

ELIM COVENANT CHURCH

November 22, 2015

When we're empty

You fill us...

When we're hungry

You feed us...



We are so blessed.

*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled. Matthew 5:6*

MESSAGE

“Diffusing the Holiday Stress”

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.

SONG

“One Thing Remains”

BENEDICTION

Scripture Readings for the Week

Sunday

Acts 14:21-22

Monday

Acts 20:32

Tuesday

James 1:21

Wednesday

John 8:31

Thursday

1 Corinthians 4:17

Friday

2 Timothy 3:14-15

Saturday

2 Timothy 3:16-17

TODAY’S GREETERS

Rodney & Judy Ouderkirk

HEAD USHER

Mike Hermann

USHERS

Chris Carsell, Jim Nelson, Zach Stulir

SOUND SYSTEM

Orlin Johnson

“Diffusing the Holiday Stress”

Philippians 4:4-9

Key Text: *“...we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”*
(2 Cor. 10:5)

Key Thought: During the holiday season, we can be held captive by stress, or take captive our thought process and be captivated by God’s love and grace.

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) A corrective perspective (cf. Lk. 10:38-42; 2 Cor. 4:18) *“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things”* (Col. 3:2)
- 3) Thanks in Thanksgiving (cf. Col. 3:15; 1 Ths. 5:18) *“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful”* (Col. 4:2)
- 4) Reality in frugality (cf. Mt. 6:25; Lk. 12:15) *“Better to be lowly and have a servant than to play the great man and lack bread”* (Pr. 12:9)
- 5) Christ in Christmas (cf. Lk. 14:15-23; Rev. 2:4-5) *“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”* (Mt. 6:33)
- 6) Generous servings (cf. Mt. 20:25-28; 1 Pt. 4:10) *“You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love”* (Gal. 5:13)
- 7) Conclusion

Questions for Reflection

- Do you need to alter your perspective as a corrective measure before the holiday season crashes upon you?
- What are simple ways you can bring thanksgiving into your Thanksgiving and center on Christ during Christmas?
- Will you choose to allow the stress and anxiety of the holidays hold you captive, or will you choose to be captivated by God’s grace and love, focusing instead on Christ and on serving others?

PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS

Praises: Thanksgiving time together with family and friends.

Prayer Concerns: Paris, France & the threat of terrorism throughout the world.

**Safe travels for college students coming home for the holidays.
The homeless/cold weather.**

Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:

Gary Wells, Juna Wortz, Arlene Miller, Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Margaret Hasty, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Marj Nelson, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Jay & Judie Stanley, John & Linda Hutchison, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, Ruth Armstrong, Joy Wright, Travis Ferry, families that have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

Prayer Notes:

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.

Get AMPed for the Holidays!!



A.M. Prayer & Coffee Gatherings (coffee is optional)!
Every Wednesday morning during the holiday season, we're going to have a morning prayer gathering from 7:00- 7:45 a.m.

It's a great opportunity for those who

- Want to counter-act the holiday stress with prayer.
 - Want to draw closer to Christ.
- Feel a call to join with others in intercessory prayer.

For those who are able, we'll finish with conversation over coffee at Village Inn immediately following our prayer time.

"FAITH from OBSCURITY"

Pastor Steve will present a 4 session class on some of the lesser read books of the Bible. The class will be taught on Wednesday nights, from 6:00-7:15 p.m. and repeated on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:15 p.m.

The first class will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 18th and Sunday, Nov. 22nd.

We will have a Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, Nov. 25th
(the "Faith from Obscurity" will be postponed that week, and will continue the following week). Thank you.

KEENAGER

The Keenager Bible Study group will have their potluck on Thursday, Dec. 3rd. This will be their last meeting until Jan. of 2016. Everyone is invited to join the group.



2 PIANOS FOR FREE

Elim is giving away our 2 pianos for anyone interested.

All you need do is take care of hauling them away.

See Mary Bivens with any questions.



Elim will hold a time of worship on
Thanksgiving Eve Wednesday evening

November 25th

@ 6:30 p.m.

(All other Wed. night activities are canceled).



COOKIE DECORATING DAY

*The cookie decorating day is scheduled for
Saturday, December 12th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. This
is a fun time for young and old to get together and
decorate Christmas cookies which will be delivered
to our shut-ins. There is a sign-up sheet in the
gathering area.*

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun.	Nov. 22	9:15 a.m. Sunday School	
		10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service	
		4:00-5:15 p.m. Faith from Obscurity Class	
Mon.	Nov. 23	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering	
Tues.	Nov. 24	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	
Wed.	Nov. 25	6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service	
Thurs.	Nov. 26	Office Closed for Thanksgiving Day	
Sun.	Nov. 29	9:15 a.m. Sunday School	
		10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service	
		12:00 noon Baptisms at the Moline YMCA pool	
		4:00-5:15 p.m. Faith from Obscurity class	
Mon.	Nov. 30	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering	
Tues.	Dec. 1	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	
Wed.	Dec. 2	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner	
		5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study	
		6:00-7:15 p.m. Faith from Obscurity Class	
		6:00-7:30 p.m. <i>SPARK & AXIS</i>	
		7:30-9:00p.m. Fusion	
Thurs.	Dec. 3	9:30 a.m. Keenagers Potluck (last mtg. until Jan. 2016)	
Sun.	Dec. 6	9:15 a.m. Sunday School	
		10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service	
		4:00-5:15 p.m. Faith from Obscurity Class	
Mon.	Dec. 7	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering	
Tues.	Dec. 8	5:30 p.m. MLT Meeting	
		6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	

November Birthdays

26 – Abigail Akpla

December Birthdays

2 – Kathy Boggs

6 – Leonna Ellis

10 – Natalie Nipper

11 – Mariah DeArmond

11 – Danielle Ogden

December Anniversaries

2 – Gary & Julie Wells

10 – John & Linda Hutchison

11 – Gene & Ellie Wildermuth

CIU – means Church In Use

Church office office@elimqc.org

(309) 764-6920

Church website elimqc.org

Pastor's e-mail pastor@elimqc.org

Greg's e-mail youth@elimqc.org

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 32

Worship = 128

Mowing Schedule

Nov. 28 John Clarke & Cecil Grimes

CHILD CARE TODAY Nov. 22

Nursery Karen Johnson & Judy Martel (Abby P.)

Jr. Church Dora Beth (Lori S. & Megan DeA.)

NEXT WEEK Nov. 29

Susie S., Elizabeth S., (Kate S.)

Mallory B., (Michelle DeA., Natalie N.)

There is now only 1 Jr. Church class since we are low on volunteers. Helpers appear in ().