

Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 22 No. 4 July-August 2017

Pearl of Great Price

The kingdom of God/Heaven is very much central to Jesus' teachings. These two terms are interchangeable both meaning the sovereign, dynamic, and eschatological rule of God. Some people teach that there is a difference between the two kingdoms, but that is not the case. For example, in the story of the rich young ruler in Matthew 19:16-24, Christ uses both terms."Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven" (v. 23). In the very next verse, Christ proclaims, "Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." So, in answer to the rich young ruler's question concerning eternal life (v. 16), Christ uses the phrases "kingdom of God" and "kingdom of heaven" interchangeably. If you study the parallel accounts of the parable of the mustard seed as recorded in Matthew 13:31-31, in Mark 4:30-32, and in Luke 13:18-19 you will notice that kingdom of heaven is used in the Matthew account and kingdom of God is used in Mark and Luke. The two kingdoms are one and the same. For the sake of this article I will be referring to the kingdom of heaven as I will be referencing accounts from the gospel of Matthew.

Jesus as he preached the kingdom of heaven, taught very often in parables as is the case in the 13th chapter of Matthew. Jesus tells the parable of the sower and several parables of the kingdom of heaven. A parable is simply a story that illustrates a point. The parables of the kingdom include the wheat and the tares or weeds, the mustard seed, leaven or yeast, a treasure hid in a field, pearl of great price, and the net. These all illustrate different aspects of the kingdom of heaven.

The parable of the wheat and the tares or weeds is showing unto the reader/hearer of it that we as Christians, the kingdom people, are to live in this world among those who are not Christian. We are not to judge or try to determine who is in or out but rather are to live as kingdom people. God is one who in fact takes care of this, He is the judge and the one who will make the separation at the end of the age. The parable of the mustard seed and the leaven or yeast shows unto us that the kingdom started small. It started with this small group of disciples, these Jewish men, but soon grew large and all nations come and dwell within it. The kingdom of heaven encompasses all who are Christian. Likewise with leaven, a small amount of yeast placed in bread dough permeates the whole batch, so it is with the

kingdom of heaven, a small group led by the spirit of God grows into a large gathering as we have seen recorded in the book of Acts and also in history. Christianity has spread over the world.

The parables of the treasure hidden in the field and the pearl of great price are two of the most beautiful parables, because of what they illustrate for us. The parables are as follows in Matthew 13:44-46 44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. 45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that had, and bought it.

The common interpretation of these parables is that we are the ones who do the seeking, finding, and purchasing. In other words we are the ones doing the acting. This is simply not the case as we know from other scripture. Romans 3:11 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. And in Luke 19:10 10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

The beauty of these parables is the reality that we are in fact the ones who are being sought out. The treasure hid in the field is us. We have been found by God and now are hidden again. We are hidden under His grace and covered by the blood of His only born Son Jesus the Christ. We have been set free to live in this world (the field), because God has reconciled Himself to the world and we who are hidden in His grace now are the ones who proclaim this message of reconciliation. This is all done because of the action of God, purely by His graciousness and by His great love for mankind. The parable of the pearl of great price illustrates this as well. We are the pearl that was found and God is the merchant who sells all that He has in order to purchase us. What is the price paid for us? It is the price of His only born Son, Jesus the Lamb of God. He gives all that He has in order to purchase us, His pearls. Jesus comes and becomes the sacrifice for sin in order to purchase us for God the Father. You and I have much to be thankful for. We are the ones who make up the kingdom of heaven/God. We are the kingdom people, purchased by the blood of the Lamb. We are the Pearl of Great Price. God Be Praised!!

God's Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Birth Announcement

& Jolie Andrew Ingvalson announce the birth of their 2nd child. Gabrielle Jean born on July 12, 2017 at St.Mary's Health-Detroit Lakes, MN. Gabrielle weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 19.5 inches tall. Gabrielle was welcomed home by her parents and her sister Liv. Her grandparents are Reino & Peggy Aho and Lee & Bonnie Ingvalson all of rural Frazee.



Wedding



Derek Borth & Layla Aho were united in marriage on Saturday, July 22nd, 2017 at Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church. The reception was held at the church following the ceremony.

