

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

~ March 2020~

Pastor, Rev. Luther Mathsen

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Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator ~ Email: highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com

Prayer Corner

*Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing. Let's be known as a praying congregation.
Please keep Michele Thompson, Eastyn Skala, Kay Howe, David Lee, Wendy Will,
Sterling Stoker and all who are ill or in need of your prayers.*

Elstad Birthday Party

Tell me s'more

March 8, 2020 following 9:00 worship

Tell me s'more...

Fun, food and fellowship around the virtual campfire!

*Good Earth Village representatives will be here to
inspire and lead us in the joy of summer camping.*

Is there still s'more to know?

Yes!

Potluck dinner...There will be cupcakes provided for all.

Join in! We all have a birthday to celebrate.

Highland Prairie Financials for January 2020

YTD Income	\$ 4,107
YTD Expenses	\$ 6,877
Expenses Exceeds Income	\$ 2,770
YTD Budget	\$ 7,817
YTD Income	\$ 4,107
YTD Under	\$ 3,710

The Summons of Lent

By C. S. Lewis

It is a matter of common experience that, when one person has got himself into a hole, the trouble of getting him out usually falls on a kind friend. Now what was the sort of 'hole' man had got himself into? He had tried to set up on his own, to behave as if he belonged to himself. In other words, fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement: he is a rebel who must lay down his arms. Laying down your arms, surrendering, saying you are sorry, realizing that you have been on the wrong track and getting ready to start life over again from the ground floor—that is the only way out of a 'hole". This process of surrender---this movement full speed astern---is what Christians call *repentance*. Now repentance is no fun at all. It is something much harder than merely eating humble pie. It means unlearning all the self-conceit and self-will that we have been training ourselves into for thousands of years. It means killing part of yourself, undergoing a kind of death. In fact, it needs a good person to repent. And here comes the catch. Only a bad person needs to repent: only a good person can repent perfectly. The worse you are the more you need it and the less you can do it. The only person who could do it perfectly would be a perfect person—and he would not need it. This repentance, this willing submission to humiliation and a kind of death, is not something God demands of you before he will take you back and which he could let you off if he chose: it is simply a description of what going back to him is like. If you ask God to take you back without it, you are really asking him to let you go back without going back. It cannot happen. Very well, then, we must go through with it. But the same badness which makes us need it, makes us unable to do it. Can we do it if God helps us? Yes, but what do we mean when we talk of God helping us? We mean God putting into us a bit of himself, so to speak. He lends us a bit of his reasoning powers and that is how we think: he puts a little of his love into us and that is how we love one another. When you teach a child writing, you hold its hand while she forms the letters: that is, she forms the letters because you are forming them. We love and reason because God loves and reasons and holds our hand while we do it.

May the Father of love, source of all blessings, help us to pass from our old life of sin to the new life of grace.

In the grip of Christ, we remain----Pr. Luther+

March Worship Schedule

+Sunday, March 1st

1 Lent

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

***The setting we use for Holy Communion will change.**

It will be a setting we've used in the past.

Wednesday, March 4th

Midweek 1

Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. ~ Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Highland Prairie

+Sunday, March 8th

2 Lent

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

Wednesday, March 11th

Midweek 2

Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. ~ Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Elstad

+Sunday, March 15th

3 Lent

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m. Highland Prairie

Wednesday, March 18th

Midweek 3

Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. ~ Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Highland Prairie

+Sunday, March 22

4 Lent

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

Wednesday, March 25th

Midweek 4

Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. ~ Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Elstad

+Sunday, March 29th

5 Lent

9:00 a.m., Elstad

10:30 a.m., Highland Prairie

+++

Lenten Midweek Learning and Prayer 2020

(The) theme for this year's Wednesday, Lenten mid-week worship gathering will be Life in Christ: Our Path Through Calvary. Each Wednesday will be a time of intergenerational learning and conversation about the real struggles of life in the faith. What do our struggles tell us about faith? What do they tell about "our" faith? If one struggles, does it identify the poor, the feeble, the failure, in faith? Is there anything redeeming about our struggles? How might we live through the struggles? Is there any end to our struggles? How does the Spirit help us? Please join us as we share our lives in faith with one another, hear stories of some of the struggling faithful ones in Scripture, and lean into the promises of the One whose Spirit helps us in our every weakness, Jesus Christ. Our learning will be followed by Holden Evening Prayer. (See the worship schedule in this newsletter).

