

*Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
~ February 2014 ~*

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Worship Schedule

February 2014

TIME CHANGE

Early Service @ 8:30

Late Service @ 10:30

*SS @ 9:30 for both
congregations*

Sunday, February 2

Elstad 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Highland Prairie 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 9

Elstad 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Highland Prairie 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 16

Elstad 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Highland Prairie 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 23


Elstad 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Highland Prairie 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Parish News



Thank you to all the council members
who have served our congregations!
We are truly grateful for all your hard
work!

Good Earth Village

Summer Camp

Extra Early Bird registration is February 3rd

Early Bird registration in March 17th

Please visit the Good Earth Village website at

goodearthvillage.org

Ponderings from the Parsonage...

In Romans 12:1-2 Paul tells us to put our bodies on the line for God: “I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God.... be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is—what is good and pleasing and mature.

We often don't put our body and spirit together like this; in fact, we do the opposite. The body is one thing and the spirit is another. But Paul is right on. The reality is we only make things real when we do more than just think about it, and it takes a body in action to do something. You've got to put your body where your brain is.

We long to become one thing, to make something happen, but if we only think about it it'll never happen. It's only when we put our bodies in action with our dreams that we can make real what we believe in.

It's the people who put their body, the body of their time, the body of their talent, the body of their treasure in action, who actually change themselves and the world. We can't just be dreamers; we have to be doers.

Too many people get to the end of their life and say, “I could have....” The only difference between these and those who are able to say, “I did,” is they put their time, talent and treasure where their dreams were. They moved their bodies, their lives, and came away with having done something worthwhile—and really lived. Paul's telling us we become agents of God's action in the world when we actively become God's hands and feet.

People would often come to Jesus with spiritual questions. The Pharisees would often challenge him on his teachings. Many times Jesus would respond to them by quoting Scripture or saying something like, “Have you never read the Scriptures?”

Taking the time and energy and to read the Bible is clearly something Jesus expects of us. He did it. Have we studied any verses in the Bible enough to know them from memory? If your answer is yes, fantastic. Keep up the good work. If not, then this is something that may change your life. The Bible is there waiting for us to put verses into our lives to inspire us to action on a daily basis.

So many people act like spiritual camels. They learned something back in fifth grade Sunday school, or had one verse assigned to them on their Confirmation day and boy, they're set for life! Never felt thirsty again! Never expect to be thirsty again!

I invite you to turn over a new leaf this year: Get spiritually thirsty and recognize how parched your spirit and soul are. And then get to drinking the good stuff, the word of the Lord. How about committing one verse per week to memory?

It's true that many people only change when they're forced to do so. They're like the guy who was in trouble with the law. He told the priest, “I'm changing my ways, Father.” The priest said, “Have you finally seen the light, my son?” “No, Father, but I have felt the heat.”

There are two reasons why people change: They either feel the heat or see the light. Feeling the heat forces us to change. Seeing the light inspires us to change.

May 2014 be the year that you see the light (or feel the heat)! May your body, mind and Spirit line up so that you become the agent of change God has called you to be.

Parish Staff

~ 2014 ~

ELSTAD

President- Larry Topness
V-President- Jerry Evenson
Secretary- Michelle Rein
Treasurer- Jennifer Nepstad
Trustees- John Rein (16)
Carol Overland (14)
Vicky Topness (15)

Board of Education:

Michelle Rein
Sandy Sjarpe
Amber Arends

Board of Life & Growth;

Darlys Storhoff Dorthy Evenson
Larry Topness Deb Topness
Carolyn Smith

Auditors:

Tom Dybing (15) John Abrahamson (14)

World Hunger Representatives:

Philip & Ruth Abrahamson

Head Ushers:

Mike Chiglo, Mike Ask, John Overland, Stan Sveen, John Abrahamson, Robert Knutson

Synod Assembly Voting Members:

Larry Topness Deb Topness

Synod Assembly Alternates:

John & Carol Overland

Cemetery Board:

