



THE SOURCE

A Monthly Newsletter of Elim Lutheran Church

October 2017

ISSUE 10 / VOLUME 23



FRUITS OF THE HARVEST

Our semi-annual canned goods fair is just around the corner! Prepare your cans and jars for the 15th. Page 4

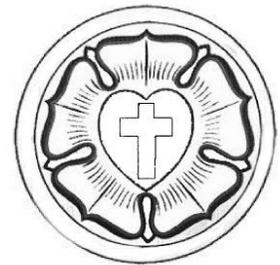


YOUTH GROUPS

Entering the fall, youth events and meetings resume for the Junior High and Senior High School youth groups' events return! Page 8

REFORMATION 500

October is the month of Reformation activities! Discover out how to celebrate 500th anniversary of the reformation. Pages 10 – 11



WHY LUTHER DIDN'T FULLY UNDERSTAND THE GOSPEL

This October 31st marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther critiquing the Church's practice of selling indulgences via his posting, nailing, or at least mailing of his 95 theses as a call for theological debate. As a side, I must say amid all that is going on in the world and in our country (hurricanes, earthquakes, threats of deportation and destruction) it does seem like those of us recognizing this anniversary through various comfortable events are in positions of privilege. Nevertheless, in recently reading Luther's 95 theses it is easy to discern Luther's distaste and disgust for the practice that had become widespread within the Church in the Middle Ages. Though perhaps not the original intent, indulgences had become preached and understood as God's forgiveness for sale. If a person was feeling guilty, just pay some money to the church and God would forgive them. If a person had a loved one who died and was uncertain of the state of their soul, just pay some money to the Church and God would welcome that loved one through the pearly gates. Wanting to commit a juicy sin? You can now pay for forgiveness in advance. Not really feeling sorry for your wrong doing? No worries, money will do. Done the worst and violated the Mother of God? It's all good, the buck's got you covered. It's easy to see now how the Church and her teaching had become corrupt. With boldness and courage Luther called the powerful Church out on her stuff. And Luther didn't hold back any punches. "Those who believe that they can be certain of their salvation because they have indulgence letters will be eternally damned, together with their teachers (32)." For Luther, the treasure of the church wasn't indulgences, but "the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God (62)." As Luther would go on to say, "the treasures of the gospel are nets with which one formerly fished for men of wealth. The treasures of indulgences are nets with which one now fishes for the wealth of men (63)." For Luther, The Church's selling of indulgences ran contrary to the good news of the free gift of God's love known as the gospel. I think most would agree that Luther understood the gospel, but in recently reading some of Luther's writings I have wondered if Luther didn't actually fully understand all the implications of the good news of God's grace.

In a particular section of Luther's "On the Freedom of a Christian" Luther writes – "On the other hand, only ungodliness and unbelief of heart, and no outer work, make him guilty and a damnable servant of sin." It seems pretty clear that Luther believed that the good things that a person did, didn't make them a Christian or put them in good standing with God, and likewise that a lack thereof didn't make a Christian damnable. However, it almost seems that for Luther, faith did make a Christian, and that with that, unbelief did make a Christian damnable. It does seem that Luther thought of faith as a gift. Luther wrote in his explanation to the third article of the Apostle's Creed in his small Catechism "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in true faith." It seems that for Luther faith was a gift of the Holy Spirit. But then the question becomes what about

those who don't believe? What about those who just believe in science? How about those who can't believe? Are all of these outside the love of God?

