

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

~ February 2018 ~

Pastor, Rev. Luther Mathsen

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Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator

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Worship Schedule
February 2018

Sunday, February 4, 2017

9:00 a.m. Elstad

10:00 a.m. Sunday school

10:30 a.m. Highland Prairie

9:30 a.m. Sunday school

Sunday, February 11, 2018

9:00 a.m. Elstad

10:00 a.m. Sunday school

10:30 a.m. Highland Prairie

9:30 a.m. Sunday school

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14th

5:00 p.m. Highland Prairie

7:00 p.m. Elstad

Sunday, February 18, 2018

9:00 a.m. Elstad

10:00 a.m. Sunday school

10:30 a.m. Highland Prairie

9:30 a.m. Sunday school

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018

Soup Supper 6:00 p.m.

HP—Lenten Service 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 25, 2018

9:00 a.m. Elstad

10:00 a.m. Sunday school

10:30 a.m. Highland Prairie

9:30 a.m. Sunday school

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018

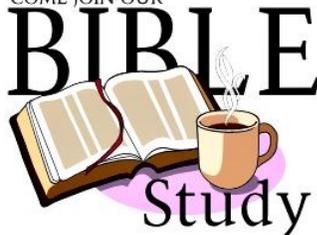
Soup Supper 6:00 p.m.

EL—Lenten Service 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Corner

Scriptures tell us to pray without ceasing. Let's be known as a praying congregation. Please keep Elaine Holm, Pat Dahl, Cathy Bakke, the family of Dagny Anderson and all who are ill or in other needs in your prayers.

COME JOIN OUR



The book study on Bo Giertz' book, The Hammer of God, will begin February 12, 10 a.m., in the church office room off the sanctuary.

Elstad WELCA Activities

The first meeting of the year for the ELSTAD WELCA will be February 11th after Worship Services. Servers that day are Marilyn Soland and Dorothy Evenson.

The ELSTAD all Church Birthday party will be on March 11. We will be highlighting some of our Elstad youth and we will also be entertained with Balloons by Kevin. He does amazing balloon sculptures. Please plan to attend!

ELSTAD PRAYER PARTNERS

We are starting a new year connecting with different prayer partners for the coming months. Pray for your partner that she may find freshness in her purpose and commitment! As we start the Lenten season keep your prayer partner and her family in your daily prayer life.

February 14th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season and the mid-week offering of Lenten worship. From time to time, sisters and brothers approach me seeking guidance from the Bible for their lives. It's not as simple or uncomplicated as sometimes thought. Yet one of the time-honored places with which to begin is the Decalogue, the Ten Commandments. So, for the five Wednesdays of Lent, we will turn to the Decalogue for guidance. We will spend five Wednesday evenings on the second table of the law (Commandments 4-10)---those commandments that teach the meaning of love for the neighbor. Our last Wednesday of Lent will be spent on the first table ---on the commandments that deal with loving God above all else (Commandments 1-3). We will dwell on the commandments with five important bonds of human life in mind:

Week One - the Family Bond---in the command to honor one's parents.

Week Two - the Marriage Bond---in the commandment forbidding adultery.

Week Three - the Life Bond---in the commandment forbidding murder.

Week Four - the Property Bond---in the commands forbidding theft and covetousness.

Week Five - the Speech Bond---in the command forbidding slander and lying.

Week Six - the Great Commandment---in the command to love God above anything else.

Each Wednesday evening of Lent will begin with a soup supper served from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. Each meditation will occur within the evening liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer. We will begin at 7:00 p.m. You are invited and encouraged to make these Wednesday evenings a part of your journey to Holy Week.

One added encouragement: Take time for individual or family devotions during Lent. A limited number of booklets of daily Lenten devotions have been purchased. They will be made available on Sunday, February 11th, at worship, and at Ash Wednesday worship on Wednesday, February 14th. Please add an additional \$1.50 to your offering to defray the cost of them.

February Worship Schedule

+Sunday, February 4th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Sunday, February 11th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Ash Wednesday, February 14th

5:00 p.m., Highland Prairie

7:00 p.m., Elstad

+Sunday, February 18th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Wednesday, February 21st, (Highland Prairie)

6:00 p.m., Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

+Sunday, February 25th

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+Wednesday, February 28th, (Elstad)

6:00 p.m., Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

*NOTE: Offerings will be received at all Wednesday Lenten services.

