



Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 24 No. 6 November-December 2019

A Season of Thanksgiving

Every November on the fourth Thursday we gather as families and eat a big dinner which typically consists of turkey, potatoes, squash, and many other dishes. We eat until we can hardly move and talk about what we are thankful for as we reflect on another year. It is a good time and usually filled with many laughs and maybe even a few stomach aches. It is a day set aside to thank our God for his abundant provisions which He has blessed us with. We are thankful for this opportunity to gather with loved ones and to give thanks. Giving of thanks is a way of life for a follower of Christ as Paul says in Colossians 2:6-7 *“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving”*. And in Philippians 4:6 *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”* It is also written in Psalm 50:14-15 *“Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.”* We are called to be people who give thanks, to acknowledge where our blessings come from.

As we enjoy this day let us not cease to be thankful when this day is over or when the leftovers are gone. For even when the turkey is gone and the last pie has been eaten we can be assured that we will always be full when we are in Christ Jesus. We thank God for our natural food, but how much more for the spiritual food that he provides, the food which endures or lasts unto eternal life. The food which we enjoy at our thanksgiving dinners lasts but a short time, but the food that Jesus gives lasts forever and for this we are eternally thankful. My prayer is that during this thanksgiving holiday and all the preparing, planning and traveling, etc that goes with it, that the message of the bread or food come down from heaven would be first and foremost in our minds for it is Jesus who gives us our life and He gives it in abundance. One day we will have a thanksgiving feast that will be greater than anything we can even imagine with all of the redeemed, those who washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. God, our Heavenly

Father will be there, Jesus, the Lamb will be there and he will feed us and lead us unto living fountains of water and the feast will be ongoing and we will never hunger or thirst again. We, Christians, of all people have much to be thankful for, so let us thank him for this year and its many blessings. May God be praised and thanked during this thanksgiving season for his marvelous gift of salvation.

The church year is also winding down and we are approaching the Advent season and the beginning of a new church year. Then Christmas comes with its joyous message and its more family time and gatherings. Truly this is a season of thanksgiving. During advent we commemorate the first coming of our Savior and look forward to his Second Coming. Sometimes we may think that his return is a fearful thing and we read passages in scripture that may cause us to fear. But the message of the Advent season is a message of not only joy and expectation, but also of thanksgiving because the first coming of our Lord sets the stage for his second coming. Jesus came to this earth in a humble way, He came as a baby and was cradled in the arms of His mother. When He comes again, He will be a reigning king who will then cradle those, who love His appearing, in His love for eternity. In his first coming Jesus established the way of salvation by laying His life down for the sins of the world. 2 Timothy 1:9-10 *“Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:”*

Because of the first coming of our Lord we now are prepared for His Second Coming. When we have heard the gospel preached and received it by faith, we can believe that our sin debt has been paid and we have received the righteousness of Jesus which assures us of salvation because of his work on the cross and his glorious resurrection. Now we can look forward to His coming with joy and thanksgiving. With joy because we

continued on next page

know what awaits us, eternal bliss, and with thanksgiving because even though we don't deserve to be received by Him yet He receives us anyway. Titus 2:11-13 *"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"*

May this advent season bring joy and thankfulness to us this year as we look forward with anticipation to His coming. Let us remember the events of His first coming, the life and ministry of Jesus on this earth and His sacrifice for us. Let us look forward to His second coming with full confidence that He will never leave us or forsake us and knowing already today we reign with Him. We have a blessed hope, a hope that is eternal.

Christmas is also a time of the year to be thankful. It is during this season that we again celebrate Christ's birth. It is a time of wonder for us as we recall the miraculous virgin birth of our Savior. Isaiah 7:14 *"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."*

Isaiah 9:6-7 *"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful,*

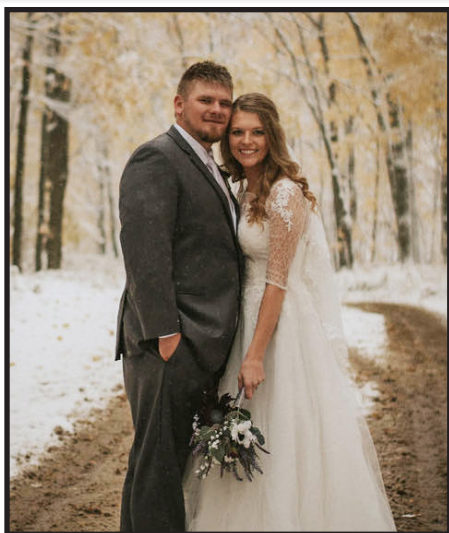
Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."

