

THE ELIM HERALD

News for Family and Friends of Elim

Lima, New York Spring 2022



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Elim family,

What a joy to present to you, this, our third ELIM Herald!

So much has been transpiring here at EBIC that I hardly know where to begin. As you will see in the Herald, a lot is going on around campus and life seems to be springing up everywhere!

Looking at things right now through a “close-up lens”... not only have there been improvements to our campus in the last 2 years, but this summer will also bring even more advancements to our grounds and facilities. Look for College Hall to have professional LED lights installed in its front yard that will illuminate the six (freshly painted) historic pillars that will send a majestic image for all to see. Also, the Bell Tower on top of the Spencer building will be “lit up” as well with new LED lights casting its regal figure throughout the entire Lima area. Also, throughout the campus this summer/fall you will see an array of beautifully colored flowers and plants spread from College Hall, our Sign, and Spencer, to Washington, Admissions, the Student Center, the



Library, the Unity Bridge (around the pond) and of course the Globe and Courtyard. This will continue for years to come. All of this will project a life-giving picture of progress and excitement for all who drive by our campus. These are just a few of the many projects we are addressing at ELIM.

Now that it “appears” the dark cloud of COVID is behind us, we are setting our sights in the direction of continued successful accomplishments. The Board of Directors and I are tackling tough issues that will help secure the financial future for our beloved Bible college... two of which are, endowments and estate planning (subjects that ELIM has not pursued in its history). What a GREAT blessing this will be to us as we head into the future of preparing Christian leaders for worldwide REVIVAL!

I hope you enjoy this issue of the ELIM Herald. It’s full of wonderful and informative news from all over the campus, center staging our students and the great things God is doing in their lives. Also notice our “Alumni Connections!” We are devoting information for our Alumni as well that we are hoping will blossom as we progress. Also, there is a memorial article written by Rev. Dick Grout dedicated to our deeply loved brother, Stacy Cline.

“A New Day will dawn on us from above because our God is loving and merciful.” - Luke 1:78



Dr. Fred Antonelli and Debbie Antonelli

Because of Him,

Dr. Fred Antonelli, Ph.D.

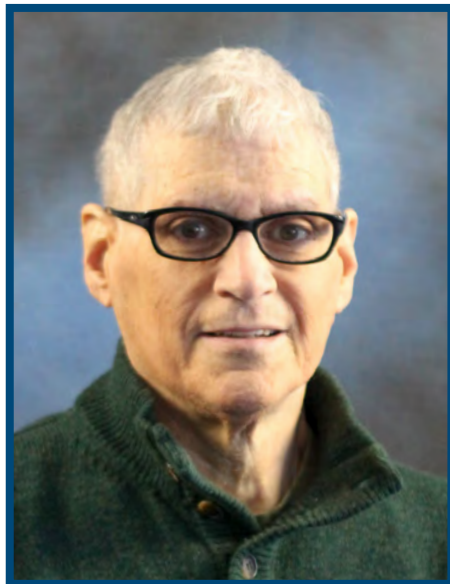


The freshly painted pillars on the front of College Hall.



(Top) Our beautiful campus will be getting nicely updated in the summer. (Bottom) Students soaking up the sunshine during some rare early spring weather..

REMEMBERING STACY CLINE



Our beloved Stacy Cline entered into Glory on Friday, March 4, 2022. Stacy was born to Roger and Marion Cline in Johnson City, NY on April 23, 1949.

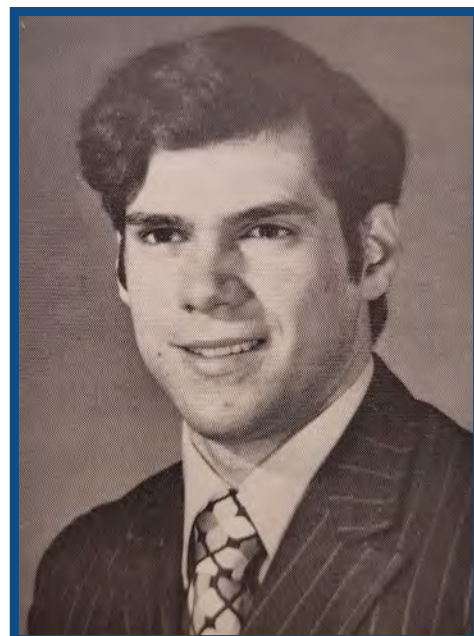
Around 18 years old Stacy Cline made the decision to have a committed relationship with Jesus. After reading Jeremiah 15:16, he became consumed with the desire to study Scripture and enrolled at Elim Bible Institute as a full time student.

Stacy married the girl of his dreams on September 21, 1968. In his own words, Connie won his love, heart, and deep

respect with her uncompromising commitment to Christ, unshakable maturity, and emotional stability. He was a stronger man in Christ because of her love and partnership. In 1974, Stacy and Connie were called to minister at EBIC. For 25 years Connie was a key administrator in the Dean of Students office, and Stacy described working and ministering with her as a blessing. Stacy served as the Dean of Students and was a popular teacher at EBIC. He was known for his deep love for people and provided pastoral care for many. While he taught classes on Biblical Theology and was an incredible scholar, Stacy was most known for his Marriage and Family class, which he and Connie taught together for many years. Stacy continued to minister at EBIC right up until his passing, totaling over 48 years of service at the school.