Private Confession

Perhaps you had not noticed, but there is an order for private confession in our hymnbook. Our brother, Martin Luther, recommended it. It is a good thing to make a serious act of penance about those sins which continue to plague one. There is something about confessing them outright and hearing the promise of forgiveness addressed personally to you by the pastor...and all in the security and confidentiality of the confessional. You are invited to avail yourself of this opportunity during the Lenten season. Talk to Pr. Luther if you have questions.

Lenten Almsgiving Opportunities

During the season of Lent members of both congregations are invited to bring offerings of personal items (i.e. soap, shampoo, lotions, toothpaste, etc. or items for babies (diaper or wipes) for the food shelves in Rushford and Preston. Collection containers will be placed near the chancel of the nave.

Parish Men's Breakfast

The next men's breakfast will take place at Highland Prairie on Saturday, March 28th. We will be taking a look at the 1st chapter of Mark's gospel and asking the question, "What kind of God do we have, and what does God think of us? All parish men, boys, and friends are invited to join us.

First Communion Instruction

On 3 Saturdays during Lent, Pr. Luther will offer first communion instruction for 5th grade youth. The dates are March 7th, 14th, and 21st; the time, 10:00 a.m.; the place; Highland Prairie. Parents are asked to contact Pr. Luther if they desire their child receive instruction. ** Any parents of younger youth who believe that their child may be ready for instruction are encouraged to speak with Pr. Luther.

Make up Confirmation Classes

Because Pr. Luther missed two confirmation classes due to his father-in-law's death and another class was missed because of weather, three 45 minute classes will be offered during the Wednesday night soup supper time. The dates are: March 4 (HP), 11 (E), and 18 (HP). The class will begin promptly at 6:15 p.m. and end at 6:45 p.m. Yes, you'll be able to eat... plm+

Highland Prairie Council Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2020

1. Call to order by Gordy at 7:33 p.m.
2. Roll Call - Steve, Nancy, Lyle, Mary, and Chris absent
3. Quorum
4. Devotions by Pastor Luther
5. Approval of agenda—motion to approve by Tim, second by Joyce
6. Congregation members wishing to address the council—none
7. Treasurer's report—motion to approve by Joyce, second by Dave
8. President's report—none
9. Pastor's report—
 - A. Ash Wednesday is the 26th of February. Noted in the newsletter and the bulletin the theme for Lent will be "Life in Christ, our Path through Calgary." Pastor Luther will be discussing what does life in Christ look like. Pastor Luther will be using the Holden Evening Prayer service.
 - B. March 1st the worship service will switch to service # 3.
 - C. The confirmation class is in the 3rd week of "The Life of Christ" according to the Gospel of Mark. Pastor Luther is considering some remedial confirmation classes during Lent to catch up for classes missed due to weather.
 - D. Pastor Luther would like to set up a food collection during Lent for area food shelves.
 - E. Pastor Luther attended the conference clergy. The new bishop shared information about the Synod budget and would like to be more transparent about the budget in the future. Cynthia Christenson was the guest speaker and talked of ministering to area farmer. Pastor Luther would like to possibly pursue this with our area farm families.
 - F. The conference assembly is March 1st in Chatfield.
 - G. Pastor Luther will be on vacation the week of the 15th-22nd.
 - H. Emily Carsen, the assistant to the bishop, would like to speak about what the church is involved in. This is a possible event that could be held at a coffee hour before or after church service.
10. No correspondence
11. Committee Reports:
 - A. Church
 - i. Tim met with Kendall Doors on the kitchen door and the Sunday school room door and is awaiting pricing.
 - ii. Gordy talked with Metro Sales on pricing to lease a copier and a price to purchase a refurbished copier. After much discussion Tim motioned to purchase a refurbished copier from Metro Sales with a quarterly service agreement, second by Dave, motion passed.
 - B. Grounds
 - i. Parking lot light on South end needs breaker to be replaced.
 - C. Worship was covered
 - D. Youth and Education was covered.
12. No old business
13. No new business
14. Secretaries report by Tim, motion to approve by Joyce, second by Karen.
15. Tim made a motion to adjourn, second by Joyce.

MARCH 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

happy
birthday!

