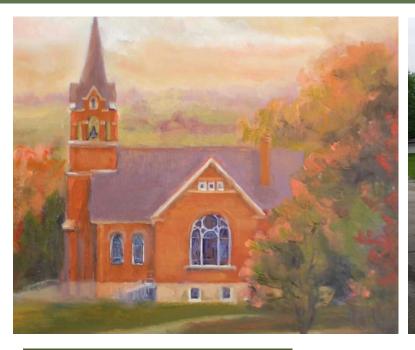
March Newsletter

ELSTADHIGHLANDPRAIRIEPARISH@GMAIL.COM





Pr. Jackie is regularly in the office

Wednesdays 8-4

as well as by appointment. Please Call or email to set up a time that works for you. Courtney is in the office

Sundays 12-2p

as well as by appointment please email to schedule a time





Join us on Wednesday March 5th for Ash Wednesday service. Elstad at 5pm Highland Prairie at 7pm

gmail.com THIS MONTH:

Parish Administrator:

Courtney Lee

Parish Office:

(507) 864-2731 elstadhighlandprairieparish@

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A note from your Pastor...

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we move into March, we begin journeying through Lent, a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent is often seen as a solemn season, but it is also a season filled with hope. As the days grow longer and spring begins to stir, we are reminded of God's promise of new life and resurrection. This Lent, I invite you to embrace the discipline of **slowing down.** The world around us moves at a rapid pace, and it is easy to become distracted. But God calls us to pause, to listen, and to draw near to Him. Whether through prayer, reading scripture daily, or acts of kindness, let us be intentional in making space for God's presence in our daily lives. My prayer is, this season draw us closer to God and to one another. As we journey through Lent and look toward the joy of Easter, let us walk together in faith, love, and hope. May God bless us as we journey together toward the hope of Easter morning.

Pastor Jackie

One of the ways we deepen our faith and fellowship during this season is through our **Wednesday Lenten Services and Soup Suppers**.

I warmly invite you to join us each Wednesday evening for a simple yet meaningful time together:

- Soup Supper at 6:00 PM A time of nourishment and fellowship. Come enjoy a warm meal and good conversation.
- Lenten Worship at 7:00 PM A contemplative service that gives us a front row seat in the court room in the trial of Jesus.
- These midweek gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to step away from the busyness of life and be refreshed in community and worship. I encourage you to make them part of your Lenten practice.

Looking ahead, I encourage you to mark your calendars and plan to attend these special services:

- Palm Sunday (April 13) A joyful yet reflective entry into Holy Week as we wave palms and remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- Maundy Thursday (April 17) A service of humility, love, and remembrance as we reflect on Jesus' Last Supper.
- Good Friday (April 18) A solemn time to stand at the foot of the cross and contemplate Christ's sacrifice.
- Easter Sunday (April 20) –
- The celebration of
- resurrection and
- new life!



I hope you all are enjoying this beautiful warmer weather. February was a busy month. I often find myself on the go all the time and not taking any time for myself. This past month I have been enjoying seeing God's beauty in the sunsets. My boys like to point them out to me, so I have been taking a few minutes just enjoying how majestic they can be. Thank you all for being so gracious has we struggled with the newsletter this past month. I am working on updating records. Thank you to Jennifer Nepstad and Nancy Rustad for help review lists with me. Please if you are not getting your newsletter, if you have moved, you weren't on our birthday or anniversary list, please let me know so I can update the records. - Courtney, Parish Administrator

A MESSAGE FROM COURTNEY THE EHP PARISH ADMINISTRATOR





Our goal is to keep everyone connected and ensure that you receive important updates about church events, worship services, and community opportunities. As we work to get our records transferred over to the updated version of Church Windows, we are asking that all members update their family and contact information.

We need the following information: address, phone number, email, household members. Getting this information updated is high on our priority list as it helps us serve you better and ensures you don't miss out on important church news.

You can update your details by:

Emailing us at elstadhighlandprairieparish@gmail.com

Filling out a contact update form which can be found on the table in the back at Elstad and the table in the entryway at Highland Prairie.

Thank you for your help getting our records updated and keeping our church family connected!