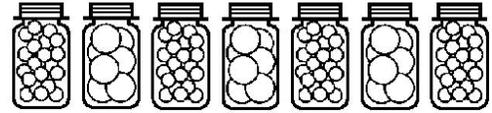
Luther's words in his "On the Jews and Their Lies" are much more troubling. Luther wrote, "My advice...is: First, that their synagogues might be burned down, and that all who are able toss in sulfur and pitch; it would be good if someone could also throw in some hellfire." Luther's disgusting, bigoted and hateful advice doesn't stop at recommending the burning of Jewish synagogues, but he also goes on to advise that scriptures be taken away from those of the Jewish faith, and that those of the Jewish faith be forbidden to praise God, give thanks, pray, teach publicly, and even to utter the name of God. It's thought that Luther was angry that those of the Jewish faith weren't converting to Christianity. But there's no justifying Luther's words. They have been disavowed by the ELCA. The question is, does being of a different faith separate one from the gospel? Does practicing a different religion or exploring a different faith or sacred scriptures disqualify one from the free love of the divine?

As I've read some of Luther's works recently anew, I get the very real sense that he understood the gospel. But yet at the same time there's also this very real wondering within me if he really fully understood the gospel and its radical implications. That perhaps those who sold and purchased indulgences were greedy, corrupt, fear-driven and misguided, but according to the gospel, perhaps these sellers and purchasers were not eternally damned but indeed still wonderfully loved by God. And maybe it is true that not only are money and good works not able to put us in or out of good standing with God, but that according to the gospel, indeed nothing can put us in or out of good standing of the love of the divine, including mistrust, disbelief and/or unbelief. That the good news in Christ is that God has chosen love. That God loves those people who believe in God and that God loves those people that can't and don't believe in God. That God loves people who know the holy scriptures through and through and at the same time loves those who've never opened a bible. That God is just as much with those who aren't a part of a faith community as those who are. That the gospel is proclaimed just as well within the church as it is proclaimed without. And maybe it is the gospel of God's love that actually frees one from worrying about converting others to their own myths, worldviews, and religions. That those of differing faiths each bring something to the table and conversation and that the gospel indeed frees people from intolerance, bigotry and hate. And perhaps the gospel is that the love of God extends to people that indeed don't really fully understand the gospel, people like Luther, people like me.

Peace, **Patrick**

OCTOBER EVENTS

FRUITS OF THE HARVEST



Fruits of the Harvest is this month, October 15th, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Bring your wallets for there will be plenty of good

stuff to buy. I myself don't know all that will be there and I'm looking forward to buying what other people have made. I'm bringing old favorites such as zucchini relish, zucchini bread-and-butter pickles, apple chutney, apple butter, peach jam, carrot cake jam, and pomegranate jelly. I also have new products for this year--pickled curried cauliflower, garden pickles, dill cucumber relish, strawberry jam, blueberry jam (actually both are more like preserves), pear-cranberry chutney, and more. Many of my jams have a lot less sugar than regular jams. If you want less sugar in your jams, ask me and I'll point them out.

If you are contributing canned goods, the office staff has graciously agreed to allow you to drop off your jars in the church office the week of the 8th - 13th. You can also bring your jars on the afternoon of October 14 in the afternoon when I will be setting up. Look in the bulletin for the exact time. If you bring them in on that Sunday morning, trust me, I will not reject them.

Help Wanted - I need people to help me set up on Saturday, October 14th, at a time to be determined. During the sale, I need people to cashier and also to straighten the display and bring out more product. If you are interested, call me (Robin) at [\(707\) 206-9227](tel:7072069227) or e-mail me at robin_lee_99@yahoo.com

500 POUNDS – FOOD DRIVE!

Ongoing till October 29

Elim is celebrating God's Work, Our Hands and the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with a Food Drive. All food will be donated to the Redwood Empire Food Bank. There are thousands of people in the Redwood Empire who struggle with hunger. Our goal is 500 pounds of food. Please join us in our celebration by bringing canned and boxed goods to Elim and dropping them off in the barrel in the Welcome Area. Thank you!

WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE – MONTHLY INFO MTGS.

October 19

Join us for an information meeting for adults 50+ and family members interested in the innovative Village concept of "neighbors and volunteers helping neighbors" to continue living vibrant, active, and connected lives in our own homes as we age. Held at the Village office, 402 Petaluma Blvd. North (at Oak St.), from 11:00 AM to Noon on: Thursdays 10/19 and 12/14 or Saturdays 11/18 and 1/20.

