



Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 24 No. 1 January-February 2019

Clothed with Salvation and Robed in Righteousness

Have you ever noticed how you feel when you purchase new clothes and wear them for the first time? It is as if you are a new person and you enjoy how the clothes look on you and perhaps the comments people make as they observe your new outfit. Perhaps you find yourself wearing your new clothes more than the older clothes hanging in your closet even if the older ones are in good shape yet. The new ones just seem to have a greater appeal to you and you find yourself drawn to them every time you are looking for something to wear. In a small way your new clothes bring you some happiness.

Have you ever thought about our new clothes that God has given us in Christ? The prophet Isaiah 61:10-11 *“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.”* We are clothed by our God with the garments of salvation and this clothing never goes out of style. It is greater than any name brand you can find in the stores of this world. This clothing is so beautiful that we never grow tired of how it looks on us. This clothing never has to be washed or ironed as it is perfect in every way. This clothing is not available for purchasing and no amount of money can buy it anyway because it is free, given to us by our gracious Heavenly Father, who prepared it for us by the work of His Son. This clothing not only covers us with salvation but also

gives us the righteousness of God. We are robed in righteousness which means that this clothing gives us all that we need to be right in the eyes of our God. When our God sees us dressed in this clothing we are acceptable unto Him and the really cool thing is that He himself is the One who puts the clothing on us. He makes us beautiful by the finished work of Jesus Christ. We often have the wrong perspective of ourselves or at least we focus our attention on the old clothing that we have in this flesh, clothing that wears out and constantly needs cleaning. Our focus should be instead on this new clothing that we have received from God Himself. He has adorned us in the garments of salvation and robes us in His righteousness. This is accomplished through the “Great Exchange” KJV 2 Corinthians 5:21 *“For he hath made him (Jesus) to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”*

In this New Year we need to be mindful of who we are because of and through Christ. He is the One who has redeemed us with His own blood. He took upon Himself our old clothing that was saturated with sin and corruption and took it to His cross removing its curse and condemnation from us and granting unto us the new clothing of the righteousness of God. This wedding garment of our God carries with it the passport that guarantees a safe passage across the border of death into eternity. This clothing brings me the greatest joy because I recognize that it is clothing given to me by God Himself and so I am joyful in my God. May God be praised for His tremendous love for us!! In this New Year enjoy your new clothing in Christ!!

God's Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Birth Announcements

Nate & Carrie Aho announce the birth of their third child. Stefen Alan Aho was born on December 12, 2018 at Essentia Health St. Mary's Health in Detroit Lakes, MN. Stefen weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 inches tall.



Stefen was welcomed by his parents, brother-Samuel and sister-Reyna. Stefen's grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee and Craig & Lisa Sunnarborg of Battle Ground, WA.

Special Services

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church will be holding Special Services from Friday, March 1st through Sunday, March 3rd.

Pastor Nathan Juntunen from Esko, MN and Pastor Aaron Hendrickson from Seattle, WA will be the guest speakers for the services.

Services will be held Friday evening at 7:30 PM, Saturday evening at 7:30 PM and Sunday at 11:00 AM and 1:45 PM. Coffee will be served after the evening and afternoon services and dinner will be served after the Sunday morning service.

There will also be a seminar on Saturday at 1:30 P.M. More information will be announced at church.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Lent Services

Lent Services begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6th at 7:30 PM. The services will continue on Wednesdays throughout the months of March & April.

The Maundy Thursday Service is April 18, Good Friday Service is April 19 and Easter is April 21st.

Please join us as we gather in worship and fellowship in the weeks leading up to the celebration of Christ's resurrection from the grave.

Baptisms



Glynnis Emelia Matson, daughter of Lyle & Rebecca Matson of rural Frazee, was baptized on Sunday, December 9, 2018, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsor is Micah Aho of Menahga. Her grandparents are Victor & Lola Aho of Menahga and Jack & Ann Matson of WA. Her great-grandparents are Elma Impola of Sebekka and MaryAnn Seppala of FL.



Zayic Marlin Aho, son of Marlin & Ashlyn Aho of Wolf Lake, was baptized on Sunday, December 23, 2018, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. His sponsors are Jared & Jolene Aho of rural Frazee and Brock & Ramona Anderson of rural Menahga. His grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee and Roger & Priscilla Matson of Campobello, SC. His great-grandparents are Doug & Donna Coponen of Greer, SC.

