



The Elim Waterfall

January – February 2023

From the Pastor:

It's hard to believe! 2023 finds me entering my third year as your pastor. Elim has officially become my fifth longest pastorate, surpassing my time at Ebenezer, Oregon (16 months) and Ebenezer, Morrison (18 months)! Just think! Another 3 years, and I'll surpass my Vernon Hills, IL pastorate. 4 ½ years and I'll surpass my West Olive, MI pastorate. 7 ½ years and I'll surpass my Wisconsin Rapids, WI pastorate, and 15 years to surpass my Tempe/Mesa, AZ pastorate.

Sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but the odds of me doing that are not great (Maybe Vernon Hills? 😊) Still, to surpass Vernon Hills, I'll be 76. To surpass West Olive, I'll be 78. To surpass Wisconsin Rapids, I'll be 80 and to surpass AZ, I'll be 87! Hey, my joints and brain are already on shaky ground! The only way you're going to hear my message at those ages, I'd better start taping them now.

Well, however long I've had, or will have, I want you to know, I've enjoyed every moment. I feel blessed and grateful to have had this opportunity. In just two years, I've collected an album full of great memories.

But, what about you? What's been your story, here at Elim? How has this church impacted you? How has this ministry stretched you, blessed you, encouraged you, comforted you, taught you, empowered you, challenged you, and disciplined you? I've only been here two years. You've been around a lot longer than that! AND, the Elim Reformed Church has been around even longer! 130 years of blessing you and this community! That's a lot for which to be grateful.

O God our HELP in ages past, our HOPE for years to come. So, what's your hope for Elim this coming year? What's your hope for Elim in the next five years? You've had a long and productive history? Will you have a long and productive future?

Well, only God can answer that question! We can only respond with faith, diligence, and obedience! But don't forget the law of expectations. Do we? Maybe we adopt an attitude that says, "WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED!" So, let's buckle up butter cup! Let's continue to preach the good news! Let's continue to be a community of love serving the community we love! Let's continue to enjoy each other and welcome others! Let's continue to do what God has called us to do! Thanks for letting me be a part of your history and part of your future.

I recently saw this quote, "No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending" (Unknown). To that, I say AMEN! Let's start today to make a new ending...and let's make it a great ending! Thanks for letting me be a part of your history and part of your future! It's a joy to serve you!

Worship SCHEDULE

January 1, “Christmas Has Me Stumped: Celebrating God’s Presence”

January 8, “Off Roding with the Psalmist”

January 15, “Off Roding with Baalam”

January 22, “Off Roding with Josiah”

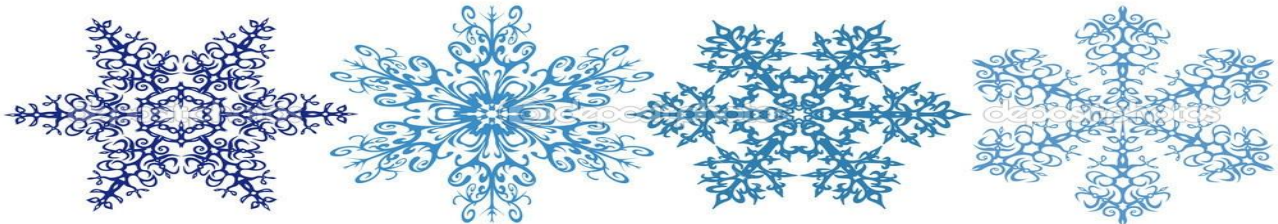
January 29, “Off Roding with Michiah Ben Imla”

February 5, “Off Roding with Beniah”

February 12, “Off Roding with Jonah” part 1

February 19, “Off Roding with Jonah” part 2

February 26, “Off Roding with Jonah” part 3



ELIM POST-HIGH SCHOOL GRANTS AVAILABLE

Notice to post-high school students. It is time to fill out applications (which can also be found on Elim’s website) after registering for classes. Please turn in application to Pastor Marv or Bob Maas. The following are the Elim scholarship guidelines:

1. The student will be an active member of Elim Reformed Church.
2. The student must be enrolled in a college, university, or trade school for six (6) or more academic hours during the spring and/or fall semester. The student must be enrolled for three (3) or more academic hours during the summer semester. Individuals of any age are encouraged to apply.
3. The student must fill out an information sheet each semester before receiving a grant.
4. The amount of the grant will be limited to \$500 per student per spring and/or fall semester. The amount of the grant will be limited to \$250 per student per summer semester.
5. Grants will be offered for fall, spring, and/or summer semesters. These grants will be available until the grant fund is depleted.
6. The grants to be given are per student for a maximum of totaling \$2000.
7. The deadline to return the information sheet for the fall semester is September 8; for the spring semester it is **January 17**; and for the summer semester it is June 1.

dates to Remember

January

- 1 – NEW YEAR'S DAY: *no coffee/fellowship time after worship*
- 8 – Communion; Quarterly Benevolent Fund Offering;
Installation of new Consistory Members
- 17 – Consistory at 6:30 p.m.
Elim Post-HS Grant Applications DUE



February

- 14 – VALENTINE'S DAY
- 20 – PRESIDENTS' DAY
- 22 – Newsletter Deadline
ASH WEDNESDAY

BIRTHDAYS

January

- 1 Dustin Alderks
- 6 DeWayne Adams
- 11 Carol Hayenga
- 14 Diane Terviel
- 21 Bethany Hayenga
- 23 Cayden Somers
- 28 Blanche Houston

February

- 3 Renee Langeland
- 8 Gary Rozeboom
- 9 Wayne Hayenga
- 12 Brad Engelkes
- 14 Dana Meyers
- 16 Levi Calbeck
- 28 Dawn Somers

How to Live at Peace with Others:



- Pray for them.
- Erase all negative thoughts about them.
- Ask them for forgiveness if you've wronged them.
- Carefully evaluate your own motives.
- Emphasize love, rather than hate.