Stacy is survived by his loving children, Danielle Cline (Dustin Novitzki), Michelle Sandwell; grandchildren, Katherine, Daniel, Anna Joy, and David. Stacy was predeceased by his beloved wife Connie E. Cline; daughter, Rene Sandwell; granddaughter, Jessica Grace; and son, Douglas Sandwell.

The following is a collection of memories by Dick Grout, a current faculty and friend of Brother Stacy.



Stacy, an EBIC senior in 1972.

When I came to Elim Bible Institute in the fall of 1977, Stacy was my favorite teacher. As a young believer who was also called to be a teacher of the word of God, I learned a great deal from Stacy's approach, the authenticity of his life, and his dedication to research and preparation. Little did I know that in 1989 my family and I would return to the Elim campus, and I would have the honor of working with my former teacher, now as a colleague and a fellow instructor. A few memories from our many years together stand out to me.

In one of the first classes that I had with Stacy he taught from the book of 1 Peter that there are manifold or various trials that we need to go through. And that same Greek word used for 'various' is later used to refer to the various or manifold grace of God. For every trial that we will ever go through, there is a corresponding aspect of the grace of God to take us through that trial. I have always remembered that concept but certainly did not know at the time how Stacy's life would model it to me over and over again.

Stacy and I co-officiated at the wedding ceremony of his daughter Rene and Doug Sandwell. It was quite a bonding moment for both of us to be nervously excited before the service began.

One beautiful Fall day several years ago, we were at an EBI school picnic at Mendon Ponds Park. During the picnic our daughter came in contact with a 12,000-volt electric line while climbing a tree and fell, unconscious, to the ground. As we came running to her,



we found Stacy laying on the ground next to her head, watching her and caring for her. We will always cherish that picture in our mind of Stacy's fatherly care for our little girl (who, miraculously, survived!).

For several years, Elim Gospel Church asked us to minister together at their Good Friday service. Stacy would preach and teach the story of the crucifixion, and I would lead worship interspersed through his comments, and bring our attention to the cross of Jesus. It was a very meaningful time for both of us and I miss those opportunities to minister together with my brother.

I recently discovered an extra copy of the book Heaven by Randy Alcorn and felt to give it to Stacy. As we both were working our way through that mammoth book (he much more quickly than I), he told me several times that it was meaningful to him to learn more about what scripture says about heaven. And now he is truly an expert in the subject!

I found Stacy to be compassionate and sympathetic. He was a friend and an encourager. Every time I walked by his office, he had a kind word and a smile for me. He was a good listener and a true confidant: whatever you shared with him was tucked safely away in his large father's heart.

Stacy was strong, and I can still see him as a younger man running down College Street in his Syracuse orange sweatsuit. He was a gentle man, but when he hugged me, I felt I was being embraced by a human tree trunk.

I love him and will miss him. We all will. Until we see him again.



(Above and Left) Stacy Cline and his beloved wife, Connie, who are now reunited in the presence of the Lord.

Stacy as the Dean of Students in 1974.

STACY CLINE SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is in honor of Elim's long-term Dean of Students and teacher:

Students might apply for this scholarship by submitting a scholarship jotform (will be available on our website). Considering Stacy's personality, ministry, and his approach to students, the following criteria will be taken into consideration:

1. Must be full-time, live on campus, enrolled in either AAS in Biblical Studies or BS in Theology
2. Their overall GPA - should be at least 2.0 - if not, there must be a reason; such an individual must work hard and make improvements each semester.
3. Must love the Lord and have a passion to help others (service-oriented)
4. Must be involved in the community/church in some capacity
5. Must have a financial need.

If you would like to donate to this scholarship fund in honor of brother Stacy, please visit this [link](#).



(Click the image above to view a tribute video for Brother Stacy.)



Elim Bible Institute and College is a proud partner to Helimission. This past fall, we had the honor of hosting three different families from Europe who are being trained to join the Helimission team in the field. We were so blessed to have them as a part of our EBIC family, even if it was just for a short time.

The following is from Helimission's website, and gives a deep description of who they are, and what they do:

"Helimission's aim and purpose is to provide social, medical and spiritual aid to people in remote and inaccessible areas. Helimission is non-denominational and helps those in need regardless of their religious affiliation.

"We currently operate three helicopter bases with a total of 6 helicopters: two bases in

Indonesia, on the islands of Papua and Sulawesi, and one in Madagascar.

"From our bases, we support local organizations in the bush by flying provisions for them. In addition, we transport building material, medicine and medical equipment to supply and maintain bush hospitals.

"Furthermore, we fly medical personnel into remote areas to provide treatment and preventive care to the local inhabitants. Many of our flights are to rescue emergency patients and accident victims."