Fall Schedule

Starting Sunday, September 3, 2017, Worship Services will begin at 11:00 AM on Sunday mornings until next June.

First Day of Sunday School

The first day of Sunday School is Sunday, September 10th starting at 10:00 AM.! All children three years and up are invited to attend. Invite a friend. All those willing to be teachers or substitute teachers, please talk to Jethro Impola, Superintendent or Tyrone Aho, Secretary of the Sunday School.

Adult Bible Class

The Adult Bible Class will also resume on Sunday, September 10tth, 2017 starting at 10:00 A.M. This class meets in the fellowship hall.

Baptisms



Eleanor Lou Aho, daughter of Reid & Ashley Aho of Osage, was baptized on Sunday ,June 11, 2017, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Roy & Mary Aho and Gabe & Emma Krook all of New Hampshire. Her grandparents are Nola Aho of rural Frazee and Eric & Patsie Krook of New Hampshire. Her great-grandparents are Sylvia Krook of South Carolina and Jim & Doris Matson of Washington.



Chesed Amber Hilda Impola, daughter of Philip & Amber Impola of SC, was baptized on July 18, 2017 at the home of her grandparents by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Jerome & Lois Mattila of WA, Bria Estola of WI, and Dean & Sonya Hannu of SC. Her grandparents are Paul & Esther Impola of rural Sebeka and Shirley Kangas of rural Frazee. Her great-grandparent is Elma Impola of Menahga.

Simeon Randall Impola, son of Philip & Amber Impola of SC, was baptized on July 18, 2017 at the home of his grandparents by Pastor Dennis Hannu. His sponsors are Betsy Impola of rural Sebeka, Lexey Estola and Austin Estola both of WI. His grandparents are Paul & Esther Impola of rural Sebeka and Shirley Kangas of rural Frazee. His great-grandparent is Elma Impola of Menahga.

Annual Meeting Notice

The Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, September 11, 2017, at 7:30 P.M. at the church. All members are urged to attend.

Secretary, Neil Aho

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church Confirmation Class of 2017



Front Row: Victor Mathias Aho III -son of Victor Jr. & Stacey Aho, Gavin Daniel Hillukka - son of Dale & Molly Hillukka, Meleah Alison Kandoll - daughter of Neal & Marla Kandoll, Jared William Barney - son of Bruce & Hannah Barney, Trenton Lee Sikkila - son of Jared & Kendra Sikkila

Back Row: Jonah Lee Howard - son of Jeremy & Katie Howard, Tristan Allen Aho - son of Jared & Jolene Aho, Pastor Dennis Hannu, Jonathon Conner Berry - son of Yvett Stoliker, Zachary Len Yliniemi - son of Ron & Lesley Yliniemi

Milestones

Sirkka Seppala

~ 87th Birthday - 7/12/2017

Emmie Siltala

~ 10th Birthday - 7/17/2017

Drew Aho

~ 10th Birthday - 7/24/2017

Jethro Impola

~ 30th Birthday - 7/24/2017

Laura Ahlf

~ 50th Birthday - 8/19/2017

Armas & Pat Aho

~ 45th Anniversay - 8/12/2017

Andrew & Laureena Keranen

 ~ 15 th Anniversay $\sim 8/17/2017$

Remember in Prayer

- Family of Norman Kangas
- 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

News & Notes

- Many from our congregation traveled to the Annual Convention in Esko, MN.
- Jason Aho traveled to WA.
- Betsy Impola traveled to WA & SC.
- Aleathea Impola has moved to the Tri-Cities of WA.
- Wil & Diana Aho celebrated their 50th (5/13)
 anniversary in June with a weeklong reunion with
 all of their children from MN, SD, SC, WA & NV
 in attendance. Most of their grandchildren & great grandchildren were also in attendance.
- · Marsha Hanson traveled to WA.
- Keith & Jamie Aho & family traveled to SC.
- Tanya Sauvola & family traveled to Colorado.
- Neil & Amanda Aho & family traveled to WA.
- Charles & Leila Aho & family traveled to MI.
- Nola Aho traveled to WA.
- Joshua & Deborah Aho traveled to WA.
- Nate & Carrie Aho & family traveled to WA.
- Jared Aho, Kameron Aho, Marlin Aho & Rodney Aho traveled to WA.
- Amy Aho & children traveled to WA.
- Darren & Sonya Keranen & family traveled to WA.
- Jason Aho, Andreas Aho, Rylan Aho & Ryan Aho traveled to Canada.
- James & Delfi Aho & family traveled to Italy.
- Terrie Aho traveled to WA.
- Patty Aho, Ethan & Eli traveled to WA.
- Jethro & Molly Impola & family traveled to WA & OR.