Together In Faith Parish News

JDRF Craftin' for a Cure
Saturday, April 5, 2025
8:00 am- 12:00 am
Lanesboro Community Hall
Registration fee of \$60 includes 3 Meals, Drinks,
Door Prizes & Table Treats
Silent Auction - Grab Bags
Come Enjoy a Day filled with
Food ~ Fun~ Friends
while supporting the
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Contact Kim by April 1 to sign up
507-421-7174 or kim.halvorson@sdtigers.org

March Council Meetings

March 9th

HP: 12pm @ HP

Parish: 6:30 @Elstad

Elstad: 7:30 @ Elstad



Syrup Ministy

The Trees have been tapped and the sap collecting has begun



If you want to be part of the fun reach out the Becky Dahl for more information on how you can help!

ELSTAD WELCA
is serving Fellowship
on Sundays **before**worship. Join us for a
cup of coffee, a treat
& great
conversation!



Highland Prairie
WELCA
is serving Fellowship
on Sundays **after**worship. Join us for a
cup of coffee, a treat &
great conversation!

Together In Faith Parish cont...

Elstad Worship @ 10:30 Sunday School: during worship



Highland Prairie Worship @ 9:00 Sunday School @ 10:00

Stay informed...

Check us out on Facebook

Highland Prairie Lutheran Church
Elstad Lutheran Church



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

The Trial of Jesus IN GOD WE TRUST

Elstad Highland Prairie 2025 Lent Worship Schedule

You are invited to join us each week for Soup Supper at 6pm & Worship at 7pm

"The Trial of Jesus" Begins on March 12th at Highland Prairie when John takes the stand.

March 19th, Elstad: The Trail of Jesus continues at

with the Examination of Mary Magdalene.

March 26th, Highland Prairie: "The Trail of Jesus" continues as James takes the stand April 2nd, Elstad: The Trail of Jesus continues as Herod takes the stand April 9th, Highland Prairie: The Trail of Jesus continues as Mary the Mother of Jesus Testifies

"A heartfelt thank you to our Confirmation parents for providing meals each week for our students! Your kindness and generosity help create a space for learning and fellowship. I truly appreciate your support!"

~Pastor Jackie

Thank you to my dear Elstad family for your overwhelming outpouring of thoughts, prayers and gifts of love that were so generous and perfect for our needs. I feel so blessed and surrounded by your love.

Julie Dragvold

Special Thank you to
Jennifer & Richard Nepstad
for the beautiful table they
made and donated to
Elstad. It is absolutely
beautiful.



In our Prayers...

Julie Dragvold, Cathy Bakkum,
Ken & Helen Jacobson, Jerry
Dahl, Elvin Paulson, Sheryl
(Bakkum) Krahenbuhl, Dean
Bakkum, Glen Bakken, Carol
Overland, Valerie Askeland, Dave,
Sue and Liz Larson, Val Howe,
Eric Johnson, Mark Woodward,
Laura Dahl, Lisa Gile, Ellen
Highum, Amy Timmerann, Dave
Bakke, Sharon Ehler, Emily
Charlebois, Scott Bestul, Julian
Highum, Pete Kennedy, as well as
for all who are ill, suffering or in
need of prayers.



Thank you,
Hunter &
Hudson for
your hard work
at the church
moving tables
and file
cabinets!



WELCA





ELSTA



Tara Hershberger & her four legged friends will be our special guests. Everyone is invited to start bringing picture's of your pets to add to our display on the wall.

We will have a special Blessing for the Pets and their people during Worship on the 16th!

After worship we will head downstairs for Tara's demonstration and potluck!



Hope you are enjoying the spring temps! Here are some dates to note for March and April:

We need servers for Fellowship on March 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.

March 3rd 2:00: Good Shepherd Birthday party - we will need some entertainment and help serving ice cream and cookies.

> March 5th 1:30 Bible Study 7:00 Ash Wednesday service at Highland Prairie March 12th 9:30 Quilting and potluck lunch at HP 5:30 Lenten Soup Supper and Service at Elstad

March 19th 5:30 Lenten Soup Supper and Service at Highland Prairie

March 26th 5:30 Lenten Soup Supper and Service at Elstad. Thank you and as always, please share what talents you have. "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established" Proverbs 16:3

Mary Gudmundson

Each week of Lent, during the Soup Supper hour, there will be some interactive learning activities set up for the kids in the children's area.





We have 10 people going on this trip!! Ways we will be working to help raise funds for our trip to South Dakota.

- hosting a Wednesday SoupSupper
- ~ hosting a Sunday Morning Fellowship
 - ~ Silent Basket Auction in April
 - ~ Indoor? Garage Sale
- ~ Bowl Youth Service , Meal and Live Auction Watch your email, bulletin & Facebook for more information.