Sunday School Christmas Program



The Spruce Grove Sunday School Christmas Program was held on December 16th, 2018. Pictured below are the children in Pre-school through 9th grade singing the closing songs. There are over 110 children in Sunday School this year.

YOUTH WEEKEND



The Youth of Spruce Grove Church hosted a Youth Weekend at the Church from December 28th to December 31st. with over 70 youth from MN, MI, SD, WA, NH & Canada attending.

Fruits of the Spirit

"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good, or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit." Matthew 12:33

Pastor Dale Niskanen & Pastor Dennis Hannu were the speakers over the weekend.

~Thank you to all those who came, we were glad you were here.

~Thank you to those who helped with food, supervising or just being a part of the weekend. Your efforts were greatly appreciated.

News & Notes

- Keith & Jamie Aho & family traveled to NH.
- Charles & Leila Aho & family traveled to MI.
- Mark & Shari Aho traveled to NH.
- Les & Marsha Hanson traveled to CO.
- Katie Aho & 3 daughters traveled to AZ.
- Tanya Sauvola & family traveled to CO.
- Paul & Esther Impola traveled to MI.
- Curtis & Ruby Aho & family traveled to TX.
- Victor Jr & Stacy Aho & family traveled to MI.
- David & Loretta Olson & family traveled to SD.
- Tamra Aho traveled to CO.
- Nick & Megan Aho & family traveled to MI.

Some of the visitors the last few months were:

- Jethro & Molly Impola & family from SD.
- Brent & Karen Seppanen & family from SD.
- Alan & Val Estola & family from MI.
- Ruth Farrey from WA.
- Neal & Marla Kandoll & family from WA.
- Roger & Priscilla Matson & family from SC.
- Fiore & Heather Marelli & family from Canada.
- Chad & Dara Raasio from MI.
- William & Anna Aho & family from MI.
- Jonathan Aho from NH.
- Naaman & Lila Impola & family from MI.
- Tauno & Megan Olson & family from SD.
- Bruce & Erica West & family from SD.
- Daryl & Elina Matson & family from SC.
- Many youth for the Youth Weekend from across the U.S. and Canada.

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

Listen in to our Worship Services

The numbers to dial to listen to the services over the telephone are: Wolf Lake: 538-1030 / Menahga: 564-1030 / 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.

Engagement



Kent Aho & Alyssa Marrelli announced their engagement on December 26th, 2018.

Kent lives near Wolf Lake, MN and is the son of Tim & Sarah Aho and is employed by Max Pro Concrete of Menahga, MN.

Alyssa lives in Devon, Alberta, Canada and is the daughter of Fiore & Heather Marrelli of Alberta, Canada and is employed by Boston Pizza in Devon.

They are planning their wedding for the summer of 2019.

Milestones

Adrian & Tamra Aho

~ 10th Anniversary - 1/17/2019

Jaquelyn Aho

~ 10th Birthday - 1/27/2019

Hazel Aho

~ 79th Birthday - 1/21/2019

Harry Aho

~ 60th Birthday - 2/15/2019

Harvey Aho

~ 60th Birthday - 2/15/2019

Shari Aho

~ 60th Birthday - 2/16/2019

Harry & Lori Aho

~ 40th Anniversary - 2/17/2019

Miriam Yliniemi

~ 81st Birthday - 2/19/2019

Thank You

We would like to thank the congregation and Sunday School for the prayers and the gift cards we received during Isak's hospitalization and illness.

Also, thank you to everyone that remembered us with cards, gifts, and visits to the hospital.

It was all very much appreciated.

We ask your continued prayers as we travel to the Mayo Clinic 2 more times in February.

“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Eph. 5:20)

May the Lord Bless you for your thoughtfulness.

