

Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 22 No. 2 March - April 2017

My Help Comes From the Lord

KJV Psalm 121:1-8 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is thy keeper: the LORD is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

This psalm is part of a group of psalms, 120-134, that are called the "Song of Ascents" or "Song of Degrees". It is thought that they are called this either because the Israelites sang these psalms as they made their way up to Jerusalem or they were sung or read on the 15 steps in the temple between the Court of the Women and the Court of the Israelites. The "Song of Ascents" are traditionally sung during the Jewish Feast of Booths or Tabernacles in the autumn. The Feast of Tabernacles commemorates Israel's wandering in the wilderness thus the pilgrimage theme of these psalms. These psalms would be sung as the as the worshipers approached the hills of Jerusalem.

Psalm 121 opens up with the psalmist saying "I lift my eyes to the hills." It could be that the psalmist was looking at the hills of Jerusalem when he wrote this psalm. Hills and mountains are quite significant in the Bible as we see God speaking so often from mountains or hills as He communicates with His people. Moses encountered God at Horeb, the mountain of God, in the burning bush. He would later receive the 10 commandments from God on Mt. Sinai. It was on Mt. Carmel that Elijah had his showdown with the prophets of Baal. In the New Testament we see Jesus giving a sermon on a mountain. We also see him on a mountain praying and later being transfigured before Peter, James, and John on a mountain. Jesus was crucified on a hill called Golgotha. It was from the mountain called Olivet that Jesus ascended into heaven.

The psalmist asks the question "From where does my help come?" He looks to the hills and wonders where his help comes from. He then makes this great statement "My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." The hills and mountains of this earth offer no help for us but rather the One who created them and so often used them to communicate with His people is the One who helps us. The Lord is indeed the One who provides everything we need to sustain life in the here and now. He is never asleep on the job

but rather keeps watch over us always. He is our strength and our protector. He is with us always even unto the end of the world.

The church still today looks to the hills and asks the question "From where does my help come?" The answer lies within the season we have now entered, that is the Lenten season. It is during this season that we make our annual journey toward "Holy Week". We make our way by faith to the hill called Mt. Calvary. There we behold our Lord being crucified and we realize He is being crucified because of my sin. We sing with the song writer "O Sacred Head now wounded with grief and shame weighed down, Now scornfully surrounded, with thorns Thine only crown! Once reigning in the highest in light and majesty, Dishonored now Thou diest, Yet here I worship Thee". "Lo, here I fall, my Saviour, Tis I deserve Thy place: Look on me with Thy favor, Vouchsafe to me Thy grace. Receive me, my Redeemer; My Shepherd, make me Thine, Of every good the Fountain, Thou are the Spring of mine!" It is from this hill that we find our help. It is on this hill that we see Jesus our Lord and as we observe, by the eyes of faith, Jesus in His suffering, death, and resurrection, we are reminded of another mountain recorded in Hebrews 12:18-24 For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:) But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Our help truly has come from the Lord who spoke this world into existence and has breathed new life into His fallen creation.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Have a blessed Lenten season and glorious Easter! God's Peace, Pastor Dennis Hannu

Birth Announcements



Rosten & Tori Aho announce the birth of their 1st child. Everly MiKayla was born on January 19, 2017 at the Perham Hospital. Everly weighed 7 pounds 2 ounces and was 19 inches tall.

Everly's grandparents are Nola Aho of rural Frazee, Jason Peterson and Josh & Melanie Byman.

James & Delfi Aho announce the birth of their 2nd child. Giada Chanel was born on January 17, 2017 at the Perham Hospital. Giada weighed 6 pounds 9 ounces. Giada was welcomed home by her parents and brother Julius.

Giada's grandparents are Julius & Terrie Aho of Sebeka and Nino & Antonia Ciampi or Italy.





Jethro & Molly Impola announce the birth of their 5th child. Raylee Grace was born on February 3, 2017 at Tri-County Hospital in Wadena. Raylee weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces and was 20.5 inches tall. Raylee was

welcomed home by her parents, brother Rystin and sisters Vayah & Janae.

Raylee's grandparents are Paul & Esther Impola of rural Sebeka and Tom & Wendy Hanson of OR.

Marlin & Ashlyn Aho announce the birth of their 3rd child. Kalea Rose was born on March 6, 2017 at home. Kalea weighed 8 pounds 11 ounces and was 21 inches tall. Kalea was welcomed by her parents and sisters Sienna and Emery.

Kalea's grandparents are Joshua and Deborah of rural Frazee and Roger & Priscilla Matson of SC.