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Parsonage Window Replacement Drive

The replacement windows for the parsonage have been on order for over a month. The Board Store Home Improvement Inc. estimated a 10-12 week waiting period before the windows would be made and ready for installment. The parish appeal for funds to defray the cost of window replacement continues. If either congregation should exceed gifts above and beyond their commitment, the money can be applied to other obvious existing church plant improvement necessities (for example: Elstad, water damaged walls repair; Highland Prairie, main entrance doors replacement). If your living circumstances allow, please consider a gift (above and beyond gifts to the day to day operating expenses of the congregation). Simply put your gift in an envelope, so designated, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent

The season of Lent is a time to contemplate the Passion of Christ as an incentive for self-examination, repentance, and growth in faith and grace. The significance of the name "Ash Wednesday" is found in the ancient Christian practice of those of broken and contrite hearts coming to church to pray and receive ashes, made from palms blessed the previous Palm Sunday, on their foreheads. Penitents of both congregations will be offered the opportunity to receive ashes, imprinted on their forehead in the sign of the cross +, the sign of the One in, and with whom, we have died and in, and with whom, we now live, Jesus Christ. There's plenty to think on in these coming days. "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6.4).

Lenten Food Shelf Collection

During the season of Lent, Highland Prairie and Elstad congregations are invited to collect food items for their local food shelves. You are invited to bring a food item (or food items) each Sunday or Wednesday. (Please: No expired food items.) Monetary gifts are also appreciated. Please make your checks out to your congregation with a designation on the MEMO line.

Elstad—Highland Prairie Parish Council Minutes
Sunday, January 7, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at Highland Prairie Lutheran Church

1. Call to Order—6:36 p.m. by HP President Kyle Chiglo

2. Roll Call:

Present: Kyle Chiglo, Sarah Bearbower, Karen Bakken, Allan Skalet, Chris Hoiland, Tim Stensgard, Joyce Dahl, Gordon Johnson, Kay Dahl, Dick Haight, Pastor Kay Wold, Jennifer Nepstad, Jodie Daniels, Rita Kelly

Pastor Luther Mathsen, Lisa Chiglo

Absent: Becky Lind, Michelle Rein, Rachel Bearbower

3. Quorum Called

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion to Approve Agenda: Gordon Johnson Second: Tim Stensgard Motion Carried

5. Devotions: Pastor Luther

6. Congregation member wishing to address council: NA

7. President's Report: Dick Haight again mentioned our appreciation to Pastor Luther for the past year.

8. Pastor's Report: Reports were given to both councils. Pastor would like to continue discussion on how we can come together as a Parish in worship and mission. Also, how we can work together as a Parish to continue outreach to serve others and other area congregations as well as communities. He also gave a brief summary of a Pastor's day and responsibilities.

10. Old Business:

- Board Store— There was a discrepancy in the proposal of the living room window from a triple pane to a double pane window. The Board Store offered a reduction of \$700 versus what was originally offered which was \$250. Kyle is waiting for an updated contract with this change. The other windows have been ordered and now the large window will be ordered.
- Car Show— Getting cars to come to our car show is getting more difficult to get cars for the summer events. Allan Skalet is wondering if maybe we should go from a car show to a tractor show and is looking for input from council members. Sarah suggested the 'more the merrier' and call it a 'shine and show' versus a car show. Consensus is to go with both car and tractor show.
- Old Time Baseball— The teams like the grass field. We played 10 games in 2017 when we won 2 and lost 8. This year we have 14 games scheduled with many being much larger communities than ours. We have some very good players on our team and can be very competitive. Steve Gorder is our 'on-the field manager'" and Allan Skalet is the 'general manager.' The team is called the "Highland Prairie—Elstad Hayseeds." It is suggested that we get information on the websites to encourage more participation.

11. New Business:

A. 2018 Worship schedule: One change requested— Sunday school Elstad-May 20th

Motion to Approve 2018 Worship schedule as presented with the one change for Elstad Sunday school to May 20th: Sarah Bearbower Seconded: Dick Haight Motion Carried.

B. Council meeting times 2018: Council meetings are currently Sunday's at 5:30 p.m. for the non-hosting council and the Joint council meeting at 6:30 p.m. the 2nd Sunday –every other month followed by the hosting council meeting.