We would love it if you would partner with us in supporting this powerful ministry. Learn more at the Helimission [website](#), or click this [link](#) to make a donation.



International Director, Simon Tanner (left), and pilot, Dave Rolf (right).



(Click the image to view a video of Simon Tanner describing Helimission's relationship with EBIC.)



One of Helimission's helicopters. (Click on the image to view Helimission's teaser trailer.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 6-7: Discovery Days.**
- April 9-15: EBIC Choir Traveling Tour.**
- April 14-18: Easter Break.**
- April 22: International Dinner.**
- May 5: Open House.**
- May 9-12: Exam Week.**
- May 13-14: Commencement Weekend. Celebrate with Our Graduates!**
- Baccalaureate, Fri. 7pm**
- Seniors Brunch, Sat 10am**
- Graduation, Sat 2pm**
- May 16: NYSUM Students Depart**
- June 4: NYSUM Students Return.**
- June 6 - July 29: Online Summer Classes. Take an EBIC course online this summer!**
- For more information call Admissions at 585-582-8260.**
- August 29: Fall Semester Begins. Apply soon to attend EBIC in the fall at www.elim.edu/apply or call Admissions at 585-582-8260 for more information.**
- August 30: First President's Chapel of the 2022/2023 School Year. View the livestream on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#)**

For the latest updates to the Event Calendar, visit our online calendar [here](#)

THE EBIC WORSHIP CHOIR

What do you get when you combine:

- Math-making
- Weight-lifting
- Bass-playing
- Rule-stretching
- Pokeman-chasing
- Starbucks-drinking
- TikTok-making
- Pink hair-donning
- Cowboy boots-wearing
- Jesus-loving
- Group of kids?

The ELIM Worship Choir!

This diverse group of young adults has been challenging themselves this semester on more than just learning notes to bring you a concert. They have challenged themselves on forgiveness, preparedness, excellence, perseverance and to step out and be bold.

With a mixture of new tunes, old tunes and favorites, this will be a concert for all to enjoy. Come with your heart prepared, for this concert is interactive and you will want to get to your feet or on your knees and praise the most High God with us!

By Kelly Walsh, adjunct teacher of Choir and Drama.

**Choral Concert:
April 30 at 7pm
(Located in the EBIC Tabernacle)**



The EBIC Worship Choir leading worship for the students and staff.



NEW HIRES!



Dr. Daniel Kautu
Part Time Faculty



Amanda Lindblom
Assistant Registrar



Jonathan Pellicano
Foodservice Director



Kathryn Taylor
Admissions Counselor



Gregory Thorpe
*Apartment Maintenance
Technician*



Cassandra Wilhelm
Associate Dean

WEEK OF PRAYER

At the beginning of the spring semester every year, we are given the unique opportunity to dive deeply into the presence of the Lord, and immerse ourselves in the power of prayer. The Week of Prayer is always one of the biggest highlights of the year for the students and staff here at EBIC. We always hear from wonderful speakers that encourage us, challenge us, and strengthen our faith. Each Week of Prayer is always unique and powerful, but has the core focus zoomed in on prayer and how to apply it to our lives.

This year, we heard from Dr. Fred Antonelli, Chris Zeigler, Joshua Finley, and Alex and Jodi Seidler. Each speaker brought a unique take on the power of prayer and gave us all practical applications on how to strengthen our prayer lives. Their messages were so encouraging, and we all were able to walk away from each session feeling refreshed and ready to dive deeper into our personal relationship with God.

One of the most precious times during the Week of Prayer is the quiet times that are provided. These are full sessions that are solely dedicated to spending one-on-one time with the Lord. Students and staff are encouraged to practice the



applications that have been taught to them by the speakers throughout the week during these times. It is a great opportunity to dwell in His presence, and to make a practical step towards improving your prayer life.

This was my fourth Week of Prayer, and I have always loved my experiences throughout the week. I have encountered God in ways that I never expected to during this week, and I am always so excited to watch freshmen experience the Week of Prayer for the first time. This is a unique experience that most colleges do not offer. It is a chance to take a step back from the chaos of the semester, and focus mainly on prayer and growing closer to the Lord. It is a precious and holy week, and I have been so blessed to be able to experience it throughout my time here at EBIC.

By Leah Waters, current senior and Marketing Assistant.



MAKE A DONATION?

Are you interested in making a donation to Elim Bible Institute and College? Making a donation to EBIC is easy to do! In fact, you can even designate where you would like your donation to be applied, such as where needed most, scholarship fund, a specific student, or campus restoration. To make a donation, please visit this [page](#).

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Elim Alumni are VIPs – Valuable, Important, People.

