



## Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 22 No. 3 May-June 2017

### A New Chapter: Graduation and Beyond

Recently, I have been spending a lot of time in the letters of Peter and in fact have been preaching through 1 Peter in my radio sermons for our local Echoes of Mercy radio program and have now decided to preach through the letters of Peter for our congregation. Peter being a disciple of Jesus while he was here on this earth had a tremendous witness to the majesty of Christ and His gospel as he himself says in 2 Peter 1:16-18. His letters are simply a message to us who have received the revelation of Jesus Christ, to live out our existence here in this world as the imitators of Jesus in the power of His resurrection, His resurrection which has become our own resurrection. As I thought of the message that Peter was bringing to the people of his day, I was struck by the power of the word of God and how it not only addresses its original audience, but still addresses us powerfully today. Indeed it is an eternal message that will have its effect in the hearts and minds of people until the day that Christ is seen by sight and we no longer walk by faith. I wonder if Peter the fisherman who becomes “a fisher of men” had any realization of the impact that his letters would have. That, in fact, what he wrote would become not just Peter’s words but the word of God. It is this word of God and its message that speaks mightily yet today. It is a message for young and old alike.

With that thought in mind I would like to address this article to our young adults who are graduating from high school and considering what their next chapter in life will bring them. Consider always what the word of God says and how it addresses you who are believers living in the year of our Lord, 2017. Peter writes in 1 Peter 1:13-16 “Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.” Peter is telling us and you to have the understanding of your salvation through the finished work of Christ clear in your minds. He uses the imagery of wrapping a belt around your mind just like the ancients who wore long robes would do when they needed to move quickly, they would tuck their long robes into their belt so they wouldn’t impede their movements. So you as

well are to have this understanding clear in your minds as you embark on this new chapter in your life. Have your hope completely on the grace of God that is being brought to you by the revelation of Jesus Christ. You are holy so walk as the obedient children of God not being shaped by the things of this world that are contrary to Christ, but rather walking as those who are set apart by Him. You have been purchased with a great price, not with this world’s currency, but by the precious blood of Christ. It is by the revelation of Christ that you are able to be believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave him splendor, so that your faith and hope are in God. It is the word of God that has accomplished all of this as it is a living and eternal word. Young people do not neglect the word of God or its teachings. Peter writes later 1 Peter 2:11-12 “*Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.*” Although we are temporary residents in this world we are the eternal residents of Heaven. Peter encourages us and you, as citizens of heaven, to abstain from the passions of the flesh which war against your soul. Live your lives with honor among the unconverted so when they speak badly about you, they will by your noble behavior praise God on the day of their conversion. It is your witness to Jesus Christ that will have an impact on your colleagues and friends. Live as people who are free, but don’t use your freedom to cover up evil. Respect everyone you encounter especially those in authority over you. Go to church and enjoy the fellowship of believers. Live in reverence of your God who has given you life and salvation. Finally and most importantly, Remain close to the Good Shepherd and Overseer of your lives, Jesus the Christ. He will never leave you or forsake you and will be with you always until the final chapter is reached and you come to not “the end” but rather you step into eternity. God bless you as turn the page of the current chapter of your life and begin the next.

God’s Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

## Birth Announcements

Russell & Eunika Aho announce the birth of their 4th child. Ava Gladys was born on April 11, 2017 at Tri-County Hospital in Wadena. Ava weighed 9 pounds



4 ounces and was 21.5 inches tall. Ava was welcomed home by her parents, sisters Jade & Jessa and brother Holden.

Her grandparents are Victor Sr. & Lola Aho of Menahga and Jesse & Gladys Fraki of Ottertail, MN.

Reid & Ashley Aho announce the birth of their 3rd child. Eleanor Lou was born on April 20, 2017 at the Detroit Lakes Hospital. Eleanor weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces and was 18.5 inches tall.



Eleanor was welcomed home by her parents, sister Matilda and brother Oliver. Her grandparents are Nola Aho of rural Frazee, and Eric & Patsie Krook of New Ipswich, NH.

## Grandchild Announcement

Paul & Esther Impola and Shirley Kangas announce the birth of a grandson. Simeon Randall was born on April 27th, 2017 to Philip & Amber Impola of South Carolina.

## Confirmation Classes

Confirmation Classes will be held Monday, June 26th to Friday, June 30th, 2017. Classes will be held at the church from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Confirmation Service will be Sunday, July 2, 2017 at 10:30 A.M. with dinner following the service.

## Apostolic Lutheran Church Convention

*"...let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee"*  
Psalms 5:11.

