

*Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish*  
*A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*  
*~ September 2022 ~*

*Interim Pastor, Pr. Alma Buco*

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*Lisa Chiglo, Parish Secretary/Administrator ~ Email: [highlandprairie\\_elstad@ymail.com](mailto:highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com)*

**September Worship Schedule**

**Time after Pentecost, September 4th**

**Elstad—9:00 a.m.**

**Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 1

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

**Time after Pentecost, September 11th**

**Outdoor Worship at Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.**

**Rally Sunday**

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-10

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

**Time after Pentecost, September 18th**

**Elstad—9:00 a.m.**

**Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.**

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 133

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

**Time after Pentecost, September 25th**

**Elstad—9:00 a.m.**

**Highland Prairie—10:30 a.m.**

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

*Prayer Corner*

*Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing.  
Let's be known as a praying congregation.  
Please keep Christopher Freese,  
Bonnie Hallum, Carol Fogal,  
Ferne Brewster, Dennis McRaven, and all  
others who are ill or in need of our prayers.*

**Rally Sunday, September 11th**  
**Highland Prairie Band Shell ~ 10:30 a.m.**

Help us kick off the new year!

Worship will be 'Sunday school for the whole congregation.' The lesson will focus on Jonah and the Big Fish, followed by activities and games. We encourage everyone to participate! We will end the morning with 'Sundaes on Sunday.'

Confirmation will begin on Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Highland Prairie for a student/parent meeting. For the 2022-23 year, we will be doing a deep dive in the Bible and exploring what this book teaches about God. If you have a confirmation age student (Grades 7<sup>th</sup> or older) and did not receive a letter in the mail, please contact Pastor Alma (507) 703-8464 or the church office (507) 864-2731. Thank you!

The Ingathering for Fall in our area will be at Good Shepherd Evangelical Church, 4141 Mormon Coulee Road, La Crosse, WI 54601, October 8, 2022, Sat 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.

The church will not be open. The trucks will be in the large church parking lot across Birch Street from the church.

Greetings dear ones-

It has been a joy over the past two months to get to meet and know so many of you! I continue to be grateful for the numerous ways you have welcomed me and helped me to get my feet grounded under me in this new community.

Coming into a new community and starting a new relationship is often an exciting and wonderful time. There are a lot of hopes and dreams and new possibilities for the future. I love the sense of new life and excitement. I have been through enough beginnings to know, that eventually somebody will stumble, mess up or step on toes. The honeymoon will end and there will be some hurt somewhere along the way.

Despite our best hopes and dreams, we are flawed, imperfect humans so hurt and disappointment is inevitable. What is not inevitable is how we choose to handle when the hurt happens.

There are several ways to react- we can try to bury it and forget it happened, we can tell all our friends about it, we can feud, we can gossip, we can try to ignore it.

Or, we can address it directly. We can have a conversation with the person who has hurt us and work towards repair. We can follow Jesus commands from Matthew 18: 15- "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone." Jesus goes on to provide steps for what happens if you are not listened to but the core is that rather than sitting in our hurt or venting only to our friends, we have direct, hard and honest conversations that bring about repair.

I am not a perfect pastor, much less a perfect human. There will come a time when I mess up, when I miss something I should have paid attention to, where I don't visit when I should and my hope is that you will let me know so I can work towards repair in our relationship. I can't know what I don't know, and I don't know what I am not told so I ask for your grace and compassion to help me learn.

In return, I promise to listen and learn, to apologize and help us all grow toward repair and deeper relationship so that we can continue to serve God together.

In God's love,

PA

P.S. Part of helping navigate a new time of transition is getting to know each other and share in building hopes and dreams so in October I will be scheduling 2-3 times and dates where we can gather, share in stories and dream together about our hopes for this church-both Elstad-Highland Prairie and our wider church family!

## Schedule

In my pastor's note, I talked about knowing there will come a time when there will be frustrations. One of the most common frustrations I have experienced is a wondering how pastors' spend their time. I have also received a number of requests to have regular office hours. So in a effort to be transparent about my time, here is a little about how I manage my schedule.

As pastor, wife, mama and just generally busy human, one of the ways I make sure I am honoring my time commitments to work, rest and play is to operate on a block schedule. This means that I operate with my days divided into three four-hour blocks and schedule my time within those blocks. As a full time pastor, I devote 10-11 of those weekly blocks to my work for the church. This work includes things like sermon writing, pastoral visits, worship and office hours. There are weeks were more blocks will be required due to unforeseen events or busy church seasons and less busy times where I can work fewer blocks to make up that time.