Motion to approve the meeting times as it is currently: Dick Haight Seconded: Gordon Johnson Motion carried.

Note: Fundraising suggestions for Windows: Make and sell T-Shirts “Opening Windows to Christ’s Love” with each church’s name or combination.

12. Secretary Report:

Motion to approve the Secretary’s report: Sarah Bearbower Seconded: Jodie Daniels Motion carried

Adjournment: Motion: Tim Stensgard Seconded: Chris Hoiland Motion carried.

The Lord’s Prayer

The next joint meeting will be held at Elstad on Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Elstad Lutheran Church council meeting was called to order by Dick Haight on January 8, 2018

Members present were Dick Haight, Rita Kelly, Jodie Daniels, Kay Wold and Jennifer Nepstad.

Michelle Rein and Rachel Bearhower were absent. Pastor Luther Mathsen was also present.

A Quorum was called.

Motion by Jodie Daniels, second by Rita Kelly to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes, motion passed.

Pastor Luther gave an update on his pastoral duties. The advent prayer gatherings went well. The Christmas services were beautiful and went well also. He was visiting our shut in members during the

Advent season. He is now planning for the Lenten season including soup suppers and the Holden

Evening prayer services. He would like our congregations to consider the missions in the coming

Year including growing our membership, other local and global mission activities and service activities that we could include in our church life.

The treasurers’ yearend report was presented to be placed on file to be audited.

A thank you from Pastor Luther and Bobbie was read for their Christmas gift and the opportunity to share our Christian life.

The committee is still working on nominees for 2018 positions.

We are looking to form a committee for Fund Raising for the Elstad share of the Parsonage windows. If anyone is interested please contact Rita Kelly. Some ideas were discussed for fund raising.

There was a brief adjournment for the joint council meeting, and was re-adjourned by President Dick Haight. The proposed budget for 2018 was presented with no changes made. Motion by Rita Kelly to approve the budget, second by Jodie Daniels. All voted yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jodie Daniels to adjourn the meeting, second by Dick Haight with all voting yes, motion carried.

The next Elstad Council meeting will be held at Elstad on Sunday, March 11, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

Highland Prairie Church Council Meeting Minutes ~ 1-7-18

1. Call to order by Kyle Chiglo at 11:47 AM
2. Roll Call: Kyle Chiglo, Allan Skalet, Tim Stensgard, Chris Hoiland, Sarah Bearbower, Becky Halverson-Lind, Gordy Johnson, Kay Dahl, Joyce Dahl, Karen Bakken, and Pastor Luther. Guest: Nancy Rustad.
3. Quorum Called.
4. Devotions: Pastor Luther Shared
5. Approval of Agenda: Karen would like to move the proposed budget to follow Treasurer's Report. Sarah moved to approve with the changing of the order. Tim seconded. Motion carried.
6. Congregation members wishing to address the council. Sharon Ehler discussed changing the Worship Committee. Pastor Luther expressed that he likes having input from church members as to services and such. The Worship Committee will now include the Altar Guild.
7. Treasurer's Report: Karen shared the annual Treasurer's Report via e-mail with the council. It is likely Highland Prairie is very close to meeting our obligation towards the parsonage window replacement. The tree with envelopes to receive donations will remain through January any surplus funds, after meeting our obligation, will be put into the general fund for other projects as the council deems appropriate. The report was discussed. Sarah made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Joyce seconded. Motion carried subject to review and audit.
8. Proposed Budget for 2018: (See accompanying budget proposal.) Budget was discussed. Gordy made a motion to approve the 2018 Proposed Budget, seconded by Allan. Motion carried.
9. President's Report: Discussed briefly the possibilities of moving Highland Prairie's Council Meeting times. Council will take some time to review how changing times would look.
10. Pastor's Report: Pastor Luther discussed the Advent services that were held on Wednesday nights and thanked those who assisted in making it work. Pastor Luther also shared what a typical day for him entails. Pastor Luther posed the question to the council, "How do we go about bringing in members who have fallen away?" He asked the council members to invite and make connections to those we do not see as often and welcome/encourage them back to church. Also, when we resume Sunday School next fall, take a look at using an intergenerational approach.
11. Correspondence: Pastor Luther sent a "Thank You" for the congregational gift he received at Christmas.
12. Committee Reports:
 - A) Church: The furnace needs to be looked at as they are not running well. Also, the furnace in the narthex has failed and will need to be looked at. Tim reported back to the council what he found out about the mats for in front of the doors. We can replace both mats for around \$300 through Office Depot. Gordy made a motion to move forward with the purchase of two 4x6 foot mats. Sarah seconded, motion carried.
 - B) Grounds: nothing
 - C) Worship: nothing
 - D) Youth and Education: nothing
13. Old Business:
 - A) 2018 Council Member Nominees: Gordy suggested having a sample ballot prior to the annual meeting to seek and give notice to those who may be interested. Sarah mentioned that it is in the bulletin and newsletter.
 - B) Discussion on proposed constitution: Sarah reported there has been no mention of any problems or concerns. Kyle mentioned that the vote needs to be verbally announced in church prior to the Annual Meeting. This will be the first vote and will need to be voted on again next year before being submitted to the synod.
14. New Business:
 - A) Annual meeting agenda: Sample agenda to be examined this evening as well. Will need to add the Constitution vote. Tim made a motion to use the template from last year's annual meeting for the annual agenda. Seconded by Chris. Motion carried.
 - B) Annual meeting ballots: Will have one ready for Parish meeting this evening. Secretary's Report: Becky will send the minutes via email for approval or corrections to be brought to her attention prior to the parish meeting at 7:00 PM this evening.
15. Adjournment (The Lord's Prayer): Gordy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chris. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 1:21 PM. The next council meeting will be Sunday, March 11, 2018, 5:30 p.m. at Elstad Lutheran Church.



