



Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 23 No. 2 March-April 2018

Praise the Lord for His Goodness

The psalmist writes in Psalm 107:8 *“Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!”* He repeats this phrase 4 times in this psalm as he recounts the working of the Lord in the lives of the Israelite people. There is in this psalm, a call to remember the kindness of the Lord to His people. He redeems them from their trouble, the ones lost in the wilderness, those who are prisoners, those who are foolish, and those facing storms. Each time they faced these hardships and cried out to the Lord, He delivered them from their distresses. The psalmist calls the reader of the psalm to consider the Lord’s goodness and His wondrous works toward people.

As we are now in another Lenten season and making our way toward Holy Week, it is again with thankfulness that we remember the events of Good Friday and Easter. The goodness of God is truly shown to us in this season. We may be tempted to think that we should be sorrowful and morose during the events leading up to the resurrection, but perhaps we should rather consider in all of the actions of God the tremendous love He demonstrates for us as His only begotten Son is crucified for us. Paul writes in Romans 5:8-11 *“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.”* There is in this season a tremendous amount of joy and gladness to be expressed by us as we again celebrate the goodness of our God. The message of the gospel, the good news, sounds forth triumphantly as the church again makes its way through this season. In all of the songs we sing and the sermons we hear there is this constant reminder of God’s goodness. His goodness is shown as we see Jesus performing miracles and ministering to the people that were constantly following Him everywhere He went. His goodness is shown as Jesus breaks the bread at the Passover feast and says to His disciples: *“Take and eat it; this is My Body.”* And when He takes the cup and says, *“Drink from it all of you, for this is My Blood of*

the new covenant, it is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.” God’s goodness is shown as Jesus spends the night in the garden of Gethsemane in sadness and sorrow over the horror of the sin of the world about to be laid on Him. His goodness is on display as Jesus goes through the trial and opens not His mouth in defense of Himself. It is seen as He is whipped and scourged by the Roman soldiers. God’s goodness is seen as Jesus is nailed to the cross and suspended between heaven and earth for all the people to see. It is seen as Jesus cries out with a loud voice: *“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”* Perhaps you may be thinking: *“How does all of this show us the goodness of God?”* Well, my friend, He did it all for you, He took your sin, He suffered the abuse of the people for you, He was nailed to the cross for you, and He cried out to the Father on behalf of you. That cry of dereliction was rightfully our cry because of our sin and instead the perfect Human shouts this out and then dies. The One who knew no sin became sin for us that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. He was laid in the tomb for you. He died for you dear sinner.

Oh, that men would praise the Lord for His goodness is the cry of our hearts as we consider the powerful work of our God. For you see on the third day Jesus arose victorious from the grave. The tomb lies empty and death has been vanquished. The wages of sin have been satisfied and we have been set free. The sentence of death which was ours has been lifted and we have been adopted into the family of God. We are the sons and daughters of the most High God and we now address Him as “Father”. All of this is ours because of the goodness of our God. The psalmist’s words ring true for us as we continue on our Lenten journey towards Holy Week, a journey we have perhaps taken many times, but none the less promises to bring us to a glorious rest in the person of Jesus Christ, now and for all eternity. It is true my friends, all of it, you are forgiven and on your way on to heaven because of the goodness of the Lord and because of His wonderful works to the children of men.

Christ is risen, He is risen indeed!!

God’s Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Birth Announcements



Andrew & Laureena Keranen announce the births of their 7th & 8th children. Alex Drew and Lexi Reena were born on March 2nd, 2018 at Essentia Hospital in Detroit Lakes. Alex weighed 7 pounds 7 ounces and was and Lexi weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces. Alex and Lexi were welcomed home by their parents and brothers: Landon, Dane, Reed and Micah and sisters: Madelyn and Elyse. Their grandparents are Reino & Peggy Aho of rural Frazee and Arnold & Cynthia Keranen of Menahga.



Luke & Renata Nevala announce the birth of their 5th child. Ainsley Frances was born on March 13, 2018 at Essentia Health-St. Mary's in Detroit Lakes, MN. Ainsley weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20.5 inches tall.

Ainsley was welcomed home by her parents and sisters: Alyzah & Audrie and brothers: Cole & Chael. Her grandparents are Wilho & Diana Aho of rural Sebeka and Marilyn Nevala of rural Frazee.



