

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

~ January 2023 ~

Interim Pastor, Pr. Alma Buco

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Happy New Year y'all! A time when many of us make resolutions about how this new year will be different from the last one-the weight we will lose, the cards we will write, the skills we learn, the books we will read, the list of possibilities go on and on and on.

Just as we set our resolutions and our hopes for the New Year, we are going to do a similar thing as a church on January 8th - when we as a church will celebrate Epiphany.

Epiphany marks the celebration of the arrival of the Magi's arrival to meet the baby Jesus. These magi have faithfully followed a star- not knowing exactly where it is leading or what they will see-but they trust that God has something for them to see and experience.

So in our celebration of Epiphany, we are going to pick our own stars to follow, to guide our resolutions of faith-but like the magi, we are going to trust God to use a star to guide us.

At worship on Sunday January 8th, there will be a basket full of paper with "star words" on them. I invite you to pick one, blindly, and then use it to guide you in the year to come. Once you have your word, put it someplace where you will see it daily, where you can reflect on it and use it to pay attention to what God is doing in your life.

It may not be immediately obvious what God is leading you towards with your "star word" but my hope is throughout the year, this word can guide you. That with this word you can trust God is working something amazing in your life. As you follow God with this "star word" as your guide, I would love to hear about where God is calling you and what God is working in your life. So stop by my office, tell me after church or send me an email. I can't wait to see what God is doing in your life and with your star!



January Worship Schedule

Sunday, January 1, 2023
Name of Jesus

Highland Prairie—9:00 a.m.
Elstad—10:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 8, 2023
Baptism of Our Lord

Highland Prairie—9:00 a.m.
Elstad—10:30 a.m.

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts: 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 15, 2023
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Highland Prairie—9:00 a.m.
Elstad—10:30 a.m.

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Sunday, January 22, 2023
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Note the Time Change
Elstad —9:00 a.m.

Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Sunday, January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Highland Prairie—9:00 a.m.
Elstad—10:30 a.m.

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

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Prayer Corner

Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing. Let's be known as a praying congregation. Please keep Carol Fogal, Ferne Brewster, Naomi Wangen, Steve Howe, Lisa Bakkum and all others who are ill or in need of our prayers.

As we try a new way of signing up, we ask for your patience and grace as we maneuver through any challenges or mistakes. Please let Pr. Alma or Lisa know if you cannot be present on an assigned date. Thank you!

Highland Prairie Budget for November 2022

YTD Income	\$ 78,820
YTD Expenses	\$ 91,192
Expenses Exceed Income	\$ 12,372
YTD budget	\$ 90,200
YTD Income	\$ 78,820
YTD Under	\$ 11,380

January Council Meetings

Sunday, January 8, 2023 ~ Highland Prairie

5:30 p.m.—Elstad council

6:30 p.m.—Parish council

7:30 p.m.—Highland Prairie council

Elstad—Highland Prairie Annual Meetings

Elstad—January 15, 2023 after Sunday worship

Highland Prairie—January 22, 2023 after Sunday worship

(Reminder of time change for this Sunday only.

Highland Prairie will worship at 10:30 a.m.)

ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS ARE DUE

MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023

Highland Prairie Council Meeting
Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Highland Prairie Council Meeting was called to order by Vice President Steve Howe on Dec. 11th, 2022, at 5:36pm

Roll call: present at meeting Pastor Alma, Sharon Elher, Joyce Dahl, Karen Bakken, Val Howe, Lyle Meldahl, Dave Markegard and Steve Howe. Absent from meeting Gordon Johnson, Robert Anfinson and Mary Gudmudson.

A Quorum was called at meeting.

Devotion was based on Gaudete (rejoice) so the council shared what their Gaudete is at this moment.

No Congregation Members wishing to address the church council.

The Agenda was approved with Joyce making the motion and Lyle second and motion carried.

Treasurer Report: reported a healthy offering of \$17,000 for month of November. \$500 a piece was sent for mission work to Christmas in Fillmore County and Rushford Semcac Food Shelf. The church financial report as followed: YTD Income \$78,820 and YTD Expenses \$91,192 YTD under \$12,372. The yearly budget is YTD Income \$78,820 and YTD Budget \$90,200. Sharon made a motion to accept the treasury report and Dave second and motion carried,

President Report: no report

Pastor Report: Pastor Alma said normal business the past month.

Correspondence: there was none

Committee Report as follow:

Church: still working on electrical problems within the church.

Grounds: grounds are winterized but discover there are critters in ceiling of shelter kitchen will work on that. We need help in shoveling church sidewalks so there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex to clear church sidewalks for a week (Saturday through Sunday) when there are church events going on at the church (church, funerals ect...) so please sign up.

