



Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 20 No. 4 July-August 2015

“I am the Bread of Life”

Bread or food consumes a large part of our life whether we are actually eating or working to provide food for ourselves. According to an USDA report, Americans age 15 and older on an average day spend 2.5 hours a day eating and drinking with about 11 percent of the population spending 4.5 hours a day. Obviously eating and drinking is necessary for us to sustain life here on this earth. It is no surprise then, that after Jesus feeds the 5,000 in the sixth chapter of John with only 5 barley loaves and 2 small fish, the people are ready to make him king by force if necessary. The natural bread of this world can consume us to such a degree that we lose sight of what is evident and plain or real. Although it is necessary to eat natural food and drink here on earth, what Jesus brings is far better. The natural food of this life sustains for a short time but the food that Jesus gives is a food that gives life eternally. The people on that day were attracted to Him because he had fed them with the loaves and fish. Their Messiah was standing in plain sight and all they were concerned with was the filling of their bellies. Jesus tells them in John 6:26-27 “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.*”

Immediately the question is raised: What can we do to gain this type of food? What can we do to perform the works of God? The people that day who were with Jesus wondered about this and possibly we find ourselves with this dilemma as well. We are to work by the sweat of our brow in order to gain our natural food, so it only makes sense that if this is the way we provide for ourselves naturally then there must be something for us to perform in order to gain this food which lasts for eternal life. Jesus answers this question in John 6:29 “*This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.*” In other words there is

no work to perform for the fallen race of Adam, the performer of the work stood before the people that day. They went on to demand some sort of a sign that would provide proof for them that He was from God. John 6:30-31 “*They said therefore unto him, What sign showest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*” Their thoughts were still on natural bread so when Jesus says that the bread of God is He which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world, their immediate response is “give us this bread always”. Jesus then says to them in John 6:35 “*I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.*” They want a sign and they want this bread. Jesus is the sign and He is the bread. Everything that they want and need stands before them. Jesus says as much in John 6:47-51 “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.*”

Jesus through the evangelist John sets before us what is the plain and simple truth. The natural food will only support life for a short period of time where as the Son of God, who is the bread of life, gives a life that endures forever. John 6:53-58 “*Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.*”

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As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever." The people gathered around Jesus on that day were interested in natural food and in particular that He would continue to provide them with it.

He tells them that actually what they need is to be a partaker of Him. Jesus provides a sustenance that goes beyond the natural life to eternal life. He says several times in this chapter that He is the bread of life. The bread of life Himself gives life to the fallen race of Adam. He restores the race through His finished work, His death, His resurrection, and His ascension. All along Jesus was talking to the people on that day of Himself and what He provides in His Incarnation and they were so caught up in their concern for the natural food that they were unable to see. Natural food does indeed consume a large amount of our time here on this earth but in our pursuit of it let us never lose sight of the One who says "I am the bread of life" for it is He who gives us real life. God be praised that He sustains us for all eternity with this "bread of life"!

God's Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Annual Meeting Notice

The Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, 2015, at 7:30 P.M. at the church. All members are urged to attend.

Secretary, Neil Aho

Guest Speakers

On Sunday, August 2nd, 2015 Dr. Jouko Talonen will be speaking at Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church. The service begins at 10:30 A.M., dinner will be served following the service.

On Sunday, August 16, 2015 Pastor Elmer Yliniemi will be speaking and on Sunday, August 23, 2015 Pastor Don Salo will be speaking.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held August 3rd to the 7th, 2015 from 5:00 to 7:30 P.M. at Spruce Grove Church.

This year's theme is "Camp Discovery" Please join us as we learn how Jesus works through us. Children preschool age through 15 are welcome to attend.

Also, this year we are starting a little earlier and we will be serving supper for the children during the course of the evening Monday thru Thursday. All of the food for those 4 nights will be provided.

There is no cost for those attending, but donations will be accepted.

Please have your children at the church on the first night at 4:45.

On Friday night, August 7th we will have a short program at 7:30 P.M., where the children will be singing the songs they learned and reciting the Bible verses that they memorized throughout the week. Everyone is invited to come to the program.