Bring a friend or a loved one, get your questions answered, and meet Village members and volunteers. Learn how the Village offers social engagement, learning opportunities, transportation, home visits, connection, and fun – all contributing to your increased sense of community, support, and peace of mind.

To request a speaker for a group gathering, or to learn more, email info@villagenetworkofpetaluma.org or call us at (707)776-6055. Or visit www.villagenetworkofpetaluma.org

MEDITATIVE HEALING PRAYER GROUP

October 21

We are a group that gets together and with God's presence we pray for people's healing, usually at the church office. We spend some time getting prepared for the healing process. It takes about half an hour for each healing that we do. If you are unable to come to the church office, and you live locally, we will try to come to your place to pray. All this is done with love and in strict confidence with you.

We meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Available times are 10:30 and 11:00. Please call Alex in the church office to schedule an appointment. (762-4081)

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

October 21, 10 AM, Shollenberger Park

Help raise awareness & funds for Alzheimer's care, support & research.

Join the WALK-to-END-ALZHEIMER'S, at Shollenberger Park, 1800

South McDowell, in Petaluma. Registration is at 8:30 AM. The walk at 10:00 AM. 3-miles, 1-mile, or enjoy the fun while others walk. It is FREE to register. Advanced registration is preferred but not required. Event-day volunteers are also needed. Find more info or register online at <http://act.alz.org/goto/petaluma2017>.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SAFETY

Our church and office buildings are in use 7 days a week. For fire/ earthquake and other safety reasons, we need everybody using the building to follow basic safety rules.

- 1.) Do not store or leave items on or near stairs or in hallways.
- 2.) **Do not block any exits**- the path to the exit must be kept as wide as the widest part of the exit
- 3.) Do not block, cover, or place posters or decorations over any safety equipment (fire pull stations, fire extinguishers, fire sprinklers etc.)
- 4.) Keep the floor space around ALL electric breaker panels clear (at least 36 inches, with a clear path to the panel) at all times.
- 5.) Know where exits and safety equipment are located.
- 6.) Do not use extension cords for heaters, and do not leave heat producing items unattended.

If you have any questions about building safety, please ask Dan Widger.



AED TRAINING

Did you hear about the recent life saved at the Petaluma golf course with an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator)? Did you know that Elim has an AED (located by the water fountain near the parking lot doors)? Most adults and kids can be easily trained to use an AED along with Hands Only CPR in about 20 minutes. Contact Dan Widger if you want to learn how to be a future hero for free.

NEW MEMBER GATHERINGS THIS FALL

Interested in becoming a member of Elim? Want to know more about how to get involved, what Lutherans believe, and what Elim is up to? Join us for new member gatherings following 10:30 AM worship on **October 1st** and **October 8th**. For more info email Alex at alex@elimpetaluma.org.



LENDING LIBRARY

The Little Lending Library on Baker Street could use an infusion of children's books. Lots of children in the community have enjoyed some great summer reading due to this wonderful addition to Baker Street. So, if you are clearing out your bookcases and happen to have some children's books, please consider donating them.

WARM PROJECT FOR PEP

Close to Thanksgiving we will again provide warm items for residents of PEP. We will be collecting socks, scarves, hats and gloves for men and women. It's been warm lately but winter is coming and the Warm Project is always a welcomed Elim Ministry. Beginning in November there will be a box in the Welcome Area for your donations.

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.

NURSERY STAFF POSITION OPENING

Our nursery staff play an essential role in Elim's ministry – welcoming and providing hospitality to members and visitors with young children, birth through four years of age, and caring for those children

during worship. This is a paid position. The work schedule is three to four Sundays a month, from 8:15 am to around noon. Ideally, applicants will have some first aid and other appropriate training as well as experience caring for very young children. A background check is required. Since nursery staff work during Elim's worship services, we are primarily seeking applicants with alternate worship schedules. Do you know a good candidate? Please contact Audrey in the church office. To apply, visit the church website for further details and a job application.

