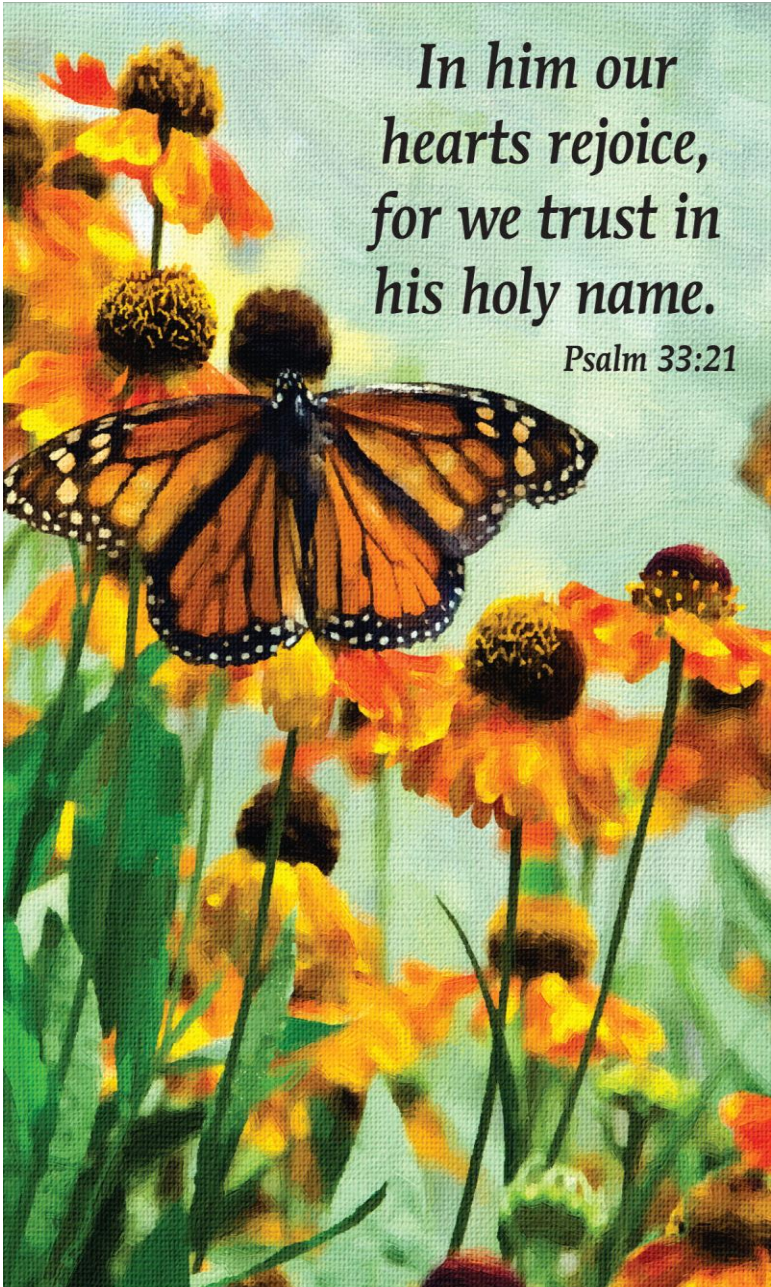


# ELIM COVENANT CHURCH

## JULY 26, 2015

*In him our  
hearts rejoice,  
for we trust in  
his holy name.*

*Psalms 33:21*



# WORSHIP CELEBRATION

## July 26, 2015

"He is truly great who has great charity. He is truly great who is little in his own eyes and makes nothing of the highest honor. He is truly wise who looks upon all earthly things as folly that he may gain Christ. He who does God's will and renounces his own is truly very learned."

