

*Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

~ July 2019~

Pastor, Rev. Luther Mathsen

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Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator

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July Worship Schedule

Wednesday, July 3rd

6:30 p.m., Highland Prairie Parsonage Lawn

6:30 p.m.

*Bring your own lawn chair.

S'mores and fellowship to follow.

+Sunday, July 7th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Sunday, July 14th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

Wednesday, July 17th

6:30 p.m., Highland Prairie Parsonage Lawn

6:30 p.m.

*Bring your own lawn chair.

S'mores and fellowship to follow.

+Sunday, July 21st

9:00 a.m. Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Sunday, July 28

10:00 a.m., Highland Prairie

Worship in the Bowl

***Worship will be followed by lunch in the park shelter.**

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Parish Men's Breakfast

The July men's prayer breakfast will take place at Elstad on Saturday, July 27th, at 7:30 a.m. Sign up in the back of the sanctuary or narthex.

Mid-school/High-school Milwaukee Mission Trip

The June 9-14, 2019 parish youth Milwaukee mission trip is now in the history books. Paula Howe, Michael Rein, Alison Freese, Ashlyn Guenther, and Dakota Guenther, Val Howe, and Pr. Mathsen returned home with memories of fellowship with youth from Lake Elmo, Minnesota and Liberty Center, Ohio, and service among brothers and sisters in inner-city Milwaukee. The encouragement and support, both moral and financial, of the parish made this experience possible. We are deeply grateful. A good sign came from one of the participants, post mission trip, who asked, "Can we do this again next summer?" Thanks, again, y'all!!

Summer Outdoor Mid-Week Campfire Worship

Worship around the parsonage campfire continues on Wednesday, July 3rd and 17th, at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own lawn chair. Fellowship and treats will follow worship.

Summer Bible Study

You are invited, yet again, to participate in what remains of the summer bible study of 4 parables of grace in the New Testament. They are: The Prodigal Son, and The Ten Lepers. The meeting site is Elstad Church on Tuesdays, July 9th, and 16th. If you are interested, just show up with your Bible. You will be warmly welcomed

A friendly reminder

Your church council is hoping you will have time for some vacation time this summer. We kindly ask that you remember that the expenses for congregational ministry continue during the summer, indeed, year round. Thank you for your continuing regular financial support of the congregation.

Elstad Budget for May 2019

Budget for May	\$ 7241.75
Received	\$ 3750.00
Under for May	\$ 3491.75
YTD Budget	\$36208.75
YTD Received	\$26350.00
YTD Under	\$ 9858.75

Highland Prairie Financials for May 2019

YTD Income	\$ 35,203
YTD Expenses	\$ 31,514
Income Exceeds Expenses	\$ 3,689
YTD Budget	\$ 39,292
YTD Income	\$ 35,203
YTD Under	\$ 4,089

Pastor's Page, July 2019

Dubbed as it is, the "Pastor's Page," may I indulge you for the next month or so with some reminiscing? If your answer is "no," I understand. No hard feelings.

Part 1: Growing Up a Rural Lutheran

I count it a blessing beyond all adequate thanksgiving to have been reared in my rural Midwestern town---namely, Spring Grove, population 1,342 (at the time.) My father was a vocal music teacher in the public school (half-time), a release time teacher and choir director in the local Lutheran church (half-time), and a hobby farmer. My mother had the *exalted* vocation of being mother to my 4 siblings and me (the italics are mine). She also taught release time to grade school children. They married on June 6, 1952. I was born on September 28, 1958, the middle child of 5 children.

Ironically, small-town life may have granted me greater actual diversity than the big city. There was no anonymity in Spring Grove. You could not live in your own self-contained world. Instead, you were accountable to everyone else, because they knew your parents and your parents knew them. And, just so, everyone knew you and you knew them.

My little town was filled with worthy men and women. To this day I remember a holy host of wonderful people with names like Mueller, Tollefsrud, Roverud, Glasrud, Housker, Sherburne, Morken, Clauson, Myrah, and the list could go on. I wanted to be a person worthy of their regard. I also wanted to be like my childhood pastor, Rolf Hanson. I don't remember any of his sermons, not a one. But what I do remember about Pr. Hanson was when he climbed up into the pulpit, he was engaging in serious business about important matters. And when he stood behind the altar, he was handling holy things.