In 1995, after being laid off from the oceanfront hotel where I worked, a friend asked me to drive her to Elim for a special weekend for older people considering the school (I was in my 30's). At that time, I knew very little about Elim. My only reference was from attending a Mobilized to Serve Conference in Pittsburgh, PA back in the late 1980's. I reluctantly agreed to accompany her. From the moment we arrived on the campus and throughout our brief time there, I sensed the presence of God and received many little God-nudges and confirmations that my NEXT would be as a student at Elim Bible Institute. Not only did I start the following semester, I graduated three years later (shoutout to the class of '98!), went on staff in the Deans Office and served for 5 years. Fast forward 14 years later and I returned to Lima, NY to work at Elim Fellowship in the Global Ministries Office for 4 years and this past August, returned to my alma mater as the Admissions Director.

I share my Elim story here to remind you, my fellow alumni, you too have a story to share. And we would love to hear it. It's worth sharing. I encourage you to write it down or record it on your phone. You never know when we might ask to use it in our social media and marketing campaigns.

In my role as Admissions Director, I have become more aware and more interested, some here would say, passionate, about providing opportunities to reconnect with and involve our alumni in what is happening here on campus. Why? Relationship and Impartation: reconnecting alumni with alumni and imparting the impact Elim has had on us to the next generation of EBIC alumni-to-be's.

Below are some programs that are already in place and some new initiatives we are implementing with hopefully more to come:

Alumni Referral Scholarship* \$500 scholarship to any full-time student that has been referred by an alumni

*Alumni that refer a student who attends Elim will be recognized with a plaque in College Hall and receive an exclusive Alumni

T-Shirt! To take advantage of this opportunity, fill out the [Refer a Student](#) form.

Alumni Dependents Scholarship Dependents of alumni who have completed an Elim certificate or degree program are eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship per academic year (student must be enrolled full-time to be eligible for this opportunity).

These two scholarships are mutually exclusive.

Alumni Luncheon as part of the Elim Fellowship's Annual Oasis Conference – we would love to see this become a time and place for class reunions and alumni connection. Which class will have the highest alumni representation at this year's Oasis Conference - May 17-19? [Register](#) today!

Housing and Meals will be offered at EBIC, including the Alumni Luncheon on Thursday, May 19th. (To register for the Alumni Luncheon, click on Individual Meals on the [Registration Form](#)).

Elim Alumni Facebook Page – a place for us to connect with you, our VIPs and for you to connect with each other

NEW “Throwback Thursdays” – each Thursday our Marketing Department posts a class picture on the Elim Alumni Facebook page and invites class members and others to comment and interact with fellow classmates.

Elim Ambassadors – Boots on the Ground program designed to help alumni effectively promote the school to potential students. [Register](#) today for our brief Zoom training.

As you can see, fellow Elim Alumni, you truly are VIPs to us here at Elim Bible Institute and College and we look forward to connecting with and engaging you in our mission to reach more students. We would love to hear from you! Your ideas, suggestions and participation in our mission is not only welcome but needed. Hope to hear from you soon!

By Lisa Waldman, Admissions Director and Class of 1998 alumni.

SUMMER COURSES

EBIC offers several different classes over the summer. This is a wonderful opportunity for current students to get a head start on classes for the following year, or for alumni to take a couple of classes to chip away at their Associates or Bachelors Degree.

**Want to learn more?
Contact Admissions at 585.582.8260 or
admissions@elim.edu.**

You can also visit [Summer 2022](#) to immediately apply for summer classes!

TALENT SHOW

One of the highlights of the spring semester is the Junior Class's Talent Show. This year, the theme was the Renaissance, with a bit of a twist. Part-way through the show, the audience witnessed the "murder" of a couple of staff members. What began as an innocent Renaissance-themed night quickly catapulted into a "Renaissance Murder Mystery," including interrogations of students, staff, and faculty. In the end, we discovered that the murderer had been fed up with the victims' cat following him everywhere, so he decided to take it out on the owners.

It was a joyful night filled with laughter, songs, cheering, and tears. Our beloved Brother Stacy had passed away earlier in the day, and the school was urged by his family to still put on the show, because "he would be thrilled if you continue with your program and recognize the peace the joy and the absolute excitement that he's experiencing right now in heaven." Brother Stacy's daughter, Michelle Sandwell, and best friend, Chris Ball, both attended to represent him, as well as

interact with the many people that he had so deeply touched. It was a very moving time for all of us, but was also a moment to remember how much he had loved these events and loved supporting the students that he adored and cared for.

It was definitely a night that we will not soon forget. Being able to celebrate amid the tears and longing to have Brother Stacy present was something only we, as Christians, can experience. It was a beautiful reminder that death is not the end, but only the beginning, and we have so much to look forward to someday.

A huge thank you to all the students, staff, and faculty who participated in this year's Talent Show, and a special thank you to Brother Stacy's family who helped us to remember him through the festivities of the evening.

By Leah Waters, Marketing Assistant and current senior.



NEW SOUND SYSTEM!

EBIC offers different programs of concentration that help students gain experience in practical ministry. One of these concentrations is



The tech team working hard with the new soundboard.

