

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

~ June 2019~

Pastor, Rev. Luther Mathsen

Email: lmmathsen@gmail.com

Church Phone: (507) 864-2731

Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator

Email: highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com

Prayer Corner

Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing. Let's me known as a praying congregation. Please keep Marion Dahl, Wendy Will, Michele Thompson, Lucile Ask, Steve Lee, Gabby Brown, Pernela Landsverk, Marlys Paulson, Bo Bakke, Eleanor Peterson, Julian Highum, Eileen Berg, Myrtle Otis and all who are ill or in need of your prayers.

Stringwood Concert at Elstad

Friday, June 21st, 7:00 pm

An evening of chamber music with the young artists of Stringwood.

Celebrating its 20th year in Lanesboro, Stringwood is a summer camp that allows young musicians from around the country, ages 12-22, an opportunity to study chamber music as an art form. Professional guest artist musicians are brought in to teach alongside the Artaria String Quartet (organizer of the event). The Stringwood schedule includes daily rehearsals and coaching's, private lessons, master classes, and performances in and around Lanesboro. Held at the Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center, the students also have fun with nature hikes, rock wall climbing, the high ropes course, canoeing, and biking. Music + nature = the perfect combination!

Local violinist, Isabelle Ekstrom, will be participating in Stringwood this year. Also, the Ekstrom Trio will join the Stringwood students for the Elstad concert.

This is a free event and all are welcome. Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall afterwards.

Elstad Budget for April 2019

Budget for March	\$ 7241.75
Received in March	\$ 5204.00
Under for March	\$ 2037.75
Budget YTD	\$28967.00
Received YTD	\$22600.00
Under YTD	\$ 6367.00

Highland Prairie Financials for April 2019

YTD Income	\$29672.00
YTD Expenses	\$25734.00
Expenses Exceed Income	\$ 3938.00
YTD Budget	\$31433.00
YTD Income	\$29672.00
YTD Under	\$ 1761.00

What kind creatures are followers of Jesus Christ? Well, let me follow the lead of a wise Orthodox theologian, Alexander Schmemmann, who quoted the philosopher, Ludwig Feuerbach who, without knowing it, provided the answer. "Man is what he eats."

Yes, that's right. Followers of Jesus Christ are what they eat. Without embarrassment, that is to say, we Christians are what we eat. We eat and drink Christ, so we become Christ to the world. We eat the bread and wine of the Eucharist, so we become the bread of life and the wine of cheerful encouragement and sacrifice for the sake of the world.

Our Sunday second lessons in worship of late have come from the book of Revelation. There is a harvest scene near the end of chapter 14. "One like a son of man, with a golden crown upon his head, and a sharp sickle in this hand," reaps the grain and gathers the grapes. St. John the Evangelist is writing about the harvest of the saints, a people made into the Eucharist, living sacraments for the sake of the world.

Literally, Revelation 14 is describing the martyrdom of the 144,000; followers of Christ who are being persecuted, tortured, and killed for their faith. Their witness, like grapes for the harvest, has ripened, and they are ready to be gathered into the kingdom.

Brothers and sisters...We are what we eat. We eat and drink the Eucharist, and we become the Eucharist. All lifelong we are ripening for the harvest. We eat bread broken, and become broken bodies. We drink wine outpoured, so that we can pour ourselves and our lives out for the sake of the world.

"When we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." Yes, we a "little Christs", as Martin Luther referred to us. Our lives are given to proclaim the saving death of Christ. We, living saints, eat and drink to be conformed to His death. And as His living witnesses, are preparing each and every day for the harvest.

That is what we are. That is what we are doing. And for that harvest we pray:

Almighty God, you gave your Son both
as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life.
Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving,
and to conform our lives to his; through the
same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Amen! Let it be so! Amen

Pr. Mathsen+

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Summer Bible Study: You are invited to participate in a summer bible study of 4 parables of grace in the New Testament. They are: The Lost Sheep, The Good Samaritan, The Prodigal Son, and The Ten Lepers. With sufficient interest, the 4-week study will take place on the new parsonage screened-in porch on Tuesdays, June 18, 25, July 9, and 16. If you are interested, sign up at the entrance of the church.

June Worship Schedule

+Sunday, June 2nd

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

Wednesday, June 5th

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

*Bring your own lawn chair.

S'mores and fellowship to follow.

+Sunday, June 9th

Easter 4

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Sunday, June 16th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

Wednesday, June 19th

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

*Bring your own lawn chair.

S'mores and fellowship to follow.