If you are willing to volunteer your time to teach, lead songs, prepare food, do activities or crafts, please talk to Pastor Dennis or Dayna Anderson. Even if you are only able to help 1 or 2 nights, your help will be appreciated.

Fall Schedule

Starting Sunday, September 6th, 2015, 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 6th 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 Lori Aho, Secretary of the Sunday School.

Adult Bible Class

The Adult Bible Class will also resume on Sunday, September 6th, 2015 starting at 10:00 A.M. This class meets in the fellowship hall.

Baptisms



Darius James Aho, son of Neil and Amanda Aho, of Wolf Lake was baptized on Sunday, May 31, 2015, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Rev. Elmer Yliniemi. His sponsors are: Jason and Amy Aho; Marlin and Ashlyn Aho, all of rural Menahga; and Tyrone Aho of Wolf Lake.

His grandparents are Joshua and Deborah Aho of rural Frazee, and Ken and Pam Holgate of rural Frazee. Great-grandparents are; George Salmonson of Menahga, Jane Deike of Detroit Lakes, and Ken and Eunice Holgate of Mora, MN.



Halley DeAnn Crampton, daughter of Grant Crampton & Brittany Munger, was baptized on July 12, 2015, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Ethan & Cassie Thompson of Wolf Lake and Devin Crampton of Lake Elmo, MN. Her grandparents are Ron & Carolyn Munger of Wolf Lake and Phil & Terri Crampton of Lake Elmo, MN.

Apostolic Lutheran Church Convention

“Faith Cometh By Hearing”

The Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church Congregation of Wolf Lake, MN thanks everyone who came to the Convention. We are thankful you were here.

We had a total of 1,222 people who registered during the convention.

* We do have a few copies of some of the sermons from the convention left at the church. If you are interested in any of them, they will be on a table in the narthex. Donations for the CD's can be put in the offering plate or in the Financial Secretary's mailbox.

Convention Meeting

There will be a Convention Wrap-up Meeting on Friday, August 21st at 7:30 P.M. Please attend!

Wedding



Alicia Ahlf & Casey Strayer were united in marriage on Saturday, July 11th at the Spruce Grove Church.

News & Notes

- Pat Aho & Peggy Aho traveled to NH for their brother Doug's funeral.
- Jared & Jolene Aho & family traveled to SD.
- Pete & Linda Levijoki traveled to MI.
- Jamin & Gina Aho & family traveled to MI.
- Levi & Andrea Yliniemi & family traveled to OK.
- Carrie Aho & son traveled to WA.
- Harry & Lori Aho & some of their children traveled to NH.
- Ethan Aho has returned from Haiti, where he was working with a Christian mission organization.

Some of the visitors over the past couple of months were:

- Jerry & Faythe Kantola from SC.
- James & Lynne Helminen & family from NH.
- Steve & Jennette Aho & family from NH.
- Seth & Linda Matson & family from WA.
- Tom & Wendy Hanson & family from OR.
- Marcy Traffic & children from NH.
- Many, many people were here in the area for the ALC Annual convention.

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

Thank You

Our heartfelt thanks for the many prayers & the beautiful Hibiscus trees given in memory of our brother Doug. God bless you all.

God's Peace,
Armas & Pat Aho and Reino & Peggy Aho

Sunday School Teachers Meeting

There will be a meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2015 at 8:00 P.M. at the church for Sunday School teachers for the 2015-2016 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 Lori Aho.

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)



- Family of Doug Aho
- Lucy Kulla
- Family of Elsie Aho
- Ariana Marrelli
- Family of Graham Aho
- Family of Skyler Impola
- Joan Koskela
- George Salmonson
- Marvin & June Nelmark
- Lila Yliniemi
- Linda Aho
- Art Latto
- Marge Kumma
- Martha Aho
- Billy Nelmark
- Elias Aho
- Our Church, our Pastor and Church leaders.
- National Leaders
- Our Missionaries
- Our Children & Youth
- Our Military
- Our Elderly
- Those returning to school and college and entering school or college for the first time.

Mailboxes

There are 3 locking mailboxes in the South Entrance of Spruce Grove Church. The mailboxes are marked for Pastor Dennis Hannu, the Chairman of the Church Board and also the Financial Secretary/Newsletter Editor.

If you have any items for these people, please feel free to use the mailboxes.

