Bell Tower
ELIM BIBLE INSTITUTE AND COLLEGE
SPRING 2018

PRAYING for Revival
EXPERIENCE ELIM!

Attend class. Connect with students.

OCTOBER 7 is “ELIM SUNDAY”

Are you a pastor, youth pastor or ministry leader? We are asking churches to help promote Elim in their services on Sunday, October 7, especially encouraging potential students to consider whether God might be calling them to attend EBIC.

Join students at class, chapel and meals, and participate in exciting campus activities.

Attend sessions to learn about Elim’s academic programs, admissions requirements and campus life.

See if Elim is a fit for you, and gain a better understanding of God’s will for your life.

Open to high school students and young adults to age 24.

Attendance is FREE. Sign up at www.elim.edu/discoverydays

November 7–9

IN spring 2018:

experience elim

three ways to

February 20:

February 5-6:

March 12-13:

April 5:

April 16-17:

O n e  d a y

O v e r n i g h t

O n l i n e

A l u m n i & F r i e n d s L u n c h e o n , C o m m e n c e m e n t a n d o t h e r e v e n t s

W h a t ’ s n e x t i n i m p r o v e m e n t s a n d h o w y o u c a n h e l p

From the

DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Elim was birthed 94 years ago with the vision God gave to a young backwoods preacher, Ivan Q. Spencer. The message he saw, emblazoned in flaming letters, was “revival”; and he was captured by the need to train young people for the work in the renewal movements he believed would soon sweep throughout the world. The trademark of Ivan’s subsequent ministry, and of the school he founded, centered around the importance of seeking God daily, renewing of vision, and dependence on the resources of God. As each class of Elim students has been trained and sent out around the world, Elim continues to prepare the next generation. Through the years, sometimes the methods have changed, but our mission remains the same.

In this issue, you can read about Ivan’s vision and our calling to keep praying for the Lord to move in revival on our campus, in our churches and around the world (page 4); some of the methods we are planning to use in the near future to help us continue fulfilling our mission (pages 6, 10); and a few of the awesome ways God has been moving in our students and staff this year (pages 5, 7, 8).

Please pray with us as we ask God to pour out His Spirit now and in the future.
NO PRAYER, NO REVIVAL...GREAT PRAYER, EXPECT REVIVAL

About 100 years ago, there was a young guy who grew up on a farm in Elmina, NY, and was a student at the Rochester Bible Training School. His name was Ivan. He was a simple guy, with a farmer’s mentality. In the minds of his fellow students, you wouldn’t have looked at Ivan and thought he was someone who was going to change the world. He wasn’t super good with words. One of his teachers was overhead to say to another, “He’s never going to be a preacher.”

But Ivan loved God’s presence. And Ivan loved to pray. Almost every day after classes, he would climb the stairs to the school’s prayer room. He’d ask the Father how He wanted to use him in this world. One day, he stood up to the prayer room, got down on his knees to pray...and something was different. The Holy Spirit fell and filled the place with power. All of a sudden, a vision came before his eyes. First Ivan saw a scattering of Spirit-filled believers around the room that he looked, he still saw the flaming word “REVIVAL.”

That young guy was Ivan Spencer, and it was not out of that vision that Elim Bible Institute and College was born. For those of us who are a part of Elim’s, our inheritance, our calling, and our assignment is Revival.

What does revival mean? I’m talking about when God chooses to come down and move in a place, and you know it when you see it. So we cry out that His Holy Spirit would pour out, that His people would burn for Him, and that more people would be saved than we can even keep track of.

So, if this is our inheritance, if this is our calling, if this is our assignment to see revival, how does it come? What can we do to set the stage for God to come and show His power in a place?

There are a few ways that we can influence it. Some of it is the church being pure and setting itself apart. Some of it is the sovereignty of God, when in His timing He chooses to come move somewhere. But there is another factor, too.

For those who have been instrumental throughout history seeing revival come about, they feel pretty clear on the answer. Charles Finney, who led great revivals, said, “A sincere spirit of prayer can do much.”

The Bible shows us two aspects of what kind of prayer leads to revival. Acts 1 talks about the disciples’ prayer meeting after Jesus’ resurrection. “In one accord, they were continually devoting themselves to prayer.” With one mind, all together, in unity. It’s not just any prayer that leads to revival, it’s united prayer.

But the kind of prayer the Bible tells us about isn’t just united...it’s radical, too. The disciples were devoting themselves diligently. It was a 10-day prayer meeting. They were crying out for God to pour out His Spirit like He had promised. And He did!