Because of Pr. Hanson, and my father's and mother's devotion to Christ and his church, Christ and his church became *the magnetic north of my life*. This was no heroic act on my part. It was a result of my parents' serious regard for their parental vocation. The church and her life was the bedrock of the regular weekly regimen of the life of my family. It was an established fact and pattern for family life in our home. Contrary to my (and my siblings) protestations, I received this response more than once in eighteen years: "You are going to church with us because you are part of this family. When you are an adult you can make your own decision about what you are going to do on Sunday morning, but until then, you're going to church with us. Now get your socks and shoes on." Whether ushering from my father or my mother, those were the sometimes-addressed-words of my parents in the sometimes-Sunday-morning-exercise of their *exalted* vocations of being a father and a mother. Pr. Mathsen+

*In the August newsletter: Part 2: Story and Song

Highland Prairie Council Meeting
June 16, 2019

1. Call to order at 5:30 p.m. by Gordon Johnson
2. Roll Call—absent Chris, Mary, Sarah, and Scott
3. Quorum—Yes
4. Devotions provided by Joyce
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Congregation members wishing to address the council. None.
7. Treasurer's Report—read and approved. Tim motioned to accept, Nancy 2nd, motion passed.
8. President's Report—None
9. Pastor's Report—The first campfire worship began Wednesday, June 5th, with a good turnout. The first bowl service will be June 30th. Daryl and Michele Thompson will be providing the music. Pastor Luther thanked Gordon and his family for the work on the screened in porch. The Board Store will be out on the 22nd to measure the storm windows. Kyle will address the weeds in the parking lot. Pastor also mentioned that future mission trips can utilize more fund raisers throughout the year.
10. Correspondence—None
11. Committee Reports:
 - a) Church: The AC was not working in the church office, Kingsley Mercantile was called and repaired the AC unit. Kingsley Mercantile will also order a new seal for the parsonage refrigerator.
 - b) Grounds: Steve Howe has been doing clean-up after the recent storms.
 - c) Worship: Nothing new
 - d) Youth and Education: Nothing new
12. Old Business
 - a) Shelter building—waiting on a bid from Dan Gingrich on the roof.
 - b) Tim will call Spic & Span on discussing a time to meet to look at church cleaning.
13. New Business
 - a) Removal of 3 Ash trees by the bowl to be done by Norbys Tree Service. Lyle motioned to accept, Nancy 2nd, motion passed.
 - b) Gordon will purchase a fiberglass ladder to clean the eaves troughs at the parsonage. Joyce motioned to accept, Nancy 2nd, motion passed.
 - c) A new vacuum is needed for church. Tim will discuss options with Spic & Span.
 - d) The Ehler family pressure washed the east side of the shelter. The west side still needs to be addressed, and will be looked at on the 22nd.
 - e) Bowl clean-up on the 22nd of June at 9:00 a.m. The shelter will also be assessed as to repairs needed. There will be an announcement on Facebook and Anne will send a notice out to WELCA members. Gordon will repair the benches in the bowl and construct 2 new benches with backs. Tim motioned to accept, Joyce 2nd, motion passed. Nancy will contact the Fillmore County Sheriff on sentence to serve to rerock parts of the bowl.
14. Secretary's report: Karen made a motion to accept as presented, Lyle 2nd, motion passed.
15. Adjournment: Tim motioned, Nancy 2nd, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Submitted by Tim Stensgard

Next meeting will be Sunday, July 14th, 5:30 p.m. at Elstad Lutheran Church.

Parish council meeting minutes-May 19, 2019

Absent were Mary, Tim, Joyce and Jennifer

The agenda was approved and Pastor Kay provided the devotion.

Pastor's report:

*Pastor Luther reported that summer midweek outdoor worship would begin Wednesday, June 5 at 6:30p.m. Discussion followed regarding musical accompaniment. Perhaps someone who knows how to play guitar could accompany? Services will be held every other week throughout the summer.

*The first bowl service will be held June 30. Discussion followed about the use of guest musicians, which have been hired in the past. This is an expensive proposition and perhaps others can be used that will not charge?

*Confirmation classes for the year ended April 24. They will be resumed after Labor Day.

