

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

~ June 2016 ~

*Interim Pastor, Pastor Marie AK Anderson*

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*Church Phone: (507) 864-2731*

*Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator*

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**Worship Schedule**

**June 2016**

**Sunday, June 5th**

10:00 a.m. @ Elstad

**Sunday, June 12th**

10:00 a.m. @ Highland Prairie

**Sunday, June 19th**

10:00 a.m. @ Elstad

**Sunday, June 26th**

10:00 a.m. "Bowl Service"  
Highland Prairie

**Highland Prairie Cemetery**

Becky Lind is available to water your flowers at the cemetery again this year. Please call her with any questions or if you would like your flowers watered.

Becky (507) 450-9362

Thank you!

Every month the Southeastern Minnesota Synod creates a new issue of The Bridge. This resource is meant for you and the people of your congregation. Find this month's issue and the full archive by visiting <http://semnsynod.org/bridge>.

**Parsonage 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

August 21 we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Highland Prairie and Elstad parsonage with an open house. For that celebration we are looking for photos that show the parsonage inside and out over the years. Other church-parsonage artifacts from that time period like the original floor plans or a hymn book are also being sought.

**Woman's Day—Good Earth Village**

Woman throughout Southeastern Minnesota gather to learn, grow, and celebrate. This year's event features Pastor Margaret Kelly who runs food truck ministry in St. Paul. Hear about what church looks like when we break out of a building and into poor communities, breaking bread with the homeless and sharing the Good News. The day contains workshops, a shared meal, small groups and a presentation by Pastor Margaret. Encounter the Hope of a new kind of kingdom. June 25, 2016.

More information at [GoodEarthvillage.org/womensday](http://GoodEarthvillage.org/womensday) or call (507) 346-2494 to register.

**Good Earth Village On the Road in Lanesboro June 26-30**

Good Earth Village Bible camp brings the fun of camp to the camper with music, crafts, games, Bible studies, and nature activities. The week begins with a kick-off on Sunday afternoon, June 26, time TBD. On the Road continues Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The camp concludes with a program for families and friends on Thursday afternoon, June 30. Children who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade may attend. Choose from three tiers of pricing: \$70, \$80, or \$115. (The lower fees are supplemented by the camp's annual fund.) All activities will take place in Sylvan Park, weather permitting, or in the Lanesboro Community Center. Register on-line at <http://www.goodearthvillage.org> or call 507 346-2494.

**Registration deadline is June 12**

## **Message from Pastor Marie...**

June is one of my favorite months. School has come to an end and there are special events and vacations to look forward to. It also means Sunday School, Confirmation and other weekly church meeting groups are ending for the summer. It is summer vacation in many ways, but I hope that summer doesn't become a vacation from church or your spiritual growth this summer. Our spiritual health is dependent on the "flow" of the Spirit that we receive from God. That means taking time with God. It reminds me of a story attributed to the late Peter Marshall, former chaplain of the United States Senate.

There was once an old man who lived high above an Austrian village along the eastern slopes of the Alps. He had been hired by the village council many years ago to clear away the debris from the pools of water up in the mountain crevices that fed the lovely stream flowing through their village. With faithful, silent regularity, he patrolled the hills, removed the leaves and branches, and wiped away the silt that would otherwise choke and contaminate the fresh flow of water. By and by, the village became a popular attraction for visitors. Graceful swans floated along the crystal clear stream; picnickers gathered along its banks; and the view of the water from local shops and cafes was picturesque beyond description. Years passed. One evening the council met for its semiannual meeting. As they reviewed the budget, they noticed a small amount that was being paid to the "keeper of the spring." The village treasurer asked, "Who is this 'keeper of the spring'? Why do we keep him on the payroll year after year? No one ever sees him. Have any of you ever met this man? For all we know, he is simply taking our money and doing us no good whatsoever. In my opinion, this person is no longer necessary." Everyone agreed with the treasurer and the council voted unanimously to dismiss the old man. For several weeks, nothing much changed. The village went about with its business as usual. But by autumn, the trees began to shed their leaves. Small branches snapped off and fell into the pools that fed the stream, hindering the rushing flow of sparkling water. One afternoon, someone noticed a slight yellowish-brown tint in the water. A couple days later the water was much darker. Within another week or two, a slimy film covered sections of the water along the banks and a foul odor was soon detected. The swans left the village, as did the tourists. The economy of the village was in serious peril. Likewise was the health of the village, as many were getting sick from drinking the water. An emergency meeting of the village council was held. After much discussion, they realized their error in judgment and they hired back the old "keeper of the spring." And within a few weeks, the beautiful stream came back to life. The swans and visitors gradually returned, as did the vitality and well being of the little village in the Alps.