To listen to the rest of Toby’s inspiring message on praying for revival, go to www.elim.edu and click on Media > Elim Chapels > Audio Archives.

Here you can also find other messages from Week of Prayer 2018, as well as most Tuesday President’s Chapels and Thursday All Elim Chapels.

Kyle Morley, 23, is an Elim freshman from nearby Genesee, NY, enrolled in our Associate in Applied Science in Biblical and Theological Studies program, but it didn’t always look like Kyle would be attending Bible college and pursuing God’s plans for his life.

He tells his story, “I proclaimed to be an atheist and thought I had the world figured out. In high school, however, I began surrounding myself with the wrong crowd. Starting at the age of 12, dabbling with drugs eventually led to an addiction to heroine by age 19. With no hope of ever finding deliverance from my addiction, my parents sent me to a 14-month faith-based rehabilitation program called Teen Challenge. After weeks of ministry under the Word of God and a breaking down of my atheistic beliefs, I decided to give my life to the Lord!”

After Kyle completed the Teen Challenge program, eventually the Lord led him to EBC. His pastor’s wife is an alumna and she spoke highly of Elim, and “after the Lord’s prompting, I applied.”

During this fall semester, Kyle began to have a burden for organizing a regular corporate prayer time on campus. Although students pray individually and classes often include prayer, he desired to see more happening as a group. He began to ask the Lord how to organize it. One day at lunch, he sat next to fellow freshman Jennifer Whitaker. As they chatted about how God had been working in their lives, Kyle brought up the idea of a prayer ministry. He says, “Come to find out, she had the same vision on her heart as I did!”

They started meeting more to pray about and discuss the details of organizing group prayer times.

During the annual Prayer Week in January, the Lord continued to lead Kyle. He drew up a rough draft with the structure and times of the meeting, and he gave the proposal to Director of Campus Life Emily Sanders. The overarching goal is intercession for others, and the focus would rotate each week of the month between prayer for individuals (1 week), the school (1 week), and our city (1 week) and community (1 week). All students and staff are now invited to attend the volunteer gatherings that meet twice a week in the Fatmos Prayer Room.

Each 1-hour gathering begins with worship and Scripture reading, includes 30 minutes of personal & group prayer, and concludes with a time of reflection and sharing together.

TOP 12 PRAYER LIST: Spring 2018
1. That God would pour out a powerful spiritual atmosphere on our campus (pages 4-5).
2. That we would receive $300,000 in unanticipated income by May 31.
3. That we would have 85 new freshmen in Fall 2018.
4. That we successfully rename our “Year in the Son” program to “Launching A One Year Foundation for Life” (see page 6).
5. That we can raise scholarship funds for 5 full-time international students recommended by Elim Fellowship (see page 6).
6. That we would receive approval to offer online courses in the near future (see page 10).
7. That we would receive approval from TRACS and NYS Regents to begin offering a 4-year Bachelor’s degree (see page 10).
8. That we successfully launch a teaching site at The Tabernacle in Orchard Park, NY, working with Kairos School of Ministry, and become accredited by September 2018 (see p. 10).
9. That we would receive approval from NYS Regents for our absolution charter by December 2018.
10. God’s provision for our facilities, including road work and finishing the lower level of College Hall (see page 11).
11. God’s provision of health and finances for all our staff and students.
12. You write in...

PHOTOS: Above left: Student Kyle Morley leads prayer at the weekly group he helped start. Below left: Students and staff join in intercessory prayer at the first gathering of the weekly prayer time organized by students and begun this semester.
I really have a heart for the ladies of human trafficking. I would love the Holy Spirit to restore and bring healing to those women and girls...so they are then able to bring freedom to others.

My greatest heart desire is to teach the Word of God, to teach people how to practically apply what the Word of God teaches to their lives. I plan to go back to my home church and possibly start leading a small group.

I am praying for an open door to France. The Lord has put different people in my life that have family there or do missions. I hope to help the church in France and see people come to faith in Jesus Christ.

I want to work with children and help them with school—help them read if they need help or helping them with English. I want to teach children about God and help them get through school.

I would love to travel to different countries and see the practical needs being met and also see people breafree from whatever cultural or personal bondage they have been stuck in. I would love to do counseling to some degree, since I’ve always liked that part of ministry and feel that there is a need for it.

