



Spruce Grove Newsletter

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church, Wolf Lake, MN Vol. 16 No 1 January-February 2011

Redeeming the Time

As we enter into another new year we often will make resolutions to change our way of doing something or we may try and give up an old habit. We may resolve to be better at our vocation, be a better parent, study harder in school, or try to be a better Christian. We may buy a Bible reading program in order to try and read through the Bible in a year. We may resolve to be more efficient with our time and money. It seems there are always areas in our lives where we can see the need for change. Change is good and can be very helpful for us in our business', on the farm, in our homes, at school, etc. The Psalmist says in Psalm 90:12 "*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom*". It is good sometimes to consider your lives and see where change may be helpful. The scripture verse above says to apply our hearts unto wisdom. It is written in James 3:17 "*But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy*".

Resolutions made in the beginning of a new year are often broken or compromised in some way. This year may we resolve to seek that wisdom which is from above and to ask God to instill it into our hearts by faith, so that we may be able to redeem the time.

Redeeming the time means simply to make the most of the time you are given here on the earth. It means to live as a Christian in this life and to walk in that manner toward all people which includes your children, spouse, parents, your fellow believers, and those who are not believers. Paul writes in Colossians 4:5 "*Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time*". So if we are to make a resolution this year, let us make it with others in mind. May the gospel message of Christ be first and foremost in our minds for this will cause us to walk in wisdom toward those who are seeking, toward those who are lost in this world, toward those who may treat us badly. Jesus says in Matthew 10:16 "*Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and*

harmless as doves". He says this as He sends out the twelve disciples to minister to the people in Palestine. They were to make the most of their time spreading the good news of the kingdom of God to their fellow countrymen. They were to do this with wisdom, depending on God to provide the things they would need in order to carry it out. They were not to be harmful but rather to carry out the message of Peace, peacefully. The disciples were instructed by Jesus himself to be wise, to not waste their time where they were not received, but to continue on in their work. They were proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God here on earth. They were told not to fear what man can do to them but rather fear God. They were told that God cares for the sparrows and surely He would then take care of them.

The New Year brings us great hope because we know that nothing has changed as far as God is concerned. He still loves His children of which we are a part, He is still in the business of taking care of them. The salvation which He has provided is still being offered to all who will believe because today is still the day of grace. The Lamb of God has taken away our sins and we proclaim this as the disciples of old did. We tell all who will hear and trust that God will work faith in the hearts of the listeners.

We redeem the time, make the most of our time, because that is all we can do and that is what we are called to do. We are wise even as Paul says in Ephesians 5:15-16 ¹⁵ "*See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,* ¹⁶ *Redeeming the time, because the days are evil*". We walk carefully not foolishly, desiring to do the will of the Father. In order to do this we pray and ask God to help us and He does through the teaching of His Word and the guidance of His Holy Spirit. The word teaches us who we are in Christ and how we are to function in this life as Christians. We are bearers of the good news and our lives are supposed to reveal this to others. We are to bear the fruits of righteousness that Paul speaks of in Ephesians and in Galatians.

Continued on next page.

This is given unto us by Jesus Christ as a free gift, our filth and sin in exchange for His righteousness, His goodness, His mercy, and His peace. We are able to redeem the time because we are new creations in Christ. We redeem the time because the days are wicked in which we live and we would desire that all people everywhere would repent and believe the gospel.

In this New Year let us not be fearful of men and their ways, so that we are crippled in our walk and our light we begin to hide. But rather let us fear (hold HIM in reverence and in awe) and love God knowing that He will never leave us or forsake us. God is good and He loves us more than I can ever write about. Let us redeem the time for soon He comes to take us home.

Pastor Dennis Hannu



News & Notes

- Alvin Aho and Alisha Matson traveled to South Carolina to visit Alisha's family over the holidays.
- We have enjoyed the many people who have come to visit in the area over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.
- Many of the youth gathered at the Church on December 31st to celebrate the coming of the New Year.
- Many of the young couples gathered at the home of Job & Katie Aho on January 1st for a New Years party.
- Thank you to Lynnette Yliniemi for making the air conditioner covers.
- Roy Aho, Rodney and Hannah Aho and family traveled to Florida for Hannah's brother's wedding.
- There are a number of items that have been found at the church. Please check the room across from the nursery (men's room) for the items that you may have lost.

As cold waters to a
thirsty soul, so is good
news to a far country.
Proverbs 25: 25

Birth Announcement

Russell & Eunika Aho are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Jade Emelia. She was born on November 22, 2010 in Long Prairie, MN at Alisha's Care Center, weighing 7 lbs, 12 oz and measured 21.5 inches.



