



Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 24 No. 2 March - April 2019

Jesus, Keep me Near the Cross

One of my favorite hymns that we sing during lent is this one written by Francis Jane Crosby, "Jesus, Keep me Near the Cross", it was first published in 1869 and remains one of Crosby's best known hymns. It has been translated into several languages, including German, Russian, Haitian Creole, and Spanish. Its message is very fitting for the season of Lent and as we make our way toward Holy Week and the events of Good Friday. The message of the cross is both foolishness and power as Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthian church: 1 Corinthians 1:18 *"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."* The cross and its message speak to us of the marvelous work of God for His people which is why Paul again writes: 1 Corinthians 2:2 *"For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."* The cross and its message break through the barriers that we set up as humans and unites us under its banner. The shadow of the cross as Crosby puts it in the 3rd stanza of her hymn carries to all the message of forgiveness. We live with this constant reminder of the grace and forgiveness of our God, and when we forget we again sing "Jesus, keep me near the cross, There a precious fountain, Free to all, a healing stream, Flows form Calvary's mountain." The cross, which by the way was a Roman instrument of torture, indicates just how far our God was willing to go in order to save us. It is why Paul when he concludes his letter to the church in Galatia writes: Galatians 6:14-15 *"But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."* In the message of the cross I am brought to an end according to my old nature and am raised again unto newness of life. Another way of saying this is that in Christ I am

brought to death and in Christ I am made alive. This is why the cross and its message is so powerful. I just love how this hymn carries this message forward, so here are its lyrics: 1. "Jesus, keep me near the cross, There a precious fountain, Free to all, a healing stream, Flows from Calvary's mountain." 2. "Near the cross, a trembling soul, Love and mercy found me; There the Bright and Morning Star, Sheds its beams around me." 3. "Near the Cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes before me; Help me walk from day to day, With its shadow o'er me." 4. "Near the cross I'll watch and wait, Hoping, trusting ever, Till I reach the golden strand, Just beyond the river." Then the refrain: "In the cross, in the cross, Be my glory ever, Till my raptured soul shall find, Rest beyond the river. Amen."

I glory in the cross because in its message I find eternal life as Jesus said to Nicodemus in the gospel of John 3:14-17 *"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."* It's ironic really that in the message of an instrument of death is the message of life and not just any old life, but eternal life. It's not hard to see then why some would count the preaching of the cross as foolish, but may it be that the revelation of the cross and its message would be given to all. Jesus, keep me near the cross until that day when its shadow falls away and I see you face to face in glory!! Praise God for the message of the cross!!

God's Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Birth Announcements

Derek & Layla Borth announce the birth of their first child. Brooke Christina Borth was born on March 1st, 2019 at the Perham Hospital in Perham, MN. Brooke weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches tall.

Brooke's grandparents are Harvey & Patricia Aho of rural Frazee and Daran & Christina Borth of rural Menahga.



Jason & Amy Aho announce the birth of their sixth child. Anlyn Jenna Aho was born on March 4th, 2019 at Essentia Health St. Mary's Health in Detroit Lakes, MN. Anlyn weighed 8 pounds, 1.7 ounces and was 20.5 inches tall.

Anlyn was welcomed by her parents, sisters: Annika, Anjalie & Anaya and brothers: Andreas & Anden. Anlyn's grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee and Bruce & Chris Sarkela of FL.



Lent & Holy Week Services

Lent Services began on Ash Wednesday, March 6th at 7:30 PM. The services will continue on Wednesdays throughout the month of March and into April.

The Maundy Thursday Service is April 18 with Holy Communion, Good Friday Service is April 19 and Easter Sunday is April 21st. There will be a meal served following the service on Easter Sunday.

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.

Guest Speakers

Don Salo will be our guest speaker on Sunday, March 30th.

Ryan Kandoll will be our guest speaker on Palm Sunday, April 14th.

Meals will be served following these services.

Baptisms



Stefen Alan Aho, son of Nathaniel & Carrie Aho of Wolf Lake, was baptized on Sunday, February 10, 2019, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. His sponsors are Jared & Jolene Aho of rural Frazee and Kevin & Ann Ruotsala of Ironwood MI. His grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee and Craig &

Lisa Sunnarborg of BattleGround WA. His great-grandparents are James & Nancy Sunnarborg of Esko MN and Francis Karlsen of Hockinson WA.