THE BRIDGE

A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod



Rev. Corrine Haulotte of the Lutheran Campus Center – Winona

Throughout the year ahead, “The Bridge” will feature interviews with fascinating speakers and leaders. In this edition, Rev. Corrine Haulotte shares reflections on the gift and importance of campus ministry. Haulotte has been serving as campus pastor of the Lutheran Campus Center in Winona since August of 2013.

What does “leadership development” look like in campus ministry?

Campus ministry isn’t simply a ministry for students, but a ministry with, shaped and led by students. We don’t require brilliance, or talent, (though that often comes!); rather, we encourage curiosity and an openness to try out passions, ideas, and new endeavors. Our community of faith is a safe, supportive place for people to risk and be leaders as they are. Campus ministries cultivate a deep sense of vocation both in and out of “the church,” which I believe is essential to leadership development in college.

What do your students teach you about God/church/relationship?

My students (which includes all those with whom I come in contact on campus) teach me again and again that God is more. More expansive. More loving. More than our binary assumptions. More radical. More bent on justice. More grace-full. God is beyond our most beautiful, wildest imaginations about God. God is beyond, and God is very near. God is more intimate and draws nearer than what we are comfortable with. Most of all, students teach me that what is written in 1 John is true: God is Love.

What would surprise the people of the synod about campus ministry?

While it may make some people nervous to read that students of this generation seem less concerned with adherence to institutional identity, that should not be confused with aversion to, or fear of, commitment. These students are committed and passionate about making a difference in the world. Campus ministry is, perhaps, at its most vulnerable state in our church’s history in terms of funding. Many people think that the churchwide organization still financially supports campus ministry, but that is simply not true anymore in a sustainable capacity. (The LCC will receive about \$4,000 annually from a churchwide grant.) Funding and staff support was cut drastically and suddenly within the past decade, and we currently have one part-time, remote staff person for churchwide campus ministry. Campus ministers have taken it upon ourselves to advocate for Lutheran campus ministry and are hoping to fund a full-time person at churchwide through the addition of “dues,” paid by each campus ministry site. Sustainable funding, then, depends on synods, congregations, and individuals.

When people pray for campus ministry, what are specific kinds of things they can be praying for?

I began the sermon for my installation service with these words: “Before you install me as the pastor for the Lutheran Campus Center, there is something you should know about me- I deeply believe in prayer.” Pray for our students, that they may know and feel their identities as children of God and that they may sense how they might live out their baptismal callings in the world. Pray for our community of faith, that we may support one another and be challenged to strive for justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. Pray that we might not only proclaim that as a church, but support such a claim with our financial resources, for campus ministry is truly in a vulnerable state.

