



## Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 20 No. 2 March-April 2015

### Worshipping During Lent

We have entered into the season of Lent in the church year. The epiphany of our Lord has been considered and preached on for the last five Sundays and now we enter into this season of fasting, prayer, and repentance. It is a time of preparation for Easter.

The season of Lent began on February 18, 2015 and goes through April 4, 2015, forty days not including Sundays (Sundays are the days of resurrection). Although Lent is not mentioned in the scripture it has a long standing tradition in the church. The forty days are often looked at as symbolic to the forty days that Jesus fasted in the wilderness before He was tempted by the devil. The Lent season was seen as a time of repentance and denial of self. All Christians were to examine self and remember what it cost their Savior to save them. It was also a time of instruction for those who wanted to become members of the Christian Church. During Lent they learned the Christian doctrine by studying the Creed. They were then baptized and served the Lord's Supper on Easter Eve or on Easter itself.

At the time of the Reformation, some Christians wanted to eliminate Lent since you could not find it in the scripture. Martin Luther said it should still be observed. He said "Lent, Palm Sunday, and Holy Week shall be retained, not to force anyone to fast, but to preserve the Passion history and the Gospels appointed for that season" (LW 53:90).

This is how I have looked at the season of Lent, not necessarily as a time of denial and fasting, but rather as a time to consider what our Lord has done and what He went through on this earth for us. The things we may decide to deny ourselves on this earth can never compare to what Jesus laid aside when He came to redeem us. Philippians 2:6-8 "*Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross*".

The gospel of Matthew 4:1-11 gives the account of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. After He is hungry, having fasted for 40 days, the devil comes and tempts Jesus to make bread from the stones. Jesus tells him in verse 4 "*But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall*

*not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*". Satan tried to get Jesus to act independently of God like he was able to with the first Adam, but Jesus who is the Second Adam (1 Corinth. 15:45) would not. He always acted in concert with the Father, He always did His will, He did what we could not and that is He pleased the Father. This is who we worship during Lent, the One who was victorious over the devil. This is what the Lent season and the scriptures that we read during this season are all about. It is about Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God, reversing the curse, crushing the head of the serpent.

As the temptation plays out this is what we see, Jesus defeating the devil for us. When the devil brings Him unto the pinnacle of the temple and says in verse 6 "*If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone*". The devil distorts the scripture. He uses it for his own means pulling this verse out of its context. Jesus says in verse 7 "*Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God*". When the devil brings Him into a high mountain and shows Jesus the kingdoms of the world and says in verse 9 "*All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me*". He demonstrates himself to be the liar that he is and Jesus says in verse 10 "*Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve*". The devil leaves Jesus and angels came and served Him.

You see the devil never stood a chance. Three times Jesus told him and demonstrates for us, you do not act independently from God. When Adam fell in the Garden of Eden he acted independently and brought the curse of sin on all mankind. When Jesus came, He did not act independently and has reversed the curse. He remained faithful and for this we will be eternally thankful. He was faithful unto death and now gives unto us this gift of His faithfulness. He overcame the devil for us and went on to defeat him completely on the cross and in His glorious resurrection. He lives and reigns and when we are found in Him, we live and reign as well. Praise God for the finished work of His Son!  
*cont. on next page*

This is why we set aside this time of Lent in our calendar and gather to worship on Wednesday evenings, because of Jesus and His victorious work for us on this earth. It is okay if we feel compelled to give up something for the Lent season in our devotion to Him, but let us always remember that it is not what we do during this season that makes it holy, it is what He has done.

Worshipping during Lent is not about our fasting, prayers, or even our attempts at repentance. It is about the One who fasted, prayed and made repentance possible for us by His gracious work on our behalf. Come let us Praise Him during this season!

Pastor Dennis Hannu

## **Apostolic Lutheran Church Convention**

**“Faith Cometh By Hearing”**

**2015 Annual Convention of the Apostolic Lutheran Churches of America  
June 25th through 28th, 2015**

The Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church Congregation of Wolf Lake, MN invites you to attend the 107th Annual Convention of the Apostolic Lutheran Church of America.