Ryan & Chelsea Aho announce the birth of their 4th child. Brekken Coleman was born on March 19th, 2018 at Perham Hospital in Perham, MN. Brekken weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces and was 21.75 inches tall. Brekken was welcomed home by his parents and brothers: Ted & Lars and sister Mira. Hi grandparents are Harvey & Patricia Aho of rural Wolf Lake and Gerald and Martha Pinoniemi of Menahga, MN.



Seth & Linda Matson announce the birth of their 8th child.

Hosea Donald was born on March 16th, 2018 at Essentia Hospital in Detroit Lakes. Hosea weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces and was 19.5 inches tall. Hosea was welcomed home by his parents and

brothers: Zedekiah, Obadiah, Reuben, Gideon & Simon & sisters: Patience and Rauha. His grandparents are Reuben & Ellen Tumberg of rural Sebeka and Mark & Sandy Matson of WA.

Grandchild Announcement

Victor Sr. & Lola Aho announce the birth of a grandson. Elias Victor West was born on January 10, 2018 to their daughter, Erica and her husband Bruce of South Dakota. Other grandparents are Wesley & Joyce West of SD.

Invitation to Services

The New York Mills Apostolic Lutheran Church is hosting Spring Services April 20-22, 2018. The guest speakers are Pastor Gary Kangas and Pastor Nathan Juntunen of Esko, MN.

Friday, April 20 at 7:30 PM

Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 PM

Sunday, April 22 at 10:30 AM, with lunch following.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Baptisms



Winifred Lola Aho, daughter of Charles & Leila Aho of rural Menahga, was baptized on Sunday, January 28, 2018, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Lyle & Rebecca Matson of rural Frazee and Adrian & Tamra Aho of rural Osage. Her grandparents are Victor & Lola Aho of Menahga and Daniel & Anne Coponen of MI. Her great-grandparents are Elma Impola of Menahga and William Coponen of MI.



Lawton Richard Aho, son of Nick & Megan Aho of rural Menahga, was baptized on Friday, February 9, 2018 at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. His sponsors are Russell & Eunika Aho of rural Menahga and James & Clara Estola of MI. His grandparents are Victor & Lola Aho of Menahga and Rick & Betty Estola of MI. His great-grandparent is Elma Impola of Menahga.

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)

- Elmer Yliniemi
- Huldy Sannes
- Gladys Fraki
- Ashley Aho
- Pat Aho
- Patricia Aho
- Jamie Aho
- Jared & Melinda Niemala & family
- Aria Aho
- Family of Norman Kangas
- John Snelling
- Ralph Kandoll
- Linda Aho
- Richard Yliniemi
- Clifford & Irene 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



Nathaniel Karl Olson, son of David & Loretta Olson of rural Menahga, was baptized on Sunday, January 28, 2018, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. His sponsors are Micah Aho of Menahga, Silas Olson of rural Menahga, and Jared & Kristi West of SC. His grandparents are Victor & Lola Aho of Menahga and Wanda Laue of SD. His great-grandparent is Elma Impola of Menahga.

Milestones

- Julius Aho
~ 60th Birthday - 2/13/2018
- Mark Aho
~ 60th Birthday - 2/13/2018
- Jeannette Jurva
~ 77th Birthday - 3/20/2018
- David Yliniemi
~ 75th Birthday - 4/18/2018

MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Neil	19	20	21 Lent Service 7:30 P.M. Organist: Sarah Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 5	22 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM	23	24
25 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Ramona Sound: Alvin	26	27 GPA Nursing Home Service at 2:00 P.M.	28	29 Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30 P.M. Organists: Carrie & Betsy Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 6	30 Good Friday Service at 8:00 P.M. Organist: Megan Sound: Neil Coffee Group # 7	31
1 EASTER Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Deborah & Patricia Sound: Chet	2 Dinner Following Service Group # 4	3	4 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5	6	7 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
8 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Betsy Sound: Jamin	9 7:30 Board Meeting	10	11 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	12	13 Worship Service 8:00 PM Guest Speaker: Reino Maunu Organist: Ramona Sound: Silas Coffee Group # 8	14
15 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Neil Guest Speaker: Reino Maunu Dinner Following Service Group # 1	16	17	18 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	19	20	21 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
22 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Nate	23	24 GPA Nursing Home Service at 2:00 P.M.	25 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	26	27 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Patricia Sound: Alvin Coffee Group # 9	28
29 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Carrie Sound: Tyrone Guest Speaker: Don Salo	30	5/1	5/2 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/3	5/4	5/5 Youth Group 7:30 P.M.
5/6 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Sarah & Megan Sound: Chet	5/7	5/8	5/9 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/10	5/11 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Betsy Sound: Silas Coffee Group # 10	5/12
5/13 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Patricia Sound: Neil	March Cleaning Group		April Cleaning Group			
	Neil & Amanda Aho	Andy & Patty Aho	Alvin & Alisha Aho	Curtis & Ruby Aho		
	Naaman & Lila	Andy & Anne Beldo	Joe & Jasmine	Andrew & Laureena		
	Impola	Brandon Hanson	Christiansen	Keranen		
			Jared & Jolene Aho			

