



Randall, Iowa

2025 Congregational Profile

Affiliation: Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), Iowa District

Established: 1868

Who We Are

Elim Lutheran Church has stood as a lighthouse of faith and fellowship in the small-town community of Randall, Iowa, for more than 150 years. Established in 1868, Elim has provided generations of believers with a place to worship, grow, and serve together.

Though located in a rural setting, Elim's central location reaches beyond Randall. Our members come from multiple nearby towns and school districts, drawn by a sense of belonging and a shared desire to follow Jesus. We are deeply rooted in Scripture, grounded in Lutheran theology, and passionate about living out the gospel in practical, caring ways.

Elim has a long tradition of pastoral stability and faithful leadership, with pastors who have guided the congregation for many years at a time. Today, we remain known for our warmth, hospitality, and commitment to one another as we seek to partner together in God's continuing mission.

Our Current Reality

Elim has recently walked through a season of loss and renewal following the passing of our beloved pastor. This period brought opportunities for reflection, healing, and growth. Through prayer, grace, and perseverance, we've experienced a deepened unity and new energy for ministry.

Average weekly worship attendance has increased to approximately 130, including children. Sunday School is lively and growing, and participation in adult Bible study continues to expand. Our congregation reflects a healthy mix of ages—young families, longtime members, and retirees—each contributing to the shared life of faith we enjoy together.

Elim's finances are stable and strong. We are currently operating at a surplus, a reflection of consistent giving and careful stewardship. The congregation has responded faithfully to God's provision, sustaining ministry with gratitude and generosity.

Worship Life

Elim's worship centers our hearts and lives around God's presence, Word, and grace.



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Schedule:

From Labor Day to Memorial Day, we gather for 10:30 a.m. worship, with Adult and Children's Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

During the summer months (Memorial Day to Labor Day), worship begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by a time of fellowship and coffee.

Style:

Our service follows a modified traditional format, utilizing *The Lutheran Book of Worship* (green hymnal), *With One Voice*, and music led by our adult and children's choirs. Worship is accompanied by our organ or grand piano. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month.

In previous years, we have changed up the service on the 4th Sundays to more of a contemporary format with our younger members leading. We are open to that direction again, but currently do not have the leadership to implement.

Technology:

Audio-visual technology allows us to incorporate *Proclaim Presentation Software* for use in worship and livestreaming. Members and visitors alike can join us in person or participate online—live or later in the week.

Ministry Life

Elim's life together is centered on worship, discipleship, and service.

Worship & Fellowship:

The choir, which sings most Sundays, enriches our worship with joyful and heartfelt music. Fellowship continues over coffee and treats each Sunday during the summer months after worship, and seasonal gatherings such as potlucks, movie nights, and outdoor events help strengthen the ties that make Elim a family.

Discipleship & Christian Education:

To date in 2025, we have celebrated 8 baptisms, which is 5 more than the total from 2024.

Sunday School (Preschool through 6th grade) remains a vibrant part of our ministry. Our students currently participate in cooperative programs with neighboring congregations, reflecting Elim's



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collaborative spirit. Adult Bible study meets weekly and continues to thrive as participants engage deeply with God's Word.

Our recent partnership with *RightNow Media* lays a great foundation for spiritual growth individually, as families, and community.

Our partnership with Riverside Bible Camp offers youth opportunities for growth, service, and leadership development.

Mission & Outreach:

Elim supports local and global missions through monthly giving and prayer. Each month, we highlight a specific ministry partner to keep mission central in our life together. Our congregation remains committed to community outreach, seeing our central location as a gift to reach multiple communities and school districts with the gospel.

Facilities & Resources

Elim's facilities provide a beautiful and functional space for ministry, fellowship, and worship.

Sanctuary: A bright and welcoming space with enough room to invite neighbors.

Fellowship Hall: A spacious, flexible area for meals, gatherings, and celebrations.

Parsonage: A recently renovated 5-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom home with an attached garage, offering approximately 1,500+ sq. ft. of living space.

Technology & Media: A redesigned website, livestreamed services, and access to *RightNow Media* equip members with resources for growth and connection.

Stewardship & Memorials: Through generous gifts and memorial funds, Elim recently installed an ADA accessible entry door and a new carillon that fills Randall with hymns throughout the week—a joyful reminder of God's faithfulness.

Leadership & Vision for the Future

Elim's Church Council has identified four ministry priorities that guide our focus for the years ahead:

- **Care Ministry** – Strengthening pastoral care and member support.



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- **Being Missional** – Reaching our local and surrounding communities with the gospel.
- **Fellowship & Participation** – Encouraging engagement and belonging across generations.
- **Christian Education** – Continuing to invest in children, youth, and adult discipleship.

As we prepare for the next chapter, Elim is prayerfully seeking to partner with our next settled pastor—someone who will walk alongside us in mission, ministry, and growth. We desire a leader who leads with a visionary spirit while mindfully aware with a shepherd's heart: one who teaches God's Word faithfully, leads with humility and courage, and equips others to live out their faith in everyday life.

Our hope is to build on the strong foundation already in place—renewing our youth ministry, expanding community outreach, and cultivating a deeper culture of discipleship and hospitality.

At a Glance

Average Worship Attendance: 130

Children's Sunday School Enrollment: 25-30

Parsonage: 5 bed / 3.5 bath (1,500+ sq. ft., recently renovated)

Financial Health: Operating at a surplus

Current Pastor: Intentional Interim (serving since January, 2025)

Denomination: Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), Iowa District

Founded: 1868

Final Thoughts

Elim Lutheran Church is a congregation marked by faith, resilience, and hope. Together, we are learning to listen to God's leading and to one another as we move forward in unity and purpose.

We look forward to welcoming a pastoral partner who will join us in strengthening discipleship, nurturing community, and extending the love of Christ to those around us. The next chapter of Elim's story is one we are eager to write together—with joy, prayer, and expectation for what God will do next.



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Interested?

We'd love to begin a conversation.

Please review our *Job Description* and reach out with your expression of interest to the contact below. Together, let's discover what God will do next at Elim Lutheran Church.

Initial Point of Contact: Betsy Warburton, Elim Lutheran Transitional Call Committee

Email: betsywarburton1@gmail.com

Please Include: Elim Lutheran Church Call Committee in the Subject Heading and response to:
Describe your personal call to pastoral ministry.