~ Thomas A. Kempis in The Imitation of Christ ~

### GATHERING BEFORE GOD

*We are invited into the presence of God!*

*\*Please turn your cell phones off\* Please sign the register book & pass it on.*

### PRELUDE

SONGS OF PRAISE            Greg Burney      Worship Facilitator  
  *"Hail the King"*  
  *"Your Great Name"*  
  *"O Praise Him"*

### GREETING ONE ANOTHER

### 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!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11)

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

### WORDS FROM GOD

Ephesians 5:15-21

*Scripture Reader, Josh Parrott*

*(Pages 1227 or 1159 in the red Bibles)*

# **MESSAGE**

**“Living Wisely”**

**Pastor Steve Peterson**

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

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

### **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.

### **HYMN #744**

*“Because He Lives”*

### **BENEDICTION**

#### ***Scripture Readings for the Week***

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Sunday</i>    | <i>1 John 2:25</i>        |
| <i>Monday</i>    | <i>1 John 5:11</i>        |
| <i>Tuesday</i>   | <i>Matthew 16:18</i>      |
| <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>John 14:26</i>         |
| <i>Thursday</i>  | <i>1 Corinthians 2:12</i> |
| <i>Friday</i>    | <i>John 8:31-32</i>       |
| <i>Saturday</i>  | <i>Colossians 2:16-17</i> |

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### **TODAY’S GREETERS**

Rebecca & Kate Schaechter

### **HEAD USHER**

Don Peterson

### **USHERS**

Martin Bear, Chris Carsell, Mike Hermann

### **SOUND SYSTEM**

Don Yoeckel

# “Living Wisely”

## Ephesians 5:15-21

**Key Text:** *“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...”* (Php. 1:27)

**Key Thought:** We are called to live wisely in these dark times.

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) Careful & wise living (v. 15) (cf. ALL of Proverbs; Mt. 7:24-27; 25:1-13; Lk. 12:35-48; Rom. 16:19) *“Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock”* (Mt. 7:24)
- 3) Maximizing every opportunity (v. 16) (cf. Mt. 25:14-30; Lk. 16:1-10; Col. 4:5)
- 4) Understanding God’s will (v. 17) (cf. Rom. 12:1-2; Col. 1:9-11)
- 5) Filled with the Spirit (v. 18) (cf. Rom. 8:5-14; Gal. 5:22-25)
- 6) Mouths filled with songs (v. 19a) (cf. 1 Cor. 14:26) (E.g. Col. 1:15-20; Php. 2:6-11) *“Let the word of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit...”* (Col. 3:16)
- 7) Hearts filled with music (v. 19b) (E.g. Ex. 15:1-10; Jdg. 5; Ps. 18; 30; 34).
- 8) Always thankful (v. 20) (cf. Ps. 34:1; Php. 4:6; Col. 3:15) *“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”* (1 Ths. 5:18)
- 9) Mutual submission (v. 21) (cf. 1 Cor. 9:19; Eph. 5:22-6:9; 1 Pt. 3:8; 5:5) *“... serve one another in love”* (Gal. 5:13)
- 10) Conclusion

Questions for Reflection (or “Lunch Conversation Topics”):

- Would others describe you as one who lives wisely, or foolishly?
- Who controls your life? Do you, or God’s Spirit?
- What’s filling your heart? Stress, anxiety, sadness, anger... or thanksgiving and music for the Lord?

## **PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Praises:                    2015 Snowbird Attendees**  
**(Leaving Sun., Aug.2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:30 a.m. from church parking lot).**  
**Greg, Mallory, Paige, & Tucker Burney, Tom Bivens,**  
**Megan & Mariah DeArmond, Natalie Nipper, Thao Luong,**  
**Elizabeth Smith, Rebecca Schaechter, & Allie Majetic.**

**Prayer Concerns:     Marilyn Smith's son-in-law Randy Willems**  
**passed away last week in Colorado after a 4 year battle with**  
**cancer and brain deterioration.**

**Also, Bob Beherns passed away in Florida following health issues**  
**caused by an automobile accident in May of 2014.**

**Ellie Wildermuth in ICU last Thursday with blood clots.**

### **Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:**

Carol Jacks, Juna Wortz, Rolland Potts, Zach Stulir, Arlene Miller, Dorothy & Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Margaret Hasty, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Marj Nelson, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Jay Stanley, the Willems family, John & Linda Hutchison, Travis Ferry, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, Cindy Behrens and family, the Ferry family, Ruth Armstrong, families that have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

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### **Prayer Notes:**

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#### **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, & 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.**

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## **HYMN SING & POTLUCK TODAY**

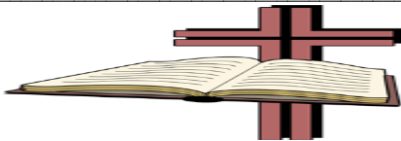
**We are having an all church hymn sing and potluck today, Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering area to sign if you plan to attend and note what dish you will be bringing.**

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Marilyn Smith would like to thank everyone for praying for her son-in-law Randy Willems over the last 4 years. Randy did pass away in Colorado last week.