2~ Sharon Knutson
~ Mark Johnson
3~ Kristopher Gudmundson
~ Rebecca Wangen
~ Gavin Wangen
4~ Tanya Wolfs
~ Jeremy Berge
6~ Nicole Paulson
~ Treyton Wangen
~ Ava Fox
8~ Aaron Dybing
~ Timothy Knutson
~ Isaac Freese
~ Norah Eide
9~ Philip Abrahamson
~ Miriah Mieru
~ Britney Fretland
~ Mathew Gudmundson
12~ Mitchell Lee
13~ Mary McHan
~ Brain Paulson
~ Tyler Dahl
13~ Hillary Eide
14~ Ellen Shofner
15~ Quinn Nelson

16~ Duane Bakke
17~ Daryl Bergen
~ Caryn Butler
~ Taylor Gravos
18~ Glee Claussen
~ Helen Jacobson
19~ Kay Howe
20~ Robert Anfinson
~ Elizabeth McHan
~ Jonah Sievers
21~ Cammy Johnson
22~ Sandy Sjarpe
~ Sarah Bearbower
~ Kjersta Lind
23~ Sharon Ehler
~ Julie Ekstrom
~ Ora Yonts
25~ Matthew Brookins
27~ Sandra Overland
~ Ben Markegard
28~ Tom Smith
~ Wendy Overland
~ Naomi Howe
~ Channing Lind
29~ Brianna Koop
30~ Melissa Paulson
31~ Guthrie Johnson
~ Hattie Holst

Happy
Anniversary

20~ Robert & Caroline
Anfinson
24~ Robert & Shelly Nelson

March 2020

Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish

Visit our websites at...

elstادلutheranchurch.org

highlandprairielutheranchurch.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>EL-9:00 a.m. SS- 10:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m. SS- 9:30 a.m.</p>	2	3	<p>4</p> <p>HP WELCA 1:30 p.m. Meeting/Bible study</p> <p>HP- Lenten Service/Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. Confirmation</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p>	5	6	<p>7</p> <p>First Communion class 10:00 a.m.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>EL-9:00 a.m. SS- 10:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m. SS- 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Council Mtg. @ EL 5:30 p.m.—HP 6:30 p.m.—Parish</p>	9	10	<p>11</p> <p>HP WELCA 9:00 a.m. Quilting/Projects</p> <p>EL- Lenten Service/Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. Confirmation</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p>	12	13	<p>14</p> <p>First Communion class 10:00 a.m.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>EL-9:00 a.m. SS- 10:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m. SS- 9:30 a.m.</p>	16	17	<p>18</p> <p>HP- Lenten Service/Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. 6:15 p.m. Confirmation</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>First Communion class 10:00 a.m.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>EL-9:00 a.m. SS- 10:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m. SS- 9:30 a.m.</p>	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>EL- Lenten Service/Soup Supper 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p>	26	<p>27</p> <p>HP- 9:00 a.m. Quilting & Craft frolic</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Men's Parish Breakfast HP- 9:00 a.m. Quilting & Craft frolic</p>
<p>29</p> <p>EL-9:00 a.m. SS- 10:00 a.m. HP- 10:30 a.m. SS- 9:30 a.m.</p>	30	31				

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

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Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Peterson, MN 55962

Permit No. #6



HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020

ACOLYTES: DANA DEGEORGE, LACI SIEVERS
READERS: DANA DEGEORGE, SCOTT BESTUL
GREETERS: DOUG LIND FAMILY

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

ACOLYTES: LACI SIEVERS, CADEN JOHNOSN
READERS: LACI SIEVERS, MICHELE THOMPSON
GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

ACOLYTES: CADEN JOHNSON, LARISSA RYAN
READERS: CADEN JOHNSON, SYLVIA PASSOW
GREETERS: ALLAN SKALET & KAY EIKEN

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020

ACOLYTES: LARISSA RYAN, KENNA GUDMUNDSON
READERS: LARISSA RYAN, ARLENE JOHNSON
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

ACOLYTES: KENNA GUDMUNDSON, LINDSEY HOINESS
READERS: KENNA GUDMUNDSON, BECKY LIND
GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLER

ELSTAD
ACOLYTES/READERS/USHERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2020

ACOLYTE: MICHAEL REIN
READERS: MICHAEL REIN, GENE TOPNESS

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

ACOLYTE: KYLE DANIELS
READERS: KYLE DANIELS, JOHN ABRAHAMSON

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

ACOLYTE: INDY QUALY
READERS: INDY QUALY, LORI BAKKE

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020

ACOLYTE: LIZ HAGEMAN
READERS: LIZ HAGEMAN, VICKY TOPNESS

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

ACOLYTE: PARKER STORHOFF
READERS: PARKER STORHOFF, CAROL OVERLAND

USHERS: GENE TOPNESS, ROBERT KNUTSON,
DAVID BAKKE, TOM DYBING,
KYLE BEARBOWER