

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

~ May 2022 ~

Pastor, Rev. Luther Mathsen

Email: lmmathsen@gmail.com

Church Phone: (507) 864-2731

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

May Worship Notes

*Please note: On Sunday, May 1st, parish worship times switch so that Highland Prairie will worship at 9:00 a.m. and Elstad will worship at 10:30 a.m. with the exception of Sunday, May 15th.

*Sunday, May 1st, is Confirmation Sunday. 7 parish youth will be affirming the faith into which they were baptized. The Rite of Confirmation will be observed at both congregations. * See the list of confirmands on the next page.

*On Sunday, May 15th, Pr. Mathsen's last Sunday, there will be ONE SERVICE at 10:00 a.m. It will take place at Highland Prairie followed by a parish potluck lunch.

May Worship Schedule

3 Easter, May 1st

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

**Holy Communion w/the Rite of Confirmation

Acts 9.1-20

Psalm 30

Revelation 5.11-14

John 21.1-19

4 Easter, May 8th

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Acts 9.36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7.9-17

John 10.22-30

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5 Easter, May 15th

ONE SERVICE ONLY on Pr. Luther's last Sunday

Highland Prairie-10 a.m.

Acts 11.1-18

Psalm 148

Revelation 21.1-6

John 13.31-25

6 Easter, May 22nd

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Acts 16.9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21.10, 22—22.5

John 14.23-29

7 Easter, May 29th

Highland Prairie-9:00 a.m.

Elstad-10:30 a.m.

Acts 16.16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22.12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17.20-26

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Pastor's Page

May 2022

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

I regard it as a blessing beyond adequate thanksgiving to have had the opportunity to serve as your pastor and be a member of this parish community of faith. You are the sixth parish God called me to serve. That he could use me as his instrument will always astound me. That I could serve among you! In this place! Such grace! Such mercy! I am humbled that such a gift has been granted to me.

Here, for the last five and a half years, Bobbi and I have enjoyed some of the best ministry years of our lives. You received us into your fellowship with grace. You provided us a grand and history-laden house in which to reside. This old farm boy, born and raised in these parts, was like a "kid in a candy store." I even had a place to park my tractor.

But the greatest blessing God has given to us has been the opportunity to be in fellowship with each and every one of you. Oh how I wish I could tell each and every one of you what a blessing you have been AND are to us. Those are blessings that will continue to be revealed to me and Bobbi in the days and years to come. We will undoubtedly look back with a dawning realization of the grace upon grace we received. That's just how it is.

A teacher of the church, Ralph C. Wood, much wiser than me, quoted another teacher, he avowed was much wiser than him. He wrote, "As St. Augustine teaches, our lives seem like a maze of chicken tracks during the living of them." That's how I am thinking about my comings and goings around this parish. I am so grateful for them. And then Wood continues: "Only in retrospect can we thankfully place our own little narratives with the divine Story." Our life together is part of a greater divine Story. That's how I am thinking, and will continue to think, about my life with you.

The path of my sojourn---my "pilgrim path"--- has stretched from a little town in the southeast corner of Minnesota as far as the desert southwest and then back again to this place in southeastern Minnesota---a place of rivers and bluffs and rich prairie farmland---among a stalwart people (that is, YOU!) who have granted unmerited blessings to me, my wife, and my family. I thank you for sharing your life with us. I thank God for the life we had together, and the way, because of his grace, we may continue to see it as part of that larger and grand eternal story---the story of his love in Christ. That is a great joy and comfort to me!

I hold you all in love in my heart. I will forever be grateful for you and my time with you. I pray you will continue to live in steadfast faith, anchored in the promise of Christ, and in whose grip we all remain.

Your brother in Christ,

Pr. Luther Mathsen+

Mission Table

The higher costs of nearly every provision needed for daily life in these days make life difficult for those who are in need. You continue to be encouraged to help those who have suffered nature's wrath through the ELCA's Disaster Relief Fund. This fund is also a good way to support our sisters and brothers in war-torn Ukraine. In addition, our continued support of the ELCA World Hunger Appeal helps 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 for all the reasons stated above. Our area SEMCAC food shelves' addresses are: Rushford (113 East Jessie St.) and Preston (515 Washington Street, NW).

