

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

~ November 2022 ~

Interim Pastor, Pr. Alma Buco

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The Eighth Commandment.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

What does this mean?

–Answer: We should fear and love God that we may not deceitfully belie, betray, slander, or defame our neighbor, but defend him, [think and] speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything.

~Martin Luther's Small Catechism-Explanation of the 10 Commandments

It may make me a bit of a Lutheran nerd, but I adore many of Martin Luther's explanations of the 10 commandments. I adore them because rather than sticking solely with the "what you shouldn't do," Luther also tells us what we should do based on the commandment. So in response to the 5th commandment "You shall not kill", Luther says not only should we not take life, but we should also help and befriend folks to help protect their life. And I love this, because it is really easy to tell ourselves we are honoring the 5th commandment because we have never killed another human. However, the spin to the positive challenges us to think about what we do, rather than simply want we don't.

I find this particularly true of the 8th commandment. "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." As you see in the opening quote from Luther's catechism, Luther expands this from "you shall not lie" to "see everything in the best possible way."

I find this spin particularly necessary now-when it is really easy to turn on the news of your choice and hear just about any action spun for the negative. It is really easy to look at somebody's actions or words and assume the worst.

And yet, Luther's understanding of the 8th commandment calls us to do something different. Rather than falling into the negative and the gossip, to seek the best possible light to see every action in.

And this is hard work. I mean really hard work. It is way easier to default to the negative, to write people off, to assume people meant harm. It is harder to seek first understanding and compassion.

Now, a quick caveat, this doesn't mean that all behaviors are excusable and we should allow people to do harmful things because we are seeking understanding. It does mean that we seek to hold people to a standard of love and compassion, while also understanding that we as humans mess up.

So why am I writing about this now? Because I have been with y'all since the beginning of July, and I know that as my time with you continues I will mess up. I will say something, I will do something that frustrates, offends or just puts off somebody. And my hope is, rather than choosing the negative, you will opt to seek understanding, that you will remember I am human and mess-up and we can repair relationship.

And the same is true of the entire church community. As a small community, who's lives are deeply intertwined, at some point we will be hurt by the actions of another, we will have something happen that will feel frustrating or off-putting. That is part of community.

We get to choose whether we will hold that with anger and offense or if we will live into the 8th commandment, and seek the best possible understanding.

November Worship Schedule

All Saints Sunday, November 6th

Elstad—9:00 a.m.

Sunday school—10:00 a.m.

Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.

Sunday school—9:30 a.m.

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1:11-23

Luke 6:20-31

Time after Pentecost, Sunday, Nov. 13

Elstad—9:00 a.m.

Sunday school—10:00 a.m.

Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.

Sunday school—9:30 a.m.

Malachi 4:1-2a

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

Christ the King Sunday, October 16th

Elstad—9:00 a.m.

Sunday school—10:00 a.m.

Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.

Sunday school—9:30 a.m.

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

Thanksgiving Eve, November 23rd

Highland Prairie—7:00 p.m.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 100

Philippians 4:4-9

John 6:25-35

First Sunday of Advent,

November 27th

Elstad—9:00 a.m.

Sunday school—10:00 a.m.

Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.

Sunday school—9:30 a.m.

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

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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, Paul & Cindy Feind, Dennis McRaven, Naomi Wangen, Steve Howe, and all others who are ill or in need of our prayers.

Parish 40 Land Contract

The "Church 40" land contract is open for bids. The bidding process has changed slightly where we will offer to the top three bids the opportunity to rebid. The terms of the contract have also changed in that we have eliminated - no harvest of crop residue. All bids should be submitted by noon, November 13th. Those persons with questions should contact a member of either church council. Please contact either Gordon Johnson or Gene Topness with any questions.

HP WELCA—Bake Sale November 18th at the Sterling Drug entrance; bake goods as well as holiday baking such as strull, lelse, flatbrod, candy, and many other items!

Elstad Annual WELCA Christmas Tea - Sunday, Dec. 4th, 10 a.m. following worship. We will also reveal our Prayer Partners for those who took part in that and sign up for next year's Prayer Partners. Plan to join us!

Elstad Budget for September 2022

Budget September	\$ 6545.17
Received September	\$ 3429.00
Under September	\$ 3116.17
Elstad YTD budget	\$ 58906.53
Received YTD	\$ 47292.17
Under YTD	\$ 11614.36

Highland Prairie Lutheran Church Council Meeting

October 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by President Gordon Johnson.

Council Members present were Robert Anfinson, Karen Bakken, Joyce Dahl, Sharon Ehler, Mary Gudmundson, Steve Howe, Val Howe, Gordon Johnson, David Markegard and Lyle Meldahl.

Devotions were given by Gordon Johnson.

Ann Meldahl was in attendance and addressed the council regarding the Sept 30th issue of RC Weekly that listed items that the Churchwide Assembly would like congregations to add to their constitution.

A quorum was determined, and a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Val Howe, Steve Howe seconded. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Karen Bakken. Year to date information provided were income of \$56,292.00 expenses \$73,320.00; expenses exceed income by \$17,028.00. A motion to approve as presented and to pay for student Bibles from the Sunday School Fund was made by Val Howe, Sharon Ehler seconded. Motion carried.

President Gordon Johnson thanked those that have been here cleaning up tree trimmings and updating the grounds of the Parsonage.

Pastor Alma was absent.