Baptism



Rochelle Deborah Aho, daughter of Rodney & Hannah Aho of Wolf Lake, was baptized on Friday evening, February 24, 2017, at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Keith & Jamie Aho of rural Sebeka, Jason & Amy Aho of rural Menahga, and Hosea & Laura Ketola of Boston, MA. Her grandparents are Joshua & Deborah Aho of rural Frazee and Warren & Pirjoliisa Ketola of Rindge, NH.

Lent Services

Lent Services began on Wednesday, March 8th at 7:30 PM. The services will continue on Wednesdays throughout the months of March & into April.

The Maundy Thursday Service is April 13, Good Friday Service is April 14 and Easter is April 16.

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.

Remember in Prayer

- Family of Norman Kangas
- Armas Aho
- Victor Aho Sr.
- Patricia Aho
- Sheila Hendrickson
- John Snelling
- Ralph Kandoll
- Gerry Southerton
- 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 Missionaries
- Our Children & Youth
- Our Military
- Our Elderly
- Sunday School Teachers & Students

Thank You

Thank you to Pastor Arvo Onermaa & his wife Ritva from Michigan and Pastor Steve Wuori and his wife Jackie from Canada for coming to serve and speak at our special services the first weekend of March. We are very grateful that you were able to be here.

Also thanks to those who came to services and spent time with us in worship and fellowship. Your presence was greatly appreciated.

Grandchild Announcements

Armas & Pat Aho announce the birth of a grandson. Jagger William Seppala was born on February 15 to their daughter Molly and her husband Sammy of Rindge, NH. Jagger's other grandparents are Sam & Ruth Seppala of NH.

Raymond & Janet Aho announce the birth of a grandson. Tyler Wayne Traffie was born on February 16 to their daughter Emma and her husband Amos of Trinity, NC. Tyler's other grandparent is Wayne Traffie of NH.

Paul & Esther Impola announce the birth of a granddaughter. Elaina Esther Mattila was born on March 2 to their daughter Lois and her husband Jerome of WA. Elaina's other grandparents are James & Leah Mattila of WA.

Milestones

Paul Mosteller

~10th Birthday - 3/15/2017

Anders Sikkila

~10th Birthday - 3/16/2017

Jeremy & Katie Howard

 ~ 10 th Anniversary - 3/17/2017

Robert Loper

~ 40th Birthday - 3/18/2017

Jeannette Jurva

~ 76th Birthday - 3/20/2017

Dawne Loper

~ 40th Birthday - 3/29/2017

August Aho

~10th Birthday - 3/29/2017

Haylee Aho

~10th Birthday - 4/12/2017

Mackenzie Anderson

~10th Birthday - 4/28/2017

Nathan Siltala

~40th Birthday - 4/30/2017

News & Notes

- Jared & Kendra Sikkila & family traveled to SD.
- David & Loretta Olson & family traveled to SD.
- Reino & Peggy Aho and Thomas traveled to NH.
- Andrew & Jolie Ingvalson and Liv traveled to FL.
- Pastor Elmer & Miriam Yliniemi and Isak traveled to AZ.
- Dara Sikkila traveled to MI & SC.
- Bruce & Huldy Sannes traveled to AZ.
- Linda Aho has returned home after spending a couple of months in SC with family.
- Pastor Dennis & Miriam Hannu & Allen traveled to SC.
- Trenton Sikkila traveled to SC.
- Chet & Dayna Anderson traveled to SC.
- Les & Marsha Hanson traveled to Jamaica.
- Tim & Sarah Aho & family traveled to WI.
- Lori Aho traveled to NH.
- Naaman & Lila Impola & family traveled to SC.
- Pastor Dennis & Miriam Hannu traveled to SD.
- Harry & Lori Aho traveled to WI.
- Tanya Sauvola traveled to CO.
- Marlin & Ashlyn Aho & family traveled to SC.
- Alvin & Alisha Aho & family traveled to SC.
- Reid & Ashley Aho & family traveled to FL & NH.
- Brandon Hanson traveled to TX.
- Curtis & Ruby Aho and Ryan & Chelsea Aho went on cruise to the Bahamas.
- Darren & Sonya Keranen & family traveled to WI.
- Harvey & Patricia Aho traveled to NH.
- Kimberly Aho & Layla Aho traveled to NH.
- Elissa Redetzke traveled to SD.
- Jared & Jolene Aho & family traveled to FL.
- Job & Katie Aho traveled to HI.