ADULT MINISTRIES

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Elim men meet for a pass-the-hat breakfast every Saturday in the church kitchen. Cooking at 7-8 AM, 8-9 AM 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 – October 12th – at 12 PM in the back of the sanctuary. Robin Butts will lead the bible study.
- **Elizabeth** (hosted by Debra Jensen Orner) meets on the 3rd Monday of the month – October 16th – at 7 PM.
- **Esther** (hosted by Jo Ann Andrus) meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month – October 10th – at noon.

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.

CRAFTERS UPDATE

Saturday Brunch bunch will meet 10 AM – 1 PM in room 1. Please join us! October means we have entered the holiday season! 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. 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!

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 9:40 AM

Kids, ages 3 through 6th grade, are invited to join in on the learning, community, and fun. Art, music, stories, play, cooking, experiments, and service projects are some of the ways we'll be learning about God and connecting with one another. Sunday School registration can be found online at elimpetaluma.org. We are still looking for some volunteers to help with this year's program! For more info, email Allison at allisontorbit@yahoo.com.

YOUTH FAITH EDUCATION

For the past hundred years Lutheran churches have offered "Confirmation". This has been a program in which youth (usually middle school/high school) learn about the Christian faith, and then at the end of the program affirm their baptism and join the church. We live in a new day in which we have become more and more aware of other faiths, and membership is perhaps not valued as much as it once was. Nevertheless, faith and faith community can play an incredibly important role in our lives. This program is designed not to have youth affirm their faith or become members of the church, but rather to give them an understanding of faith through education, experiences, service, and community. This program is a three-year program and is for grades 6th and up. Youth may begin the program in 6th grade or any grade thereafter. We'll meet once a month, beginning in October. For more info contact patrick@elimpetaluma.org

HIGH SCHOOL/JR. HIGH WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS

Wednesdays at 6:15 PM

Regular high school and junior high youth group gatherings will happen on Wednesday nights this year. These gatherings will begin at 6:15 PM and end at 8 PM. On the first Wednesday night of the month, youth will eat dinner together, listen to a speaker and/or have a guest/conversation topic introduced. Then the high school and junior high groups will separate into groups for further conversation and check-ins. The high school group will meet every Wednesday, the junior high group will meet just on the first Wednesday of the month.

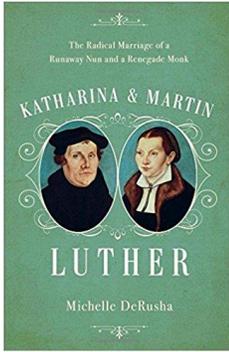
HIGH SCHOOL/JR. HIGH LOCK-IN

Saturday October 21-22. Meet at Elim at 7 PM.

EXPLORING THE STORY

Tuesdays at 7 PM, 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.



ADULT FORUM

Sundays at 9:40 AM

Adult Forum Book Study - Katharina and Martin "The Radical Marriage of a Runaway Nun and a Renegade Monk"

In recognition of the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting his 95 critiques of the church to the Wittenberg church doors helping to ignite the reformation, we will be reading Katharina and Martin: The Radical Marriage of a Runaway Nun and a Renegade Monk written by Michelle Derusha. Please join us!

LITTLE SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL

Dear Elim Friends,

We have entered into our 34th year with a wonderful group of children. The first two weeks have gone really well with very few criers ☺. The students are happy to be back at Little Shepherd and excited to see their friends and teachers. We have a few openings in our Monday/Wednesday two's class and a few in our four year old class. Our three's class is full with a waiting list of 10. This year our fall fundraiser is T-shirt sales with our brand new logo. We are looking forward to another exciting year. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

Happy Fall,
Kathy Fowler



MUSIC

REFORMATION MUSIC!