Worship: There will be a change in liturgy for Epiphany season (easier liturgy). Jan. 1st, 2023, church will be a Coco and Cookie and Carol sing along in church fellowship hall.

Youth and Education: no report

Old Business: no old business

New Business: Giving the Custodian a 3% COLA increase in wage for coming year. Organist and Treasurer asked for no increase in wage. Joyce made the motion and Sharon second and motion carried with Steve and Val abstaining

Secretary report was read, and Sharon made motion to approve report and Karen second and motion carried.

Joyce made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7pm and second by Sharon motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Val Howe

JANUARY 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*

A graphic with the words "Happy Birthday" written in a large, elegant, black cursive font on a light gray background.A graphic with the words "Happy Anniversary" written in a large, elegant, black cursive font on a light gray background.

2~ John Smith
4~ Michelle Rein
6~ Sandy Kiel
~ Bricker Dahl
7~ Angel Bakke
8~ Mark Dahl
9~ Nathan Bakke
10~ Philip Dragvold
~ Nancy Rustad
~ Sawyer James
12~ Kay Dahl
13~ Steve Chiglo
~ Joshua Dahl
~ Daniel Sjarpe
~ Tyler Berg
~ Darren Stockton
14~ Michelle Ryan
~ Colton Horning
15~ Carolyn Smith
~ Kasten Klug
16~ David Bakke
~ Owen Dammen

17~ Jennifer Nepstad
~ Stacy Mensink
~ Shane Jacobson
~ Lucas Redalen
18~ Barb Lee
~ Brenda Chiglo
~ Peter Stensgard
~ Ann Hoiland
19~ Easton Grabau
23~ Katherine Chiglo
~ James Bearbower
24~ Martha Stensgard
~ Deborah Mensink
25~ Ellen Feine
~ Sarah Freese
~ Paula Howe
26~ Arden Nepstad
27~ Michael Oian
~ Dave Lawstuen
~ Stephanie Erickson
29~ Freda Kiel

7~ Dan & Erika Lind
15~ Jerry & Julie Dragvold
28~ David & Sue Larson

January 2023

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Cocoa, Cookies & Carols HP—9:00 a.m. EL—10:30 a.m.	2	3	4 Worship meeting 11:00a.m. at HP Bulletin Deadline	5	6	7
8 HP—9:00 a.m. SS—10:00 a.m. EL—10:30 SS during worship Council Meetings	9 Deadline for Annual Reports!	10	11 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Bulletin Deadline	12	13	14
15 HP—9:00 a.m. SS—10:00 a.m. EL—10:30 SS during worship EL Annual Mtg.	16	17	18 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Bulletin Deadline	19	20	21
22 Note Time Change EL—9:00 a.m. SS during worship HP—10:30 a.m. SS—9:30 a.m. HP Annual Mtg.	23	24	25 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Bulletin Deadline	26	27	28
29 HP—9:00 a.m. SS—10:00 a.m. EL—10:30 SS during worship	30	31				

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

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January 2023 Newsletter

HIGHLAND PRAIRIE ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

COCOA, COOKIES & CAROLS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

ACOLYTE: GRANT DEGEORGE

READERS: GRANT DEGEORGE, MARY GUDMUNDSON

GREETERS: VAL & MARY GUDMUNDSON

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

ACOLYTE: BRODE VICKERMAN

READERS: BRODE VICKERMAN, BOBBI HILLARY

GREETERS: CHELLSEY OLSON & FAMILY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

ACOLYTE: CHASE HUMBLE

READERS: CHASE HUMBLE, SHARON BOYUM

GREETERS: JOANNE & LILLIAN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

ACOLYTE: BRODE VICKERMAN

READERS: BRODE VICKERMAN, KRISTI GUDMUNDSON

GREETERS: STEVE HOWE

ELSTAD ACOLYTES/READERS/USHERS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

READERS: TOM DYBING, GENE TOPNESS,
VICKY TOPNESS, MARCIA RANDALL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

ACOLYTE: JENSYN STORHOFF

READERS: GENE TOPNESS

GREETERS: GENE & VICKY TOPNESS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

ACOLYTE: MILEY KNUTSON

READERS: LORI BAKKE

GREETERS: JEFF & CAROLYN FREESE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

ACOLYTE: AUBREY DANIELS

READERS: GLEE CLAUSSEN

GREETERS: JOEL & KENDRA HAGEMAN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

ACOLYTE: SAWYER WOLFS

READERS: AIMEE RODGER

GREETER: CAROL DIXEN

USHERS: JOHN OVERLAND, CAROL OVERLAND,
PHILIP ABRAHAMSON, JOHN ABRAHAMSON,
JOEL HAGEMAN