*The summer youth mission trip to Milwaukee will begin on June 9. Five youth will be accompanied by Pastor Luther and Valerie Howe. The youth will be holding a fundraising car wash June 2 from 9:30-12:00.

*The pastor attended a conference clergy meeting. This will be the last one until September. The conversation focused on the upcoming Synod Assembly, scheduled for May 31. Representatives from both Elstad and Highland Prairie will attend, and the election of the new bishop will be one of the primary purposes of the assembly.

* Parish mission follow-up. The trip to Haiti in March was cancelled due to political unrest. Pastor Marie has been in touch with Sharon Ehler and Stephanie Dahl, and the trip will be rescheduled, possibly for this fall, or in March of 2020. In the meantime, boxes of donated items can be shipped for \$2.50/pound. HP WELCA has raised \$250 for this purpose. Discussion followed about the most efficient use of money and the best way to help in Haiti. Since many of the necessary items are available in Haiti, perhaps simply sending money so Pastor Mioche can purchase them might be the best plan. It was suggested that perhaps this issue can be made a line item to be included in all future meetings.

New business

The septic pump for the Highland Prairie church was discussed. It is on the same system as the parsonage. (my notes are really sketchy on this....I can't remember what was discussed....sorry!)

Some brief discussion occurred on fundraising for the mission trip. We are still lacking \$600 for the van rental. Pastor noted that fundraising is always the biggest challenge in such events, as there is much competition for donated dollars.

The secretary's report was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The next Parish council meeting will be held Sunday, July 14th, 6:30 p.m. at Elstad Lutheran Church.

Highland Prairie Church Council Minutes

5-20-18

1. Call to order at 6:33 PM
2. Roll Call: Pastor Luther, Kyle Chiglo, Nancy Rustad, Becky Halverson Lind, Joyce Dahl, Karen Bakken, Mary Gudmundson, Tim Stensgard, Sarah Bearbower. Members absent: Chris Hoiland and Gordy Johnson.
3. A quorum was called.
4. Devotions: Given by Pastor Mathsen.
5. Approval of the Agenda: Sarah would like to add item to New Business,
6. Congregational Members wishing to address the council: None.
7. Treasurer's Report: Karen emailed the Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting to be reviewed. Sarah made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Mary seconded, motion carried, subject to review and audit.
8. President's Report: Kyle had nothing to report.
9. Pastor's Report: see Parish minutes for May 20, 2018.
10. Correspondence: None.
11. Committee Reports:
 - a. Church: WELCA will be contacting someone to paint where there have been touch ups and other areas around the church.
 - b. Grounds: Cemetery Board is working on the water issues.
 - c. Worship: see Parish Minutes for summer worship schedule.
 - d. Youth and Ed.: see Parish Minutes for Vacation Bible School information.
12. Old Business:
 - a. AED Machine for church: Kyle will look into this item.
13. New Business:
 - a. Chapel power: Kyle will look into this.
 - b. Park Port-a-Potty: WELCA will be renting one.
 - c. Spray lot: Kyle will spray the park for weeds.
 - d. Rest house: will not be using the restroom.
 - e. Bowl clean-up date: June 16th and 23rd at 9:00.
 - f. Custodian: Our custodian is done August 8. New custodian will be allowed 2-3 hours per week with light maintenance and cleaning. New applications are due July 7th.
14. Secretary's Report: Becky read the secretary's report. Sarah made a motion to accept the secretary's report, Nancy seconded, motion carried. Report, respectfully submitted by Becky Halverson Lind
15. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM via Tim's motion, Mary seconded, motion carried. Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Elstad ~ Highland Prairie News

Prayer Corner

Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing. Let's be known as a praying congregation. Please keep Marion Dahl, Wendy Will, Michele Thompson, Lucile Ask, Pernella Landsverk, Eleanor Peterson, Dee Westby, Peter Holm and all who are ill or in need of your prayers.