As we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, one of the most meaningful ways we can honor the memory of Martin Luther is to sing his music! Leading up to and culminating on Reformation Sunday, we will celebrate Martin Luther and the Reformation by singing one of Luther's hymns each Sunday during the service. Please join us as we lift our voices to bring to life the richness of our Reformation heritage each Sunday for eight weeks during worship.

CHERUB CHOIR

Starting October 19

Rehearsals are Thursday evenings from 6:30 - 7 PM. We will be singing on November 5th at the 10:30 AM service. The next cherub choir will sing again at the early service on Christmas Eve.

CHANCEL CHOIR

The chancel choir rehearses Wednesdays at 5:30 PM, and usually sings at the 8:30 AM service on various Sundays. Interested in joining this joyful noise? We are always looking to welcome new singers! If so, please contact Cathe Kiler.

REFORMATION 500

1517 - 2017

Freed and Renewed in Christ: 500 Years of God's Grace in Action

Elim is celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation,
along with the world celebration,

of Martin Luther's posting of his 95 Theses in Year 1517

Join us in our local events: at Elim and in San Francisco

Bookstore Sale from Augsburg Press. Visit the display to order books focusing on Martin Luther - the man and his writings; the Reformation and its effect on the world 500 years ago and today; family and children's books!

Sunday, Oct. 22, 5:00-8:00 pm, Elim Fellowship Hall

German Dinner with *Reformation-500* Entertainment including...

Martin & Katie dialogue, choir and musician presentations "Ein Feste Burg Ist Unser Gott," Displays of Elim's Germany choir tour and memorabilia, have your picture taken with Martin Luther!

Sign Up Sheet on the Bulletin Board... please sign even if you're unsure as we would rather have leftovers than not enough!!! Freewill offering!

Childcare provided

Thursday, October 31st – Pope Francis to canonize Martin Luther as a Saint on the day Luther posted his 95 Theses. See the dialogue on <http://liturgy.co.nz/pope-francis-to-make-martin-luther-a-saint-on-october-31>

Bulletin Board Check out the Reformation history and current news, Luther's 95 Theses are posted there, take your picture with Luther, sign-up for the dinner!!!

Reformation 500 community Bay Area activities to attend: Elim carpools?

"Reformation500 Hymn Festival Concert and Oktoberfest"

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco

Saturday, Oct. 28

1:00 *Hymn Festival Concert*

2:00-3:30 *OktoberFest*

The Hymn Festival will be followed by the St. Mark's OktoberFest with German food, beer, dancing (music provided by a German polka band) and activities for children on St. Mark's Square

ELCA Sierra Pacific Synod "Festival Reformation500 Anniversary Service"

Capstone of our synod's year-long Reformation500 celebration

Grace Cathedral, 1100 California Street, San Francisco

Sunday, Oct. 29 (also service on Mon, Oct. 30 @ 5:00 pm)

2-2:30 Interfaith Justice Event on the steps of the Cathedral

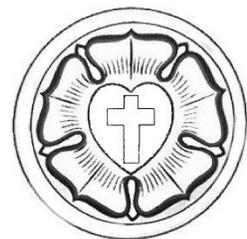
2:15-2:45 Bach Contata prelude inside

3pm Festival Eucharist inside

Preaching: Bishop Dr. Victoria Cortez of Nicaragua

Presiding: Bishop Mark Holmerud of the [Sierra Pacific Synod - ELCA](#)

Music By: [Tactus SF](#),



4:30 Reception following the service will be in the courtyard in front of the cathedral (or downstairs if there is rain expected). We will have a fiesta with kid friendly games and activities. Refreshments include non-alcoholic drinks, wine and beer brewed by [Middle Circle](#).

4:30 Exhibition of photos from Palestinian Youth, downstairs inside the Cathedral

Check out these **links** for some interesting and humorous information about the Reformation Movement, Martin Luther's history, quotes, and his sense of humor!