As part of my spiritual practice, I commit to weekly making sure I have 3 consecutive blocks off each week (aka a whole day) for my Sabbath-time. This allows me to rest and reconnect with God.

I am including in this newsletter a color-coded working-draft of my schedule. As I am still figuring out the rhythm and flow of this call, the schedule is a bit in progress but I will keep an updated copy posted on my office door.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

PA

Purple: Sabbath and family time. This is time that I guard closely to ensure I get regular time with my family.

Blue: Work from home and meeting time. Every Tuesday I get the opportunity to participate in a ecumenical text study with many of the clergy in Winona and the surrounding area and then I spend the afternoon continuing my sermon prep.

Green- Dedicated Office hours and visitation hours. Generally speaking, if I am not out on pastoral visit, I will be in the office. Feel free to stop in and visit.

Orange- Worship and confirmation hours. During these hours, I will be at the church but there isn't much flexibility in the reason I am at church.

Grey- Open hours. These hours will be scheduled as needed for meetings, visits, and other pastoral duties.

### Elstad Budget for July 2022

Budget July	\$ 6545.17
Received July	\$ 3305.00
Under July	\$ 3240.17
Elstad YTD budget	\$ 45816.19
Received YTD	\$ 40530.00
Under YTD	\$ 5286.19

### Highland Prairie Financial for July 2022

YTD Income	\$ 45,811
YTD Expenses	\$ 55,696
Expenses exceed Income	\$ 9,885
YTD Budget	\$ 57,400
YTD Income	\$ 45,811
YTD Under	\$ 11,589

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning	Sabbath	Text study in Winona	Office work/ Pastoral Visits	Office Hours	Sermon writing		Worship
Afternoon		Sermon Writing, e-mails, etc.-from Winona	Office Work- Confirmation Prep	Office Hours/ pastoral visits	Visits and office work as needed.		
Evening			Confirmation	Meetings as needed	Off for family time	Sermon Run-through, final worship prep	Monthly Council meetings

**Highland Prairie Lutheran Church Council Meeting  
Sunday, August 14, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by President Gordon Johnson.

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

Devotions were given by Gordon Johnson.

There were no members in attendance wishing to address the council.

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

The Treasurer's Report was given by Karen Bakken. Year to date information provided are income \$45,811.00 expenses \$55,696.00; expenses exceed income by \$9,885.00. A motion to approve as presented was made by Joyce Dahl, David Markegard seconded. Motion carried.

There was no President's report.

Pastor Alma reported scheduling office hours Wednesday and Thursdays as posted. Confirmation to start second week of September. List of members to visit was discussed.

Correspondence - Synod Thank you for donations.

Committee Reports:

Church – discussion on making accommodations for wheelchair seating in sanctuary

Grounds – tree trimming and rock garden work

Worship – Youth & Education met last week to discuss this coming year

Rally Sunday will be All Church Sunday School

Old Business:

- A. Handicapped seating was discussed; stump grinding to be done; downed trees removed, others should be trimmed or removed; Computer and ipad purchase is being worked on; parsonage upstairs storm door needs to be replaced and insulation added. Joyce made a motion to proceed with replacement, Val Howe seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

- A. Non-member request for wedding in October was discussed.
- B. Reschedule September Joint and HP meeting to September 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

A motion to adjourn at 6:28 p.m. was made by Steve Howe, David Markegard seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Gudmundson

Next Meeting is September 18<sup>th</sup> at Highland Prairie.

# SEPTEMBER 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](mailto:highlandprairie_elstad@ymail.com)



- 1~ Kendra Hageman
- 2~ Norma Halverson
- 4~ Naomi Wangen
- 5~ Aubrey Wiley
- ~ Teigen Johnson
- 6~ Brenda Markegard
- ~ Gabriel Becker
- ~ Kenzie Woxland
- 7~ Gordon Johnson
- ~ Todd James
- ~ Sara Johnson
- ~ Kayla Culhane
- ~ Kaleb-Kendhammer
- 8~ Carl Lawstuen
- ~ Richard Koop
- 9~ Maynard Rustad
- ~ Mark Lee
- ~ Trenten Chiglo
- 10~ Dennis Knutson
- ~ John Rein
- 11~ Susan Lind
- ~ Troy Storhoff
- 12~ Curtis Wangen
- ~ Larissa Ryan
- 13~ Tonya Mensink
- ~ Kristina Stensgard
- 14~ Kristin Overland
- ~ Ryan Feine
- ~ Parker Root