It is because of Christmas and its message that we can be thankful year round. The angelic choir announced the birth of the Savior of the world to shepherds watching over their flocks that glorious night.

Those shepherds heard the news that would change the world, the news that still today is the only news that will save a person and give unto them eternal life. This message brings with it glad tidings of great joy that a Savior has been born and He has saved you from your sins and has brought peace on earth. A peace that the world cannot give you and you cannot find apart from the Christ child. Christmas is a time of gathering together with our families and exchanging gifts and watching with joy as our children marvel and exclaim over their presents. It is a time when we marvel at the greatest gift ever given, the Christ child who brought salvation to the world so that all who believe on Him may not perish but have everlasting life. So let us be thankful, thankful for all that we have here on this earth, but even more thankful for what has been gifted to us eternally.

God's Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Wedding



Shandra Siltala and Nolan Nevala were united in marriage on Saturday, October 12th at Spruce Grove Church. The couple is living in Cokato, MN.

Wedding Invitation

Harvey and Patricia Aho
Request the Honor of
your presence at the
marriage of their daughter

Kimberly

to

Jared

Son of Isaac and Marilyn
Nevala



Saturday, November 23, 2019 at 1:00 PM
Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church
Reception to Follow

YOUTH WEEKEND -BROKENNESS-

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew
a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10*

The Spruce Grove Church Youth is hosting a Youth Weekend for New Years! December 29th -December 31st. Youth age 14 and older are invited to join us.

Pastor Travis Seppala will be the guest speaker throughout the weekend.

Cost is \$25 per person, with a max of \$75 per family. Hope to see you in Wolf Lake!

* If you are able to house youth, or provide food or snacks, please speak to Tyrone Aho.

Advent & Christmas Services

Advent Services will be held at the church Wednesdays, December 4th, 11th and 18th at 7:30 PM.

There will also be a Worship Service on Christmas Day at 10:30 AM.

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 15th, 2019 at the church at 11:00 A.M. Dinner will be served following the program.

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.

News & Notes

- Pastor Dennis & Miriam Hannu traveled to GA.
- Pat Aho, Peggy Aho & Linda Levijoki traveled to MI.
- Nola, Reid & Rosten Aho traveled to WA.
- Lyle & Rebecca Matson traveled to WA.
- Jared & Kendra Sikkila traveled to FL.
- Alisha & Ashlyn Aho traveled to NC.
- Ashley Aho (Max) & daughter traveled to Canada.
- Ashley Aho (Reid) traveled to NH.
- A bridal shower was held at the church for Kimberly Aho. Kimberly & Jared Nevala announced their engagement on September 14th.

Some of the visitors the last few months were:

- Paul & Virginia Anderson from SC.
- Bruce & Erica West from SD.
- Miranda Seppanen from WA.
- Martha Bertram from NH.
- Jill Traffie from NH.
- David & Aila Somero from NH.
- Ruth Farrey from WA.
- Many hunters from SC, NH, WA & SD.

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



Milestones

- Gloria Juntunen
~ 90th Birthday - 11/2/2019
- Nathaniel Aho
~ 30th Birthday - 11/7/2019
- Reuben Tumberg
~ 82nd Birthday - 11/14/2019
- Carrie Aho
~ 30th Birthday - 12/1/2019