Elstad

The Sunday school is wrapping up our Winter curriculum and moving into Spring! This coincides with the beginning of the Lenten season. We remember that Jesus died for our sins, and we get to spend eternity in heaven with God because of His sacrifice for us. It is amazing to be loved that much! We hope to learn to live like Jesus.

-Michelle Rein

Highland Prairie

Sunday school is still meeting at 10am after worship. We have a lot of fun things in store during Lent. We hope to see you there!



The confirmation students just finished writing and presenting an paper on "Heros" in the bible. They each researched a different person and shared with the class what they learned and how it connected to thier personal walk of faith.

Wednesdays evenings in Lent the Confirmation class will be again be spending time with their Mentors as well as taking an active roll in lead worship.

This year will have a front row seat in the "Trial of Jesus"

We are looking forward to our time together as a parish as we share a meal and our worship spaces with one another.

Committee Spotlight: Grounds

We are blessed with beautiful church grounds, and we need your help to keep them a welcoming and peaceful place for all. The Church Grounds Committee is a group of dedicated volunteers responsible for maintaining and beautifying the outdoor spaces of our church.

"The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it." – Genesis 2:15 Some of the things the Grounds Committee does are:

- Landscaping and gardening (planting flowers, trimming bushes, weeding, etc.)
- Lawn care and general upkeep of church grounds
- Seasonal decorations and maintenance (fall clean-up, Christmas lights, etc.)
- Ensuring pathways and outdoor spaces are safe and welcoming

By serving on the Grounds Committee, members help create a peaceful and inviting environment for worship, fellowship, and community events. It's a great way to use your gifts, enjoy the outdoors, and serve God's creation. Whether you have a green thumb or just enjoy working outdoors, your time and talents would be greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve, connect with others, and care for God's creation. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Mike Pepin or David Markegaard Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve!



Highland Prairie: We are looking for a handful of dedicated individuals to join our Ministry Committee. Your gifts and passion would be a wonderful addition to this team.

These committee's play a vital role in the ministry of our congregation. The Worship Committee works to "enhancing our worship services," The Church Committee caries for our church property. The Grounds Committee cares for the bowl, park and outside property. The Education Committee tends to the ongoing education of our congregation. We are asking everyone to prayerfully consider joining the where their gifts and talents would be an asset. Your presence and input is a blessing, and we'd love to invite each of you to be part of one of these important ministries. If you're interested or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of our council members or Pr. Jackie Thank you for all the ways you already contribute to our church family. We look forward to continuing to serving alongside you!

HIGHLAND PRAIRIE

HP COUNCIL MEETING

February 8, 2025

Highland Prairie Lutheran Church Council Meeting

February 09, 2025

President Val Howe called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Council Members present were Robert Anfinson, Mary Gudmundson, Val Howe, Gordon Johnson, Courtney Lee, Chellsey Lind, David Markegard and Mike Pepin. Kristi Gudmundson and Amy Jacobson were absent.

Devotions were given by Val Howe. A quorum was determined, and a motion to approve the agenda as presented made by Mike Pepin, Chellsey Lind seconded. Motion carried.

No congregation members were present.

President Val Howe gave the Treasurer's Report. The year-to-date information provided was income of \$3,160.00 expenses of \$6,890.00; Expenses exceed income by \$3,730.00. A motion to approve as presented made by Courtney Lee, Mike Pepin seconded. Motion carried.

President's Report – In packet – included her vision for the next year. Pastor's Report – in packet – outlined January and upcoming events.

Correspondence - RP Post Prom request for funds

Committee Reports: Church - None

Grounds Committee - None

Worship Committee - None

Youth & Education Committee – Sunday March 9th meeting for Lenten participation.
Old Business: ADA Bathroom upstairs – first step is requesting information, ADA survey and evaluation of requirements.

Church software update - Old data has been transferred, learning continues.

New Business: Committee assignments/reports/procedures discussed.

Financial Church Windows software for church desktop computer – Annual subscription for first year is approximately \$529.00. Chellsey Lind made a motion to purchase updated software subscription, seconded by Mary Gudmundson. Motion carried.

Council meeting times – discussion on times, A motion to change all council meetings to noon start time was made by Courtney Lee, Chellsey Lind seconded. Motion carried. Church Facia repair – Building committee will investigate options, tabled until March meeting.