The numbers to dial to listen to the services over the telephone are: Wolf Lake: 538-1030 / Menahga: 564-1030 / Nimrod: 472-1030 / Sebekka: 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.

News & Notes

- Tim & Sarah Aho & family traveled to MI.
- Reino & Peggy Aho & Thomas traveled to NH.
- Pat Aho traveled to NH.
- Max & Ashley Aho traveled to Canada, Italy & Finland.
- Harry & Lori Aho traveled to AZ.
- Les & Marsha Hanson traveled to WA.
- Kent Aho traveled to Canada.
- Paul & Esther Impola traveled to SC, NC & MI.
- Stephanie, Shandra & Tessa Siltala and Tamar Aho traveled to FL.
- Harvey & Patricia Aho traveled to TX.
- Alvin & Alisha Aho and family traveled to SC.
- Lyle Matson, David Olson, Pastor Dennis Hannu, Reid Aho, Adrian Aho, Silas Olson and Damon Howard traveled to Texas to help build the Word of Grace Apostolic Lutheran Church.
- Charles & Leila Aho & family traveled to MI.
- Raymond & Janet Aho traveled to MI.
- Jared & Jolene Aho traveled to HI.
- A baby shower was held for Laureena Keranen at the church.
- Marisa Aho traveled to NC.
- Kendra Sikkila & daughter traveled to SC.
- Miriam Hannu traveled to SD.
- Tanya Sauvola traveled to CO.
- Many of the church youth traveled to Esko for a Ski trip.
- Curtis & Ruby Aho & family traveled to TX.
- The youth of Spruce Grove Church hosted a Dinner for the Elders on February 25th.



Some of the visitors the last few months were:

- Chase & Jenny West & family from SD.
- Eno Yliniemi from WA.
- Troy & Mia Reynolds & family from Bagley, MN

- Brian & Chae Norman & family from St. Cloud, MN.
- Jethro & Molly Impola & family from SD.
- Alan & Valerie Estola & family from MI.
- James & Elise O'Neill & family from Buffalo, MN.
- Tauno & Megan Olson & family from SD.
- Amanda Ketola from NH.
- Brent & Karen Seppanen & family from SD.
- Alyssa & Marco Marrelli from Canda.

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

Thank You

I would like to thank the Church family for helping me celebrate my 80th birthday. A special thank you to those helping with planning, the kitchen helpers, the gift card from the church, the many cards and gifts, as well as your attendance at the celebration.



We also want to thank you for your prayers, visits and cards for Elmer who fell on the ice as he was getting ready to leave for the church and had to go to the Emergency room instead and missed the celebration. He fractured a vertebra, needed some staples on the wound on his head and spent a night in the hospital but is hopefully improving. Also a very special thank you to the great carpenters, Lyle, Dave and Lewis who came to make our home more handicapped friendly by adding rails and bars to grasp on to where needed. We are so thankful for a caring church family! May God bless you for kindness and generosity!

Miriam and Elmer Yliniemi

Thank you so much for all the prayers and thinking of me while I am going through my cancer treatment. The gift card was very much appreciated.

May God bless you for your kindness.

God's blessing and peace to you all.

Clifford Koskela.

Thank you to Pastor Ernest Bylka III from Michigan and Gary Bertram and his wife Cheryl from New Hampshire for coming to be a part of our Special Services the first weekend of March.

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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Permit # 11
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