Worship Leadership. This concentration provides students with practical skills in the musical aspect of leading worship. In order to bring an excellent experience, EBIC upgraded their sound equipment. The process began 2 years ago, when we decided to

change our sound board from an analog board to a 32-channel digital board. We also changed our floor monitors to an individual personal in-ear mixing system. The Lord has been faithful through it all. He did not only give financial provision to accomplish these updates but also sent a professional sound engineer to help us with the different updates free of charge.

As of 2022, EBIC has upgraded its equipment with a 32-channel digital snake, choir mics, and livestream equipment. This has enabled us to host professional worship teams, livestream our President's Chapel and special events, and most importantly we have been able to provide our students with opportunities to learn and grow in managing: livestream, worship teams, projection, and mixing live sound. Our hope for the upcoming years is to upgrade our passive

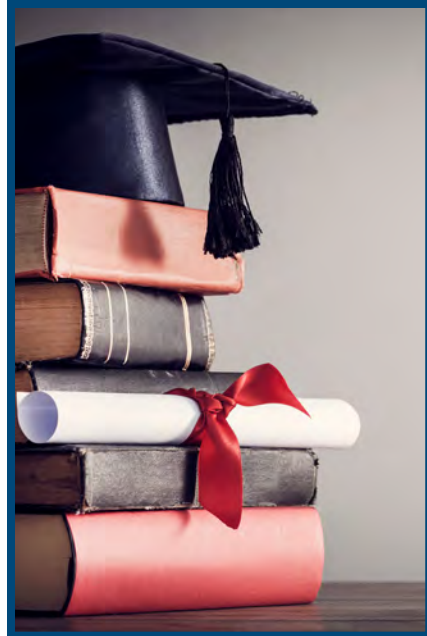
speaker and subwoofer to active ones. We trust the Lord will help us with these updates so we can continue to provide a quality experience for people who follow our livestream service on Tuesdays for President's Chapels or are part of our chapel services in person. We also want to continue creating opportunities for our students to learn more about the musical aspect of worship.

By Gabriel Cepeda, Worship Coordinator and Campus Life Director.



Leading worship is much easier with the new in-ear system!

OUR FIRST BACHELOR'S DEGREE!



For many years Elim Bible Institute functioned as a nonprofit organization offering a three-year diploma. Elim was not recognized as a higher education institution in New York State. As such, our students were not able to apply for any grants, and transferring credits from Elim to other Christian colleges became increasingly difficult. At the very beginning of the 21st century, Elim leadership together with the board of directors recognized the need for change.

As a result, Elim Bible Institute and College (EBIC) was registered as a higher education institution and in 2012, it was granted a provisional charter from the NYS Board of Regents granting Elim permission to conduct programs leading to an Associate degree. It still had to work on meeting the standards of accreditation, which was a very daunting task. In 2013 Rev. Michael Cavanaugh, the president of EBIC at that time, decided to create an office of institutional effectiveness for this very purpose. That's when I was invited to join the Elim team. We all agreed that while the academic and organizational standards had to be strengthened and EBIC as a college had to become more efficient, Elim could NEVER lose its PRIMARY focus of training Christ-centered and Spirit-empowered servant leaders. Instead, it had to find a way to

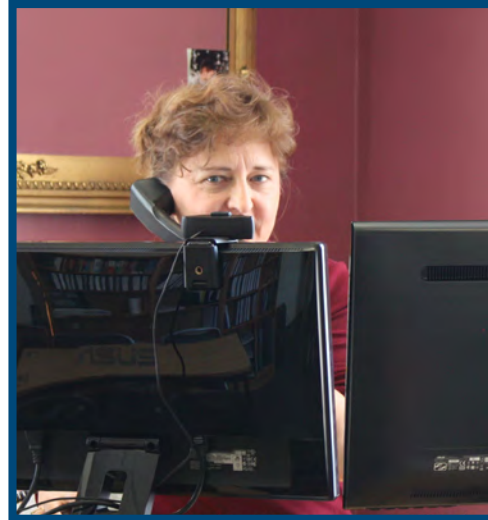
interweave spiritual growth, academic excellence, and practical ministry training.

Our college soon reached accreditation status and we

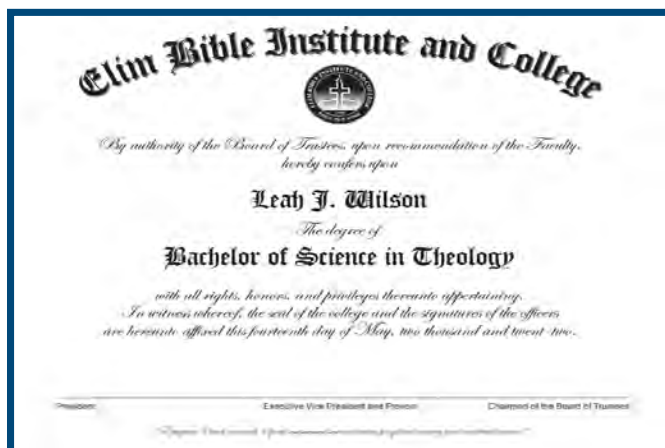
recognized that our students were missing out. After three years of hard work, they ended up with an associate degree and a diploma. In 2018, the idea of expanding our program by one year was born and the work on becoming a Category II institution offering bachelor's degrees began. By God's grace and with His tremendous blessings, all requirements were met and in 2020, EBIC received the authority to conduct programs leading to Bachelor of Science degrees.

