

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

~ May 2014 ~

*Pastor Dan Watland, Pastor Phone: (507) 864-2731 Cell: (507) 459-1141
Email: dwatland@gmail.com*

*Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator Home: (507) 864-2086
Cell: (507) 459-5450 Email: highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com*

Ponderings from the Parsonage...

For the first time this week I made a deposit of a check using a smart phone app. I simply entered my account information, selected the account and endorsed the check. And here is where the magic happens: I snapped a picture of the front and the back of the check as directed. Then I waited. And waited. And after about two minutes I got a confirmation message that my deposit was accepted. Which kind of freaked me out, because I was still holding the check. The check was deposited, but I was still holding the check.

That got me to thinking: our lives are made up of lots of deposits and withdrawals. Things happen that bring us life and happiness and energize our life. Then there are things that take those same things from us. This is not about comparing good and bad things, but more of a life balance thing. Both deposits and withdrawals are good things. But the reality is this: you can't take out more than you have put in. Many of us have been "borrowing" from our life account. Before long our bodies, our relationships and our habits take their toll. Something has to give. It doesn't take long before making more withdrawals than deposits catches up with us.

Where do we make these deposit/withdrawals? Here is the list I came up with: Physical, Emotional, Spiritual and Social. What does a deposit look like for these realms of life? They are NOT the same for everyone. I invite you to "snap a picture" of what a deposit looks like in these four areas of life for you.

Be aware that these four areas of life impact and affect each other. I may be making withdrawals from the spiritual or emotional area, but the deposits or withdrawals I make in the physical will affect what I can give in those other areas. If I expect to have spiritual resources, I need to pay attention to the deposits in the social/ physical and emotional areas. We don't live our lives in a vacuum: all areas of life need to be in balance for things to work effectively.

Another important point: not all deposits are things I "like" to do. This is big for me. I'd like to think that all deposits are fun and easy. While I am inspired by some of these life-giving things, some of them are not so fun. For example, I don't really "enjoy" exercise or eating right but they are important deposits for the physical area of my life!

I'm not suggesting that you need to do all the things you hate, but don't skip the stuff that is helpful. Not every deposit/withdrawal will make the list of your favorite things in life. There are probably ways to make those things more bearable, but they can't be ignored.

I invite you to picture what those life deposits look like for you. Explore what those deposits and withdrawals look like that help you to be the hands and feet of Christ. I don't have all the answers yet. I invite you to join me in our life journey together. I invite you to "snap a picture" of your own deposits and withdrawals. Is it a picture of the person God created you to be?

Pastor Dan

ELSTAD NEWS

Elstad Prayer Partners

Countless times we have heard the expression from a high level communicator “If you like your...you can keep your...” Bringing it to a more familiar level of understanding we can say with complete confidence “If you like your prayer partner you can keep your prayer partner!” What’s not to like about her? She is not only a partner but a friend and coworker in kingdom work. She is a member of our community of women Created in the image of God, Called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We community ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action And promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world. If these words sound familiar they are. This is our purpose statement for the WELCA. Our prayer partners fit well into this purpose. Pray for your prayer partner that she may find a new “fresh air” in her purpose and commitment!

WELCA things to think about and participate in:

Sunday, May 4th is the date for our annual recognition service at Elstad. There are several members of our congregation who are being recognized this year for their accomplishments. A yum, yum waffle brunch will be served prior to the 10:30 a.m. worship service in honor of those being celebrated this year.

Saturday, June 7th in Sylvan Park at Lanesboro...the annual Rhubarb Festival. Elstad is having a bake sale that day and we have a great opportunity to make it HUGE as history records that everything is always sold. Come early and have your baking items packaged and labeled so that the ways and means committee can have better opportunity for pricing. The cost for participation is greater this year so a few extra baked items will help cover the table expenses.