Ellie Mae Aho, daughter of Tim & Sarah Aho of rural Frazee, was baptized on Sunday, March 17, 2019, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Jed & Krista Estola of Ironwood MI, and Neil & Moriah Meech of Nimrod MN. Her grandparents are Reino & Peggy Aho of rural Frazee and Rick & Betty Estola of Ironwood, MI.

Grandchild Announcements

Shirley Kangas and Paul & Esther Impola announce the birth of a granddaughter. Hadessah Elma Helen Impola was born on December 1st, 2018 to Philip and Amber Impola of SC.

Paul & Esther Impola announce the birth of a granddaughter. Cheyenne Ruth was born on February 27, 2019 to their daughter Lois & her husband Jerome Mattila of WA. Other grandparents are James & Leah Mattila of WA.

Engagements

Shania Siltala and Jordan Jacobson announced their engagement on December 25th, 2018.

Shania is the daughter of Nate & Stephanie Siltala of Holdingford, MN. Shandra lives in Holdingford, MN and is employed as a vet tech in Rice, MN

Jordan is the son of Ryan Jacobson of Cokato, MN and Tawnya Smith of Maple Lake, MN. Jordan lives in Howard Lake, MN and works for K & K Builders.



Shandra Siltala and Nolan Nevala announced their engagement on March 2, 2019.

Shandra is the daughter of Nate & Stephanie Siltala of Holdingford, MN. Shandra lives in Cokato, MN and is employed as a massage therapist in St. Cloud, MN.

Nolan is the son of Tim & Wendy Halonen of Cokato, MN and is currently working on an Air Force Base in Virginia.



News & Notes

- Paul & Esther Impola traveled to WA.
- Kaisa Aho traveled to NH.
- Tim & Sarah Aho & family traveled to MI.
- Darren & Sonya Keranen & family traveled to FL.
- Pastor Dennis & Miriam Hannu traveled to SC, FL & GA.
- Lyle & Rebecca Matson & family traveled to FL.
- Tanya Sauvola, Jolie Ingvalson & Moriah Meech traveled to NH.
- Reid & Ashley Aho & family traveled to FL.
- Leila Aho traveled to MI.
- Alvin & Alisha Aho & family traveled to SC.
- Shari Aho traveled to NH.
- Harry & Lori Aho traveled to NH.

Some of the visitors the last few months were:

- Marc & Alice Ruotsala from MI.
- Aaron & Miriam Aho from SC.
- Sam & Molly Seppala & family from NH.
- Sandy Hannu from SC.
- Jed & Krista Estola & family from MI.
- Luke Aho from NH.
- Bruce & Erica West & family from SD.
- Jethro Impola from SD.

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

Milestones

- Anaya Aho
~ 10th Birthday - 3/6/2019
- Glenn Yliniemi
~ 70th Birthday - 3/12/2019
- Jeannette Jurva
~ 78th Birthday - 3/20/2019
- Yanna Aho
~ 10th Birthday - 3/29/2019
- David Yliniemi
~ 76th Birthday - 4/16/2019
- Kent Aho
~ 20th Birthday - 4/1/2019
- Calvin Impola
~ 30th Birthday - 4/21/2019