The convention will be held at the New York Mills Public School in New York Mills, MN from June 25th through the 28th, 2015. The address is 209 Hayes Avenue, New York Mills, MN, 56567. The services will begin at the Spruce Grove Church on Wednesday evening, June 24th at 7:30 PM. We will then continue services at the New York Mills High School on Thursday, June 25th through Sunday, June 28th. The Service Times will be 10:00 A.M., 2:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.

Information regarding our service schedule and lodging information will be posted on the [www.apostoliclutheran.org](http://www.apostoliclutheran.org) website, as well as our Facebook page (Spruce Grove ALC Convention 2015).

If you have special lodging needs, or would like to stay with a family in the area, please contact:

Lori Aho: 218-538-6754

Diane Nelson : 218-639-6060

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you soon and we pray for God’s blessings as we continue to fellowship around His Word.

On behalf of the 2015 ALC Convention Committee,

Raymond Aho, Chairman – 218-538-6735

## **Birth Announcements**

Reid & Ashley Aho announce the birth of their 2nd child. Oliver Reid was born on January 4th, 2015 at Essentia Hospital in Detroit Lakes.

Oliver weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces and was 19 inches tall.

Oliver was welcomed home by his parents and sister Matilda. His grandparents are Nola Aho of rural Frazee, and Eric & Patsie Krook of New Ipswich, NH.



Nate & Carrie Aho announce the birth of their 1st child. Samuel Nate was born on January 26th, 2015 at Essentia Hospital in Detroit Lakes.

Samuel weighed 7 pounds 15.5 ounces and was 19 inches tall.

His grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee, and Craig & Lisa Sunnarborg of Battle Ground, WA.



## **Grandchild Announcement**

Raymond and Janet Aho announce the birth of a grandson. Ezra Raymond Traffiie was born on December 5, 2014 to their daughter Emma and her husband Amos of Trinity, NC. Other Grandparent is Wayne Traffie of New Ipswich, NH.

## **Convention Meeting**

There will be a Convention Planning Meeting on Friday, March 27th at 7:30 P.M. Please attend! Please also keep the planning process and the whole convention in your prayers.

## **Convention Notes**

If you live in the area and are willing to host people who will be coming to the convention, please let Lori Aho or Diane Nelson know or put your name and number on the sign-up sheet in the entry at the church.



## Baptisms



Millie Lori Aho, daughter of Daryl & Megan Aho of rural Frazee, was baptized on Sunday, February 8, 2015, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Jaden Aho & Caitlyn Jepson both of rural Frazee. Her grandparents are Harry & Lori Aho and Duwayne & Erin Jepson all of rural Frazee. Her great-grandparents are Laverna Jepson of rural Frazee and Ardelle Somero of Peterborough, NH.



Lars Elias Aho, son of Adrian & Tamra Aho of Osage, was baptized on Saturday, February 28, 2015, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. His sponsors are Dereck & Traci Haapala of Menahga, Tim & Sarah Aho of rural Frazee and Moriah Aho of rural Frazee. His grandparents are Reino & Peggy Aho of rural Frazee and Timothy & Mary Haapala of Menahga. His great-grandmother is Virginia Haapala of Menahga.

## VBS Planning Meeting

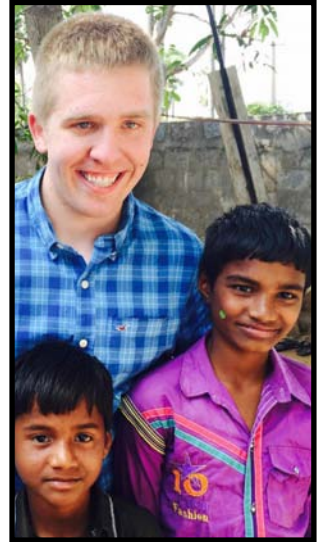
There will be a VBS planning meeting on Tuesday, March 17th at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in helping out with the planning process for VBS, please attend.