Just for the record, 16 completed quilts were delivered to the Christ Lutheran Church world relief truck on Saturday, April 5th. Elstad was represented by 2 WELCA members and it was a delightful morning with the Root River Conference officers and guests. Several more quilts are in the process of being completed for the November collection.

Mark June 28th on your calendars if you are interested in Women’s Day at Good Earth Village. The keynote speaker is Dr. LeHurd, the author of our 2014-2015 Gather Bible Study. The registration fee of \$30 covers the designed schedule of workshops, worship sessions, free time, morning coffee and noon lunch, and of course the opportunity to hear the featured speaker.

Speaking of Good Earth Village, their annual quilt auction will be held on October 30th at the Rochester Golf and Country club. Quilts and quilted projects of all sizes and shapes will be happily received. They are planning for both live and silent auctions as well as a ticketed dinner program.

For those interested in the Triennial Gathering, July 24 to July 27 in Charlotte, North Carolina, there is still time to register but the chartered bus seats may all be spoken for.

The Elstad Thank offering will be held on October 19th this year. This might mean we should be gathering our supplies for kits and quilts earlier. Something to think about.

ELSTAD WELCA MEETING

April 6, 2014

Ruth Abrahamson called the meeting to order in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We joined together in reading the Statement of Purpose.

The Secretary's minutes were read of the February meeting and were approved as presented. There was no treasurer's report.

There was no correspondence and no report from the Sunshine committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Comments were made that they would like the Birthday Party continued next year and also would like the live auction again.

Elstad will share a one day 160th celebration with Highland Prairie on August 17th.

Darlys Storhoff and Ruth Abrahamson attended the Spring Gathering of the RR conference for WELCA. They took 16 quilts to go to Lutheran World Relief.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Rhubarb festival is June 7th and the registration fee is \$35. Elstad will be having a bake sale.

May 4th at 8:30 is Recognition Sunday. Dick & Diane Haight have again volunteered to prepare a waffle brunch with the serving committee assisting.

The WELCA national convention is in North Carolina in July.

Good Earth Women's Day is June 28th. The speaker will be the writer of next year's bible study.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Announcements:

Remember Lenten services this week with Palm Sunday and Holy week to follow.

A coffee hour will be provided at Elstad between the two services. Quilting will be Tuesday, April 15th beginning at noon. Esther circle meets on Friday, April 11th at 9:30 at the home of Diane Haight. Ruth thanked everyone who took time to attend meeting. Esther circle held a short program. Ruth took time to compare Advent and Lent and also reviewed the colors of Easter. Advent is a season of anticipation and Lent is a season of preparation of the resurrection of Jesus. The comparison presented was very interesting.

We closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Soland, Secretary.

Elstad Budget for March

YTD	7772.50	Budget YTD	23317.50
Received	7575.00	Received YTD	18946.00
Under for March	197.50	Under YTD	4371.50

HIGHLAND PRAIRIE NEWS

Greeting Cards:

Highland Prairie WELCA now has boxes of greeting cards for sale. Unless otherwise marked, the price is \$5 per box. Make checks payable to H. P. WELCA. Cards will be on a table in the narthex of the church.

Highland Prairie Church Grounds clean-up dates.....

1st Clean up day Sunday, April 27th after worship service

2nd Clean up day Sunday, May 4th after worship service



Highland Prairie Financial for May

YTD	\$19,241
YTD expense	\$22,249
Expenses exc. Income	\$ 3,188
YTD Budget	\$24,443
YTD Income	\$19,241
YTD Under	\$ 5,202

Attention Highland Prairie Members:

An email contact-list for members would provide better communication opportunities. If you would like to submit your email please send your name and email address to...
highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com

Thank You!