I think that our lives can be like this story. Our spiritual vitality is a product of the moments we take with God. When we are too busy to "tend the spring," our lives can be filled with backwater. Not only do our individual lives depend on "fresh water", but also the lives of our families and our whole community. The "spring water" that flows into each of our lives also flows out for the sake of the whole community. In Matthew 5:13-14, Jesus says, "you are the light of the world" and "you are the salt of the earth." I think Jesus would also smile at the thought that you are the "fresh spring water" of this world as well. Keep the spring flowing this summer. Take time for God to renew your spirit. See you in church!

Shalom Pastor Marie

## *Prayer Corner*

*Scriptures tell us to pray without ceasing. Let's be known as a praying congregation. Please keep Eric Johnson, Ashley Bergen, Jennifer Lee, Eastyn Skala, Jim Wangen, Irma Wangen, Gordon Gulbranson, Joan Kuhlman and all who are ill or in need of your prayers.*

### **HIGHLAND PRAIRIE WELCA ACTIVITIES**

**Wed, June 1<sup>st</sup>** 6:30pm Meeting and Bible Study (Gather series) at church Servers: Cathy and Joyce (Time has been changed to **6:30** to allow more working members to attend)

**Wed, June 8<sup>th</sup>** 9:30am Quilting & Projects/Potluck

**Sat, June 18<sup>th</sup>** 10:00am-4:00pm Gammel Dag Fest—We will participate in this Scandinavian themed event in Peterson along with other area church groups serving traditional Scandinavian treats

**Sun, June 26<sup>th</sup>** Lunch in the Park after Outdoor Worship

Please contact Cathy Bakkum if you can help serve, or if you can bring a salad or pan of bars.

### **Elstad WELCA Activities**

The bake sale for the Rhubarb Festival is Saturday, June 4th. Everyone is encouraged to bring their baking to Sylvan Park by 8:30 a.m. for set up and pricing. Thank you.

### **Highland Prairie Church Council Meeting Highlights Sunday, May 9, 2016**

- All members present
- Members of WELCA were present to discuss painting of the kitchen

#### Old Business:

- AED machine for the church is a possibility through a grant from Gunderson Lutheran. Kyle is going to inquire.

#### New Business:

- Grounds clean-up: June 11th at 9:00 a.m.
- Dedication of the Carillon System is set for July 24, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Becky Lind, Highland Prairie Church Council Secretary.

#### Highland Prairie Financials for April 2016

YTD Income	\$ 28,107
YTD Expenses	\$ 19,214
Income exe. Expenses	\$ 8,893
YTD Budget	\$ 29,800
YTD Income	\$ 28,107
YTD Under	\$ 1,693

#### Elstad Financials for March 2016

Budget for March	\$ 7081.50
Received in March	\$ 6,145.00
Under for March	\$ 936.50
YTD Budget	\$ 21,244.50
YTD Received	\$ 19,696.00
YTD Under	\$ 1,548.50

## **Elstad/Highland Prairie Parish Council Meeting Highlights**

Sunday May 9, 2016

The Pastor's report was given with many updates:

- 1) The call committee is currently working and interviewing. Please remember that we need to maintain confidentiality regarding the names and information of pastors being interviewed.
- 2) Pr. Marie recently attended the synod meeting, which she felt was very good.
- 3) Confirmation went fell this year. Pastor Marie wanted to thank the mentors for all their support and encourage other who may wish to participate in future classes. Dick spoke as a mentor indicating he enjoyed the experience very much.
- 4) Pr. Marie will be on vacation over the next 2 weeks.
- 5) Pr. Marie reminded us of the summer worship schedule and encouraged attendance.