Grounds and Bowl clean up – Annual cleanup date needed. A motion to schedule Sunday, May 18th as the date for Grubby Sunday was made by Mike Pepin, Courtney Lee seconded.

Motion carried.

The Secretary's report was read and a motion to approve as read was made by David Markegard, Chellsey Lind seconded. Motion carried.

President Val Howe led the council in the Lord's Prayer.

A motion to adjourn at 3:25 p.m. was made by Chellsey Lind, Courtney Lee seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.
Mary Gudmundson

Next Meeting is March 9th, 2025, at Noon at Highland Prairie, Parish meeting 6:30 at Elstad 7pm.

March Ministry Focus

Hygiene Products

You can help by

purchasing hygiene

products and placing them

in the shopping cart in the

front of the church at HP

and the basket in the back

of the church at Elstad.





- 1: Kailynn Evenson
- 2: Sharon Knutson
- 3: Kristoffer Gudmundson
- 4: Jeremy Berge, Tanya Wolfs
- 6: Brooks, Fishbauger, Ava Fox,

John Johnson, Treyton Wangen

- 8: Aaron Dybing, Norah Eide, Isaac Freese
- 9: Philip Abrahamson, Mathew Gudmundson
- 10: Courtney Lee
- 13: Tyler Dahl, Brian Paulson
- 14: Ellen Shofner,
- 15: Harper Nelson

- 16: Duane Bakke
- 17: Caryn Butler, Taylor Devine
- 18: Glee Claussen, Helen Jacobson
- 20: Robert Anfinson, Liam Nelson, Jonah Sievers
- 21: Cammy Johnson
- 22: Sarah Bearbower, Kjersta Donnelly, Cammy Johnson
- 23: Kelsey Anderson, Julie Ekstrom, Ora Yonts

Sharon Ehler

- 24: Iain Short
- 25: Matthew Brookins
- 27: Ben Markegard
- 28: Channing Lind, Tom Smith