Mission Jamaica 2014

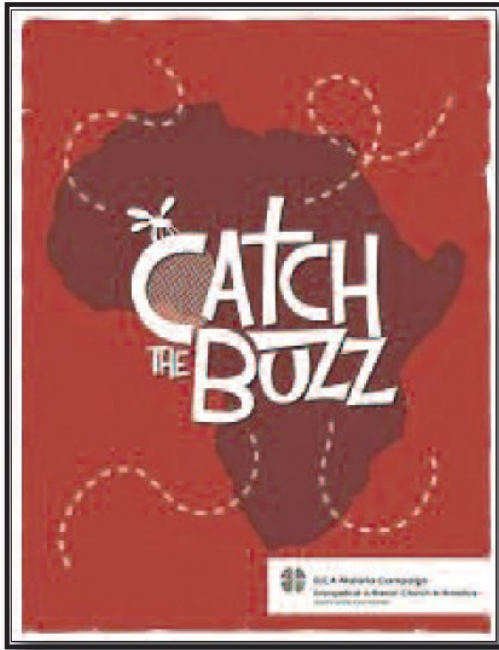
Two members of our congregation will be taking part in the "Sunbeam Boys home mission trip" to Jamaica this summer. Tristen & Treyten Chiglo will be traveling to the Sunbeam Boys home in Spring Village, Jamaica. Along with spending quality time with the boys they will be taking them shopping for the school shoes for the upcoming school year. We will be doing a **"Noisy Offering" on Sunday, May 11th**. The money raised will go directly to the funds for the boys' shoes. This is Tristen second time on the mission trip and he is looking forward to sharing this experience with his brother. They would also like to thank everyone for supporting them!



Rushford's Got Talent

The Rushford days Committee would like to solicit your talent. The Rushford celebration will hold an open talent show for all interested "youngsters". Each act will be limited to 10 minute stage presence, emceed by Rushford's very own Trouble Shooters band. **Acts will perform Saturday, July 19th, in the fest tent, downtown Rushford, 2 - 5p.m.** If interested, please visit us @ rushfest.org/eventcalendar.html and fill out the Rushford's Got Talent Registration form. Thank you! Slots are limited!





curriculum for VBS this year, please consider using some of the skits, crafts, or educational resources in Sunday School or during worship. The tools provided can be used in a variety of ways to help build awareness and motivate action. "Catch the Buzz" resources can be adapted for use with older youth and even adults.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has recently released a new Vacation Bible School Curriculum. This terrific resource is called Catch the Buzz.

The curriculum educates participants about malaria and its impacts on people in Africa. The five-day VBS program invites individuals of every age to recognize the many ways they can and do make a difference in eradicating malaria in our world.

Catch the Buzz can be downloaded and ordered free of charge through the ELCA (www.resources.elca.org/Products-ELCA_Malaria_Campaign.html).

The creation of "Catch the Buzz" stems from the ELCA Malaria Campaign, which was rolled out on a national level in 2011. The campaign enables our denomination to join with African companion churches in the global effort to prevent, treat and contain malaria by 2015. The goal is to raise \$15 million by 2015. Total gifts as of April 2014 exceed \$11 million.

Even if your congregation is unable to utilize the

ELCA Malaria Campaign Coordinator, Jessica Nipp Hacker, shared her excitement about this new tool. Nipp Hacker said: "I'm excited that "Catch the Buzz" can equip children and youth to speak articulately about their faith and about how their Christian identity compels them to help others and to walk together with our sisters and brothers in Africa."

Consider exploring ways to incorporate aspects of this amazing, free resource into the life of your family of faith!