Correspondence – Good Earth Village Gala invitation

Committee Reports

Church –

Grounds –

Worship –

Youth & Education – Concern that Sunday School attendance is still down.

Old Business: None

New Business: Paint peeling in the kitchen bathroom.

Discussion on the Call Committee that needs to be formed to begin the Call Process. President Gordon Johnson stated that he had contact three members to see if they were willing to be on the Call Committee. Sharon Ehler moved that we offer to the congregation who would like to be on the call committee to contact a council member by October 30th. Steve Howe seconded. Motion carried.

The Secretary's report was read and a motion to approve was made by Steve Howe, Joyce Dahl seconded. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. was made by Karen Bakken, Steve Howe seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Gudmundson

Next Meeting is November 13th at Elstad.

NOVEMBER 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@yahoo.com

*Happy
Birthday*

1~ Jennifer Dahl
~ Tiffany Humble
2~ Kenny Bakkum
~ Amelia Dohleman
~ Miley Knutson
~ Kelsie Woxland
3~ Darlys Storhoff
~ Ethan Rislov
4~ Sylvia Markegard
~ Douglas Lind
~ Rick Sjarpe
~ Shelly Stensgard
5~ Scott Bestul
~ Derek Grimsrud
~ William Maschka
6~ Kaye Eiken
~ Ann Dolalie
~ Andrew Larson
9~ Tim Dahl
~ Seth Humble
10~ Rebecca Lind
11~ Randy Drinkall
13~ Phil Dybing
~ Crystal Soppa
~ Ashlee Pontillo
~ Cody Ryan
~ Mason Wolfs
15~ Finn Christian

17~ Jerry Dahl
~ Dana DeGeorge
19~ Trina Overland
~ Adam Daniels
~ James McHan
~ Sarah Wangen
~ Katie Hackbarth
~ Daryn Eisner
~ Grant DeGeorge
~ Ryder Colbenson
20~ Melanie Przybylski
~ Kyle Lawstuen
21~ Eric Howe
22~ Gordon Claussen
~ Kenneth Sjarpe
~ Peyton Hoiness
~ Caden Johnson
~ Tucker Smith
23~ Adam Overland
~ Danielle Kingsley
24~ Taylor Ask
26~ Doris Westby
~ Rebecca Lawstuen
~ Katrina James
27~ Jennifer DeGeorge
~ Emarie Jacobson
28~ Kasey Nelson
~ Sandy Thomas
~ Elvin Paulson
~ Aric Stensgard
~ Kainen Klug
29~ Curtis Gudmundson
~ Bonnie Wangen
30~ Benjamin Ryan



6~ David & Cindy Howe
6~ Cory & Nicloe Woxland
23~ John & Christine
Knutson
24~ Jeff Boland & Gretchen
Engstrom
26~ Michael & Jill
Halverson
27~ Gary & Nancy Rustad

November 2022

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 HP WELCA— Bible study 6:30 Confirmation Bulletin Deadline	3	4	5
6 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:00 a.m. ~ EL SS 10:30 a.m.—H.P. 9:30 a.m. HP SS	7	8	9 HP WELCA Do Day—Baking Confirmation 6:30 p.m.	10	11	12
13 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:00 a.m. ~ EL SS (begins during worship) 10:30 a.m.—H.P. 9:30 a.m. HP SS Council Meetings @ Elstad 5:30 p.m. —HP 6:30 p.m. — Parish	14	15	16 HP WELCA Quilting—9:30 a.m. w/potluck Confirmation 6:30 p.m.	17	18 HP WELCA Bake Sale	19
20 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:00 a.m. ~ EL SS (begins during worship) 10:30 a.m.—H.P. 9:30 a.m. HP SS	21	22	23 No Confirmation Class Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00 p.m. @ HP Bulletin Deadline	24	25	26
27 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:00 a.m. ~ EL SS (begins during worship) 10:30 a.m.—H.P. 9:30 a.m. HP SS	28	29	30 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. @ HP Bulletin Deadline			

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

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Permit No. #6



HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022

ACOLYTE: CREIGHTON HOINESS
READERS: CREIGHTON HOINESS, LYNNETTE PEDERSON
GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2022

ACOLYTE: GRANT DEGEORGE
READERS: GRANT DEGEORGE, SYLVIA PASSOW
GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022

ACOLYTE: CHASE HUMBLE
READERS: CHASE HUMBLE, ARLENE JOHNSON
GREETERS: ALLAN SKALET, KAY EIKEN

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE, NOVEMBER 23, 2022

ACOLYTE:
READERS: , SHARON EHLER
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

ACOLYTE: LUCAS REDALEN
READERS: LUCAS REDALEN, SCOTT BESTUL
GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLER

ELSTAD
ACOLYTES/READERS/USHERS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2022

ACOLYTE: SAWYER WOLFS
READERS: LIZ HAGEMAN, GLEE CLAUSSEN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2022

ACOLYTE: THEA ARENDS
READERS: SARI REIN, VICKY TOPNESS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022

ACOLYTE: SARI REIN
READERS: JENSYN STORHOFF, CAROL OVERLAND

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE NOVEMBER 23, 2022

WORSHIP @ HP 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

ACOLYTE: JENSYN STORHOFF
READERS: MILEY KNUTSON, CAROLYN SMITH

USHERS: CAROL OVERLAND, JOHN OVERLAND,
TOM SMITH, DAVID BAKKE,
RICHARD GULLICKSON, ERIK NELSON