I have a burden to see a multi-cultural, multi-traditional church, I feel that God has called me for this and I’ve had this burden in my heart since my childhood. I see myself in future pastoral ministry, though perhaps not in the conventional way. I want to return home and help at a non-profit, local outreach center, to practically reach people with the gospel in a way that also meets needs.

I would love to eventually have a mas- ters degree and use that to teach and equip the church. I see myself counsel- ing and teaching people real life skills, to show them that they can be practical and realistic, but still spiritual.

I want to pursue teaching in order to teach English for international students, I really want to connect my teaching with travel- ing and preaching the gospel.

I ideally, find myself to be a lead pas- tor in a church (possibly planting a church or building one from the ground up). I want to be able to have a family and kids someday, but I’m also passionate about doing missionary work in different countries.

Early Education as a way to portray Christ to children in ways they may not receive at home or anywhere else.

I would like to have an international ministry that they could reside, helps per- pursued Christians, people who are suffer- ing and in distress. This ministry would also train people in the Word of God and send them.

One of my goals is to be in full-time ministry. The main focus I have is to sup- ply certain ministries that allow people to receive healing and grow in Christ. I hope to travel to certain countries and start ministries that help empower the next generation.

One aspiration is to declare Christ to this culture, particularly in the art world. One idea is to run a discipleship-based internship for Christ-following artists in high school.

I want to complete my undergrad and obtain an MBA. I want to get involved in real estate, and use commercial and resi- dential properties to expand Christian influence and provide Christ-based services in communities—to start commu- nity homes, food pantries, church plants, etc. I also want to start a young adult minis- try at my church and reach college campu- ses in the area.

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I love writing and I want to draw people to see the truths of the Scriptures through my writing. I want to draw people to see the truths of the Scriptures through my writing. I want to draw people to see the truths of the Scriptures through my writing. I want to draw people to see the truths of the Scriptures through my writing. I want to draw people to see the truths of the Scriptures through my writing.

One of my aspirations is to help the young generation—children, youth—understand the gospel. I want to help young adults—receive the gift of salvation at an early age so their destin- ies can be shaped around Christ.

I have a passion for teaching chil- dren. My goal after Elim and a young adult's degree in Early Education as a way to portray Christ to children in ways they may not receive at home or anywhere else.

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This semester, Leah Marsh & Matt Drake—EBIC staff members and alumni—initiated a regular off-campus gathering for our students. Why? Let them tell the story...

What gave you the idea to start the Living Room?

Matt: in the early fall, Leah began to talk to me about how the wish we could help students talk more freely about difficult topics. She also mentioned wishing for more opportunities to invest in the student body and said that many of her peers on staff had expressed similar feelings. Those conversations with Leah stuck with me and I began to Mull them over.

A few months later, I spoke to the student body during January’s Week of Prayer. About a dozen students came up to me afterward, and many of them had questions that, from my perspective, required ongoing dialogue. I prayed for each student, and as I watched them turn and walk away, I found myself wondering, “How will I ever talk to them about this again?”

When I saw Leah in the office later, she asked me how the message went. I expressed my disappointment at the ongoing conversations that might have been. In that moment, we both cocked our heads, put our hands on our hips, and said, “OK, what are we supposed to do about this?” Within five minutes we had the whole plan hammered out.

Do you have a goal for the gatherings?

Leah: The overall purpose for The Living Room is to provide a place where students and staff can establish relationships that may result in one-on-one discipleship. Matt and I feel that in order to start discipling relationships with students, you first have to get to know one another. What better way to do that than through conversation?

Where & how often do you meet?

Matt: The Living Room meets every 3rd Saturday evening at my house. It’s only about a block from campus, close enough for students to walk from their dorms in five minutes.

Is the Living Room open to all students or is it for a specific group?

Leah: Every student is welcome! Thus far we have had a range of 35-70 students and staff from week to week. We hope for the entire student body to come, forcing us to find a bigger space!

What do you do at the meetings?

Leah: The night is split into 2 parts — food/fellowship and discussion. For the first part, students can play their XBox, eat food, hang out, listen to music, catch up about their week, etc. The second part of the night, we push aside the dining table, find every available chair and cushion in the house, and pile into the living room to talk about the topic of discussion for the night.

How has it gone so far?

Leah: When we launched The Living Room, we didn’t know what to expect; would students actually want to come? Were there other staff members who shared our desire to see the students discipled in this way? It gets better every time. At a recent gathering, we had over 50 people jammed into Matt’s living room and we talked about “The Pursuit” — like, the lead-up to dating, but from a girl’s perspective. We asked: “What do you think about being pursued? What do you wish guys knew? What does ‘the pursuit’ look like from your vantage point?” We even had a little bucket where people could write in their questions anonymously.

