

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

~ October 2021~

Pastor, Rev. Luther Mathsen

Email: lmmathsen@gmail.com

Church Phone: (507) 864-2731

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

Worship Notes:

*Please note:

On Sunday, October 3rd, the women of both Elstad and Highland Prairie will be participating in worship in observance of this time of annual Thankoffering. We give thanks for all the ways the women of our parish serve the Lord through their time, talents, and treasures.

October Worship Schedule

19 Pentecost, Sunday, October 3rd

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Genesis 2.18-24

Psalm 8

Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12

Mark 10.2-16

20 Pentecost, Sunday, October 10th

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Amos 5.6-7, 10-15

Psalm 90.12-17

Hebrews 4.12-16

Mark 10.17-31

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21 Pentecost, Sunday, October 17th

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Isaiah 53.4-12

Psalm 91.9-16

Hebrews 5.1-10

Mark 10.35-45

22 Pentecost, Sunday, October 24th

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Jeremiah 31.7-9

Psalm 126

Hebrews 7.23-28

Mark 10.46-52

Reformation Sunday, Sunday, October 31st

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Jeremiah 31.31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3.19-28

John 8.31-36

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Pastor's Page

October 2021

In his book, *For the Life of the World*, Orthodox priest, Alexander Schmemmann, reflected on a line from an old philosopher (Ludwig Feuerbach), "Man is what he eats."

As sister and brother Christian folk, think about this with me, prompted as I am by Father Schmemmann.

We eat and drink Christ, so we become little Christ's to the world. We eat bread and drink wine, so we become bread of life and wine of true joy in service for others.

In the book of Revelation, chapter 14, one like the Son of Man reaps the grain and gathers the grapes. St. John the Evangelist is referring to the harvest of the saints, a people made into Eucharist "*for the life of the world.*" He is describing the martyrdom of the 144,000. On earth----in the world---they are being assaulted, tortured, and killed for their faith. Yet, from the perspective of heaven, these beloved of Christ are those whose witness has ripened; they are ready to be gathered into the kingdom of those at rest.

"We are what we eat." We, like the faithful who have gone before us, eat and drink the Eucharist, and we become the Eucharist. We eat bread broken for us, and we become broken bodies for the sake of others. We drink wine poured out, so that we can pour ourselves out as a drink offering for the sake of others. As our Eucharistic liturgy puts it: "*For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*"

Yes, we each and drink to proclaim the death of Christ. We eat and drink to be conformed to His death-- witnesses to and for Him--- fed and prepared for the harvest.

*Who is this host arrayed in white
Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright,
That stand with palms and sings its psalms
Before the throne of light?
These are the saints who kept God's Word;
They are the honored of the Lord.
He is their prince who drowned their sins,
So they were cleansed, restored.
They now serve God both day and night;
They sing their songs in endless light.
Their anthems ring when they all sing
With angels shining bright.*

*On earth their work was not thought wise,
But see them now in heaven's eyes;
Before God's throne of precious stone
They shout their vict'ry cries.
On earth they wept through bitter years;
Now God has wiped away their tears,
Transformed their strife to heav'nly life,
And freed them from their fears.
For now they have the best at last;
They keep their sweet eternal feast.
At God's right hand our Lord commands;
He is both host and guest.*

*O blessed saints, now take your rest;
A thousand times shall you be blest
For keeping faith firm unto death
And scorning worldly trust.
For now you live at home with God
And harvest seeds once cast abroad
In tears and sighs. See with new eyes
The pattern in the seed.
The myriad angels raise their song.
O saints, sing with that happy throng;
Lift up one voice; let heav'n rejoice
In our Redeemer's song.*

I end with this post-Communion prayer:

Almighty God, you gave your Son as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Your brother in Christ,

Pr. Luther+

Mission Table

You are encouraged to help those who have suffered nature's wrath through the ELCA's Disaster Relief Fund. Also, the ELCA World Hunger Appeal continues to provide much needed support to those of meager means. Through our financial support, we can help make a difference in the lives of those in need. Designated donations to these causes can be placed in the offering plate of your congregation. Make your checks out to your congregation and write either ELCA Disaster Relief Fund or ELCA World Hunger Appeal on the MEMO line.

Members of both congregations are encouraged to continue supporting the local food shelves. Our area SEMCAC food shelves' addresses are: Rushford (113 East Jessie St.) and Preston (515 Washington Street, NW).

Support for our Haitian brothers and sisters

We have received word from Pr. Marie Anderson regarding Pr. Mioche and the people of his congregation in Haiti. Opportunity to help our sisters and brothers in need are before us. During early October, please consider the following:

School supplies are needed: backpacks, pencils, erasers, markers, crayons, small jars of peanut butter, construction paper, spiral notebooks, blue and red ink pens, protractors and compasses, colored underwear and socks for children of all ages, chalk and chalk erasers for teachers, and reams of printer paper.