The mailboxes were placed in memory of James Edward Ylineimi.

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church Confirmation Class of 2015



Savanna Rose Aho - Daughter of Andrew & Patricia Aho, Pastor Dennis Hannu;
Abbie Elizabeth Aho - Daughter of Harry & Lori Aho

Milestones

Sirkka Seppala ~ 85th Birthday ~ 7/12/15
Andrew & Patricia Aho ~ 25th Anniversary ~ 7/14/15
Layla Aho ~ 20th Birthday ~ 7/24/15
Keith & Jamie Aho ~ 10th Anniversary ~ 7/30/15
Nicole Siltala ~ 10th Birthday ~ 8/8/15

YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH GROUP- BIBLE STUDY

We would love to have more youth attend our Bible studies. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month unless there is church. If your youth would need a ride please contact someone closest to you that regularly attends or contact Tyrone. Youth ages 14 and over are welcome to attend. Tyrone Aho can be reached at 218-230-4098.

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church
15272 Co. Hwy 45, Menahga, MN 56593

Phone: (218)538-6540

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tues-Fri 9:00 am to Noon or by Appointment

Pastor Dennis Hannu

H : (218)837-5871 C: (218)539-0098

Church Board

Chairman:	Raymond Aho	(218)538-6735
V. Chairman:	Harvey Aho	(218)538-6640
Secretary:	Neil Aho	(218)538-6690
Treasurer:	Jamin Aho	(218)538-6677
Members:	Armas Aho	(218)564-4397
	Justin Impola	(218)639-9901
	Joshua Aho	(218)538-6719
	Jeremy Howard	(218)564-5381
	Victor Aho Jr.	(218)564-5222

Financial Secretary & Newsletter Editor:

Dayna Anderson (218)564-5093

Sunday School Superintendent:

Jethro Impola (218)639-7312

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

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 KWAD Wadena
920 & 1430 AM Sundays: 8:05 A.M. – English, 9:00 A.M. - Finnish 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.sprucegrovechurch.org. New pictures are added often. 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

JULY 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Worship Service & Communion 10:30 AM Organists: Patricia & Jolie Sound: Andrew	6	7	8 Youth Group 7:30 PM	9 Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	10 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Betsy Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 5	11
12 Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Ramona Sound: Alvin	13	14 Ladies Fellowship 10:30 AM	15	16	17	18
19 Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Chet	20	21	22 Youth Group 7:30 PM	23 Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	24 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Deborah Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 6	25
26 Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Jamin	27	28 Green Pine Acres Nursing Home Service 2:00 PM	29	30	31 Song Service 8:00 PM Organist: Patricia & Sarah Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 7	

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

Jared & Kendra Sikkila
 Darren & Sonya Keranen
 Reid & Ashley Aho
 Seth Aho

AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship Service & Communion 10:30 AM Guest Speaker: Jouko Talonen Organists: Patricia & Jolie Sound: Neil Dinner Following the Service-Group #4	3	4	5	6	7 VBS Program 7:30 P.M.	8
	Vacation Bible School 8/3 to 8/7 5:00 to 7:30 PM					
9 Worship Service 10:30 AM Organist: Betsy Sound: Andrew	10	11	12 Youth Group 7:30 PM	13 Sunday School Teachers Meeting 8:00 PM	14 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Patricia Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 8	15
16 Worship Service 10:30 AM Guest Speaker: Elmer Yliniemi Organist: Jolie Sound: Jamin	17	18	19	20	21 Convention Meeting 7:30 PM	22
23 Worship Service 10:30 AM Guest Speaker: Don Salo Organist: Ramona Sound: Alvin	24	25 Green Pine Acres Service 2:00 PM	26 Youth Group 7:30 PM	27	28 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Sarah Sound: Deborah Coffee Group # 9	29
30 Worship Service 10:30 AM Guest Speaker Organist: Sarah Sound: Jason	31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5
9/6 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Patricia & Carrie Sound: Chet	9/7	9/8	9/9 Youth Group 7:30 PM	9/10 Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	9/11 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Megan Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 10	9/12

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.

August Cleaning Group

Loren & Karla Impola
 Rosten & Tori Aho
 Russell & Eunika Aho
 Harry & Lori Aho