Parish youth who will be affirming their faith in the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, May 1st, are: Cheyanne Dahle, Miley Knutson, Sari Rein, Jensyn Storhoff, Thea Arends, Aubrey Daniels, and Sawyer Wolfs. You are encouraged to remember them and their families in your prayers.

In this time of pastoral transition---the interim

Your parish council met with assistant to the bishop, Rev. Barb Streed on Tuesday, April 5th. At that meeting she explained the process that will lead to the calling of your next pastor. In the weeks ahead, you will be served by pastors from the synod's pulpit supply list. A pastor familiar to you, Pr. Kay Wold, has consented to provide some of that interim pastoral ministry when she is not occupied with other pastoral commitments. Pastoral emergencies will be addressed by pastors willing to help out until an interim minister is selected to serve the parish until you call your next pastor. You will be alerted to who you may call if needing pastoral care. During the days ahead, please let your parish leaders know your willingness to help out where help is needed. And, by all means, keep your parish leaders and the parish in your prayers as you attend to the work that needs to be accomplished in the ongoing ministry of the parish including the process of calling your new pastor.

Bulletin and newsletter material during the time of transition

During the time of pastoral transition, please make every attempt to get information that you would like added to the weekly bulletin or the monthly newsletter to parish secretary Lisa, in a timely manner. Bulletin material should be sent to her no later than Thursday of the week. Newsletter material deadline is printed on the calendar of the monthly newsletter. plm+

Provisional Concerns of Congregational Life

Your continuing consideration of your offerings that help the church carry out her public ministry 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 through Saturday, May 14. In the days following his departure, pastoral care will be delivered through pastor's who your parish council has secured in the interim.

Highland Prairie Lutheran Church Council Meeting

April 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Gordon Johnson.

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

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

Devotions were given by Pastor Luther.

There were no congregation members present.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Karen Bakken. Year to date information provided are income \$18,136.00 expenses \$19,837.00; expenses exceed income by \$1,701.00. A motion to approve as presented was made by Tim Stensgard, Lyle Meldahl, seconded. Motion carried.

The President's Report: None

The Pastor's Report was given by Pastor Luther: Pleased with Holy Week attendance and feeling people are coming back to services; Propose to discuss the singing of full liturgy at the next Parish meeting; Bulletin preparation is now back in Lisa's hands; May 2nd will be the Rite of Confirmation with 7 in our congregation Kenna Gudmundson, Lindsey Hoiness, Michael Evenson, Laci Sievers, Larissa Ryan, Caden Johnson and Damon Hubbard; Review on April 28th with no meal being served; Adult education course completed; 5th Grade Communion class is being offered; Upcoming Synod meeting; Home visits are being made as requested as well as nursing home visits; May 30th will be a vacation day. Read writing on the happenings in the church and the future of cooperatively moving forward.

Correspondence received: None

Committee Reports: Park and Bowl clean up needed

Old Business: Parking lot paving agreement received, signed and returned, begin date to be determined.

New Business: Locks on church, time to change and update the number of persons having keys and list of such. Tim Stensgard will get current info on door replacement/repair and costs of lock replacement.

Bark for rock garden: Bring in black dirt first and get wood chips.

Park and Bowl clean-up date will need to be set up.

Ball games and meals for Bowl services discussion on options of how to proceed.

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

A motion to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer was made by Tim Stensgard, Mary Gudmundson seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Gudmundson

Next meeting will be on May 16th at 7:30 pm at Highland Prairie.

Prayer Corner

Scripture tells us to pray without ceasing. Let's be known as a praying congregation. Please keep Wendy Will, Marge Jamieson, Michael Lockerby, Sterling Stoker, Christopher Freese and all others who are ill or in need of our prayers.

Elstad's Recognition Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 22nd. At this time, our newly baptized members, Cradle Roll graduates, confirmands, High School seniors, and any new members will be honored. Cake and coffee will be served following worship.

Sunday, May 22nd at Highland Prairie there will be a parish worship. Following worship will be a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall in recognition of Pr. Luther.