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/01/reformation-500/> (50 Reformation Quotes)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/06/reformation-500-50-things-may-not-know-luther/> (Luther info)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2013/04/25-interesting-facts/> (25 Interesting Lutheran facts)

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/2013/05/7-things-you-might-like-know-about-martin-luther/> (Luther the man!)

There was an overwhelming attendance of **50 folks** at the September showing of Rick Steve's video on "Luther and The Reformation." Thank you to everyone who helped with the lunch and video set-up; it all went so smoothly! Elim owns the dvd and it is available for home viewing to those who have not seen it. Contact Mary Wyrick if you would like to be put on a waiting list for check-out!

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY



SECOND MILE GIVING | CHANGE THE WORLD: ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE

"Second mile giving" refers to an extra offering towards a special cause. The October recipient will benefit the ELCA Disaster Response. 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.

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the flood waters recede and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Please keep responders in your prayers this month and consider an additional offering toward their ministries. The Sierra Pacific Synod is blessed to accompany this organization in mutual ministry as we proclaim God's creative, redeeming and sanctifying love in our synod.

To learn more about ELCA Disaster Response, visit the ELCA page: <http://www.elca.org/disaster>

EASTSIDE AND WESTSIDE INTERFAITH PANTRIES



This month Elim will host the Eastside Pantry on **Tuesday, October 3rd**, at Lucchesi Park, and the Westside Pantry on **Thursday, October 19th**, in our Fellowship Hall. Come a little before 5 PM to help set up. We start serving at 5:30pm and are usually done and headed home by 6 PM. 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).

FINANCIAL REPORT

Regular Giving Report

	AUGUST	YEAR-TO-DATE
Regular Giving:	23,132	73,556
Budget:	25,576	81,438
Variance:	(2,444)	(7,882)
Change:	-10.6%	-10.7%
Compared to Last Year:	22,769	77,501
Variance:	362	(3,945)
Change:	1.6%	-5.4%
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.

AUGUST 2017	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue & Transfers to General Fund	24,854	27,751	(2,898)
Expenses	26,882	30,946	4,064
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$ (2,028)	\$ (3,195)	\$ 1,166
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE	Actual	Budget	Variance
Revenue & Transfers to General Fund	79,253	87,979	(8,726)
Expenses	85,992	93,622	7,631
Net Increase (Decrease)	\$ (6,739)	\$ (5,644)	\$ (1,095)

REGISTRY

John Nortz passed away on August 25th.

GRATITUDE

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS



God's work.
Our hands.

A HUGE thank you to all who participated in this event. We made 20+ cookie plates and delivered them to our elder members who can't get out anymore. We had so many awesome cookie providers that we filled the church freezer with the extras, so there will be cookies on Sunday.

There was an intrepid group of 10 who braved the hot day, and worked at Schollenberger Park cleaning invasive weeds. Their time and stamina were greatly appreciated by the Friends of the Wetlands.

Many Car Care packages were assembled and are ready to be handed out.

Thank you to all who baked, assembled, delivered, and weeded. You are all a blessing!

- Athena

RELAY FOR LIFE

Elim Lites Thank You!

Our three Elim teams were on the Casa Grande track for over 24 hours. It was a very hot day but we weathered the heat and participated in the festivities. Pastor Patrick prayed the opening prayer and led all of the participants and guests in singing, "This Little Light of Mine", Violet Deardorff sang the National Anthem, Nancy Mc Lean headed up the Locks for Love booth and cut lots of hair for wigs for cancer patients. Survivors from our Elim congregation walked the first lap and enjoyed brunch. All of your luminaries were glowing all night and into the morning hours. The Elim teams raised the highest dollar amount, \$35,681 and the total for the Petaluma Relay for Life was \$156,126. We all thank you for your generosity.

We just received the date for next year, so save the date, August 25th -26th , 2018!

- Nancy

FIRST RESPONDER

John Schempf – who recently returned from providing aid, along with the coast guard, to areas affected by the recent hurricanes.