### 2017 Annual Convention of the Apostolic Lutheran Churches of America July 13th -July 16th, 2017

The Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church Congregation invites you to attend the 109th Annual Convention of the Apostolic Lutheran Church of America.

The convention will be held at the Esko High School, 2 East Highway 61, Esko, MN from July 13th - July 16th, 2017.

Information regarding our service schedule and lodging information will be posted on the [www.apostoliclutheran.org](http://www.apostoliclutheran.org) website, as well as our Facebook page: ALC Convention 2017.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you soon and we pray for God's blessings as we continue to fellowship around His Word.

On behalf of the 2017 ALC Convention Committee,

Mike Liikala, Chairman - 218-391-6860

Loren Bergstedt, Co-Chairman - 218-390-5797

## Summer Schedule

Starting Sunday, June 4th, 2017, services will begin at 10:30 AM on Sunday mornings for the months of June, July and August.

## Sunday School Picnic

The Sunday School Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 11, 2017 at the Wolf Lake Waterfront Park. Everyone is invited to join us for food and fellowship following the morning service.

## Baptisms



Everly MiKayla Aho, daughter of Rosten & Tori Aho of Wolf Lake, was baptized on Saturday, April 22, 2017, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Raul Aho, Tamar Aho, and Tyler & Emily Peterson. Her grandparents are Nola Aho of rural Frazee, Jason Peterson of Menahga, Josh & Melanie Byman of rural Sebeka. Her great-grandparents are Norman & Terri Peterson of Menahga, Ronald & Naomi Hunga of Menahga, and Jim & Doris Matson of Washington.



Kalea Rose Aho, daughter of Marlin & Ashlyn Aho of Wolf Lake, was baptized on Sunday, April 2, 2017, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Rodney & Hannah Aho of Wolf Lake and Aubree Matson of Greer, SC. Her grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee and Roger & Priscilla Matson of Greer, SC. Her great-grandparents are Doug & Donna Coponen of Greer, SC.

## Remember in Prayer

*"...pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16)*

- 2017 Graduates
- Family of Norman Kangas
- Armas Aho
- Victor Aho Sr.
- Patricia Aho
- Sheila Hendrickson
- John Snelling
- Ralph Kandoll
- Irene Koskela
- Linda Aho
- Richard Yliniemi
- Clifford Koskela
- Joan Koskela
- Marvin & June Nelmark
- Lila Yliniemi
- Art Latto
- Marge Kumma
- Martha Aho
- Billy Nelmark
- Our Church, our Pastor and Church leaders.
- National Leaders
- Our Widows
- Our Missionaries
- Our Children & Youth
- Our Military
- Our Elderly
- Sunday School Teachers & Students



Raylee Grace Impola, daughter of Jethro & Molly Impola of rural Menahga, was baptized on Friday, April 21, 2017, at the home of her parents by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Jamie & Tamra Aho of Wadena and Philip & Amber Impola of South Carolina. Her grandparents are Paul & Esther Impola of rural Sebeka and Tom & Wendy Hanson of Oregon. Her great-grandparents are Jennie Hanson of rural Frazee, Elma Impola of Menahga, and Betty Barney of South Carolina.

## News & Notes

- Pastor Dennis & Miriam Hannu traveled to Tri-Cities, WA where special services were held with Pastor Dennis as the guest speaker.
- Paul & Esther Impola traveled to WA.
- Pastor Elmer & Miriam Yliniemi traveled to MI.
- Betsy Impola traveled to WA.
- Raymond & Janet Aho traveled to NC.
- Jeff & Rosy Kinnunen traveled to MI.
- Aleathea Impola traveled to WA.
- Miriam Hannu, Katie Aho & Jolene Aho took a group of 17 youth from our church to the Spring Youth Rally in South Range, MI.
- Calvin & Kaitlyn Impola traveled to WA.
- Kent Aho traveled to MI.
- Harvey & Patricia Aho traveled to NH.
- A Bridal Shower was held for Layla Aho at the Church on April 30.