Preparing Christ-centered and Spirit-empowered servant leaders for global ministry and worldwide revival continues to be as important at the college as ever. In so doing, this year several of our servant leaders will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Theology degree for the first time in Elim's history. We are elated and we recognize God's provision and His blessing in the entire process. We are also hoping to offer a BS in Business Management in Fall 2022, pending NYSED approval. To Him be the glory!

By Dr. Danuta Case, Executive Vice President and Provost.



Dr. Danuta Case's hard work helped EBIC to create their first Bachelor of Science degree!



Our brand-new Bachelor of Science in Theology Diplomas!



A group of some of our first ever seniors who will be graduating with a Bachelors.

PRESIDENT'S CHAPEL

Join us for President's Chapel
Did you know that the President's Chapel is now being livestreamed? This means you can join us LIVE to hear worship and a word from Dr. Antonelli and guest speakers.
President's Chapels take place every Tuesday during the regular semester from 11:00am - Noon EST.

Links to livestream: [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#)

Podcasts of chapels available on [iTunes](#) and [Spotify](#).

WORSHIP EMPHASIS WEEK

Romans 12:1 states, “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” Notice that Paul talks about worship without any kind of musical form. Even though music is an expression of worship, it is not the essence of worship. Worship is beyond music. Paul makes it clear in verse 2; “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Worship is giving God the glory that He alone deserves. Worship begins in our hearts; it is our way of living, our daily actions, choices, thoughts, and words. They should bring glory to God. That is the heart of worship.

Music is simply a tool created by God and given to us to help us do that. We can’t be excellent worshippers unless our hearts and talents are centered in glorifying Jesus Christ. Worship Music is not



entertainment to people but a way we can give honor to God and help people connect with His heart. It is a gift from God intended to assist us as we develop and deepen our relationship with Him.

When I came to EBIC as a student, God put the desire in my heart to create a week where worship was the emphasis. EBIC Missions Statement says that we exist “to prepare Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered servant leaders for global ministry and worldwide revival.” However, without a strong biblical and foundational understanding of worship, our future leaders won’t be equipped to take true worship out into the world. Since 2018 our Worship Emphasis Week, which takes place in the beginning of March, has served as an instrument to help students further their knowledge and understanding of worship. As you pray for EBIC, please pray that the Lord uses our Worship Emphasis Week to move in the hearts of our students so their lives would be a living sacrifice of worship.

By Gabriel Cepeda, Worship Coordinator and



Brother Dick and Marji Grout sharing with the students. (Click on the image to view the Worship Emphasis Week sessions on YouTube.)



(Above and left) Students entering in the presence of the Lord.

WEBSITE TIDBITS

Did you know that our website has the following pages?

Accreditation: Learn more about the organizations that we have been able to partner with to help make coming to Elim affordable and achievable!

Academic Programs: Be sure to check out our Academic Programs page to learn more about all of the programs EBIC offers!

Alumni: Calling all alumni! Be sure to check out our Alumni page and find different ways to reconnect with Elim!

Events Calendar: Have you ever wondered what is going on here on campus? Check out our Calendar!

Distance Education: Are you interested in completing your degree from the comfort of your home? Visit our Online Education page for more information!

President’s Chapel Livestream: Every Tuesday, our chapels focus on hearing from our president and from other wonderful speakers as well! Please join us at 11am EST to hear from the Lord!

Podcasts: Our podcasts are also available on iTunes and Spotify. These are recordings of president’s chapels and more!

Request Transcripts: Are you an EBIC alumni? Visit the Request Transcripts page to inquire about getting either an official or unofficial transcript.

NYSUM 2021 TESTIMONIES

In the summer of 2021, EBIC sent two different classes to the New York School of Urban Ministry (or NYSUM). Our current juniors and sophomores had a powerful time of ministry and fellowship while in the city, and we asked a several of them to share their personal testimonies. As we prepare to send out our freshmen in May, we are excited to reflect on the impact that was made by our most recent NYSUM classes, and look forward to hearing from our future team as well.

I think the biggest thing God did in me at NYSUM was grow me as a leader. I was already a leader in so many areas of my life, but there were a lot of things I had never done and really needed to rely on God for during my time leading a NYSUM team. It was hard, it was stressful, but ultimately, I grew so much more as a leader than I would have without that experience. Despite all the trials my team faced, we grew closer to each other and shared the Gospel with a tenacity I could not have been prouder of! I think the biggest thing God did in me at NYSUM was grow me as a leader. I was already a leader in so many areas of my life, but there were a lot of things I had never done and really needed to rely on God for during my time leading a NYSUM team. It was hard, it was stressful, but ultimately, I grew so much more as a leader than I would have without that experience. Despite all the trials my team faced, we grew closer to each other and shared the Gospel with a tenacity I could not have been prouder of!

