

ELIM COVENANT CHURCH
December 28, 2014

The Spirit Himself
witnesses
with our spirit
that we are
children of God.



WORSHIP CELEBRATION

December 28, 2014

"The secret of happiness is freedom.
The secret of freedom is courage." ~ Thucydides ~

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

We are invited into the presence of God!
Please turn your cell phones off.

PRELUDE

SONGS OF PRAISE

Greg Burney

HEARING FROM GOD

We give our attention to God by opening our lives to His Word! We invite God's Spirit to take this Word into our lives that we might be formed into the image and likeness of Jesus!

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear."
(1 John 4:18)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC

Daniel & Jillian Lauritzson

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*(Children dismissed for Children's Church,
please for ages 3 thru 5th grade only).*

WORDS FROM GOD

Galatians 4:4-7

Scripture Reader, Pat Hudson

RESPONDING TO GOD

Now that God has spoken to us, it is time for us to speak to Him!

MESSAGE **“Beyond Freedom”**
Pastor Steve Peterson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

BEING SENT BY GOD

God sends us out into the world that he desperately loves.
His presence goes with us.
We leave as God’s agents of grace and mercy.

BENEDICTION

Scripture Reading for the Week

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Luke 6:38</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Psalm 34:19</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Psalm 50:15</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Revelation 3:12</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Matthew 1:21</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Isiah 9:6</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Matthew 5:44-45</i>

TODAY’S GREETERS

Lori & Elizabeth Smith

HEAD USHER

Don Peterson

USHERS

Martin Bear, Tom Dang & Gary Wells

SOUND SYSTEM

Josh Parrott

“Beyond Freedom”

Galatians 4:4-7

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) An oppressive system: “Born under the law” (v. 4) (cf. Gal. 3:10,23-25; 4:1-3,21-31; Heb. 2:14-17) “Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law...” (Gal. 3:23) “For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse” (Gal. 3:10)
- 3) Redeemed! (v. 5a) (cf. Rom. 6:14; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:11-15) “For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace” (Rom. 6:14)
- 4) Adopted! (v. 5b) (cf. Rom. 8:15; Eph. 1:5) “... the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship...” (Eph. 1:5)
- 5) God’s Spirit in our hearts (v. 6) (cf. Acts 15:8; Rom. 8:15; 2 Cor. 1:21-22) “... God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us” (Rom. 5:5)
- 6) No longer a slave! (v. 7a) (cf. Jn. 8:31-36; Acts 13:38-39; Rom. 6:17) “Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses” (Acts 13:39)
- 7) His child, His heir (v. 7b) (cf. Jn. 1:12-13; Rom. 8:17; 1 Jn. 3:1) “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” (1 Jn. 3:1)
- 8) Conclusion

PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS

Praises: The birth of our wonderful Savior – Jesus Christ!!
The holiday celebration of Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Prayer Concerns: Safe travels for those going back to their homes/schools after the holidays. People in the south cleaning up after severe storms and tornadoes.

Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:

Unspoken needs of our brothers & sisters: Dorothy & Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Betty Lindberg, Marj Nelson, Jay Stanley, John Hutchison, Travis Ferry, Tabatha Estes, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, Pam Thompson's dad; Margo Coil, Charley Bess, families who have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

Prayer Notes:

Sunday Prayer Following Worship



Please feel free to take your burden or praise to one of the Elim Prayer Team members available to pray with you. Team members include: Julie, Linda, Carolyn, Juanita, Dee & Tasha and can be easily found at the back of the sanctuary in the northeast classroom.

Monday Evening Prayer Gathering



Each Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. there is a prayer gathering held at Elim. You are encouraged to come and pray with the team members and share your requests/praises.

Prayer Chain

The prayer network is used when special needs arise during the week. Call Judy at the church 764-6920 Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. otherwise call or text Tasha Munger @ (309) 281-8784 with your request. If no answer, you may leave your concern on the answer machine and it will be relayed ASAP.