PEW HELPERS

A huge thank you goes to the Bishop family! They have volunteered to replenish the scribble cards, offering envelopes and pencils in the sanctuary pews.

FROM THE ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE:

In August, the Endowment Fund Committee recommended to the Leadership Team that Elim grant \$1,000 to the Family Resource Center at McDowell School in Petaluma. We subsequently received this thank you note, dated 9/6/17:

"Dear [Elim]:

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$1000 to the McDowell Family Resource Center (FRC) Emergency Fund.

The FRC offers a rich diversity of bilingual family and child education, support, and referral services to local families. We work with some of the neediest families in Petaluma and connect families in crisis with resources in the community.

Your donation will help support families with short-term crisis support such as a night or two of emergency shelter when COTS is full, unexpected auto repairs, or essential items such as food, gas and diapers.

Petaluma People Services is serving as our fiscal sponsor for these funds to assure that donors will receive tax exemptions.

On behalf of Catherine Crotty and all the staff at the McDowell FRC, thank you.

It is all about community,
Elise Hempel
Executive Director
Petaluma People Services"

More grants will be announced next month! If you know someone who would like to apply for a grant, please tell them that applications are available in the church office or online:
<http://www.elimpetaluma.org/news-blog/grant> . - Laine Gen

WORSHIP NOTES

SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE

	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24	Average Weekly Attendance in September
8:30am	49	44	40	45	2017
10:30am	45	100	94	88	126
Week total	94	144	134	133	2016

ALTAR FLOWERS

October 1: Dolores McCloud

October 8: Atwood

October 15: *Open*

October 22: Sue Kinsmen

October 29: Reformation 500 Committee

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

We encourage everyone to be a worship helper. We are trying to make signing up to help as easy as possible. Don't have a computer or can't get the hang of signing up on line, there is a sign-up sheet just

outside the Sanctuary. You can also give Barb a call at the office (707)762-4081, or email her at barb@elimpetaluma.org. If it is the first time you are filling a position we will make sure you have the instructions or pair you with someone who has done it before. It would be great to fill all the positions a month in advance, but we understand people have busy schedules these days.

The Fall schedule is on the Worship Helper page of the Elim website (<http://www.elimpetaluma.org/worship-helpers.html>). If you would like to be scheduled automatically for a specific time each month, or are signing up for the first time, just give Barb a call in the office at (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.

READINGS

Date	Theme / Gospel/Reading / Deadline
Oct 1	<p>Theme: #Simul Scripture: Galatians 5:16-26 Point: Luther's argument was that people are both at the same time simultaneously saints and sinners</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Artwork Deadline: Sept 26</p>
Oct 8	<p>Theme: #Theologia crucis Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5 Point: God shows up in people, places, and things that we perhaps least expect</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Artwork Deadline: Oct 3</p>
Oct 15	<p>Theme: #Disavowed Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Point: Luther's harsh words about Jewish people were disavowed by the ELCA in 1989</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Artwork Deadline: Oct 10</p>
Oct 22	<p>Theme: #A Movement, not just a person Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Point: The reformation was not just about Luther, significant contributions were made by others</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Artwork Deadline: Oct 17</p>
Oct 29	<p>Theme: #Always being made new Scripture: Isaiah 43:19-21 Point: The reformation invites us to discern the new things God is doing among us</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Artwork Deadline: Oct. 24</p>

BULLETIN COVER ART

Welcome to October! We continue our series on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation this month. Our schedule below will give you the theme and point for each Sunday as well as the scripture reading. We hope you will feel motivated to depict in art form your understanding of one of the topics listed below!