+Sunday, June 23

9:00 a.m. Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Sunday, June 30th

Easter 6

10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship @ Highland Prairie

Vintage Base Ball

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Parish Men's Breakfast

The June men's prayer breakfast will take place at Elstad on Saturday, June 22nd, 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 days away. Paula Howe, Michael Rein, Alison Freese, Ashlyn Guenther, and Dakota Guenther, are registered. We have room for one more middle/high school youth. Pr. Mathsen and Val Howe will be the adult leaders accompanying the group. ***A car wash and coffee fellowship will take place at the lower carport of Highland Prairie Church on June 2nd from 9:30 a.m. to noon.*** Come and get your car washed while you enjoy refreshments. A free will offering is requested. It's Milwaukee or bust for us. And we thank you!!!

Summer Outdoor Mid-Week Campfire Worship

Worship around the parsonage campfire will begin on Wednesday, June 5th, at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own lawn chair. We'll enjoy s'mores following worship.

Elstad Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday May 19, 2019

5:30 p.m. at Highland Prairie Lutheran Church

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Topness at 5:30 p.m.

Roll call: Present members were Larry Topness, Krissy Overland, Rita Kelly, Jodie Daniels, Kay Wold, Michelle Rein and Pastor Luther Mathsen. Jennifer Nepstad was absent. A Quorum was called.

The agenda was reviewed and communion flow was added to new business, and a motion to approve was made by Michelle second by Kay. Motion passed.

No congregational members were present to address the council.

The Pastor's report was given.

- Two youths affirmed their baptism on Confirmation Sunday, Parker Storhoff and Makenzie Knutson.
- Pastor is working on planning VBS. HP is working on a program that will be considered later this summer.
- Pastor is working on scheduling First Communion classes.
- Pastor is also planning acolyte training for children in grades 4-6.
- Summer mission planning in in process. An idea to support area families is to work with the Fillmore County food shelf.
- Two Elstad members are currently on hospice care. Pastor continues frequent visits with them. Their outlook on life and the end of life is a blessing.

The treasurer's report was given and has been placed on file for future audit. Giving continues to be decreased.

President's Report:

Items to be discussed at the joint council meeting

Correspondence received: None

Old Business:

- 2019 Church Goals – Goals to welcome others to our church. Some suggestions were reviewed to make attendance more attractive, especially for young adults. How can we share ideas and still respect the traditions of the ELCA? Keep the conversation moving forward, maintaining commitment to our mission and sensitivity to our identity. How can we be intentional with our hospitality? One suggestion is a monthly coffee hour with time for personal sharing. Updated signage is also a suggestion. Further discussion will continue.
- Sound System Proposal – There is a suggestion for updated sound system to allow use of axillary inputs and better volume control. Larry will move forward with additional conversation.
- Tree removal and trimming – several of the trees bordering the cemetery have significant winter kill. The cemetery committee will review options. Also some tree branches are close to power lines. MI energy will review and make any suggestions for additional trimming.

New Business:

- The process and flow of communion changes with continuous communion. A meeting will be set up with head ushers to plan a more efficient flow.
- New plant stands were donated by the Bob Olson Family. This is a generous gift and much appreciated.

Secretary's report was given. Motion was given by Rita second by Kay. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Jodie to adjourn, second by Krissy. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.

Secretary's report submitted by Michelle Rein.

Next meeting to be held at Elstad Lutheran Church, Sunday July 14, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.



THE BRIDGE

A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod



A Special Greeting from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

Spring 2019

“For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.” – Esther 4:14

Dear Friends in Christ,

For such a time. The world has changed and is changing. But what shapes us as Lutherans is being God’s beloved people gathered around word and sacraments. In Christ through the Spirit, God has invited us into a deeply intimate and loving relationship with God and with each other for such a time as this.

This is our time to tell the story of the church we are becoming, a church confident about who we are in Christ and what God is calling us to do. As I have said previously, if God wills that there be a witness to the gospel through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), no force on earth, not even our own, can stop it.

As we gather in synod assemblies, I invite you to pray for one another and listen for God’s will. Your prayers and discernment will be crucial as the assembly season culminates at the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Milwaukee, Aug. 5-10. As part of our legislative business, we will be receiving and considering proposals from your synod assemblies.

I hope you will have time and space to talk together, pray together and listen together as you consider resolutions and memorials before you. We need time for discernment.

This church continues to engage in God’s reconciling work through Christ in the world. At the churchwide organization, the ELCA Church Council is overseeing implementation of this church’s strategic plan, Future Directions 2025 (ELCA.org/future). Through this initiative, we’re cultivating new leaders and revitalizing congregations. Thank you for your faithful commitment.

Thank you also for your generosity to *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* (ELCA.org/campaign). Your continued support is an example of all the ways we are church, we are Lutheran, we are church together and we are church for the sake of the world.

God’s blessings to you as you gather as the living body of Christ. May you be guided by the Spirit as you do God’s will for God’s people for such a time.