Some of the visitors the last few months were:

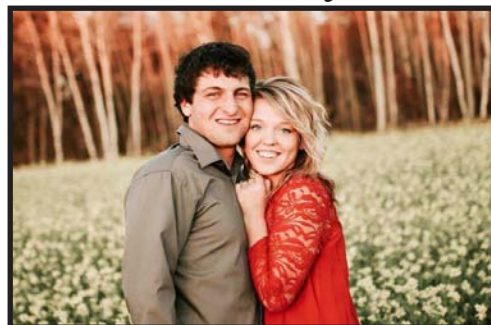
- Pastor Arvo & Ritva Onermaa from MI.
- Pastor Steve & Jackie Wuori from Canada.
- Pastor Steve Estola & Robyn Estola and children from MI.
- Heather Muhonen from NH.
- Alan & Val Estola from MI.
- Kevin & Ann Ruotsala from MI.
- Marla Kandoll from WA.
- Heidi Aho from NH.
- Chad Raasio, Devin Raasio, Orrin Erickson & Anders Juntunen from MI.
- Jake & Holly Latto and family from Canada.
- Bruce & Erica West & family from SD.
- Drake & Emily Anderson & Lane from SD.
- Tom & Wendy Hanson & family from OR.
- Todd & Rhonda Niskanen and Brandon from SC.
- Doug & Donna Coponen from SC.
- Walt Ketola from NC.
- Patsie Krook from NH.
- Luke Aho from NH.
- Priscilla Matson & Aubree from SC.
- Heather Marelli & Alyssa from Canada.
- RaeAnn Malysh from Canada.
- Sharon Estola from MI.
- And many more.

Thanks to those who visit here, we are truly blessed.

## Wedding Invitation

BECAUSE YOU HAVE SHARED IN THEIR LIVES BY YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE YOU ARE INVITED TO SHARE WITH OUR CHILDREN

*Layla Anna*  
and  
*Derek Wayne*



AS THEY PLEDGE THEIR LOVE AS ONE.  
SATURDAY, THE TWENTY-SECOND OF JULY  
TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN  
AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON  
SPRUCE GROVE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WOLF LAKE, MINNESOTA

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND, WE ASK YOUR PRESENCE IN THOUGHT AND PRAYER

*Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Aho*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Daran Borth*

RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

## Thank You

Over the past 2 months Spruce Grove Church has hosted Pastor Steve Wuori from Canada, Pastor Arvo Onermaa from MI, Pastor Steve Estola from MI, Goren Esberg from Sweden and Markus Grankulla from Finland as guest speakers in our church. Thank you to these speakers for sharing the word of God with our church.

Spruce Grove ALC,

Thank you so much for remembering us during Tyler's rough start to life with the Visa Card. It's such a blessing to be part of the body of Christ and to feel the prayers of our brothers and sisters carrying us through. May He continue to bless you all!

God's Peace, Amos, Emma, Alizah, Ezra, Annabelle & Tyler Traffic

## 2017 Graduates



**Kent Aho**

Son of  
Tim & Sarah Aho  
Forest Edge Academey  
& MState-Degree in  
Automotive Technology



**Lily Aho**

Daughter of  
Harry & Lori Aho  
Menahga High School



**Damon Howard**

Son of  
Jeremy & Katie Howard  
Menahga High School



**Betsy Impola**

Daughter of  
Paul & Esther Impola  
Homeschool



**Canton Matson**

Son of  
Lyle & Rebecca Matson  
Menahga High School  
& MState-AA Degree



**Dexter Sikkila**

Son of  
Jared & Kendra Sikkila  
New Creation  
Academy



**Tessa Siltala**

Daughter of  
Nathan & Stephanie Siltala  
Holdingford High School

**Shandra Siltala**  
Graduated from M  
State Wadena with  
Massage Therapy  
Diploma

### Graduation Open Houses

**Everyone is welcome to attend the  
Graduation Open Houses!**

An Open House will be held for **Dexter Sikkila** on  
Sunday, May 21st, 2017 from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M. at his  
home.

An Open House will be held for **Damon Howard** on  
Saturday, May 27th from 4:00 to 7:00 P.M. at his home.

An Open House will be held for **Kent Aho, Lily Aho,  
Betsy Impola, Canton Matson & Tessa Siltala** at the  
Spruce Grove Church on Sunday, May 28th from Noon  
to 3:00 P.M.

***Congratulations to all the Graduates!  
We pray God's blessings & guidance for  
you now and always.***

### Milestones

Olavi Seppala ~ 93rd Birthday - 5/4/2017  
Marge Kumma ~ 86th Birthday - 5/9/2017  
Madelyn Keranen ~ 10th Birthday - 5/29/2017  
Eunika Aho ~ 30th Birthday - 6/1/2017  
Tim Aho ~ 40th Birthday - 6/13/2017  
Levi Yliniemi ~ 40th Birthday - 6/13/2017  
Izaiah Aho ~ 10th Birthday - 6/24/2017

### Sunday Meals at Church Notice

If you are on a dinner group, but not serving on a Sunday when there is a meal, please bring a dessert and a salad. If you are not on a group and would like to bring either a salad or dessert, please feel free to do so. All meals will be potluck unless announced in church.