MARCH - APRIL-MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3/17 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Chet	3/18	3/19	3/20 Lent Service 7:30 P.M. Organist: Patricia Sound: Coffee Group # 3	3/21 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	3/22	3/23
3/24 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Mona Sound: Alvin	3/25	3/26 GPA Nursing Home Service at 2:00 P.M.	3/27 Lent Service 7:30 P.M. Organist: Deborah Sound: Neil Coffee Group # 4	3/28 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	3/29	3/30
3/31 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Guest Speaker: Don Salo Organist: Betsy Sound: Tyrone Dinner Following the Service Grp #4	4/1	4/2	4/3 Lent Service 7:30 P.M. Organist: Megan Sound: Silas Coffee Group # 5	4/4 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	4/5	4/6 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
4/7 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah & Carrie Sound: Chet	4/8 7:30 Board Meeting	4/9	4/10 Lent Service 7:30 P.M. Organist: Sarah Sound: Alvin Coffee Group # 6	4/11 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	4/12	4/13
4/14 PALM SUNDAY Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Patricia Sound: Jamin Guest Speaker: Ryan Kandoll Dinner Following the Service Grp # 1	4/15	4/16	4/17	4/18 Maundy Thurs Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Service & Communion 7:30 P.M. Organists: Mona & Megan Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 7	4/19 Good Friday Service 7:30 PM Organist: Carrie Sound: Neil Coffee Group # 8	4/20 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
4/21 EASTER Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Alvin Dinner Following the Service Grp # 2	4/22	4/23	4/24 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	4/25 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	4/26 Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Patricia Sound: Silas Coffee Group # 9	4/27
4/28 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Tyrone	4/29	4/30 GPA Nursing Home Service at 2:00 P.M.	5/1 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/2 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	5/3	5/4 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
5/5 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service & Holy Communion 11:00AM Organist: Deborah & Betsy Sound: Nate	5/6	5/7	5/8 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/9 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	5/10 Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Mona Sound: Alvin Coffee Group # 10	5/11
5/12 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Carrie Sound: Chet	5/13 7:30 Board Meeting	5/14	5/15 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/16 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	5/17	5/18 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.

Cleaning Groups

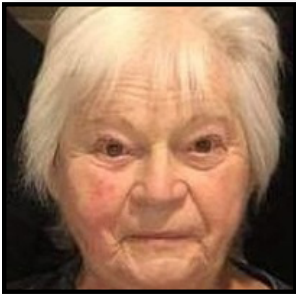
March 2019

Loren & Karla Impola
Rosten & Tori Aho
Russell & Eunika Aho
Harry & Lori Aho
Calvin & Kaitlyn Impola
Isak Yliniemi

April 2019

Jamin & Gina Aho
Jeff & Rosy Kinnunen
Darren & Sonya Keranen
Reid & Ashley Aho
Devon Kinnunen

Funeral



June Rose Nelmark, 81, of Frazee, peacefully passed away Thursday, March 14, 2019 at Ecumen Emmanuel Nursing Home. June was born June 13, 1937 in Wadena Minnesota, to Eddie and Rosa Maninga. June grew up in the Green Valley

Township area and graduated from Menahga High School in 1955.

In September of 1956, she was united in marriage to Marvin Nelmark at Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church in Wolf Lake Minnesota. In the fall of 1957 June and Marvin moved to Chicago. June was devoted to raising her five children and providing them a warm and loving environment. She ensured that all her children were given the opportunity to excel in their lives.

June was always willing to help people she met throughout her life. Her love of helping others evolved into her assisting many families. This in turn, resulted in many lifelong friendships and fond memories.

June and Marvin moved back to the Wolf Lake Area in 1991 to retire. They helped their sons, Tad and Tate farm and enjoyed their retirement. In her quiet time, June devoted herself to family activities and attending to her grandchildren. She was an active member of the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church.

June found great joy and achieved personal satisfaction in helping others she met along her path in life. Above all, June devoted her life to her children and grandchildren who she loved unconditionally with all her heart.

She will be lovingly remembered by her husband of 62 years, Marvin and their children: Taryn (James) Schultz of Gurnee IL, Todd (Julie) of Naperville IL, Troy of Chicago IL, Tad (Julia) and Tate (Maryann) of Frazee MN; 14 grandchildren; Sister, Mildred (Floyd) Weappa, and brothers, Eddie (Ida) and Don (Judy) Maninga; as well as many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral service was held on Tuesday March 19, 2019 at Spruce Grove Apostolic Church of Wolf Lake MN with Pastor Dennis Hannu officiating. Interment was at Green Valley Cemetery.

Remember in Prayer

- Family of June Nelmark
- JoAnne Aho
- Avey O'Neil
- Marlene Walters
- 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
- Linda Aho
- Joan Koskela
- Clifford & Irene Koskela
- Marvin Nelmark
- Martha Aho
- Our Church, our Pastor and Church leaders.
- National Leaders
- Our Widows
- Our Missionaries
- Our Children & Youth
- Our Military
- Our Elderly

Ladies Bible Study

The Ladies of the church are invited to a Bible Study on Thursday mornings at 10:00 A.M.

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.

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.

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