Also, monetary gifts would be very helpful. Pr. Mioche is determined to provide a meal for approximately 400 students each day because it may be the only meal many students will have in a day. Also, teachers' salaries have to be met.

A further note: Pr. Mioche hopes to be in MN in November barring Covid19 issues. Pr. Marie will send further word with details regarding his visit.

First Communion Instruction for 5th graders and others

Pr. Mathsen will be holding instructions sessions to prepare all 5th graders and others who desire to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Instruction will be held on 3 consecutive Saturday mornings at both Elstad (9:00 a.m.) and Highland Prairie (10:30 a.m.). The dates: Saturday, October 30th, November 6th, and 13th. Register directly with Pr. Luther.

Youth Ministry

Junior and Senior High Parish youth: The new game, "9 Square in the Air", was assembled (That exercise was a sight to behold!) and played amid much playfulness and laughter on Sunday, September 19th. Thanks to the youth who participated, including John and Michelle Rein. Their presence and participation was a blessing to all.

Adult Christian Education

On Thursday, October 28th, 10:00 a.m., @ Elstad, we will begin a study of the book, Open Secrets: A Memoir of Faith and Discovery, by Richard Lischer. A comment on the back cover of the book reads: "In the tradition of Garrison Keillor, *Open Secrets* captures the friendships, rivalries, and rumors of small-town life by chronicling the lives of the citizens of a small Midwestern community through the eyes of a young minister." You may purchase the book on Amazon. Please let Pr. Luther know if you are interested in participating in the study.

Parish Life

The Elstad youth ed planners have put together a Sunday, October 31st, slate of events for the whole family. It will begin with a hayride at 9:30 a.m., continue with worship at 10:30 a.m., followed by 11:30 a.m. potluck lunch, and a 12:30 p.m. Trunk and Treats event for youth in the parking lot on the west side of the church. Youth are invited to wear their costume for the day's activities. Mid-High school youth, you are included! After lunch, we'll gather and play 9-Squares in the Air on some flat surface on the Elstad premises.

Elstad Maintenance Items 2021

A sheet listing Elstad further church building needs is posted on the bulletin board in the back of the nave. The church council is hoping that seal coating the brick of the church's exterior can be completed before cooler weather sets in. Should you desire to assist with a donation, or give of your time and skill, see council president, Dick Haight, or treasurer, Jennifer Nepstad .

Highland Prairie Maintenance Items 2021

A new ceiling fan in the church sanctuary has been installed by NES of Rushford. A fund to defray costs of new exterior doors of the church is established. You may contribute to this cause by writing Church Doors on the Memo life of your check to Highland Prairie.

Provisional Concerns of Congregational Life

Your continuing consideration of your offerings that help the church meet its financial commitments is most appreciated. If you do not attend communal worship, you are encouraged to mail your offering to: Jennifer Nepstad (Elstad Treasurer), 20707 Co. 21, Lanesboro, MN 55949, or Karen Bakken (Highland Prairie, Treasurer), 713 Johnson Court, Rushford, MN. 55971 or Highland Prairie Church, 43267 Bowl Drive, Peterson, MN 55962,

Pastoral Care

Pr. Mathsen is making in-person home and nursing home visits. If you, or anyone you know, is in need of pastoral care or a pastoral visit, please let him know.

2021 Directory

It's that time again! Church directory photos will take place October 28th - 30th. Thursday, October 28th will be held at Elstad and Friday, October 29th - Saturday, October 30th will take place at Highland Prairie. To sign up your family, visit the online scheduling site: www.ucdir.com Click on scheduling login, Church Code - mn164 and the password - photos. For those of you that do not have internet access, there will be a sign-up sheet at church. If you have questions, please contact Mary Gudmundson or Aimee Rodger.

Hosts Needed

There are two shifts each day that a greeter is needed. Shifts are from 1:45 - 6pm, 5:45 - 8:30pm on Thursday at Elstad and Friday at Highland Prairie. On Saturday the shifts are from 9:45 - 1:00pm, 12:45 - 4:30pm at Highland Prairie. If you are able to cover one of these shifts, please sign up at church or contact Mary or Aimee.

Mary Gudmundson

mgudmundson76@gmail.com

507-864-7776

Aimee Rodger

anelson2010@hotmail.com

507-450-2648

Elstad Budget for August 2021

August	\$ 7033.58
Received	\$ 3785.00
Under	\$ 3248.59
Elstad budget YTD	\$ 56268.64
Received YTD	\$ 47428.00
Over YTD	\$ 8840.64

Highland Prairie Financial for August 2021

YTD Income	\$ 56,584
YTD Expenses	\$ 59,410
Expenses exceed Income	\$ 2,826
YTD Budget	\$ 63,800
YTD Income	\$ 56,584
YTD Under	\$ 7,216

Upcoming Fall Events at Elstad



October 3rd—

Thank Offering Service
10:30 a.m.