If you are interested in helping out and are unable to attend, please speak to Pastor Dennis Hannu or Dayna Anderson.

## Thank You

I would like to thank you all for your support and prayers on my recent mission trip to India. I had another great experience and made memories I will hopefully never forget. I was asked to bring greetings from many Christians namely Pastor K, Doctor Kumar, and Pastor MP who were our hosts in each of the three areas we visited.

Love and God's Blessing,  
Tyrone Aho



Words fail us to express our hearts toward you and the love you showed in thought, word and deed during the loss and time celebrating our Mother (Mummu's) life and death and passing to eternal life and joy!

May God Bless You All!

Love & God's Peace, Elsie Aho family

## Lent Services

Lent Services began on Ash Wednesday, February 18th at 7:30 PM. The services will continue on Wednesdays throughout the month March and into April. Maundy Thursday Service is April 2 at 7:30 P.M. and Good Friday Service is April 3rd at 8:00 P.M. and Easter Service is April 5th at 11:00 A.M. There will be a dinner served following the worhsip service on Easter morning.

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.

## News & Notes

- Andrew & Laureena Keranen & family traveled to MI.
- Marlin & Ashlyn Aho & family traveled to SC.
- Pastor Elmer, Miriam & Isak Ylineimi traveled to FL.
- Jeremy & Katie Howard & family traveled to FL.
- Adrian & Tamra Aho & family traveled to SD.
- Linda Aho traveled to SC and spent time with her family there and attended the wedding of one of her grandsons.
- Marsha Aho traveled to WA.
- Paul, Esther & Betsy Impola traveled to WA.
- Justin & Miranda Impola & family traveled to WA.
- Victor Sr. & Lola Aho, Micah Aho, Nate & Stephanie Siltala, Russell & Eunika Aho family, Rebecca Matson and Loretta Olson traveled to WA.
- Max & Ashley Aho & family spent some time in Canada.
- Lola Aho & Victor Aho Jr. traveled to WI for a funeral.
- Tyrone Aho & Autumn Roberts have returned safely from their mission trips.
- A Baby Shower was held for Lila Impola at the church.



Some of the visitors in the past few months were:

- Craig & Lisa Sunnarborg, Shawn & Julia Olin and Marcus Sunnarborg from WA.
- Wendy Hanson from OR.
- Gwenna Ketola & son Chandler from NH.
- Bruce & Erica West & family from SD.
- Mike & Caitlin Aho & son Cooper from NH.
- Patsie Krook from NH.
- All of Elsie's children and their spouses, over 100 of her grandchildren, many of her great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren from MN, MI, WI, SC, NC, NH, SD, ND & WA were here for Elsie's funeral.

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

## 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 Elsie Aho
- Family of Carl Matson
- Ariana Marrelli
- Family of Graham Aho
- Family of Skyler Impola
- Joan Koskela
- Pastor Don Salo
- Family of Greg Impola
- George Salmonson
- Marvin & June Nelmark
- 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

## Milestones

Glenn Yliniemi ~ 65th Birthday ~ 3/12/2015

Ivan Sikkila ~ 10th Birthday ~ 4/11//2015

Gina Aho ~ 30th Birthday ~ 4/24/2015

## Ladies Fellowship

The Ladies of the church and their children are invited to the church on Thursday, March 12th and April 9th at 11:00 AM for a time of fellowship.

## Daylight Savings

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 A.M. Turn your clocks ahead 1 hour before you go to bed on Saturday night.

## Funeral

ELSIE EVELYN AHO  
“Mummu”

April 19, 1923 – February 10,  
2015

Elsie Evelyn Aho, also known as “Mummu” age 91, a lifelong resident of the Wolf Lake, MN area entered into eternal glory on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 while at the St. Joseph’s Hospital in Park Rapids with her loved ones at her side.