NOV-DEC 2019 & JAN 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11/17 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Betsy Sound: Nate	11/18	11/19	11/20 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	11/21 Sunday School Teachers Meeting 7:00 PM	11/22	11/23 1:00 PM Aho-Nevala Wedding
11/24 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Alvin	11/25	11/26	11/27 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	11/28 THANKSGIVING	11/29 Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Ramona Sound: Silas Coffee Group # 1	11/30
12/1 Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service & Holy Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Carrie & Sarah Sound: Tyrone	12/2	12/3	12/4 Advent Service 7:30 P.M Organist: Megan Sound: Chet Coffee Group # 2	12/5 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	12/6	12/7 Youth Group 8:00 P.M.
12/8 Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Patricia Sound: Neil	12/9 7:30 Board Meeting	12/10	12/11 Advent Service 7:30 P.M Organist: Deborah Sound: Silas Coffee Group # 3	12/12	12/13	12/14
12/15 Sunday School 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Betsy Sound: Chet	12/16	12/17	12/18 Advent Service 7:30 P.M Organist: Ramona Sound: Alvin Coffee Group # 4	12/19	12/20	12/21 Youth Group 8:00 P.M.
Sunday School Program--Dinner Following						
12/22 Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Nate	12/23	12/24	12/25 Christmas Day Service 10:30 AM Organist: Patricia Sound: Tyrone	12/26	12/27	12/28
12/29 Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Neil Dinner Following the Service Guest Speaker: Travis Seppala	12/30	12/31	1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4 Youth Group 8:00 P.M.
Youth Weekend 12/29 to 12/31						
1/5 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service & Holy Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Deborah & Betsy Sound: Nate	1/6	1/7	1/8 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	1/9	1/10 Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Carrie Sound: Silas Coffee Group #5	1/11
1/12 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Ramona Sound: Chet	1/13 7:30 Board Meeting	1/14	1/15 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	1/16	1/17	1/18 Youth Group 8:00 P.M.
1/19 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Alvin						

CLEANING GROUPS

November 2019

Andy & Patty Aho
Eldon & Marie Mosteller
Adrian & Tamra Aho
Joshua & Deborah Aho
Jason & Amy Aho
Dale & Molly Hillukka

December 2019

Youth Group
Alvin & Alisha Aho
Tyrone Aho
Brandon Hanson

Remember in Prayer

- Les Hanson
 - Olavi & Sirkka Seppala
 - Curtis & Karen Samuelson
 - Family of Doris Matson
 - Grady Anderson
 - Family of Trudi Nevala
 - Rev. Wilfred Sikkila
 - Alan Estola
 - Jennie Hanson
 - Pat Aho
 - Kason Aho
 - Family of Marvin & June Nelmark
 - JoAnne Aho
 - Avery O'Neil
 - Marlene Walters
 - Family of Billy Nelmark
- Isak Yliniemi
 - Elma Impola
 - Tim (Jill) Aho
 - Jamie Aho
 - Jared & Melinda Niemela & family
 - Linda Aho
 - Joan Koskela
 - Clifford & Irene Koskela
 - Martha Aho
 - Our Church, our Pastor and Church leaders.
 - National Leaders
 - Our Widows
 - Our Missionaries
 - Our Children & Youth
 - Our Military
 - Our Elderly

Nativity

M	D	A	J	S	E	S	A	F	M	E	L	S	T
R	O	B	E	I	N	E	O	R	G	O	L	D	G
S	G	E	S	O	G	O	D	A	N	T	W	L	M
N	S	T	U	E	G	Y	V	N	E	L	A	E	M
A	A	H	S	Y	R	G	B	K	M	N	R	G	A
T	E	L	B	A	T	S	E	I	E	N	T	N	N
I	S	E	M	A	A	S	M	N	S	I	S	A	G
V	H	H	O	S	D	L	J	C	I	M	M	S	E
I	N	E	T	M	O	A	S	E	W	E	Y	I	R
T	I	M	I	N	N	M	T	N	N	H	R	I	S
Y	T	J	M	M	K	I	A	S	O	A	R	G	G
O	N	F	B	E	E	N	R	E	S	S	H	O	M
U	R	E	I	N	Y	A	I	T	S	N	A	C	D
R	M	G	E	G	T	O	I	J	O	S	E	P	H

INN
 ANGEL
 JOSEPH
 GIFT
 SON
 WISE MEN
 GOD
 JESUS
 FRANKINCENSE
 MARY
 NATIVITY
 GOLD
 MANGER
 STABLE
 MYRRH
 STRAW
 ANIMALS
 STAR
 DONKEY
 BETHLEHEM

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 8:30 A.M., KRJB 106.5 FM at 8:30 AM 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.

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

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