By Ashley Mellinger, EBIC's current Housekeeping Coordinator, and previous sophomore and NYSUM team leader.

NYSUM was a really wonderful experience. When reflecting on my time there, one night stands out in particular. My team and I were doing homeless ministry in Manhattan. While wandering around the streets looking for people to pray for, we met a man who was going through terrible times. His clothes were torn and he had scars all over his legs because of drugs. We asked if there was any way we could pray for him. He told us how he desperately wished he could be free of his addictions and how he felt trapped. We prayed for him, and I asked if he had a Bible. He did not. I asked if he wanted one. We weren't equipped to hand out

Bibles on that particular night, so the only one I had with me was my personal Bible. I will never forget the way he held on to it when I handed it to him. I will never forget the look of gratitude and hope.

Feeding people is excellent and necessary. Helping them financially is a tremendous ministry. What really matters though is that they hear God's Word, that they are given the good news of Jesus Christ. I handed the man a sandwich, and it gave him sustenance. I handed him a Bible, and it gave him hope. How are we ministering to people? Are we only feeding their bodies, or are we also feeding their souls?

By Dominic Renaldo, a current sophomore.

NYSUM was an experience that I was definitely apprehensive about at first. As the day drew closer, though, I was able to feel more excitement and anticipation. Looking back, I can see that God was giving me grace for the situation, and that was one of the things that stands out to me about that time - God's faithfulness to me no matter what. Even the ministry I was looking forward to the least - homeless ministry - ended up being one of the things I enjoyed most. I didn't anticipate that, nor having several members of my team deal with significant hardship, but God was truly there through it all.

We did so many things, but the standout moment for me was when God fulfilled a secret prayer of mine - that if I could lead just one person to salvation it would all be worth it. After just a few days there, and despite all my reluctance, my team leader Ethan and I were able to have an amazing conversation with a man in the park, which ended with him accepting Christ. God is so good and so faithful, and my time at NYSUM evidenced that this is still true far outside my comfort zone. It's something I'll always remember and would encourage everyone to do.

By Ian Laird, a current junior.



Dominic Renaldo (third from right) and his team.



Ashley Mellinger (bottom center right), Ian Laird (bottom center left), and their team.

ALUMNI NEWS

MARRIAGES / ANNIVERSARIES



Dodzweit, Benjamin

Last year attended: 1967

Next month will be 52 years, married to one awesome woman! And she loves to ride our Harley! The photo is of my wife (center) with our two daughters.

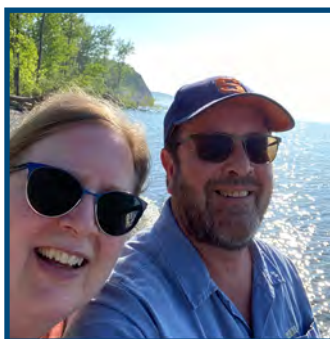


Witmer, Joy (Gehman)

Last year attended: 1997

Married Dave Witmer on July 4, 2020.

ALL NEWS IS WRITTEN AS PROVIDED BY THE ALUMNI



Colquhoun, Rick

Last year attended: 1980

After 30+ years of ministry we moved back to central New York and began a real estate investment company and a professional coaching practice. I coach church planters with Multiply Vineyard and other pastors and business leaders - something I have always loved to do. We have been blessed with 4 wonderful children and 4 awesome grandchildren. Brenda has retired from a career in public health and has become an amazing gardener. We are loving the slower pace of life, which includes traveling to see our kids and lots of golf.

ELIM ALUMNI

Calling all Alumni! We want to hear from you! What's new, what's exciting, how are you doing, what are you doing? YOU matter! We are always excited to hear from EBIC alumni and let's face it, once you've attended Elim, you're family, plain and simple. We hope you enjoy the following Alumni News! We invite you to share your news and/or updates so it can be included in future issues of the Elim Herald by clicking [here](#).

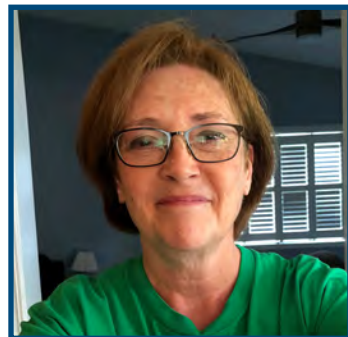
ALUMNI NEWS

ALL NEWS IS WRITTEN AS PROVIDED BY THE ALUMNI

Freeman, Destiny

Last year attended: 2016

I became the Lead Pastor of The Family Church here in Woodstock Ont, Canada last Aug. and became Ordained with Elim Fellowship Canada in Dec. 2021.



Kellum, Elizabeth

Last year attended: 1983

I currently live in Washington State and have 3 adult sons, a daughter-in-law, and a grandson due any day. I was married to Bill Kellum, but he passed away in October 2018. I'm staying busy with work, church/kingdom classes, and life. God is faithful!