Some of the visitors the last few months were:

- Michael & Caitlin Aho & family from NH.
- Sam & Molly Seppala & family from NH.
- Abe & Lisa Logan & family from WA.
- Gerald & Faythe Kantola from SC.
- Arvi & JoAnne Aho from SC.
- Eric & Patsy Krook from NH.
- Olivia Krook from NH.
- Les & Nancy Hilman from Sylvan Lake, Canada
- Brent & Karen Seppanen & family from SD.
- Bruce & Erica West & family from SD.
- Alan & Val Estola & family from MI.
- Paul & Dorothy Benjamson from MI.
- Bruce & Hannah Barney & family from Chisholm, MN.
- Jed & Krista Estola & family from MI.
- Jimmy & Clara Estola & family from MI.
- Lois Mattila & daughter from WA.
- Roy & Mary Aho & family from NH.
- Marc & Alice Routsala from MI.
- Larry & Eva Salo from SC.
- Luke & Kaylee Aho & family from NH

- Shawn & Heather Muhonen & family from NH.
- Philip & Amber Impola & family from SC.
- Kevin & Anne Ruotsala & family from MI.
- Will & Jennifer Yliniemi & family from WI.
- Brian & Elsa Hill & family from WA.
- Johnathan Aho from NH.
- Kyle Aho from NH.
- Emma Krook & children from NH
- Sandy Hannu & children from SC.
- Jason & Carrie Phillips & family from SC.
- Roland & Sarah Seppala from SC.
- Neal & Marla Kandoll & family from WA.
- Alan & Nora Bergman & family from OR.
- Annessa Matson from SC.
- Heather Marrelli & children from Canada.
- Kenneth & Sue Ann Brzak from Canada.
- Roy & Lois Kandoll from WA.
- Joni Somero from NH.
- · Jeff & Marla Bertram from NH.
- & many more.

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

Thank You

Over the past 2 months Spruce Grove Church has hosted Pastor Frank Famiyeh from Ghana, Africa and Pastor Kaj Fagerholm from Finland. Pastor K and his wife Ruth were also here and spent time sharing with the youth of the congregation. Thank you to these speakers for sharing the word of God with our church.

Ruth 1:8...May the Lord reward you for your kindness... The family of Earl and Julia Tumberg want to express their humblest appreciation to the many family and friends whom took time to show their support for us on June 25th. Due to your generous gifts, prayers, and kind words we will be able to complete the construction of our home. We appreciate your continued prayers and look forward to welcoming you in for coffee later this summer.

Sunday School Teachers Meeting

There will be a meeting on Thurday, August 24, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. at the church for Sunday School teachers for the 2017-2018 School Year. Anyone interested in teaching, substituting or assisting, please attend this meeting. If you are interested in teaching and are unable to be at the meeting, please speak to Jethro Impola or Tyrone Aho.

JULY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						Youth Group
						7:30 PM
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Confirmation					-	
Worship Service &						
Communion 10:30 A.M.						
Organists: Deborah & Patricia						
Sound: Chet						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	7:30 Board Meeting			Apostolic Lutl	neran Church Convention	July 13-16
Worship Service 10:30 AM						
Organist: Ramona						
Sound: Alvin						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Worship Service					
	7:30 PM					
Worship Service 10:30 AM	Organist:					
Organist: Megan	Sound:					
Sound: Jamin	Coffee Group # 1					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Worship Service 10:30 AM		Green Pine Acres			Worship Service	
Organist: Sarah		Service 2:00 PM			8:00 PM	
Sound: Chet	Organist: Carrie				Organist: Megan	
Sunday Evening-Worship Service	Sound:				Sound: Nate	
7:30 PM	Coffee Group # 2				Coffee Group #3	
30	31					
Worship Service 10:30 AM						
Organist: Ramona						
Sound: Alvin			ruigas aver the telepho			

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.

