Thursdays, October 25, November 1, 8, 15, 29, and December 6**. Saturday rehearsal is on **December 8** – probably in the morning.

Knowing the make-up of our choir – the number of sopranos, altos, tenors and basses – would be so helpful in selecting the music. **PLEASE** take a few minutes to contact me, by e-mail or phone, to let me know if:

- you will be participating;
- you are considering participating;
- you are not available.

I would appreciate your contacting me directly.

As always, I am so excited and looking forward to the opportunity to work with the Elim Festival Choir. Lifting our voices in song and sharing our music with the congregation seems to bring more meaning, joy and inspiration to the services. You are all to be commended for giving your time and sharing your talent. I know it makes it rewarding for all of us.

Hope to hear from everyone soon!

Laila

## Follow-up Report!



**God's work.  
Our hands.**

What an amazing weekend we had at Elim. This year God's work. Our hands. was a weekend event. We thank all who built, donated, tied, knit, crocheted or just gathered to help. You are all amazing.

### Habitat Build

It started on Friday night with an orientation and potluck with 8 people from Elim and another 13 people from St. John's Episcopal and First Presbyterian churches. We had an orientation and learned what we would be doing on Saturday.

Saturday began at 8:30 and we were installing inside walls on the second story and putting up the second story siding. We also did lots of other projects around the site. We worked along with the new homeowner. It was a very productive and fun day.

Sunday had three different events happening.

### Car Care Packages

Mary Wyrick reported that the Car Care package project was highly successful. Sixty Car Care packages were completed and distributed to people who could share them. Eight packages were started, but not finished. Mary will complete them and get them out to people. We also sorted multiple donated items for the COTS Personal Care Kits. Those items will be gathered and completed as well. A huge Thank You to Thrivent. Mary received a Thrivent Action Grant that made it possible to purchase all the supplies for the bags.

### Pet Beds

Sue Davy, Board President of North Bay Animal Services, and Swaggy came and watched as a group tied Pet Blankets. We were able to make and donate 50 pet blankets of different sizes. A special shout out to Logan Reuter for a bag full of used tennis balls for North Bay Animal Services. Lots of fleece was donated and it was a fun time tying and chatting.

### Scarf Success!

As part of God's work. Our hands. the Elim Kindknits group knitted and crocheted scarves to give away as an outreach project. On Sunday, September 9, 24 beautiful scarves were hung on the pillars outside of Copperfield's book store downtown. On Tuesday, September 11, only three were left, and by now, they've all found their new homes. Thanks to all who participated in making this great ministry happen!

Copperfield's assistant manager said that not only was the project very well received, but something extra special happened on Sunday: Mac Barnett, the New York Times bestselling author of children's books, held a book event to publicize his *Kid Spy* books. Coincidentally, he also wrote *Extra Yarn*, a delightful story about how a young girl and her box of magical yarn transform a community. Mac and the assistant manager went out to look at our scarves and talk about our project. Mac was happily hopeful that his book had played a part in giving us the idea.

Because of this project's great success, we'd like to keep it going. Interested in helping? Talk to Athena Labberton or Julie Prime.

## ELIM R3 News

We have kicked off the Elim R3 2019 New Orleans trip! The trip will be July 13 – 22, 2019. The cost per person will be \$500. We are planning to team up with Saint Bernard Parish for our building work. We stay at the Mustard Seeds Ministry house in Chalmette. If you are 16 years old, by June 30, and would like to join the team this year, please contact Athena Labberton. Forms are available on our website: [elimpetaluma.org/new-orleans](http://elimpetaluma.org/new-orleans). Paperwork and the first payment are due by November 4.

We hope you will consider joining us. Laissez les bon temps de rouler!

## ELCW – ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Elim Women's Ministry Board will meet on October 7, in between services.

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** Circle meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at noon in the back of the sanctuary. (Contact Shirley Bunce for more information.)
- **Elizabeth** Circle usually meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:45 p.m.. (contact Andrea Nortz for location and details.)
- **Esther** Circle meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon. (Contact Jan Moffitt for location and details.)

## MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Elim men meet for a pass-the-hat breakfast every Saturday in the Kitchen *except October 13* (due to the Bazaar). Cooking at 7-8 a.m., 8-9 a.m. 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.

## EASTSIDE AND WESTSIDE INTERFAITH PANTRIES



This month Elim serves on **Tuesday, October 4**, at Lucchesi Park and will cover the Westside Pantry on **Thursday, October 20**, in our Fellowship Hall. Come a little before 5 p.m. to help set up. We start serving at 5:30 p.m. and are usually done and headed home by 6 p.m. 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 Erin in the office ([erin@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:erin@elimpetaluma.org) / 762-4081).

Have a productive garden? Bring your extra produce to the office on Thursdays and it will go to needy families at the pantry that evening.

## THANK YOU

Thanks to our ELIM church family for your prayers, cards, rides, and visits during David's stay at Windsor Rehab Petaluma since his stroke in October 2017, and during Nancy's lumbar procedures and heart ablation.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Elaine Clever	8 Aidan Cooke	20 Ann DeJong	26 Ronan Curley
Diane Day	Liam Cooke	21 Therese Van Wiele	Lou Navarro
Alice Roberti	Marilyn Dizikes	22 Paul Anderson	Judy Peterson
Emma Roberti	12 Anita Flett	Randal Clapham	28 Olin Forsberg
Perry Torbit	13 Charlotte Siemens	Kim Svinth	Linden Gen
3 Paul Behringer	14 Jan Moffet	24 Russell Albright	30 Nancy Ticken
4 Nicki Navarro	15 Mo Yu	Al Butler	31 Ciara Curley
5 Tom Hoen	16 Joanna Charles	Willow Kraft	Brian Milward
6 Cheryl Coldiron	18 Jim Power	25 Jacquelin Percy Paul	
	19 Parker Lauridesen	Nam Sun Sin	

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## ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9am-noon**



Pastor Patrick Torbit: 443-668-2024 / [patrick@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:patrick@elimpetaluma.org)

Audrey Norman, Staff Transition Manager: 762-4081 / [audrey@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:audrey@elimpetaluma.org)

Erin Hettrick-Hohenner, Office Manager: 762-4081 / [office@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:office@elimpetaluma.org)

Richard Maxon, Bookkeeper: 762-4081 / [richard@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:richard@elimpetaluma.org)

Barb Villa, Bulletin Production & Worship Helper Scheduler: 762-4081 / [barb@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:barb@elimpetaluma.org)

Cathe Kiler, Music Director: 415-898-1248 / [cathe@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:cathe@elimpetaluma.org)

Sarah Labberton, Sunday School Coordinator: [sarah@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:sarah@elimpetaluma.org)

Roger Davis, Leadership Team President: [roger@elimpetaluma.org](mailto:roger@elimpetaluma.org)

Kathy Fowler, Little Shepherd Director: 769-0462 / [LittleShepherd123@gmail.com](mailto:LittleShepherd123@gmail.com)

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.