October 31—Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat. We will begin the morning with a Sunday School hayride at 9:30 a.m., church will be at 10:30, a potluck lunch will follow at 11:30, and our trunk or treat event will take place at 12:30. All are invited to decorate their vehicles and wear their costumes!



November 7th—Pajama Day! Join us for pajama day as daylight savings time ends and we all “fall back.”



December 5th—The annual Christmas Tea party and prayer partner reveal.

December 12th—Sunday School Christmas Program during our 10:30 a.m. worship service.



Elstad-Highland Prairie Lutheran Church Joint Council Meeting

September 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Highland Prairie President Gordon Johnson.

Council Members were all present except Krissy Overland, Karen Bakken, Steve Howe, and Tim Stensgard were absent.

A quorum was determined and a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Chris Hoiland, Kathy Abrahamson seconded. Motion carried.

Devotions were given by Pastor Luther.

Sharon Ehler was present to discuss Haiti school needs with now 400 students

There were no President's Reports.

Pastor Luther reported that he was glad we are back together following summer, Confirmation has begun with 13 students, Adult Bible Study begins this week, Youth middle and high school cookout coming up as well. Computer and software compatibility concerns with the Parish Secretary, Lisa Chiglo. Pastoral care continues, if anyone needs to be visited, please let him know. October 14-16 continuing education opportunity, October 18-24 vacation; Ministry in daily life concerns and explore how that enters into individuals' workplace and the sharing of that with the parish. Recognize Morgan Knutson, Michelle Rein, and Krissy Overland for their work with the Sunday School program.

Correspondence received: None.

Old Business: Directory – Photos Oct 28-30 with Elstad hosting the 28th, Highland Prairie the 29th and 30th.

New Business: Parish Secretary computer and Church Windows program revision or change will be investigated further; tree by parsonage that needs to be removed, Gordon will talk to mi energy about removing it; discussion of parsonage remodeling of second floor bathroom, door replacements, main floor bathroom faucets and storage, and kitchen flooring to be continued at next joint meeting.

The Secretary's report was read and a motion to approve was made by Dick Haight, Lyle Meldahl seconded. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer was made by at 7:25 p.m. David Markegard, seconded by Amber Arends. Motion carried.

Next joint meeting will be November 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Elstad.

Highland Prairie Lutheran Church Council Meeting

September 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Gordon Johnson.

Council Members present were Robert Anfinson, Joyce Dahl, Mary Gudmundson, Chris Hoiland, Gordon Johnson Lyle Meldahl and David Markegard; Karen Bakken, Steve Howe and Tim Stensgard were absent.

A quorum was determined and a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Lyle Meldahl, David Markegard seconded. Motion carried.

Devotions were given by Pastor Luther at the joint meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was emailed by Karen Bakken. Year to date information provided are income \$56,584.00 expenses \$59,410.00; expenses exceed income by \$2826.00. A motion to approve as presented was made by Joyce Dahl, David Markegard seconded. Motion carried.

President Gordon Johnson reported SE MN Synod quarterly contact included discussion of available assistance to parishioners with endowment funds and major gifting through estate planning.

Pastor's Report was given at joint meeting.

Correspondence received: A Thank you from Jonah Sievers for hammer and senior quilt.

Committee Reports: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

The Secretary's report was read and a motion to approve was made by Lyle Meldahl, Chris Hoiland seconded. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Luther was made by Lyle Meldahl, David Markegard seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Gudmundson

Next meeting will be on October 10th at 7:30 pm at Highland Prairie.

Elstad Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday 12, 2021

Highland Prairie Lutheran Church

The meeting was called to order by President Dick Height at 5:32pm .

Roll call: all members present except Krissy Overland. A Quorum was called.

Meeting was opened in prayer by Pastor Luther.

The agenda was reviewed. A motion to approve the revised agenda was made by Amber second by Jennifer. Motion passed.

There are no congressional members present to address the council.

The Pastor's report: Pastor Luther expressed thanks to Pastor Kay for stepping in to cover a vacation. Thanks was also expressed to Tom and the WELCA members for their services during the String Wood Event. There will not be a cantata this year. There will be 2 baptisms taking place at Elstad on October 3rd for August Evans and Braxton Rodger.

The treasurer's report was reviewed and placed on file for audit at a later date. Jennifer shares, the PPE Loan was 100% forgiven, offerings have been down, and the \$5,000 donation was received from Luther and Patsy Magleson for Youth.

No President's report

Correspondence received: none

Old Business:

Steps: still in the process

Spraying: Tom is in the process of talking to Eric Girke

Elevator: Problem was resolved by the elevator company. There was water on the bottom of the elevator that needs to be monitored in case there is further action that needs to be taken.