We appreciate everyone who has shared their interpretation of the readings 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.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Diane Day	8 Philip Aldrich	16 Joanna Charles	26 Ronan Curley
Gene McCloud	Aidan Cooke	Merry Martin	Lou Navarro
Alice Roberti	Liam Cooke	17 Elyse Osman	Judy Peterson
Emma Roberti	Marilyn Dizikes	20 Ann DeJong	28 Linden Gen
Perry Torbit	12 Anita Flett	22 Paul Anderson	30 Nancy Tieken
2 Nick Eaton	13 Charlotte Siemens	Randal Clapham	31 Ciara Curley
3 Paul Behringer	Noelle Skanderson	Kim Svinth	Patty Curley
4 Nicki Navarro	Brittnee Witham	24 Al Butler	
5 Tom Hoen	14 Jan Moffet	25 Jacquelin Percy Paul	
6 Cheryl Coldiron	15 Joshua Warner	Doren Shaw	
	Mo Yu	Nam Sun Sin	

ELIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Office: 707-762-4081 / Fax: 707-773-7866

elim@elimpetaluma.org / www.elimpetaluma.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am-2pm



Pastor Patrick Torbit
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Doris Widger, Bookkeeper
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Audrey Norman, Staff Transition Manager
762-4081 / audrey@elimpetaluma.org

Alex Miller, Interim Office Manager
762-4081 / elim@elimpetaluma.org

Barb Villa, Bulletin Production & Ministry
Scheduler
762-4081 / barb@elimpetaluma.org

Cathe Kiler, Music Director
415-898-1248 / cathe@elimpetaluma.org

Lynn Harenberg-Miller, Leadership Team
President
president@elimpetaluma.org

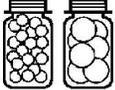
Sarah Labberton, Youth Leader
sarah@elimpetaluma.org

Kathy Fowler, Little Shepherd Director
769-0462 / 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.

Elim Lutheran Church

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	2 7:30 pm Worship Team rehearsal (Choir Room)	3 5:00 pm Elim at Food Pantry (Lucchesi Park on McDowell) 5:30 pm Women's Board Meeting (Fireside Rm) 7:00 pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)	4 5:30 pm Chancel Choir (Choir room) 6:15 pm Junior & Senior High Youth meeting (room 10)	5 7:00 pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)	6 9:00 am Finance Team (Room 9)	7 8:00 am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 10:00 am Crafter's Brunch Bunch (Room 1)
8 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	9	10 12:00 pm Esther Circle (Moffet) 7:00 pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)	11 5:30 pm Chancel Choir (Choir room) 6:30 pm High School Youth Meeting (Room 10)	12 12:00 pm Grace Friendship Circle (back of church) 6:30 pm 7:00 pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)	13	14 8:00 am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 10:00 am Crafter's Brunch Bunch (Room 1)
15 Source Deadline 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Fruit of the Harvest 	16 7:00 pm Elizabeth Circle 7:30 pm Worship Team rehearsal (Choir Room)	17 5:45 pm Worship & Music Planning Committee (back of sanctuary) 7:00 pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)	18 5:30 pm Chancel Choir (Choir room) 6:30 pm High School Youth Meeting (Room 10)	19 4:45 pm Elim's turn at the Westside Pantry 7:00 pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)	20	21 8:00 am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 9:00 am Meditative Healing Prayer Group 10:00 am Crafter's Brunch Bunch (Room 1) 4:30 pm High School Lock In
22 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 5:00 pm Reformation 500 Dinner	23	24 7:00 pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room)	25 5:30 pm Chancel Choir (Choir room) 6:30 pm High School Youth Meeting (Room 10)	26 7:00 pm Festival Choir Practice (Fellowship Hall) 7:00 pm Waves of Grace (Sanctuary)	27	28 8:00 am Men's Ministry Breakfast (kitchen) 10:00 am Crafter's Brunch Bunch (Room 1)
29 Reformation Sunday 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 	30	31 Halloween 7:00 pm Exploring the Story Bible Study (Choir Room) 	SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE 8:30 am & 10:30 am Worship 9:40 am - 10:25 am Faith Formation 8:20 am - 11:40 am Nursery open  Faith Formation 9:40 – 10:25 Sunday School (Upstairs) Adult forum (Choir Room)			