Some of the visitors the last few months were:

- Roland & Sarah Seppala from SC.
- Emily Anderson & son Lane from SD.
- Ruth Farrey from WA.
- Karen Seppanen & children from SD.
- Wendy Hanson from OR.
- Alex & Jacinda Aili and family from Cloquet, MN.
- Kurt & Marcy Traffie and Blake from NH.
- Marc & Alice Ruotsala from MI.
- Jimmy & Clara Estola & family from MI.
- Hosea & Laura Ketola from MA.

- All of Norman & Shirley Kangas' daughters and spouses from MI, SC, TX, AK, NH and a number of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren were here for Norman's funeral.
- Chase & Jenny West & family from SD.
- Raeann Malysh from Canada.
- Heather Marrelli & children from Canada.
- Bruce & Hannah Barney & family from Chisholm, MN.
- Will & Jennifer Yliniemi & family from WI.
- Priscilla Matson & children from SC.

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

Thank You

We both want to thank Spruce Grove Church and Care Committee for the gift we each received. It will be used for our Rochester trips every 3 months for expenses.

Thank you so much and may God be with each and everyone.

~ Cliff & Irene Koskela

I would like to thank all my church family for the many prayers before, during & after my surgery. The prayers & love shown to me certainly were a great comfort. Thanks also for the many cards & gifts. Your kindness was greatly appreciated. You are special. God bless you all In love & God's Peace

~Armas Aho.

We wish to thank Pastor Dennis and the Spruce Grove family of God for their love, for their energy, for their constant concern for our needs during the time of our loved one's, Norman, illness and final days to his passing. Your love covered so many areas, food during the chemo/radiation period, offers of transportation, encouragement and then to the time when life was ebbing away. You would come to spend time with Norm, to listen to his concerns and encouragement. And then to his passing with gifts of food, meals at the church during the funeral time. Also your offers of space in bedrooms, the camp, for family accommodations, prayers, cards, gifts, support in so, so many ways, were so appreciated.

May God Bless you. Phillipians 1:3 I thank God for every remembrance of you.

Love in Christ Jesus.

~Shirley Kangas with daughters, Rene, Roslyn, Robin, Andrea & Amber and their familes.

Funeral

REVEREND NORMAN E. KANGAS

Rev. Norman E. Kangas, age 83, of Wolf Lake, MN, formerly a long time resident and Pastor in Ironwood, MI, peacefully entered the presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Sunday evening, February 26th, 2017 at his home near Wolf Lake, surrounded by



his loved ones, following a valiant battle against cancer. Norman was born on November 14, 1933 to Edwin and Linne Kangas on his grandfather Kangas' farm near his beloved Wolf Lake. As a boy he attended the District 721 Country School and the Pickeral Lake Country School near his home. He then went on to attend high On December 1, 1953, Norman school in Frazee. entered the United States Army where he proudly served his country during the Korean War. Following his honorable discharge in September of 1955, he began his studies at Bemidji State University. On September 8, 1956, Norman was united in marriage to Shirley M. Koskiniemi at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church near Wolf Lake. Their marriage was blessed with five daughters. A short time after their marriage, Norman and Shirley moved to Fairbanks, Alaska where Norman sold automobiles for a time. In 1959, they returned to Minnesota where Norman took over operating the Osage Supermarket in Osage, MN which they had purchased earlier, while still in Alaska. He ran the store until selling it in 1963. They then moved to Detroit Lakes where they purchased a home and Norman resumed his studies in earning a college degree at Bemidji State University. In 1965 he graduated from college with a bachelors degree in business education. He then began a successful career selling text books throughout the region. In 1970, Norman felt the Lord calling him to deeper study of God's Word. He attended the Inter-Lutheran Seminary in Minneapolis graduating in 1973. He then accepted a call to minister in Ironwood, MI where he devoted over 40 years to preaching the word of God as an Apostolic Lutheran Pastor. Norman and Shirley always enjoyed returning to his beloved Wolf Lake where he looked forward to the healing therapy of hard physical farm work completing necessary chores on the family farm and restoring the old farm house for he and Shirley to someday retire. He loved to tinker with his collection of old tractors; John Deere, Farmall, Ford, Case, Co-op; he enjoyed using them all. He and Shirley also enjoyed traveling across the U.S. and Alaska visiting their daughters and other loved ones. Norman especially enjoyed visiting the Holy Lands and walking where Jesus himself had walked, performed miracles and ministered to his people. Above all, Norman loved to speak with others about his Lord and Savior. Norman memorized great portions of scripture which he would recite to others sharing God's love and the redemptive work Christ did on the cross for all of us so that they could accept God's gift of grace and forgiveness and have the assurance of everlasting life. Throughout his life time of ministry, Norman always had a special love and compassion for the down trodden and children. Above all, Norman loved his precious wife, his daughters, his grandchildren and great grandchildren with all his heart. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife Shirley who over the 60 years of their married lives together, brought him great joy and fulfillment; their five daughters: Rene (Rick) Durkee of Winchester, New Hampshire, Roslyn (Mark) Mitchell of Anchorage, AK, Robin (Steve) Estola of Hurley, WI, Andrea (Chris) Raasio of Hancock, MI and Amber (Philip) Impola of Wellford, SC; 26 grandchildren and 9 precious great grandchildren; two sisters: Debbie Carlson and Doreen (John) McIntyre; two brothers: Marvin (Linda)Kangas and Frank (Joan) Haataja; as well as many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents; his stepfather, Edwin Haataja; three brothers: Russell, Floyd and Billy and a sister, Delores.