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## **INQUIRERS' CLASS**

***Anyone interested in learning more about our church is invited to attend our Inquirers' Class. The class will be taught in two, 2-hour sessions, on Wednesdays, July 22nd & 29th. There is one week left. The class will begin at 6:00 p.m.***

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***Mark your calendars for our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Block Party Sat. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>!!!***



***“An In-Depth Study of Ephesians”***

***A two-part series, begins***

***Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>***

***Time: 10:00am to 3:30pm***

***Lunch Cost: \$10/person***

***(scholarships available)***

***Dr. Walt Elwell is professor emeritus of Bible and Theology at Wheaton College where he taught from 1975 to 2003. He has authored and edited many books, but is most known for his editing the Evangelical Dictionary of***

***Biblical Theology. Pastor Steve says, “Walt is a rare individual, with a world-class theological mind and a first-rate pastor’s heart. He can take the deepest biblical truth and communicate it with such simplicity, and inspire you to walk in that truth.” There is a sign-up sheet on the table.***



Our next congregational meeting will be held following worship on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

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***“Influence: Developing an Impactful Life”***

***Pastor Steve is conducting a 5 week series with the option of attending on Wednesdays or Sundays.***

***The sessions will begin on***

***Wednesday, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> (6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.)***

***or on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> (4:00 – 5:15 p.m.)***

***Child care will be provided.***

## ***LOOKING AHEAD***

|      |         |   |
|------|---------|---|
| Sun. | July 26 | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration<br>4:00 p.m. Hymn Sing & Potluck  |
| Mon. | July 27 | 5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering   |
| Wed. | July 29 | 2:00-4:00p.m. CIU – YMCA<br>5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner<br>5:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study<br>6:00 p.m. <i>SPARK &amp; AXIS</i><br>6:00 p.m. New Inquirers’ Class<br>7:30 p.m. Fusion |
| Sun. | Aug. 2  | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service<br>1:00-5:00 p.m. CIU – Minard<br>Youth @ Snowbird all week   |
| Mon. | Aug. 3  | 5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering   |
| Wed. | Aug. 5  | 9:00 a.m. CIU – YMCA  |
| Sat. | Aug. 8  | 10:00a-3:30p Dr. Elwell’s “Study of Ephesians”(\$10 lunch fee)  |
| Sun. | Aug. 9  | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service<br>11:45 p.m. Congregational Meeting following worship  |
| Mon. | Aug. 10 | 5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Meeting   |
| Tue. | Aug. 11 | 5:45 p.m. MLT Meeting   |

### *July Birthdays*

31 – Gary Hansen  
31 – Pastor Steve Peterson

### *August Birthdays*

1 – Paige Burney  
1 – Linda Gilmour  
3 – Brandon Dang  
6 – John Clarke  
6 – Leah Hermann  
6 – Thao Luong  
8 – Shannon Pirmann  
9 – Jr. Bear  
10 – Carolyn Grimes

### *August Anniversaries*

6 – Bill & Cinday Minard  
15 – L.J. & Rachel Cunningham  
21 – Jim & Carolyn Carsell

CIU – means Church In Use  
Church office [office@elimqc.org](mailto:office@elimqc.org)  
309) 764-6920  
Church website [elimqc.org](http://elimqc.org)  
Pastor’s e-mail [pastor@elimqc.org](mailto:pastor@elimqc.org)  
Greg’s e-mail [youth@elimqc.org](mailto:youth@elimqc.org)

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 40

Worship = 113

### Mowing Schedule

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Aug. 1 Tom Dang & Giao Luong  | Aug. 8 Chris & Jim Carsell & Joe Schaechter |
| <b>CHILD CARE TODAY July 26</b>   | <b>NEXT WEEK Aug. 2</b>                     |
| Nursery Susie Schaechter & Elizabeth Smith  | Karen Johnson & Judy Martel                 |
| Children’s Church 3-6 yrs Lori Smith & Rachel Peterson                                | Cindy Minard & Megan DeA                    |
| Children’s Church 2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> grade Thao, Rachel L. & Natalie N. | Elizabeth P. & Mariah DeA                   |