Members were present wishing to address the parish council regarding the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parsonage. Please see business item #1.

Business Items:

- 1) Parish members addressed the parish council suggesting grounds clean up and the building of flower boxes as a means of commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parsonage. This group requested suggestions of who they may contact to assist in building the flower boxes. The council will get back to them with any suggestions.
- 2) Parsonage floors have been refinished by Aaron Dybing. They look amazing!
- 3) As part of the preparation for the anticipated parsonage open house, there are lots of beetles that need to be swept up and further upstairs cleaning is needed.
- 4) It was suggested that posters be made to encourage attendance during summer worship.
- 5) A golf cart was donated to Highland Prairie and is in need of a permanent parking location. This space is yet to be determined. The golf cart will be helpful in assisting people around the grounds and to the 'bowl'.
- 6) The next parish council meeting will be held Sunday July 10th at Highland Prairie.

The meeting was adjourned.

Full minutes will be made available for review upon request after formal approval by the Parish council.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Rein, Elstad Lutheran Church council secretary.

## **Elstad Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights**

Sunday May 9, 2016

The President's report was given by Elstad president Dick Haight. He noted Elstad's constitution has been accepted by the SE MN Synod.

There was no further Pastor's report beyond what was shared during the parish meeting.

Treasurer's report noted that giving has increased with attendance remaining stable.

Business Items:

- A) The Elstad Lutheran Church constitution was accepted by the synod.
- B) The council formulated a draft of an updated Mission Statement, facilitated by Jodie Daniels and Pr. Marie.
- C) We discussed our existing contract with Waste Management which extends through 2018. Contract changes cannot be made until after that date without substantial penalty.
- D) The elevator is working correctly, please make sure to note correct instructions.
- E) Further discussion about needed steeple repairs included replacing steeple windows with plexiglass for long term durability and replacing/repairing steeple trap door.

The meeting was adjourned.

Full minutes will be made available for review upon request after formal approval by the Elstad council.

Respectfully submitted by Michelle Rein, Elstad Lutheran Church council secretary.

ELSTAD APRIL WELCA MINUTES

APRIL 2, 2016

Vicky Topness, Co-President, opened the meeting in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Our purpose of statement was read.

The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Sunshine Committee:

We are continuing to remember Pastor Marie in our prayers. Pastor Marie's mother is scheduled for surgery in April. Lisa Chiglo has some family medical issues and we are encouraged to remember her in our prayers.

Old Business:

Vicky reported that the photo directory is being worked on.

New Business:

The Root River spring conference is April 30<sup>th</sup> at Highland Prairie. Diane Haight reviewed our lunch menu and the serving procedure. The dessert was discussed and we decided on cupcakes. The cupcakes have been ordered.

Announcements:

Recognition Sunday is May 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30. **Please note the Recognition Sunday has been rescheduled to May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

The Rhubarb festival is June 4<sup>th</sup>. We are to have our baking in the park by 8:30.

The Lutheran is now titled Living Lutheran.

Cathy Bakke is no longer able to make the baptism shawls. Deb Topness is going to get the directions and will consider doing the shawls.

Vicky read a poem written by Lucille Eggert.

We are encouraged to devote time to do a good cleaning of the church.

A bible puzzle was handed out which we can do at home.

Carol Dybing and Sharon Knutson served delicious refreshments.

We closed by praying the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Soland, Secretary

## **HIGHLAND PRAIRIE WELCA**

### **June 2016 News and Notes**

#### **Scheduled Activities**

**Wed, June 1st** 6:30pm Meeting and Bible Study (Gather series) at church

Servers: Cathy and Joyce

**Wed, June 8th** 9:30am Quilting & Projects/Potluck

**Sat, June 18th** 10:00am-4:00pm Gammel Dag Fest

**Sun, June 26th** Lunch in the Park after Outdoor Worship

**REMINDER:** The summer Sunday worship schedule begins tomorrow Sunday, May 29th alternating between Elstad and Highland Prairie at 10:00am through Sept. 4th.