Matt: There were laugh-out-loud moments, and there were silent pauses afterward, when someone would drop a poignant truth. Leah led the whole thing and she was great. Afterward, nobody wanted to leave; people just grabbed more food, found a corner, and kept talking.

For me, there was a personal moment at around 10:30 pm when the night was technically over, but my house was still roaring with two dozen lively conversations about how to honor God in dating relationships. I glanced around the room, from one animated face to the next, and I could do was shake my head in gratitude. These students really love the Lord. They’re eager about honoring Him and one another, and it’s pretty special to feel like a part of it.

What do you see in the future for the Living Room?

Leah: We can already see how God is shifting the culture of campus through this opportunity. Staff faithfully come to invest in the lives of the students and one-on-one discipleship. We’ve seen students walk away from the meeting motivated to take leaps of faith toward big dreams, seek counsel for addictions in their lives, and create deeper friendships.

Matt: We’re not sure what all God has planned for the future of The Living Room, but if it’s anything like what He’s done so far, it’s going to be incredible!

Photo: students and staff interact with one another at the Living Room gathering. Leah Marsh (EBIC 2016) and Matt Drake (2002) both work in the Admissions Office. To contact them: call 585-582-8260 or email kmashmarsh@elim.edu or matt@drakedrake.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALUMNI & FRIENDS LUNCHEON — MAY 24

Catch up with Elim friends, get inspired by a message from former president Rev. Paul Johannson, help honor long-serving staff member Rev. Stacy Cline as our Elim Alumnus of the Year, hear what God is doing at EBC today from President Mike Cavanaugh, enjoy good food and more!

It’s all happening at the 2018 Elim Alumni & Friends Luncheon Thursday, May 24, 12pm in the L.I.Q. Spencer Tabernacle. You won’t want to miss it! Register online at www.elimfellowship.org/oasisconference. (You can also register online for the May 22-24 Elim Fellowship Oasis Conference, on-campus housing and other meals during the conference.) Cost for the Luncheon is $12/person. Questions? Contact EBIC Campus Life Director Emily Sanders at 585-582-8205 or emiliesanders@elim.edu.

Baccalaureate Service — Friday, May 11, 7pm. We’ll recognize our Year in the Son Program graduates and honor other certificate and special award winners.

Commencement — Saturday, May 12, 2pm. Students who have earned AAS degrees and Applied Ministry Program certificates will be recognized. Both services are on the Elim campus at Elim Gospel Church, 179 Dalton Road. Live streaming: www.elim.edu

Join other ministry leaders for fellowship, worship and empowering sessions at the annual Elim Fellowship Oasis Leadership Conference, May 22-24 held at Elim Gospel Church. This year’s theme is “Contending for More.”

Main session speakers: Chris Ball, Jared Ruddy, Shannon O’Dee, Marlinnda Ireland and Alex Seidler. Worship leader: Jeff Parshall. Tracks & Workshops: More Vision; Joan Wood & Toby C.; More Leaders: Fredrick Makka & Mike Cavanaugh; More Impact: Laurie Bolton & Gary Ham; More Health: Mark Yurch; More Direction: Irene Hanna. The Oasis Conference also offers a Women’s Luncheon, Food Truck Festival, special program for attendees’ children ages 5-12, and childcare for ages 1-5.

Commencement Weekend — May 11-12

Dave Sliker is our speaker at both the Baccalaureate and Commencement Services. Dave is a 1996 Elim alumnus, and he served as a youth pastor in Upstate NY before moving to Kansas City in 2002 to get involved with the International House of Prayer (IHO). Currently, Dave teaches multiple classes at IHO’s School of Supernatural Ministry (SHUM), gives leadership to their internships and travels to speak. He also co-founded and leads Elijah Revolution, a national conference ministry for youth and young adults, and is the author of End-Times Simplified: Preparing Your Heart for the Coming Storm.

For more information and to register: www.elimfellowship.org/oasisconference, 585-582-2790 or events@elimfellowship.org.
ACCREDITATION NEWS

FUTURE PLANS

ONLINE COURSES
This fall we hope to begin offering online courses. Elim is all about spiritual formation, so we have hesitated to emphasize online learning, fearing that people would miss out on what makes the Elim on-campus experience so great. We have realized, though, that some people who have a call to ministry are already receiving their spiritual formation while working with their local ministry leaders. Some are Elim alumni who want to continue their bible learning wherever they live and serve now. We want to serve churches, ministry leaders and lifelong learners by supplying EBIC courses online. Our goal is to use the latest and most effective online tools to make this happen.

