

2024 Summer Worship Schedule

May 26th – No Services

June 2 – 9:00am Elm River

June 12 – 7:00pm Stordahl

June 16 – 9:00am Norman

June 23 – 9:00am Elm River

Week of June 30th no services

July 10 – 7:00pm Stordahl

July 14 – 9:00am Norman

July 21 – 9:00am Elm River (Pastor on Vacation)

July 31 – 7:00pm Stordahl

August 4 – 9:00am Norman

August 11 – 9:00am Elm River

August 21 – 7:00pm Stordahl

August 21 (Tri Parish Council meets after Service)

August 25 – 9:00am Norman

September 1st No Services

Summer 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm into recycling, so I hope it's not too much of a surprise that I often recycle my old newsletter articles. As I looked into articles from the past I found one I had written at the time I announced my retirement in 2012. My, how time flies. And obviously I flunked retirement. But this message from the past is still meaningful and surprisingly up to date:

The countdown has begun. As I write this, I am staring at bookshelves filled with theological texts with five more such boxes on the floor. What come to mind is Ecclesiastes 12:12: "Of the making of books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh." Time to heave-ho; nobody likes to move books! I've let the conference pastors know they are welcome to any of them on the shelves, but you are welcome to stop by also and take a few with you if you would like. Just write down who you are and what you took (for tax purposes) and I'll have one less load to take to the dumpster.

But it is also a time I find myself reflecting on the question, "And just what, pray tell, have you done with your life? What were your dreams, who was your God, and were you faithful to them?" When we're busy living out our lives in this world it's easy to lose track of the fact that we are also meant to live for God, our spouses, our children, and for others. Then, all at once, retirement sneaks up on you and the questions we have put off for so many years now catch us unaware. And they can bring depression in their wake if we brood on them. But in point of fact we need not fear them. God is in our future, directing us down paths we cannot yet see. Be assured that our lives continue to have purpose no matter what has gone on before. It may even be that our best work remains to be done.

I think, for instance, of a man who has grown into a fine example of a Christian. He is active in his church, the city council, and various other boards, and I marvel at the good, common sense that is evident in everything he says. Though he had a rough-and-tumble beginning, he has grown past it to become a real asset to our community. By daring to believe in himself as a worthwhile creation of God and not letting his past hold him back he has become a benefit to us all.

I am proud to know such people. Their work is never easy, and all too easily criticized. No one seems to credit them with a heart of love, but that is precisely what drives them. They may not be the ones voted "most likely to succeed", but these are the people who make a real difference. Our world would be a sorry place without them. Elections are coming up. Do your best to determine who is running for glory, and who is running because they see a community in need. Then vote for the latter. And, after the vote, give those you elect not only your votes but your prayers and support as well. They need them, and we need them.

A happy summer to all!

May your summer be filled with new possibilities, new adventures, renewed energy, a golden future, and with the God who loves you, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Tri Parish Events

ELM RIVER SERVING TEAM

Please Find a Replacement if schedule does not work for you

<i>Date</i>	<i>Usher & Bell</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>Church Cleaning</i>
June 2 nd	Jeremy & Jana	Dave & Kathy	Jana & Bonnie H	Bonnie H & Jana
June 23 rd	Kendall	-----	Wendy B.	
July 21 st	Andy & Kayla	-----	Kayla & Shelly S.	
August 11 th	Bob & Cindy	John & Lori	Lori P.	

NORMAN COMMITTEES

<i>Calling Committee</i>	<i>Head Usher</i>	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	<i>Cleaning Groups</i>
Helen – June, August	June – Eric A.	6/16 Martina	June - Vadnies
Shelia - July	July – Paul K.	7/14 Audrey	June - Erbstoessers
Flowers	August – Jack V.	8/4 Inez	July - Lyngs
June – Audrey K.	Altar Cloths	8/25 Kelly	July – P. Knudsvig
July – Shelia A.	Donna Vadnie		August – J. Aarsvold
August – Shirley S.			August – Ella Mae

CIRCLE NEWS

Elm River – Wednesday, June 5th @ 1pm

Wednesday, July 3rd @ 1pm

Norman - Wednesday, June 12th @ 1pm Donna Vadnie hostess

Wednesday, July 10th @ 1pm Martina Lyng hostess



In Memory of Ilene Kylo
Funeral Services were held
on May 11th at Elm River