Highland Prairie WELCA

Wednesday, July 3rd, 1:30 p.m., Bible study ~ session 7

Wednesday, July 10th, 9:00 a.m., quilting & projects—12:30 p.m. potluck lunch

Summer Events in the “BOWL”

Sunday, June 30th

10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. Lunch in the Park

12:00 p.m. Vintage Base Ball

Sunday, July 28th

10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship ~ Music: Cherry Grove Cowboy Church

11:00 a.m. Lunch in the Park

12:00 p.m. Vintage Base Ball

Sunday, August 18th

10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship ~ Music: Jacob Olson Band

11:00 a.m. Lunch in the Park

12:00 p.m. Car & Tractor Show

Sunday, September 8th

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship

11:00 a.m. Lunch in the Park

12:00 p.m. Vintage Base Ball

The July Bridge page is printed and hard copies will be left at both congregations.
If you need a printed version please contact Lisa Chiglo.



THE BRIDGE

A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod



A Call to Discipleship

An invitation from Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry, The Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Archbishop and Primate Fred Hiltz, Anglican Church of Canada National Bishop Susan C. Johnson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. More information at <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7983>.

What is the Arusha Call? Together with all 319 members of the World Council of Churches (WCC), our churches have received the *Arusha Call*, the report from a gathering in Tanzania in March 2018 which examined the current practice and understanding of Christian mission. For this task the WCC's *Commission on World Mission and Evangelism* assembled more than a thousand participants, whose diversities of cultural backgrounds and denominational traditions were unprecedented at this recurring conference.

What does the Arusha Call say to our churches? This Call helpfully comes to us at a decisive moment, as our four churches commit anew to engage together the challenges and opportunities of faithful mission in our fast-changing contexts. We are mindful especially of seeking racial justice, of honouring the Quad-Centennial (1619-2019) of the forced trans-Atlantic transportation of enslaved African persons to this continent; of challenging theologies which have endorsed dispossession of Indigenous Peoples; and of strengthening our support for the displaced and dispossessed seeking new beginnings in our midst. We welcome this witness from Christians around the world. The Call is a document of realism and of joy, of honest assessment and of hope for transformation, of trust in the way of Christ and in the power of the Spirit. Especially, we lift up these features of the Call, which gives voice to many of the same convictions increasingly emphasized in our four churches:

- It identifies deepening the discipleship of Christians as the primary missional and evangelical concern, knowing that the Gospel truly lived is the best form of witness to it.
- It defines mission in a manner that seeks to move away from colonialist perspectives, understanding that it is not the work of the Church directed “to the margins” but God’s work originating “from the margins.”
- It insists that all mission and evangelism must be integrated and holistic, not endorsing any false dichotomy between a spiritual salvation and the transformation of social, economic, racial, environmental, and gender injustices.
- It understands that as the Church is called into “active collaboration” in God’s mission, this responsibility rests not only with those who serve in offices of leadership in the Church; it relies on a renewal of the vocations and ministry of all the baptized. Read in our cultural settings, the Call provides a common touchstone in the continued shaping of our full communion efforts in mission and evangelism across the national border which separates us.

This full communion is an important sign of our deepening unity as churches in ministry together on this land long known to many as Turtle Island, the continent of North America. We thus commend the Arusha Call to Discipleship to our four churches as we expand and deepen the relationships of full communion among us. May our growth in unity also lead us to a “personal and communal conversion, and a transforming discipleship,” for sake of God’s mission in the world.

We make this commendation recognizing, as did the Arusha message, that “this is not a call that we can answer in our own strength, so the call becomes, in the end, a call to prayer: *Loving God, we thank you for the gift of life in all its diversity and beauty. Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, we praise you that you came to find the lost, to free the oppressed, to heal the sick, and to convert the self-centered. Holy Spirit, we rejoice that you breathe in the life of the world and are poured out into our hearts. As we live in the Spirit, may we also walk in the Spirit. Grant us faith and courage to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus: becoming pilgrims of justice and peace in our time. For the blessing of your people, the sustaining of the earth, and the glory of your name. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES!