Attached to the email with this is a copy of the poster promoting our 2016 outdoor services and special activities. Note our special event this year – an open house August 21st celebrating the **100th year of the parsonage** built in 1916!

The June 1st meeting time has been changed to **6:30** to make it more convenient for working members to attend.

We have been asked to serve lefse during the Scandinavian themed Gammel Dag Fest in Peterson on June 18th along with other area church groups serving Scandinavian treats. We will participate in this as a fundraiser for our WELCA group. A quilt is being made for a quilt auction that day, also.

We will serve lunch in the park on June 26th following the worship service in the Bowl. Volunteers are needed to help with set up and serving. We will also need food donations of salads and bars. Please reply to this email or contact Cathy Bakkum if you can help or bring food that day.

#### **Kitchen Projects update**

Painting of the kitchen walls is almost completed! “Oats and Honey” is the new color, a golden yellow.

Plans for the other projects are in progress:

Raising the work island to counter level

Placing doors on the open wall shelves

Repair of ceiling

#### **Spring Gathering report**

The Root River Conference WELCA Spring Gathering hosted by HP on April 30th was well attended by women from many area churches and the event was enjoyed by all. The conference board expressed appreciation to the Highland Prairie WELCA planning group for being well organized. Unfortunately, the wind and rain kept those that had wanted to see the grounds from going on the walking tour. Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits were brought from the churches that do not ship them in the fall and two of the Sunday school rooms were full of boxes!

#### **Thank You**

Thanks to all who served during fellowship after Sunday worship in March, April and May.

Thanks to everyone involved in planning and preparing for the Spring Gathering.

Thanks to Kyle for helping move and arrange tables for the Spring Gathering.

Thanks to Sharon for the lace curtains.

Thanks to everyone who helped with cleaning the park buildings on spring cleaning day.

Thanks to Kyle and Doug for cleaning the picnic shelter.

Thanks to the WELCA members who attended the May Council meeting.

Thanks to Council members for addressing our concerns.

Thanks to those who did the dusting and cleaning in the parsonage.

Thanks to the painting crew.

Thanks to Cathy for her WELCA leadership.

## 2016 SYNOD ASSEMBLY SUMMARY

*By Rev. Emily Carson*

The 2016 Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly took place on May 6-7 at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester. Voting members from congregations across the synod came together for the two-day gathering. The event's theme this year was "We are Church Together for the Sake of the World."

### ***FRIDAY, MAY 6 HIGHLIGHTS:***

The Assembly began with worship led by Bishop Steve Delzer and Dianna Parks. Friday evening concluded with a time of prayer.

Peggy Hahn, Executive Director of LEAD, shared about what it means to be a remarkable congregation.

Churchwide representative Mikka McCracken highlighted the inspiring work being done throughout the ELCA.

Rev. Dr. Jim Martin-Schramm, Professor of Religion at Luther College, spoke about the intersections of faith and climate change.

Terrence Hassanally, Chair of the synod's Development Council, shared updates on Leading Together.

Dr. Allan Bieber presented a report on the church-wide initiative "Called Forward Together in Christ."

Rev. Dr. Eric Barreto led a Bible study highlighting the Gospel of Luke which included kitchen table conversation with Rev. Hannah Bergstrom de Leon and Bishop Delzer.

### ***SATURDAY, MAY 6 HIGHLIGHTS:***

Saturday morning worship was led by Rev. Tammy Dahlvang, Rev. Corrine Haulotte, and Kelly Bergman.

Saturday morning provided participants the opportunity to choose from eight engaging workshops.

Rev. Dr. Barreto's presented part two of the Bible study.

Organizational reports were given and awards presented.

Bishop Delzer's shared his annual Report to the Assembly highlighting the synod's mission statement and top three priorities.

Jeff Chestnut was elected as synod treasurer.

Elections took place for a variety of synod positions.

The 2017 synod budget was passed.