July Cleaning Group Joshua & Deborah Aho

Jason & Amy Aho Adrian & Tamra Aho Dale & Molly Hillukka Eldon & Marie Mosteller

^{*} 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 sure it is your turn to serve.

AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1	2	3	4	5	
			Family Bible Study			Youth Group	
			8:00 PM	10		7:30 P.M.	
6 Worship Service &	7	8	9	10	11 Worship Service	12	
Communion 10:30 A.M.			Family Bible Study		8:00 PM		
Organists: Betsy & Carrie			8:00 PM		Organist: Deborah		
Sound: Chet			0.00 T W		Sound: Nate		
004.14. 01.00					Coffee Group # 4		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Worship Service 10:30 AM	Board Meeting		Family Bible Study				
Organist: Patricia	7:30 PM		8:00 PM			Youth Group	
Sound: Neil						7:30 P.M.	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Worship Service 10:30 AM			Facili Biblio Otal	Sunday School	Worship Service 8:00 PM		
Organist: Sarah Sound: Jamin			Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	Teachers Meeting 7:30 P.M.	Organist: Ramona		
Sound. Jamin			0.00 PW	7.30 F.W.	Sound: Tyrone		
					Coffee Group # 5		
27	28	29	30	31	9/1	9/2	
Worship Service 10:30 AM		Green Pine Acres				Youth Group	
Organist: Carrie		Nursing Home	Family Bible Study			7:30 P.M.	
Sound: Alvin		Service 2:00 PM	8:00 PM				
9/3	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9	
Worship Service			Family Bible Study		Worship Service		
& Communion 11:00 A.M			8:00 PM		8:00 PM		
Organist: Megan & Sarah					Organist: Betsy		
Sound: Chet					Sound: Nate		
0//0	0/4.4	0/40	0/40	0/4.4	Coffee Group # 6	0/40	
9/10 Sunday Sahael 10:00 AM	9/11 SGALC	9/12	9/13	9/14	9/15	9/16	
Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM	Annual Meeting		Family Bible Study			Youth Group	
Worship Service 11:00 AM	7:30 PM		8:00 PM			7:30 P.M.	
Organist: Deborah	7.001		0.001 111			7.00 7	
Sound: Neil							
9/17							
Sunday School 10:00 AM	The num	bers to dial to lister	to the services over	the telephone are:	August Clear	ning Group	
Adult Rible Class 10:00 AM	Wolf Lake: 538-1030 Menahga: 564-1030 Rednoy & Hannah Abo						

Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Patricia Sound: Jamin

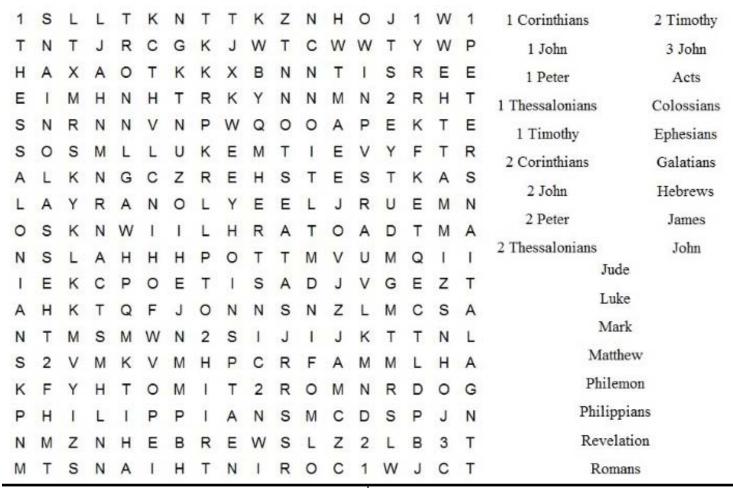
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Rodney & Hannah Aho

Julius & Terrie Aho Marlin & Ashlyn Aho Brock & Ramona Anderson David & Loretta Olson



For example, $F \rightarrow \rightarrow \Psi = Q$

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848	G	Е	С	Χ	D
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D	T	Q	Н	0	Е
N	J	W	S	U	В

Do you know where this verse is located?

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

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. 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 receiver 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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