Gods Peace! Elmer, Miriam and Isak Yliniemi

Remember in Prayer

- Family of Billy Nelmark
- Family of Paul Suomala
- Isak Yliniemi
- Elma Impola
- Family of Richard Yliniemi
- Family of Lila Yliniemi
- Reino Aho
- Tim (Jill) Aho
- Jamie Aho
- Jared & Melinda Niemala & family
- Ralph Kandoll
- Linda Aho
- Joan Koskela
- Clifford & Irene Koskela
- Marvin & June Nelmark
- Martha Aho
- Our Church, our Pastor and Church leaders.
- National Leaders
- Our Widows
- Our Missionaries
- Our Children & Youth
- Our Military
- Our Elderly

Funeral

William H. “Billy” Nelmark was born October 20, 1939 in Chicago, Illinois, the third child of Henry and Marie (Erkkila) Nelmark. Billy entered his heavenly home on Jan. 25, 2019 at Ecumen – Emmanuel Nursing Home in Detroit Lakes, MN.



When Billy and his parents moved the family from Chicago to the farm he attended Toad Lake Country School and later Frazee High School. Billy worked for McRays Manufacturing, Crane Construction, and Rock Road Construction in Chicago. He was later employed by Johnson Brothers Bridge Work in Mpls, MN. He then returned to Toad Lake to help his parents on the farm.

Due to failing health, Billy left his lifetime farm home in Toad Lake Township and moved to the Lamplighter Manor in Detroit Lakes. He made friends easily and enjoyed socializing with the residents and staff.

Billy enjoyed children and they loved him back. He enjoyed all his nieces and nephews. He loved to dance and was a pretty good dancer too. He enjoyed wrestling, basketball, and football, and as a spectator attended many games at Frazee High School. He was awarded wrestling fan of the year in 2006. Billy was a charter member of the Wolf Lake Lions Club.

He is survived by brothers, Marvin (June) Nelmark and Joel (Sandy) Nelmark and sisters, Kathleen (Roger) Wacker and Laura (Gail Chase) Christofferson, along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Carolyn Fiore and brother, Charles Nelmark.

Memorial Services were held on Friday February 1, 2019; 11:00 a.m. at Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church in Wolf Lake, MN.

The family would like to extend a special thank-you to Red River Valley Hospice for their exceptional care, along with the staff of Ecumen.



Assembling boxes



Youth learned about packing the boxes



Our Church Thrivent team and church youth participated in Operation Christmas Child. 100 boxes were prepared and delivered to collection site. Following the event the group enjoyed Pizza and dessert.



Many good buys were found



Packing boxes



100 boxes packed in Van delivered to drop-off site



FEBRUARY - MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2/3 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan & Patricia Sound: Tyrone	2/4	2/5	2/6 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	2/7	2/8	2/9
2/10 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Mona Sound: Chet	7:30 Board Meeting	2/12	2/13 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	2/14	2/15	Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
2/17 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Jamin	2/18	2/19	2/20 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	2/21	2/22 Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Patricia Sound: Alvin Coffee Group # 7	2/23
2/24 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Betsy Sound: Neil	2/25	2/26 GPA Nursing Home Service at 2:00 P.M.	2/27 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	2/28 Guest Speakers: Nathan Juntunen & Aaron Hendrickson	Special Services March 1-3, 2019 Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Sarah Sound: Chet Coffee Group # 8	
3/3 Worship Service & Communion 11:00 A.M. Organists: Patricia & Deborah Sound: Nate Dinner Following the Service Grp #2	3/4 Worship Service 1:45 P.M. Organist: Betsy Sound: Tyrone Coffe Group # 10	3/5	3/6 Ash Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Organist: Mona Sound: Alvin Coffee Group # 2	3/7	3/8	3/9
3/10 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Guest Speaker: Don Salo Organist: Sarah Sound: Jamin Dinner Following the Service Grp #3	7:30 Board Meeting	3/12	3/13 Lent Service 7:30 P.M. Organist: Carrie Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 2	3/14	3/15	Youth Group 7:30 P.M.

February Cleaning Group

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

On Saturday, March 2, of the Special Services
 there will be a seminar at 1:30 P.M.

Reminder

Reminder for Cleaning Groups: If your name is first on the list for your cleaning group, it is your responsibility to let everyone else on your group know that it is your month to clean. If you are unable to clean when it is your group, please ask to switch months with someone on another group.

The church needs to be thoroughly cleaned once a month and please check the church after evening services.

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.

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

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.

Radio Broadcast

Echoes of Mercy broadcast on Sundays: KWAD Wadena 920 & 1430 AM at 8:05 A.M. and KKCQ 96.7 FM Fosston at 10:35 AM 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. 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 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
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Menahga, MN
56464

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