Funeral services were held on Friday, March 3, 2017 at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church near Wolf Lake, MN with the Reverends Dennis Hannu, Steve Estola and Elmer Yliniemi officiating. Deborah Aho was the organist. The casket bearers were Rick Durkee, Mark Mitchell, Steve Estola, Chris Raasio, Philip Impola, Blake Estola, Zachery Estola and Austin Estola. Honorary casket bearers were: Marvin LaGrew, Marvin Kangas, Frank Haataja, Debbie Carlson, Doreen McIntyre and Micah Brewer. Military honors were provided by the Star of the North Marine Corps League. Interment will be made in the Pickeral Lake Cemetery.

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.

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

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Ash Wedne	1 Ash Wednesday	2	3	4
				Guest	Special Services March 3-5, 2017	
				Speakers: Arvo	7:30 PM Organist: Betsy	Worship Service 7:30 PM Organist: Deborah Sound: Nate Coffee Groups #9 & 10
				Onermaa & Steve Wuori		
5	i 6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship Service &	Worship Service	 I	Lent Service			• •
Communion 10:30 A.M.	1:30 P.M.	; 1	7:30 PM			
Organists: Sarah & Patricia	Organist: Carrie		Organist: Ramona			
Sound: Alvin	Sound: Tyrone] 	Sound: Nate			
Dinner Following the Service	Coffe Group # 11	! !	Coffee Group # 1			
12 Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM	13	14	Lent Service 7:30 PM	16	17	18 Youth Group
Organist: Deborah Sound: Neil	7:30 Board Meeting		Organist: Sarah Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 2			7:30 P.M.
19 Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Megan Sound: Chet	20	21	Lent Service 7:30 PM Organist: Sarah Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 3	23	24	25
26 Sunday School 10:00 A.M.	27	28	29	30	31	
Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM		Green Pine Acres	Lent Service			
Worship Service 11:00 AM		Nursing Home	7:30 PM			
Organist: Patricia		Service	Organist: Carrie			
Sound: Jamin		2:00 PM	Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 4			

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

Naaman & Lila Impola

Marty & Laura Ahlf Andy & Patty Aho Neil & Amanda Aho Andy & Anne Beldo Brandon Hanson

^{*} 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.

APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday 1 Youth Group 7:30 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Deborah & Megan Sound: Chet	3	4	5 Lent Service 7:30 PM Organist: Ramona Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 5	6	7	8
9 PALM SUNDAY Guest Speaker: Steve Estola Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Neil inner Following Service - Dinner Grou	7:30 Board Meeting	11	12	13 Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 PM Organists: Betsy & Carrie Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 6	Good Friday Service 8:00 PM Organist: Patricia Sound: Chet Coffee Group # 7	Youth Group 7:30 PM
Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organists: Deborah Sound: Alvin inner Following Service - Dinner Grou	17	18	19 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	20	21	22
23 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Sarah Sound: Jamin	24	25 Green Pine Acres Service 2:00 PM	26 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	27	Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Megan Sound: Nate Coffee Group # 8	29
30 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Carrie Sound: Chet	5/1	5/2	5/3 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/4	5/5	5/6 Youth Group 7:30 PM
5/7 Sunday School 10:00 AM Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service & Communion 11:00 AM Organists: Patricia & Ramona Sound: Neil	5/8 7:30 Board Meeting	5/9	5/10 Family Bible Study 8:00 PM	5/11	5/12 Worship Service 8:00 PM Organist: Betsy Sound: Tyrone Coffee Group # 9	5/13

Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Organist: Deborah

Sound: Alvin

Wolf Lake: 538-1030 Menahga: 564-1030 Aldrich: 445-1030 Nimrod: 472-1030

Sebeka: 837-1030

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Jethro & Molly Impola

Jared & Jolene Aho Curtis & Ruby Aho Alvin & Alisha Aho Andrew & Laureena Keranen

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