I want to thank everyone for the wonderful Christmas gift you gave me through the pastor's love offering on Christmas Eve. That, along with the many cards and gifts we received, was a wonderful expression love.

I am so honored and blessed to be your pastor.

God beless you all!

Pastor Steve



"NOON" NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ELIM

There will be a "Noon" New Year's Eve party for the Elim families here at Elim from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31st. Family Fun Events include:

***Clown Daizy Dee's presentation "Worry or Worship,"
balloon sculptures, carnival type games,
cookies and punch.***

***We'll have the games and cookies in the fellowship hall and
Daisy's presentation in the sanctuary.***

***Hope to see everyone young and the young at heart there.
See Dora Beth Christy or Pam Thompson
with any questions. Thanks.***

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



**The next men's fellowship breakfast will be
Saturday, January 3rd @ 8:00 a.m. Sign-up sheets
are on the table in the gathering area**



VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEETS

The volunteer sign-up sheets for 2015 is on the table in the gathering area. Please consider volunteering for this coming year. We really need people to help out in every area. You need to sign up even if you already volunteer in that particular area. Schedules will be made out next week. Thank you.



CHOCOLATE FANTASY MEETING

Cheryl Bear is holding a Chocolate Fantasy planning meeting following worship on Sunday, January 11th. A workshop will be held on Saturday, Jan. 17th @ 9:00 a.m.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Make the Connection

New Sunday School Class starting soon!

"Healthy Relationships"

"Jesus focused on the heart to resolve problems people encountered. Freedom can only come as change takes place in the heart. Jesus, accepting, understanding and caring about what we have experienced, opens our hearts to trust him, to walk us through the healing process we all need.

Wayne and Jeanine Allen will lead the class to understand the emotional issues that damage our hearts, how that prevents us from connecting to love and care for others, and how Jesus brings healing to these wounded relationships."

unFROZEN

January Kids Program
4-year olds thru 5th grade
Sundays 9:15-10:15 (during adult Sunday School)
& 10:45-11:45 (during Jr. Church)

Do you want to meet the Savior?



LOOKING AHEAD

Sun	Dec. 28	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service
Mon	Dec. 29	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 30	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 31	10:30a-12:30p “Noon” New Year’s Eve @ Elim
Thur	Jan. 1	Office Closed – New Year’s Day
Sat	Jan. 3	8:00 a.m. Men’s Fellowship Breakfast
Sun	Jan. 4	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service
Mon	Jan. 5	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Jan. 6	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Jan. 7	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study 6:00 p.m. SPARK & AXIS 7:30 p.m. Fusion
Thur	Jan. 8	9:00 a.m. Keenagers Coffee Time/Bible Study
Sun	Jan. 11	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service 11:45 a.m. Chocolate Fantasy Meeting following Worship
Mon	Jan. 12	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Jan. 13	5:30 p.m. MLT Meeting 6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Jan. 14	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study 6:00 p.m. SPARK & AXIS 7:30 p.m. Fusion
Sat	Jan. 17	9:00 a.m. Chocolate Fantasy Workshop

December Birthdays

30 – Belva Van Norman

31 – Kristen Burns

January Birthdays

7 – Victoria Fowler

9 – Sandy Parrott

10 – Anna Christy

15 – Rebecca Christy

16 – Natalie Hermann

December Anniversaries

31 – Adolph & Dorothy Laurick

January Anniversaries

28 – Donald & Kathy Boggs

CIU – means Church In Use

(309) 764-6920

Church office office@elimqc.org

Happy New Year!!!!

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 31

Worship = 129

Christmas Eve Service = 91

CHILD CARE THIS WEEK

Nursery Karen Johnson & Judy Martel

Children’s Church 3-6 yrs Lori Smith & Thao Luong

Children’s Church 2nd-5th grades Rachael Ferry & Elizabeth Smith

Pastor’s e-mail pastor@elimqc.org

Church office e-mail office@elimqc.org

NEXT WEEK

To be scheduled soon

Greg’s e-mail youth@elimqc.org

Website elimqc.org