Rich Nepstad (16), David Lawstuen (15)

HIGHLAND PRAIRIE

President- Gordon Johnson
V-President- Sarah Bearbower
Secretary- Deb Book
Treasurer- Karen Bakken
Trustees- Lyle Meldahl (17)
Steve Howe (17)
Charles Peterson (16)

Synod Assembly voting Members:

Lyle & Ann Meldahl

Cemetery Board:

Gerry Hallum
Glenn Peterson

Endowment Committee:

Nancy Rustad (17)
Allan Skalet (17)

Good Shepherd Delegates:

Allen Skalet
Kay Eiken

Auditors:

Val Howe
Sarah Bearbower

ELSTAD NEWS

Elstad Prayer Partners

There is much to be said about being in the right place at the right time with the right people. Businesses are built around those themes. People who live by “luck” believe in that philosophy. Writers and poets have great fun with their words. As for being prayer partners we too can share in that a little bit. We have the new assignments with one another for a good while and the seeds of prayer that we plant in each other’s behalf are beginning to grow. The bible says much about prayer and planting. We don’t know how it works. We don’t know why it works. We just know it works. It will be a long while before we harvest the results of being prayer partners for another season. We are the right people. We are in the right place and 2014 is the right time. Together we will anticipate great things from our Lord.

Elstad WELCA will meet on February 2nd at 10:30 a.m. There will be installation of officers and discussions of the 2014 budget and program. Servers are Marilyn Soland and Darlys Storhoff.

The Esther circle will meet on Thursday, February 13th

Save the Date, Sunday, March 9th. Back by popular request...another all church birthday party. Some things are the same, pot luck meal, come as you are wardrobe and another table game of “tell me something I don’t know” plus another great cup cake caper. Some things are different, no auction but other events that may just keep you in stitches of sorts. No cards or gifts necessary, merely show up for a good parish family time together. No one is too old and no one is too young. The only physical requirement is that you had a mother. Beverage and cakes provided.

HIGHLAND PRAIRIE

NEWS

The RP backpack program is alive and well and has been running smoothly these past three months with 25-35 backpacks going out each week. The program started the year with a fund balance of \$4058.76. The balance on hand today is \$2370.03. Parishioners are asked to do several things.

1. Continue to pray for this ministry.
2. Consider making a monetary donation. (Give to Sharon Ehler or Sharon Rustad) Checks should be made out to RP Backpack Program.
3. Make a food donation between now and Sunday, Feb.2.
 - 28 oz. peanut butter
 - 20 oz. squeeze jelly
 - 4 pack of snack pack pudding
 - 12-15 oz. bags of cereal
 - Individual servings of raisins – they come in packs of 6



Your food items can be brought to church and we will get them to the packing site. There will probably be another request for donations in March, if needed. Highland Prairie's month for packing is March, so please sign up soon. The packing site has been changed from the Tenborg Center to St. Mark's Church.

~ Quilting will be Feb. 12, 2014 at 9:30 with potluck lunch at noon.

~ Mary circle will meet on Feb. 9th at 4 p.m. @ The Creamery



Highland Prairie February council meeting will be held on Sunday, February 9th after Worship service. We ask that the worship committee please attend this meeting.

Thank you!

"Crock pot" potluck ...for Sunday, Feb. 16th

Free Will offering...proceeds will go to Camp Winnebago...for this one..

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES!

**All Birthdays & Anniversaries are listed according to the information I have. If you see an error please contact me @ highlandprairie_elstad@gmail.com Thank You!*