Five resolutions were passed at the Synod Assembly including:

*Resolution 2016-1: Loving Our Muslim Neighbors as Ourselves*

*Resolution 2016-3: Minimum Compensation and Benefits Guidelines*

*Resolution 2016-4: Thanksgiving for Military Personnel, Veterans, and their Families*

*Resolution 2016-5: Dissolution of The Lutheran Campus Ministry of Minnesota*

*Resolution 2016-6: Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery*

Resolution 2016-2 was tabled indefinitely. Copies of all the resolutions are available on the Synod Assembly portion of the synod website: <http://semnsynod.org/assembly2016>. Stay tuned in the months ahead for ways you can participate in the living out of each of these important resolutions. Videos of the Assembly worship services, event speakers, and workshops will all be online by mid-May after they are edited and uploaded to our synod YouTube channel. The main page of our synod website includes a link to "Archived Synod Materials" in the lower-left corner.

A special thanks to all who attended and served at the 2016 Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly!

# 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](mailto:highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com)



1~ Ron Stensgard  
~ Janette Dragvold  
~ Madalynn Keller  
3~ Glen Bakken  
~ Ruth Moraski  
4~ 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 Rebhahn  
~ Lisa Chiglo  
12~ Irma Wangen  
~ Jay Dahl  
~ Elissa Beach  
~ Lakyn Lind  
~ Carter Ask  
~ Adam James  
13~ David Lombard

14~ Riley Koop  
15~ Wendy Will  
~ Tom dybing  
~ Chris Schwichtenberg  
16~ Paul Ehler  
~ Sawyer Nelson  
17~ Tate Lind  
18~ Alsion Feine  
~ Wilson Storhoff  
19~ Julie Dragvold  
~ Allyson Christian  
20~ Gary Wangen  
21~ Tony Semmen  
22~ Kalin Dahl  
23~ Scott Meldahl  
~ Rebekah Solum  
24~ Jeffrey Self  
25~ Cindy Howe  
~ Sari Rein  
~ Kyson Klug  
26~ Lucile Ask  
~ Kim Halverson  
27~ Dick Haight  
~ Deb Topness  
~ Andrew Nepstad  
28~ Kristi Berge  
~ Avalon Jacobson  
29~ Charles Mierau  
~ David Howe  
~ Kari Drinkall  
29~ Jessie Rustad  
~ Joshua Howe  
30~ David McHan  
~ Bryce Peterson



2~ David & Lori Bakke  
4~ Todd & Michelle James  
7~ Mike & Brenda Chiglo  
9~ Richard & Jennifer Nepstad  
17~ David & Barb Lee  
19~ James & Irma Wangen  
20~ Ron & Martha Stensgard  
21~ Murton & Sharon Boyum  
25~ Truman & Pat Dahl  
~ Duane & Angel Bakke  
27~ Steven & Lynn ryan  
29~ Glen & Karen Bakken

# JUNE 2016

**Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish**  
 Visit our websites at...  
[elstadlutheranchurch.org](http://elstadlutheranchurch.org)  
[highlandprairielutheranchurch.org](http://highlandprairielutheranchurch.org)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  HP-WELCA 6:30p.m. @ HP  <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>	2	3	4
5 Worship @ EL 10:00 a.m.	6	7	8 HP-Quilting 9:30  <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>	9	10	11 9:00 a.m. <i>H.P. Bowl clean up</i>
12 Worship @ HP 10:00 a.m. HP-Council 5:30 p.m.  Hongerholt Reunion-H.P.	13	14	15  <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>	16	17	18
19 Worship @ EL 10:00 a.m.  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	20	21	22  <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>	23	24	25
26 Worship @ HP 10:00 a.m. “Bowl”	27	28	29  <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>	30		

*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



## *Newsletter 2016*

### HIGHLAND PRAIRIE ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2016

ACOLYTES: JONAH SIEVERS, HALE STENSGARD  
READERS: JONAH SIEVERS, ARLENE JOHNSON  
GREETERS: DOUG LIND FAMILY

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016

READERS: HALE STENSGARD, BECKY LIND  
GREETERS: ROGER & SARAH BEARBOWER

### ELSTAD ACOLYTE/READER/USHERS

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016

READER: VICKY TOPNESS

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2016

ACOLYTE: ALISON FREESE  
READERS: ALISON FREESE, LORI BAKKE

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