With gratitude,

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

JUNE 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~ Ron Stensgard
~ Janette Dragvold
~ Madalynn Keller
3~ Glen Bakken
~ Ruth Moraski
4~ Lynnette Pederson
~ Kelly Bearbower
~ Andrew Bacon
5 Tony Knutson
~ Siena Heydt-Nelson
8~ Jason Dragvold
~ Kortnie Woxland
9~ Richard Todd
~ Christopher Berge
10~ Julie Koop
11~ Bob Brand
~ Jessica Rebahan
~ Lisa Chiglo
12~ Jay Dahl
~ Elissa Beach
~ Lakyn Lind
~ Carter Ask
~ Adam James
13~ David Lombard
15~ Wendy Will
~ Tom Dybing
~ Chris Schwichtenberg
~ Andrea Waldron
16~ Paul Ehler
~ Sawyer Nelson
17~ Tate Lind
18~ Alison Feine
~ Wilson Storhoff
19~ Julie Dragvold
~ Allyson Christian
20~ Gary Wangen
21~ Tony Semmen
22~ Kalin Dahl
~ Annabelle Christian
23~ Scott Meldahl
~ Rebekah Solum
~ Lillian DeGeorge
24~ Jeffrey Self
25~ Cindy Howe
~ Sari Rein
~ Kyson Klug
26~ Lucile Ask
~ Kim Halverson
27~ Dick Haight
~ Cathy Bakkum
~ Deb Topness
~ Andrew Nepstad
~ Emma Peck
28~ Kristi Berge
~ Avalon Jacobson

- 29~ Charles Mierau
~ David Howe
~ Kari Drinkall
~ Jessie Rustad
~ Joshua Howe
30~ David McHan
~ Bryce Peterson



- 2~ David & Lori Bakke
4~ Todd & Michele James
7~ Mike & Brenda Chiglo
9~ Richard & Jennifer
Nepstad
17~ David & Barb Lee
20~ Ron & Martha
Stensgard
21~ Murton & Sharon
Boyum
21~ Erik & Lisa Sievers
25~ Truman & Pat Dahl
25~ Duane & Angel Bakke
27~ Steven & Lynn Ryan
29~ Glen & Karen Bakken
30~ John & Jennifer
DeGeorge

JUNE 2019

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <i>EL- WELCA bake sale in Lanesboro</i>
2 <i>EL-9:00 a.m. HP-10:30 a.m.</i>	3	4	5 HP-WELCA Bible study 1:30 p.m. Campfire Worship 6:30 p.m.	6	7	8
<i>Baptism at HP</i>						
9 Parish Youth EL-9:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m. HP Council meeting 5:30 p.m. HP-Shelter Hongerholt	→ 10 Mission	→ 11 Trip	→ 12	→ 13	→ 14	15
			12 HP-WELCA 9:00 a.m. Quilting & Projects Bulletin Deadline			
16 EL-9:00 a.m. HP-10:30 a.m.	17	18	19 Campfire Worship 6:30 p.m. Newsletter Deadline	20	21 <i>EL- 7:00 p.m. Stringwood Music Festival</i>	22
23 EL-9:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m.	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Parish Outdoor Worship @ HP 10:00 a.m.			Bulletin Deadline			

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

Address Services Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Peterson, MN 55962
Permit No. #6



HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019

ACOLYTES: CADEN JOHNSON, LARISSA RYAN
READERS: DANA DEGEORGE, MICHELE THOMPSON
GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019

ACOLYTES: KENNA GUDMUNDSON, LINDSEY HOINESS
READERS: KRISTINA STENSGARD, SYLVIA PASSOW
GREETERS: ALLAN SKALET & KAY EIKEN

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019

ACOLYTES: ANDREW HOINESS, KRISTINA STENSGARD
READERS: ARLENE JOHNSON
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019

ACOLYTES: DANA DEGEORGE, LACI SIEVERS
READERS: HALE STENSGARD, BECKY LIND
GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLER

SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2019

READERS: ANDREW HOINESS, SHARON EHLER
GREETERS: ROGER & SARAH BEARBOWER

ELSTAD
ACOLYTE/READER/USHERS

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019

ACOLYTE: KYLE DANIELS
READERS: J.T. REIN, JOHN ABRAHAMSON

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019

ACOLYTE: LIZ HAGEMAN
READERS: ALISON FREESE, LORI BAKKE

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019

ACOLYTE: PARKER STORHOFF
READERS: WILSON STORHOFF, VICKY TOPNESS

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019

ACOLYTE: MAKENZIE KNUTSON
READERS: MAKENZIE KNUTSSON, GLEE CLAUSSEN

SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2019

PARISH WORSHIP @ HP 10:30 A.M.

USHERS: DAVID LAWSTUEN, ROBERT KNUTSON,
STEVE STORHOFF, COLIN BAKKE,
MIKE CHIGLO