- Happy Birthday!!**
- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1~ Gudrun Storhoff | 9~ Allan Skalet | ~ Sandra Kenny |
| ~ Glenn Thomas | ~ Robert Knutson | ~ Erick James |
| ~ Mackenzie Moore | ~ Andrew Howe | ~ Ryan Maschka |
| ~ Noah Carlson | ~ Courtney Dahl | 22~ Brandon Sjarpe |
| ~ Brady Stensgard | ~ Cooper Hovland | ~Kenna Gudmundson |
| 2~ Jeff Mueller | 10~ Sylvia Passow | 23~ Ann Meldahl |
| ~ Tiffany Johnson | ~ Patty Olson | ~ Linda Hundorf |
| ~ Brooke Bestul | 11~ Casey Ingvalson | ~ Shannon Kopperud |
| ~ Bailey Bestul | 13~ David Markegard | ~ Kendal Tober |
| 3~ Carol Sjarpe | 14~ Val Gudmundson | 25~ Michele James |
| ~ Paul Ryan | ~ Kristen Peterson | ~ Richard Gullickson |
| ~ Trent Eide | ~ Soren Eisner | 27~ Dorothy Evenson |
| 4~ Megan Fox | 15~ Michael Halverson | ~ Anne Jacobson |
| 6~ John Stadtmueller | ~ Emily Johnson | ~ Zachary Johnson |
| ~ Patty Horning | ~ Michael Rein | 28~ Sharyl Bergen |
| 7~ Murton Boyum | 18~ Aubrey Ingvalson | Happy Anniversary!! |
| ~ Andy Ask | 20~ Gertie Bakkum | 9~ Lyle & Ann Meldahl |
| ~ Delane Horning | ~ Gerry Hallum | 16~ Randy & Kari |
| ~ Laura Severson | ~ Hannah Kopperud | Drinkall |
| 8~ Nina Richardson | 21~ Truman Dahl | |
| | ~ Wayne Finnegan | |

FEBRUARY 2014

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1

2

Elstad Worship 8:30
SS @ 9:30 a.m.

HP Worship @ 10:30
SS @ 9:30 a.m.

HP council mtg.
after worship

3

4

**5 Bulletin
Deadline!**

Confirmation
Worship @
7:00 p.m.

6

7

8

9

Elstad Worship
8:30 SS @ 9:30

HP Worship @ 10:30
SS @ 9:30

Mary Circle 4pm @
The Creamery

10

EL. Elizabeth
circle 6:30 @
Park Lane

11

**12 Bulletin
Deadline!**

Confirmation
Worship @
7:00 p.m.

13

14

15

16

Elstad Wor-
ship 8:30 a.m.
SS @ 9:30 a.m.

HP Worship @
10:30 a.m.
SS @ 9:30 a.m.

17

18

**Newsletter
Deadline!**

**19 Bulletin
Deadline!**

Confirmation
Worship @
7:00 p.m.

20

21

22

23

Elstad Wor-
ship 8:30 a.m.
SS @ 9:30 a.m.

HP Worship @
10:30 a.m.
SS @ 9:30 a.m.

24

25

**26 Bulletin
Deadline!**

Confirmation
Worship @
7:00 p.m.

27

28

*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

February Newsletter

HP Acolytes/Readers/Greeters

Sunday, February 2, 2014

Acolytes: Chealsy Eide, Riley Koop

Readers: Chealsy Eide, Hannah Kopperud

Greeters: Gary & Nancy Rustad

Sunday, February 9, 2014

Acolytes: Riley Koop, Hans Lind

Readers: Riley Koop, Leah Jacobson

Greeters: Lyle & Ann Meldahl

Sunday, February 16, 2014

Acolytes: Hans Lind, Jack Kopperud

Readers: Hans Lind, Sharon Rustad

Greeters: Doug Lind Family

Sunday, February 23, 2014

Acolytes: Jack Kopperud, Paula Howe

Readers: Jack Kopperud, David Larson

Greeters: Allen & Kay Howe

Elstad Acolyte/Reader

Sunday, February 2, 2014

Acolyte: Chris Freese

Reader: Tom Dybing

Sunday, February 9, 2014

Reader: Carolyn Smith

Sunday, February 16, 2014

Acolyte: Kody Bearboer

Reader: Vicky Topness

Sunday, February 23, 2014

Reader: Peter Holm

Ushers: Mike Chiglo, John Abrahamson,
Philip Abrahamson, David Bakke, Merwood Storhoff