BACHELOR’S DEGREE
We are working to add a 4th year and establish a bachelor’s degree program by Fall 2019, contingent on NYS and TRACS approvals. This will enable students to get their full undergraduate degree at Elim, with no need to transfer to another college to finish!

When this is combined with the possibility of online education, it will mean that many of our alumni who have not had opportunity to earn a degree would be able to complete their bachelor’s degree online.

LAUNCH PROGRAM
Pending NYS approval, we are renaming our Year in the Son program to “Launch.” See page 6 for a description.

OFF-CAMPUS TEACHING SITES
We are working to establish our first off-campus teaching site approved by our accrediting agency. We want these students to be able to receive financial aid at the teaching site, so there are many accreditation standards that must be met.

ACCREDITATION UPDATE
In November 2017, a team of 6 examiners were sent from TRACS (our accrediting agency, Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools) to our campus to examine the school for three days, looking for any ways we were falling short in the accreditation standards that might prevent us from receiving full accreditation this spring.

Before the team left, they gave us their report, which is composed of 3 parts:
1. Recommendations — these must be addressed prior to the April TRACS Commission meeting. A school would normally receive 10-15 of these.
2. Suggestions — these are simply recommendations that the team offers, and we are not obligated to implement them. We received seven.
3. Commendations — for outstanding work as a school. These are rarely given; we were told not to expect to receive any. Amazingly, we received two! To receive one is very rare, so to receive two is unheard of. The two commendations:
   “The Evaluation Team commends the institution’s board, administration, faculty and staff for modeling exceptional servant leadership and for the sacrifice, commitment, and dedication to the institution’s mission and purpose.”
   “The Evaluation Team commends the institution for offering a well thought out and comprehensive student services program.”

With this positive report, we expect to be approved for full accreditation at the end of April. This will allow EBIC to keep pressing forward to continue our mission!

SUMMER SCHOOL
Summer Session 2018 is May 14–25. Each course is 2 weeks and is held Monday–Friday in either the morning 8:00–12:00 or the afternoon 1:00–5:00. Both commuters and on-campus students are welcome.

Courses offered: Hebrew Poetry and Wisdom Literature; Synoptic Gospels; Acts & Paul’s Letters; History of the Christian Church; Business Mathematics; Computer Skills; College Composition.

Cost for each course is $700, which includes tuition, room & board, and all fees. (Regular semester tuition is $1121 per credit hour and does not include room & board or fees, so summer rates offer a big savings.) If you take 2 summer courses (morning & afternoon) for $1300, you’ll save even more!

For more information: see www.elim.edu/programs/summer-classes or contact the Academic Dept at 585-582-8210.

CAMPUS SUMMER PROJECTS
Much progress has been made in restoring the main floor of College Hall. There is now an ADA bathroom, LED lighting was installed...and all the classrooms have been renewed and reopened! A focus for this summer is now on College Hall’s lower level — finishing a student lounge and replacing windows. We also need to complete staff offices and install an ADA ramp on an entrance.

Another big project is repaving the campus roads. Of course, there is also the usual painting & cleaning to prepare dorms for a new school year.

To complete these summer projects, we are dependent on volunteers to donate their time and on financial givers to donate funds to purchase necessary supplies. At right are the skills and estimated costs of this summer’s planned projects.

FUNDS needed:
• College Hall lounge — $10,000–15,000
• College Hall offices — $5,000
• College Hall basement windows — $2,000
• Repaving & other projects — $188,000
• Dorm painting & cleaning — $500–1,000
• College Hall ADA ramp — Materials are already purchased

To give FINANCIALLY to the College Hall restoration project, road repaving or other campus improvements, you can make donations through the Carlton Spencer Memorial Campus Restoration Fund — online at www.elim.edu/give, by mail (check payable to Elim Bible Institute & College), or by phone 585-582-8310.

To volunteer your TIME & SKILLS (individuals or groups), please contact Volunteer Coordinator Jack Thorpe, jackthorpe@elim.edu or 585-582-8306.

For more info about campus projects, please contact Facilities Director James Bercel at jamesbercel@elim.edu or 585-582-8231.
“PREPARING CHRIST-CENTERED, SPIRIT-EMPOWERED LEADERS FOR GLOBAL REVIVAL”