### Cookbooks For Sale

Spruce Grove Church has 2 cookbooks for sale. Tastes for All Seasons (#1) and Feed on His Word (#2). If you would like to purchase a cookbook, please contact Amanda Aho. The cost is \$12.50 per book; shipping is \$2.50 per book. Make checks payable to Spruce Grove Church Ladies and send to: Amanda Aho, 15610 490th Ave., Menahga, MN 56464. Please specify how many and which cookbook(s) you would like to purchase: cookbook #1 or cookbook #2.

**Reminder:** When there is a funeral at the church, there is usually a need for desserts and bars for after the meal.

### Radio Broadcast

Echoes of Mercy broadcast KWAD Wadena 920 & 1430 AM Sundays: 8:05 A.M. Sponsored by Spruce Grove, Menahga and New York Mills Apostolic Lutheran Churches

### Church Website

You are invited to check out the church website at: [www.sprucegrovealc.org](http://www.sprucegrovealc.org). Services are live online and are also recorded and may be accessed any time. Please call the church at (218) 538-6540 if you have any problems.

### Newsletter

The newsletter is also available online, if you prefer not to receive the newsletter by mail, please e-mail [sgalcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:sgalcnewsletter@gmail.com) and ask to be removed from our mailing list. Also if you know of anyone who would like to receive our newsletter, please call the church at 218-538-6540 and leave the name & address of the person who would like to receive it.

### Telephone Services

Services can be listened to over the telephone, please check the calendar for details.

Non-Profit Org.  
Permit # 11  
U.S. POSTAGE  
Menahga, MN  
56464

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church  
15275 Co. Hwy 45  
Menahga, MN 56464

# MAY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
<b>7</b> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Patricia & Ramona Sound: Neil	<b>8</b> 7:30 Board Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Betsy Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 9	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <i>Mother's Day</i> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Alvin	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
<b>21</b> <b>Last Day of Sunday School</b> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Chet	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Menahga/Sebeka Graduation Ceremonies	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Ramona Sound: Jamin	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> GPA Nursing Home Service at 2:00 P.M.	<b>31</b> Family Bible Study 8:00 PM			

The numbers to dial to listen to the services over the telephone are:

Wolf Lake: 538-1030      Menahga: 564-1030  
Aldrich: 445-1030      Nimrod: 472-1030  
Sebeka: 837-1030

The pin number will be 787565# for all services. When you call in, you will be asked for the participant code and that is when you will dial the pin number followed by the #. Then it will ask for your name, this is optional, you can either say your name and press # or just stay on the line and it will connect you after about 5 seconds.

## MayCleaning Group

### Nola Aho

Lyle & Rebecca Matson  
Reino & Peggy Aho  
Jeremy & Katie Howard  
Charles & Leila Aho  
James & Delfina Aho

\* Just a reminder, the coffee group #'s are on the calendar to remind you are serving. There is a possibility of those numbers changing because of church cancellations, so please double check with the head of the kitchen to make

# JUNE 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
4 Worship Service & Communion 10:30 A.M. Organists: Betsy & Carrie Sound: Chet	5	6	7	8	9 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Megan Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 10	10
11 Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Patricia Sound: Alvin <b>Sunday School Picnic</b>	12	13	14	15	16	17 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
18 <i>Father's Day</i> Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Neil	19	20	21	22	23 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Betsy Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 11	24
25 Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Carrie Sound: Jamin	26	27	28	29	30	7/1 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
	<b>Confirmation Classes 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM</b>					
		Green Pine Acres Nursing Home Service 2:00 PM			Song Service 8:00 PM Organist: Sarah Coffee Group # 1	
7/2 <b>Confirmation</b> Worship Service & Communion 10:30 A.M. Organists: Deborah & Patricia Sound: Chet	7/3	7/4 Independence Day	7/5	7/6	7/7	7/8
7/9 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Ramona Sound: Alvin	7/10	7/11	7/12	<b>Apostolic Lutheran Church Convention July 13-16</b>		
7/16 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Jamin						

The numbers to dial to listen to the services over the telephone are:

Wolf Lake: 538-1030      Menahga: 564-1030  
Aldrich: 445-1030      Nimrod: 472-1030  
Sebeka: 837-1030

The pin number will be 787565# for all services. When you call in, you will be asked for the participant code and that is when you will dial the pin number followed by the #. Then it will ask for your name, this is optional, you can either say your name and press # or just stay on the line and it will connect you after about 5 seconds.

**June Cleaning Group**  
**Russell & Eunika Aho**  
Harry & Lori Aho  
Loren & Karla Impola  
Rosten & Tori Aho  
Calvin & Kaitlyn Impola  
Isak Yliniemi