FEBRUARY 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~ Glenn Thomas
~ Noah Carlson
~ Brady Stensgard
2~ Jeff Mueller
3~ Carol Sjarpe
~ Paul Ryan
~ Trent Eide
4~ Megan Fox
~ Kaylee Peterson
6~ John Stadtmueller
7~ Murton Boyum
~ Andy Ask
~ Delane Horning
9~ Allan Skalet
~ Robert Knutson
~ Andrew Howe
~ Courtney Dahl
~ Cooper Hovland
10~ Patty Olson
13~ David Markegard

14~ Val Gudmundson
~ Kristen Peterson
~ Soren Eisner
15~ Michael Halverson
~ Emily Johnson
~ Michael Rein
17~ Rylee Nelson
20~ Gerald Hallum
21~ Truman Dahl
~ Wayne Finnegan
~ Sandra Kenney
~ Erick James
~ Ryan Maschka
22~ Brandon Sjarpe
~ Kenna Gudmundson
23~ Ann Meldahl
~ Linda Hundorf
25~ Richard Gullickson
~ Michelle James
27~ Dorothy Evenson
28~ Sharyl Bergen
~ Kayla Hovland



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9~ Lyle & Ann Meldahl
16~ Randy & Kari Drinkall
18~ Daryl & Michele
Thompson

February 2018

Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish

Visit our websites at...

elstadlutheranchurch.org

highlandprairielutheranchurch.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
			Bulletin Deadline			
4 Worship 9:00a.m.—Elstad 10:00a.m.—EL S.S. 10:30—HP 9:30 a.m.—HP S.S.	5 Book Study 10:00 a.m. @ HP	6	7 HP WELCA– Bible study 1:30 p.m. Bulletin Deadline	8	9	10
11 Worship 9:00a.m.—Elstad 10:00a.m.—EL S.S. 10:30—HP 9:30 a.m.—HP S.S. EL-WELCA meeting after worship	12 Book Study 10:00 a.m. @ HP	13	14 HP WELCA– 9:30 quilting and projects Ash Wednesday 5:00 p.m.—HP 7:00 p.m. EL	15	16	17
18 Worship 9:00a.m.—Elstad 10:00a.m.—EL S.S. 10:30—HP 9:30 a.m.—HP S.S.	19 Book Study 10:00 a.m. @ HP Newsletter Deadline	20	21 Lenten Service @HP Soup supper 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m.	22	23	24
25 Worship 9:00a.m.—Elstad 10:00a.m.—EL S.S. 10:30—HP 9:30 a.m.—HP S.S.	26	27	28 Lenten Service @EL Soup supper 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m.			

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

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HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

ACOLYTES: ALYSTA KING, NIKKI DAHLE
READERS: NIKKI DAHLE, SYLVIA PASSOW
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018

ACOLYTES: ANDREW HOINESS, LINDSAY HOINESS
READERS: ANDREW HOINESS, BECKY LIND
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018

ACOLYTES: KRISTINA STENSGARD
READERS: KRISTINA STENSGARD
GREETERS: KYLE & LISA CHIGLO

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2018

ACOLYTES: KENNA GUDMUNDSON, LACI SIEVERS
READERS: TREY OLSON, SHARON EHLER
GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

ACOLYTES: DANA DEGEORGE, NIKKI DAHLE
READERS: HALE STENSGARD, SCOTT BESTUL
GREETERS: DOUG LIND FAMILY

ELSTAD
ACOLYTE/READERS/USHERS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

ACOLYTE: MICHAEL REIN
READERS: MICHAEL REIN, TOM DYBING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018

ACOLYTE: KYLE DANIELS
READERS: KYLE DANIELS, VICKY TOPNESS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018

ACOLYTE: MCKENZIE KNUSTON
READERS: J.T. REIN, LORI BAKKE
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2018

ACOLYTE: KELSIE WOXLAND
READERS: PARKER STORHOFF, GENE TOPNESS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

ACOLYTE: PARKER STORHOFF
READERS: MCKENZIE KNUSTON, CAROL OVERLAND

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

READER: MICHAEL REIN

USHERS: JOHN OVERLAND, LARRY TOPNESS,
PHILIP ABRAHAMSON, JOHN ABRAHAMSON