Connecting with the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Online:

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/semnsynod

Twitter:

www.twitter.com/semnsynod

Website:

www.semnsynod.org

MAY 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~ Sawyer Wolfs
2~ James Mensink
3~ William Semmen
~ David Semmen
~ Eric Storhoff
5~ Carol Eggert
6~ JoAnne Anderson
~ Daniel Storhoff
~ Bruce Thompson
8~ Danielle Johnson
9~ Pamela Johnson
~ Adam Rislov
10~ Sean Pederson
~ Carol Anfinson
12~ Robert Dahl
~ Kiah Halverson
13~ Elaine Rygmer
~ Alexander Mierau
14~ Gabriel Howe
15~ Fred Kiel
~ Aaron Topness
16~ Faith Eide
17~ Loren Flattum
18~ Sheryl Stadtmueller



18~ Jennifer Stensgard
19~ Martha Gudmundson
~ Yvonne Freese
20~ Norma Bratberg
~ Mike Chiglo
~ John Peterson
~ Clara Hoiland
22~ Nicholas Bakke
~ Jana Olson
23~ Kyle Daniels
24~ Carson Johnson
25~ Myron Passow
~ Tina Westby
~ Harper Kanz
~ Kyle Britson
26~ Lisa Sievers
~ Jarad Olson
~ Jacob James
27~ Jordan Kiel
~ Ethan Bergen
~ Quentin Daniels
28~ Gavin Pearce

29~ Diane Haight
~ Bereket Rebhahn
30~ Mrs. Paula Brand
~ Mike Ask
31~ Kate Gellerson
~ Nicole Woxland
~ Brody Gellerson

Happy Anniversary!!

3~ Brad & Rita Kelly
~ Peter & Tiffany Ask
11~ Peter & Shelly Stensgard
14~ Fred & Sandy Kiel
15~ Everette & Shirley Dolalie
~ Wayne & Joan Finnegan
19~ Robert & Sharon Knutson
20~ Dan & Debbie Book
~ Seth & Tiffany Humble
22~ John & Michelle Rein
27~ Daryl & Sharyl Bergen
~ Stan & Cindy Sveen
27~ Doug & Becky Lind



May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Note the Worship time change!!	HP - 8:30 EL - 10:30			1	2	3
4 HP @ 8:30 a.m. Lind recital @ 1pm S.S. EL & HP @ 9:30 a.m. EL @ 10:30 a.m. *Recognition Sun- day - Elstad	5	6 HP- Tabitha cir- cle 1p.m. @ the home of Lillain Gravos	7 Bulletin Deadline	8	9	10
11 HP @ 8:30 a.m. S.S. EL & HP @ 9:30 a.m. EL @ 10:30 a.m.	12	13 HP- Host Root River Pastor's Conference	14 Bulletin Deadline HP- 9:30 a.m. Quilting/Potluck	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17
18 HP 8:30 a.m. EL 10:30 a.m. Parish Council mtg. 7p.m. @ Elstad	19	20 EL- Leah circle 5:30 @ Sylvan Manor	21 Bulletin Deadline	22	23	24
25 HP 8:30 a.m. EL 10:30 a.m.	26	27	28 Bulletin Deadline	29	30	31

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

Acolytes/Readers/Greeters

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Acolytes: Peyton Hoiness, Chealsy Eide
Readers: Peyton Hoiness, Scott Bestul
Greeters: Jerry & Shannon Kopperud

Sunday, May 11, 2014

Acolytes: Chealsy Eide, Riley Koop
Readers: Chealsy Eide, Sharon Ehler
Greeters: Lyle & Ann Meldahl

Sunday, May 18, 2014

Acolytes: Riley Koop, Hans Lind
Readers: Riley Koop, Sylvia Markegard
Greeters: Sharon & Paul Ehler

Sunday, May 25, 2014

Acolytes: Hans Lind, Jack Kopperud
Readers: Hans Lind, Norma Halverson
Greeters: Doug Lind Family

Ushers:

Elstad Acolyte/Reader/Ushers

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Acolyte: Caleb Gravos
Reader: Gene Topness

Sunday, May 11, 2014

Reader: Peter Holm

Sunday, May 18, 2014

Acolyte: Chris Freese
Reader: John Overland

Sunday, May 25, 2014

Reader: Lori Bakke

Ushers: Mike Ask, Robert Knutson, Tom Smith, David Bakke, Jerry Evenson, Fried Kiel