Electric Box: was replaced and the bill has been paid.

New Business:

Microphone: Pastor Luther will talk to Tom about the microphone issues.

Directory: Aimee gave an update after talking with Bart. Aimee will talk to Bart again about Elstad hosting photos on Thursday, October 28th. Aimee will also send Pastor Luther an announcement to place in the bulletin and newsletter expressing the need for hosts.

Collection for Haiti: Kay offered to drive offerings to Pine Island. \$210 was collected at Rally Sunday today to go towards Haiti.

Secretary's report was given. Motion was given by Kay, second by Amber. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Kay to adjourn, second by Jennifer. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

Closed in prayer by Pastor Luther.

Secretary's report submitted by Aimee Rodger.

OCTOBER 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*



18~ Jerry Barrett
~ Larry Topness
~ Alison Freese
20~ Joyce Dahl
~ Dylan Evenson
22~ Gary Kiehne
~ Duston Brookins
23~ Sharon Howe
24~ Erik Nelson
~ Courtney Gravos
27~ Tyler Knutson
~ Fraya Hastey
28~ Merlin Halverson
29~ Karen Mierau
30~ Doris Dybing
~ Nicole Johnson
31~ Adam Woxland
~ Brittany Johnson
~ Hayden Stensgard

*Happy
Anniversary*

1~ Charles Semmen
~ Natalie Schelper
2~ Olive Peterson
~ Sylvia Passow
3~ Jensyn Storhoff
6~ Valarie Howe
5~ Archie Dolhman
~ Maci Pontillo
~ Riley Pontillo
7~ Alyssa Berg
9~ Beth Smith
~ Amy Jacobson
10~ Chris Hoiland
~ Jeremy Burt
12~ Amber Arends
13~ Mary Carlson
~ Jadye Butler
~ Carsen Nelson
15~ Cathy Bakke
~ Creighton Hoiness
~ Dominic Humble
16~ Casey Pestle
17~ Brandon Rustad

12~ Maynard & Sharon
Rustad
16~ Ken & Helen Jacobson
~John & Kathy Abrahamson
26~ Rick & Sandy Sjarpe

October 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Rislov/ Culhane wedding rehearsal @ HP	2 Rislov/ Culhane wed- ding HP Bowl 3:30 p.m.
3 Thankoffering 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—HP 9:30 a.m.—SS	4	5	6 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. @ HP Bulletin Deadline	7	8	9
10 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—HP 9:30 a.m.—SS HP Council 5:30	11	12	13 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. @ HP Bulletin Deadline	14	15 Quilting & Craft Frolic @ HP	16 Quilting & Craft Frolic @ HP
17 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—HP 9:30 a.m.—SS	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 Bulletin Deadline	21	22	23
24 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—HP 9:30 a.m.—SS 31 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—HP 9:30 a.m.—SS	25	26	27 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. @ HP Bulletin Deadline	28 Adult Book study 10:00 a.m. @ Elstad	29	30 First Communion Instruction 10:30 a.m.

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



HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021

ACOLYTES: CARSON JOHNSON, CREIGHTON HOINESS

READERS: GUS HOILAND, SYLVIA PASSOW

GREETERS: DOUG LIND FAMILY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021

ACOLYTES: CREIGHTON HOINESS, LUCAS REDALEN

READERS: CARSON JOHNSON, ARLENE JOHNSON

GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021

ACOLYTES: LUCAS REDALEN, GUS HOILAND

READERS: CHASE HUMBLE, SHARON EHLE

GREETERS: ALLAN SKALET & KAY EIKEN

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021

ACOLYTES: GUS HOILAND, GRANT DEGEORGE

READERS: GRANT DEGEORGE, SCOTT BESTUL

GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021

ACOLYTES: GRANT DEGEORGE, CHASE HUMBLE

READERS: CREIGHTON HOINESS, LYNNETTE PEDERSON

GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLE

ELSTAD
ACOLYTES/READERS/USHERS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2021

ACOLYTE: MILEY KNUTSON

READERS: ALISON FREESE, CAROL OVERLAND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021

ACOLYTE: KYLE DANIELS

READERS: PARKER STORHOFF, LORI BAKKE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021

ACOLYTE: SAWYER WOLFS

READERS: MAKENZIE KNUTSON, TOM DYBING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021

ACOLYTE: THEA ARENDS

READERS: KYLE DANIELS, GENE TOPNESS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021

ACOLYTE: SARI REIN

READERS: INDY QUALY, JOHN ABRAHAMSON

USHERS: LARRY TOPNESS, DICK HAIGHT,
PHILIP ABRAHAMSON, TRENT EIDE,
NATHAN BAKKE, WILSON STORHOFF