- 15~ Tyler Drinkall
- 16~ Lori Hundorf
- 17~ Lucas Gravos
- ~ Elizabeth Hageman
- 18~ Marion Dahl
- ~ Hale Stensgard
- 19~ Cayden Lea
- 20~ Andrew Kelly
- ~ Aubrey Daniels
- 21~ Marcia Randall
- ~ Gabriel Dybing
- ~ Brogan Lee
- 23~ Doreen Semmen
- ~ Bonnie Hallum
- ~ Carol Dybing
- 24~ John Overland
- ~ Ryan Jacobson
- 26~ Derek Dahl
- ~ Kayla Bakkum
- ~ Jordan Markegard
- 27~ Lyle Meldahl
- ~ Dick Lawstuen
- 28~ Gene Wangen
- ~ Jamie Wiley
- ~ Emma Eide
- ~ Katherine Halverson
- ~ Andrew Hoiness

- 29~ Terry Blagsvedt
- ~ Jason Yonts
- ~ Mabel Thomas
- ~ Miken Grabau
- 30~ Kendall Bakkum
- ~ Joel Hageman
- ~ Cory Woxland
- ~ Erika Wangen
- ~ Katherine Halverson
- ~ Andrew Hoiness



- 4~ Charles & Sharon Ehler
- ~ Dave & Debbie Lawstuen
- 5~ Darrel & Ellen Highum
- 8~ Gordon & Glee Claussen
- 10~ Nick & Sarah Wangen
- 14~ Tom & Carol Dybing
- 16~ Dick & Diane Haight
- 23~ Elvin & Marlys Paulson
- 23~ Christopher & Ann Hoiland
- 27~ Gene & Vicky Topness
- 30~ Val & Mary Gudmundson

# September 2022

**Elstad ~ Highland Prairie Lutheran Parish**  
 Visit our websites at...  
[elstadlutheranchurch.org](http://elstadlutheranchurch.org)  
[highlandprairielutheranchurch.org](http://highlandprairielutheranchurch.org)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Time Change: 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:30 a.m.—H.P.	5 Pastor Vacation	6	7 HP WELCA Bible study/Business Mtg. 1:30 a.m.  Bulletin Deadline	8	9	10
11 Rally Sunday Parish Outdoor Worship— 10:30 a.m. at H.P.	12	13	14 HP WELCA Quilt- ing—9:30 a.m. w/ potluck (last quilt- ing day before shipping)  Confirmation meeting at HP, 6:30 p.m.	15	16	17
18 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:00 a.m. ~ EL SS 10:30 a.m.—H.P. 9:30 a.m. HP SS  Parish Council Mtgs. @ HP 5:30 p.m.—Elstad 6:30 p.m.—Parish 7:30 p.m.—H.P.	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. @ HP  Bulletin Deadline	22	23	24
25 9:00 a.m.—Elstad 10:00 a.m. ~ EL SS 10:30 a.m.—H.P. 9:30 a.m. HP SS	26	27	28 Confirmation 6:30 p.m. @ HP  Bulletin Deadline	29	30	

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

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**HIGHLAND PRAIRIE**  
**ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022**

**ACOLYTES:** GUS HOILAND, GRANT DEGEORGE  
**READERS:** GRANT DEGEORGE, SYLVIA PASSOW  
**GREETERS:** GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022—OUTDOOR WORSHIP**

**READERS:** CREIGHTON HOINESS, ARLENE JOHNSON  
**GREETERS:** SHARON & PAUL EHLER

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022**

**ACOLYTES:** GRANT DEGEORGE, CHASE HUMBLE  
**READERS:** LUCAS REDALEN, SHARON EHLER  
**GREETERS:** LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022**

**ACOLYTES:** CHASE HUMBLE, CHEYANNE DAHLE  
**READERS:** CHEYANNE DAHLE, SCOTT BESTUL  
**GREETERS:** ALLAN SKALET & KAY EIKEN

**ELSTAD**  
**ACOLYTES/READERS/USHERS**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022**

**ACOLYTE:** MILEY KNUTSON  
**READERS:** MILEY KNUTSON, VICKY TOPNESS

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**

**~ RALLY SUNDAY ~**  
**OUTDOOR WORSHIP @ HP—10:30 A.M.**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022**

**ACOLYTE:** AUBREY DANIELS  
**READERS:** AUBREY DANIELS, CAROL OVERLAND

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022**

**ACOLYTE:** SAWYER WOLFS  
**READERS:** SAWYER WOLFS, CAROLYN SMITH

**USHERS:** DIANE HAIGHT, DICK HAIGHT,  
PHILIP ABRAHAMSON, TRENT EIDE,  
NATHAN BAKKE, DAVID LAWSTUEN