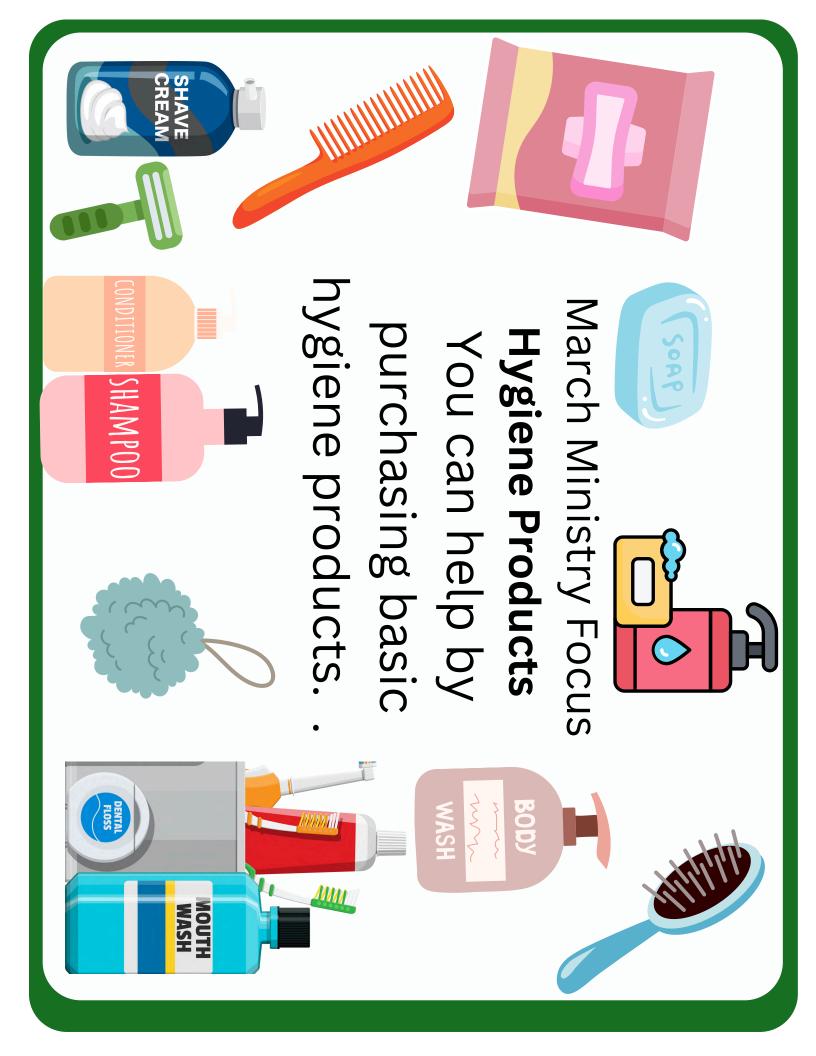


15: Mike & Marcia Randall

17: Mark & Courtney Lee

20: Robert & Caroline Anfinson

24: Robert & Shelly Nelson



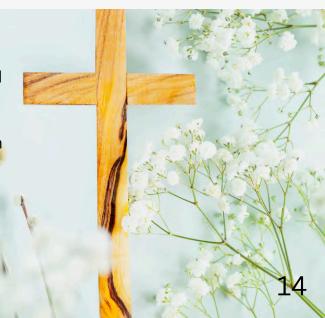
MARCH 2025

sunday	monday	tuesday	weDnesday	thursday	friday	saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	v	7	8
Highland Prairie	Good Shepherd		Parish Office			
W: 9 ~ SS: 10	Birthday		8-4			
Elstad W: 10:30 ~	Party@ 2pm		Bible Study @	F.1. 0' 1		
SS: 10:45	Bible Study @		1:30pm Ash	Esther Circle		
33. 10.43	Bethlehem		WednesdayServices	9:30		
	9:30		Elstad @ 5p	Bulletin		
9	10	11	HP @ 7p	Items D⊌e	14	15
			Parish Office			
Highland Prairie	Book Study		8-4			
W : 9 ~ SS: 10	Elstad 6-7:30 pm		Quilting and potluck	Bulletin		
Elstad W: 10:30 ~ SS: 10:45	'		lunch @9:30	Items Due		
HP Council Meeting at 12pm	,					
- '		Leah Circle	Lent Service @Elstad			
Parish Meeting at 6:30pm	Bible Study @	2:00	Soup Supper @ 6pm Service @ 7pm			
Elstad Council Meeting	Bethlehem 9:30	18	19	20	21	22
at 7p	17	10	19	20	21	22
			Parish Office			
Highland Prairie			8-4	Bulletin		
W: 9 ~ SS: 10			Lent Service @ HP	Items Due		
Elstad W: 10:30 ~	Bible Study @		Soup Supper @ 6pm			
SS: 10:45	Bethlehem 9:30		Service @ 7pm			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Parish Office			
Highland Prairie	W:		8-4			
9 ~ SS: 10			0-4			
Elstad W: 10:30	~		Lent Service @Elstad	Bulletin		
SS: 10:45	D'ILL CL L O	Newsletter	Soup Supper @ 6pm	Items Due		
	Bible Study @	Items Due	Service @ 7pm	itomo Buo		
	Bethlehem					
30	9;30					
Highland Prairi						
W: 9 ~ SS: 10	Piblo Study @					
Elstad W: 10:30	Bible Study @ Bethlehem					
SS : 10:45	9:30					
	9.30					

Psalm 118:24

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

This verse encourages us to celebrate each day as a gift from God. It reminds us that today has been created with purpose. Embracing joy and gratitude can shift our mindset. Each morning is an opportunity to focus on blessings. Rejoicing in the present helps us appreciate life's simple pleasures.



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

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March 2025 Newsletter

Highland Prairie Acolytes/Readers/Greeters

Sunday, **March 2**, **2025**

Acolyte: Brody Gellersen, Clara Hoiland

Readers: Brody Gellersen,

Greeters:

Sunday, March 9, 2024

Acolytes: Brody Gellersen, Hudson Lee

Readers: Hudson Lee,

Greeters:

Sunday, March 16, 2024

Acolytes: Hudson Lee, Mathew Gudmundson

Readers: Mathew Gudmundson,

Greeters:

Sunday, March 23, 2024

Acolyte: Mathew Gudmundson, Hunter Lee

Readers: Hunter Lee

Greeters:

Sunday, March 30, 2024

Acolyte: Hunter Lee, Caiden Dahl

Readers: Caiden Dahl,

Greeters:

Elstad Acolytes/Readers/Greeters

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Acolyte: Readers: Greeters:

Sunday, **March 9**, **2024**

Acolytes: Readers: Greeters:

Sunday, March 16, 2024 Acolytes: Grant Daniels, Readers: Grant Daniels,

Greeters:

Sunday, March 23, 2024

Acolyte: Readers: Greeters:

Sunday, March 30, 2024

Acolyte: Readers: Greeters:

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