Merckling, Kaitlynn

Last year attende: 2015

Starting a PhD in New Testament in Princeton Theological Seminary this Fall.



Mills, Denise

Last year attended: 2022

I initially graduated from Elim in 1978. In 2021 I decided to return as an online student to complete the A.A.S. degree in Biblical & Theological Studies, and I will be finished this May. After a career in finance I retired in 2020 so I could make myself available for ministry wherever that might be. It has been a challenging but enlightening time to return to the study books, but I am loving it.

Rettig, Candace

Last year attende: 1974

Adoptive parent of my seven year old special needs grandson.

Scavo, Timothy

My wife of 32 years, who I met at Elim, died 4 years ago. I have concentrated my days on [being a] 24 hours caregiver. I'm also an intercessor for America as well as for many nations.

DISTANCE LEARNING

Did you know Elim is now offering degrees online? Life is crazy and fitting college courses into your busy schedule can be challenging! Now you can earn a degree from EBIC with more flexibility than ever before. Distance education at Elim includes courses that can be completed via virtual live classes or in an online format that does not require you to log into a class at a specific time.

Want to learn more? Contact Admissions at 585.582.8260 or admissions@elim.edu. You can also visit [Distance Education](#) for more information.

ALUMNI NEWS

ALL NEWS IS WRITTEN AS PROVIDED BY THE ALUMNI



Thomas, Debbie

Last year attended: 1986

God called me into missions many years ago. My time at Elim was 3 of the best years of my life. After Elim I completed my teaching degree at The University of Valley Forge, but due to some life circumstances, I was unable to answer the call to missions until 2017. I am so thankful the Lord's call upon our lives has no expiration date! At present, I am teaching in a missionary school in Spain. Thank you, Elim, for the wonderful foundation in faith and the beautiful friendships you made possible!

VanDruff, Kenneth

Last year attended: 1964

After marriage to Elizabeth Jordan, we became youth pastors, started the Elim Gospel Church, then took several Elim pastorates. In 1980 went to Kenya where we lived and worked with PEFA. While there, we taught national pastors and upon retirement went back several times with other Elim people (e.g. Dan Larkin, Bud Keerps, Dan Slisher, and Rob Huffman, our son in law). Two years ago we went again and closed the convention with 300 pastors and wives. After, we ate goat meat and ugali!



Vellekoop, Harry

Last year attended: 1969

We of Livonia Community Church, Livonia, NY are leaving our 154-yr old historic building, that is non-handicap accessible and has insufficient parking and purchasing the former St. Matthews Catholic Christian School just 5 blocks away that has everything we could hope for – totally ground level and a huge paved parking lot. More than a building change, this will be an instrument to enable us to adequately attend to the coming harvest of souls in the revival we all know is on the way!

– Pastor Harry V. Vellekoop

Visser, Aaron

I have recently become the lead pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church in Drumheller, Alberta!

Waldman, Lisa

Last year attended: 1998

In 2017, I returned to Lima to work as the secretary in the Global Missions Office at Elim Fellowship and in August of 2021, I moved across the pond to serve as the Admissions Director at Elim Bible Institute and College. I currently have the privilege of interacting with current students as well as helping to recruit and enroll potential future students.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT CERTIFICATE

Are you looking to strengthen your relationship with God, but are not necessarily interested in acquiring college course credits? The Spiritual Enrichment Certificate program provides a format where you can focus on your relationship with God, dig into his word, build your prayer life, and be mentored without the rigorous demands of taking accredited courses. This is a non-degree program.

Want to learn more? Please contact Admissions at 585.582.8260, admissions@elim.edu or visit [Spiritual Enrichment Certificate](#) for more information.

(This program is currently available to U.S. residential students only.)

KEEP IN TOUCH

Every year more people are added to the Elim family as new students or staff. We want to help our Alumni stay in touch with their Elim family and keep fulfilling the Elim mission as Christ-centered, Spirit-filled servant leaders for global ministry and world-wide revival.

There are many ways for Elim alumni to stay connected to Elim!

- **Join the official Alumni Facebook group and catch up with old friends!**
www.facebook.com/groups/ElimBibleAlumni
- **Take a class!**
15% tuition discount for one class per academic year in any program and any mode (on campus or online) (available to all alumni who have completed an EBIC program (certificate/degree).
- **Watch or listen to great chapel messages:**
www.elim.edu/chapel-livestream
www.elim.edu/chapel-audio
podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/chapels-elim-bible-institute-college
<https://open.spotify.com/show/04bmu2KTMBJ8QpTwcU72Mr>
- **View a variety of Elim focused videos** on [Youtube.com/elimbible](https://www.youtube.com/elimbible)

Update your info so you can stay connected! Recent move? New phone? Name change?
Please let us know at www.elim.edu/alumni

Questions? Contact Alumni Relations at 585-497-7947 or email alumni@elim.edu



THE DNA OF ELIM

What is the DNA of Elim? So many descriptions come to mind! We invite you to view this brand new promotional [video](#) of staff and faculty eloquently and beautifully describing the true DNA of Elim!