Elstad Budget for March 2022

March	\$ 6545.17
Received	\$ 5490.00
Under	\$ 1055.17
Elstad budget YTD	\$ 19635.51
Received YTD	\$ 21972.00
Over YTD	\$ 2336.49

Highland Prairie Financial for March 2021

YTD Income	\$ 19,659
YTD Expenses	\$ 22,083
Expenses exceed Income	\$ 2,424
YTD Budget	\$ 24,600
YTD Income	\$ 19,659
YTD Under	\$ 4,941

MAY 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



1~ Sawyer Wolfs
2~ James Mensink
3~ Eric Storhoff
6~ JoAnne Anderson
~ Daniel Storhoff
~ Bruce Thompson
8~ Hayven Dahl
9~ Pamela Johnson
~ Adam Rislov
10~ Sean Pederson
~ Carol Anfinson
12~ Robert Dahl
~ Kiah Halverson
~ Kiera Pepin
13~ Elaine Rygmer
~ Alexander Mierau
~ Morgan Nelson
15~ Fred Kiel
~ Aaron Topness
16~ Cashton Dahl
~ Jaxie Dahl
17~ Loren Flattum
18~ Jennifer Stensgard

18~ Kimberly Lee
19~ Yvonne Freese
20~ Mike Chiglo
~ John Peterson
~ Clara Hoiland
22~ Nicholas Bakke
~ Jana Boyum
23~ Kyle Daniels
24~ Carson Johnson
25~ Tina Westby
~ Harper Kanz
26~ Lisa Sievers
~ Jarad Olson
27~ Jordan Kiel
~ Quentin Daniels
~ Adelyn Pearce
~ Dylan Ghoorah
28~ Gavin Pearce
29~ Diane Haight
~ Bereket Rebhahn
31~ Katie Gellerson
~ Nicole Woxland
~ Brody Gellerson

11~ Peter & Shelly Stensgard
15~ Wayne & Joan
Finnegan
19~ Robert & Sharon
Knutson
22~ John & Michelle Rein
27~ Stan & Cindy Sveen
29~ Pastor Luther & Bobbi
Mathsen
31~ Doug & Becky Lind

MAY

2022

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—EL 9:30 a.m.— SS Confirmation Sunday	2	3	4 Bulletin Deadline	5	6	7
8 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:00 a.m.—SS 10:30 a.m.—EL 9:30 a.m.— SS Bulletin Deadline	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 10:00 a.m., Parish Worship @ Highland Prairie Baptism @ HP Council Meetings @ Highland Prairie 5:30—Elstad 6:30—Parish 7:30—Highland Prairie Bulletin Deadline	16	17	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21 Memorial for Marth Ferden 11:00 a.m. @ HP
22 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:30 a.m.—EL Bulletin Deadline	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:00 a.m.—HP 10:30 a.m.—EL	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



HIGHLAND PRAIRIE
ACOLYTES/READERS/GREETERS

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022

ACOLYTES: GRANT DEGEORGE, CHASE HUMBLE
READERS: LACI SIEVERS, SCOTT BESTUL
GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

ACOLYTES: CHASE HUMBLE, CHEYANNE DAHLE
READERS: CADEN JOHNSON, LYNNETTE PEDERSON
GREETERS: ALLAN SKALET & KAY EIKEN

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

ACOLYTES: CHEYANNE DAHLE, CARSON JOHNSON
READERS: LARISSA RYAN, SYLVIA PASSOW
GREETERS: GORDON & ARLENE JOHNSON

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022

ACOLYTES: CARSON JOHNSON, CREIGHTON HOINESS
READERS: MICHAEL EVENSON, ARLENE JOHNSON
GREETERS: SHARON & PAUL EHLER

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2022

ACOLYTES: CREIGHTON HOINESS, BRODE VICKERMAN
READERS: DANA DEGEORGE, SHARON EHLER
GREETERS: LYLE & ANN MELDAHL

ELSTAD
ACOLYTES/READERS/USHERS

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022

ACOLYTE: THEA ARENDS
READERS: JENSYN STORHOFF, LORI BAKKE

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

ACOLYTE: SARI REIN
READERS: MILEY KNUTSON, VICKY TOPNESS

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

PARISH WORSHIP @ HP 10:00 A.M.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2022

ACOLYTE: MILEY KNUTSON
READERS: SAWYER WOLFS, CAROLYN SMITH

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2022

ACOLYTE: AUBREY DANIELS
READERS: THEA ARENDS, TOM DYBING

USHERS: VICKY TOPNESS, GENE TOPNESS,
LARRY TOPNESS, COLIN BAKKE,
MIKE CHIGLO, MATT NELSON