All Birthdays & Anniversaries are listed according to the information on file. If you see an error please contact...
Lisa Chiglo ~ Email: highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com



1~Joey Stensgard
2~ Katy Redalen
~ Slade Pepin
3~ Mary Dunphy
5~ Peter Ask
~ Joshua Drinkall
6~ Rich Nepstad
~ Richard Johnson
~ Paul Peterson
7~ Beckett Hovland
~ Lincoln Bakkum-Mohwinkel
8~ Glenn Peterson
~ Caroline Anfinson
~ Christine Knuston
9~ Dean Berland
~ Kyle Chiglo
~ Calvin Bergen
10~ Arlene Johnson
~ Adleigh Brisebois
11~ Allison Bauer
~ Marguerite Abrahamson
12~ Kathy Abrahamson
~ Kristi Oman
~ Jeremy Pederson
13~ Kyle Bearbower

16~ Charles Pederson
~ Lyle Rustad
~ David Stockton
17~ Jade Grabau
~ Nicole Howe
~ Kreedon Wangen
18~ Elizabeth Abrahamson
~ Kristin Lawstuen
19~ Shelly Nelson
~ John Knutson
~ Autumn Humble
20~ Marilyn Soland
~ Joan Finnegan
~ Mary Gudmundson
~ Brent Storhoff
21~ Colby Lind
22~ Ken Jacobson
~ Jerod Chiglo
~ Nolan Eide
23~ Karen Bakken
~ Bobbi Mathsen
24~ Jimmy Sharpe Jr.
25~ Siri Dworschak
28~ Taylor Johnson
29~ Lori Bakke
~ Josie Bearbower
30~ Lee Johnson
~ Kayleigh Wangen
~ Palmer Root
31~ Susan Blagsvedt



7~ Allan & Marion Dahl

9~ Clair & Patty Olson

20~ Kenny & Cathy
Bakkum

21~ Richard & Pamela
Johnson

22~ Trinity & Emily Johnson

24~ Glenn & Olive Peterson

~ Adam & Jodie Daniels

28~ Charles & Karen
Mierau

JULY 2019

Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish
 Visit our websites at...
elstadlutheranchurch.org
highlandprairielutheranchurch.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 HP WELCA 1:30p.m. Bible study Campfire worship 6:30 p.m. Bulletin Deadline	4	5	6
7 EL-9:00 a.m. HP-10:30 a.m.	8	9	10 HP WELCA 9:00 quilting & projects Bulletin Deadline	11	12	13
14 EL-9:00 a.m. HP-10:30 a.m. Council Meetings @ Elstad HP-5:30 p.m. Parish-6:30 p.m. EL-7:30 p.m.	15	16	17 Bulletin Deadline Campfire worship 6:30 p.m.	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20
21 EL-9:00 a.m. HP-10:30 a.m.	22	23	24 Bulletin Deadline	25	26	27
28 10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship	29	30	31			

Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish
43267 Bowl Drive
Peterson, MN 55962

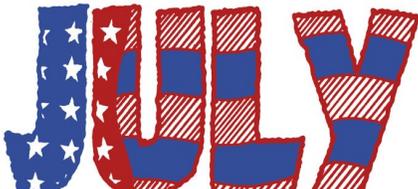
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Permit No. #6



Newsletter
2019

HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2019

ACOLYTES: CADEN JOHNSON, LARISSA RYAN
READERS: DANA DEGEORGE, SCOTT BESTUL
GREETERS: DOUG LIND FAMILY

SUNDAY, JULY 14 2019

ACOLYTES: KENNA GUDMUNDSON, LINDSEY HOINESS
READERS: KRISTINA STENSGARD, MICHELE THOMPSON
GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2019

ACOLYTES: ANDREW HOINESS, KRISTINA STENSGARD
READERS: HALE STENSGARD, SYLVIA PASSOW
GREETERS: ALLAN SKALET, KAYE EIKEN

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2019

READERS: ANDREW HOINESS, ARLENE JOHNSON
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

ELSTAD
ACOLYTE/READER/USHERS

SUNDAY, JULY 7, 2019

ACOLYTE: LIZ HAGEMAN
READERS: MICHAEL REIN, CAROL OVERLAND

SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2019

ACOLYTE: PARKER STORHOFF
READERS: KYLE DANIELS, CAROLYN SMITH

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2019

ACOLYTE: MAKENZIE KNUTSON
READERS: LIZ HAGEMAN, TOM DYBING

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2019

PARISH WORSHIP @ HP 10:00 A.M.

USHERS: JOHN OVERLAND, LARRY TOPNESS,
RICH NEPSTAD, ADAM DANIELS,
JOHN ABRAHAMSON, JOHN KNUTSON