Elsie was born on April 19, 1923 to Matt and Eva (Wickman) Kumma at her family’s home in Spruce Grove Township. She attended country school near her home where she grew into womanhood. She was united in marriage to Hugo Elias Aho on June 14, 1939. This union was blessed with thirteen children. Elsie devoted herself to making a Godly and loving home for her husband and children. She was a wonderful cook and baker who will be long remembered for her delicious cooking and baking; especially, her homemade breads and caramel rolls. Elsie loved the out doors where she always enjoyed watching and listening to the birds sing. She greatly enjoyed working in her gardens raising beautiful flowers for all to see and enjoy. She also enjoyed raising raspberries and strawberries with her husband to make jam and jelly for her family. Elsie also looked forward to the times she and Hugo would take their grandchildren wild berry picking. To help supplement the family farm income, Elsie along with her husband and children cared for over 300 laying hens. Elsie was a life long member of the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church of Wolf Lake and she loved to sing hymns to God’s Glory and for many years served as one of the song leaders at her church and also led singing at services at the Green Pine Acres Nursing Home. She was a woman who deeply loved the Lord. She taught her children the importance of treasuring things of Heaven and not the temporary things of this earth. Her legacy of faith has been strongly instilled in the lives and hearts of her children and grandchildren.

She will be lovingly remembered by her six daughters: Eva (Larry) Salo of Greer, South Carolina, Elvi (Walter) Ketola of Asheboro, North Carolina, Alice (Marc) Ruotsala of Ironwood, MI, Gladys (Jesse) Fraki of Ottertail, MN, Martha of Detroit Lakes, MN and Esther



(Paul) Impola of Sebeka, MN; her six surviving sons: Elias (Hazel) Aho of Menahga, MN, Raymond (Janet) Aho, Reino (Peggy) Aho, Joshua (Deborah) Aho, Harry (Lori) Aho and Harvey (Patricia) Aho all of Wolf Lake, MN; her daughter-in-law, Nola Aho also of Wolf Lake; 107 grandchildren, 338 great grandchildren and 21 great great grandchildren; as well as five sisters-in-law, Linda Aho, Marjorie Kumma, Ida Kumma, Judith Kumma and Dorothy Kumma.

Elsie was preceded in death by her husband, Hugo, her son, Reuben; six grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild; as well as her six brothers: Victor Alfred, Eino, Harry, Elmer, John Raymond and Matt Robert; her two sisters: Alice who died in infancy and Helen Koskiniemi/Saukkola, her parents Matt and Eva, and her stepmother, Olga (Palo) Kumma.

Funeral services were held on Monday, February 16, 2015 at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church of Wolf Lake, MN with the Rev. Dennis Hannu officiating. Deborah Aho was the organist. Her six sons were her casketbearers. Interment was in the Balmi Cemetery near Wolf Lake.

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](http://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](mailto: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.

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

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

# MARCH 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Ramona & Deborah Sound: Chet	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Lent Service 7:30 PM Organist: Betsy Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 5	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends- Turn Clocks Ahead 1 Hour</i> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah Sound: Jason	<b>9</b> Board Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Lent Service 7:30 PM Organist: Megan Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 6	<b>12</b> Ladies Fellowship 11:00 AM Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Andrew	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> VBS Planning Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>18</b> Lent Service 7:30 PM Organist: Jolie Sound: Chet Coffee Group # 7	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Ramona Sound: Jamin	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Lent Service 7:30 PM Organist: Deborah Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 8	<b>26</b> Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	<b>27</b> Convention Planning Meeting 7:30 PM	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Neil	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Green Pine Acres Nursing Home Service 2:00 PM				

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.

## March Cleaning Group

**Reino & Peggy Aho**  
Jeremy & Katie Howard  
Charles & Leila Aho  
Nola Aho  
Lyle & Rebecca Matson

# APRIL 2015

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

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## April Cleaning Group

**Dennis & Miriam Hannu**

Job & Katie Aho

Dawne Loper

Les & Marsha Hanson

Levi & Andrea Yliniemi