Grandparents are Victor and Lola Aho Sr., of Menahga, and Jesse and Gladys Fraki of Ottertail. Great grandmothers are Elma Impola of Park Rapids, Elsie Aho of Wolf Lake and Vivian Fraki of New York Mills.

Grandchild Announcements

Armas & Pat Aho announce the birth of a granddaughter. Sydney Marie was born to Sam & Molly Seppala of Rindge, NH. Other grandparents are Sam & Ruth Seppala of Rindge, NH.

Nola Aho announces the birth of a granddaughter. Bria Sophie was born to Randon and Tyra Aho of Landrum, SC. Other grandparents are Eugene and Karen Stenersen of Landrum, SC.

Thank You

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Faith,

Over the past few months we have been truly amazed and humbled at the love of Jesus shown to us through family and friends. We would like to thank each and everyone who has remembered us in any way after Job's accident. During trials like this that we can not fully comprehend, we must remember how good God is and what He has done for us. May the love of our Lord and Savior continue to shine through the darkness.

In Love and God's Peace

Job and Katie Aho and family

Baptisms

Krysten Mae Aho, daughter of Jamin and Gina Aho was baptized at their home on November 22nd by Pastor Dennis Hannu. Her sponsors are Adrian and Tamra Aho of Osage, MN and Ricky and Ashley Miller of Arrowhead, CA.



Jade Emeila Aho daughter of Russell and Eunika Aho was baptized on December 19th by Jesse Fraki at the home of Jesse and Gladys Fraki in Ottertail, MN. Her sponsors are Bruce and Erica West of Taylors, SC, Nate and Stephanie Siltala of St. Joseph, MN and Taylor and Rachel Somero of New Ipswich, NH.



Milestones

1/13/2011-Victor Aho Jr. & Stacy Aho

10th Anniversary

1/30/2011-Hazel Yliniemi

70th Birthday

2/4/2011-MaryAnn Salmonson

75th Birthday

Church Improvements



The church basement has been converted into 9 classrooms and 2 storage rooms.

Thank you to all of the people who gave of their time and talents. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.



There is a beautiful new sign in the front of the church that was donated in memory of Reuben Aho.



Thank you to Dale Hillukka for building and installing the bulletin board in the church entry.

WHODUNNIT?

- CLUE #1: Her cousin raised her.
CLUE #2: Her husband's name was Xerxes.
CLUE #3: Her Jewish name was Hadassah.
CLUE #4: She said these words: "If I perish, I perish."
CLUE #5: She saved an entire race of people from destruction.

Hint: Read more about this courageous woman in the book after Nehemiah.

Bible Mystery Solved! This woman's name is _____.

MISSING LETTERS

Two letters of each of these words are missing. Find the letters in the list below and complete the words. The letters may be used more than once. These words are clues to your Bible mystery!

M O _ D _ C A I

H A M _ _

J _ _ S

_ _ R X E S

B A _ _ U E T

_ _ E P T E R

T _ _ O N E

K I _ _ D O M

G A L _ _ W S

Missing Letters:

A C D E G H J L
N O Q R S W X



Ishmael in the Desert (Genesis 16:1-16; 21:8-20)

Poor Ishmael. His mother, Hagar, was Sarah's servant. His father was Abraham. Sarah didn't like Ishmael because she didn't want him to share Isaac's inheritance.

Poor Ishmael. Sarah asked Abraham to get rid of Hagar and Ishmael. Abraham gave Hagar some food and water and told her to take Ishmael and leave. Hagar and Ishmael walked into the desert. They drank all their water. Ishmael started to die of thirst.

Blessed Ishmael. God heard Ishmael crying, and an angel showed Hagar where to find water. She gave the boy a drink. He lived!

Use the code to find out what else happened to Ishmael.

7	15	4	23	1	19	23	9	20	8	20	8	5	
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4	5	19	5	18	20	1	14	4					
2	5	3	1	13	5	1	14	1	18	3	8	5	18

Genesis 21:20 (NIV)

A 1	B 2	C 3	D 4	E 5	F 6	G 7	H 8		
I 9	J 10	K 11	L 12	M 13	N 14	O 15	P 16		
Q 17	R 18	S 19	T 20	U 21	V 22	W 23	X 24	Y 25	Z 26



Sunday School Christmas Program



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)

- Byron Saari (Stacy Aho's father) with health concerns.
- Billy Nelmark with ongoing testing and health concerns.
- The Ylineimi family in the loss of Ruth Ann Ylineimi.
- Elsie Aho with health concerns.
- **Continue to remember in prayer:**

National Leaders	Eli Niemi
Our Missionaries	Natalie Matson
Our Children & Youth	Lila Ylineimi
Our Military	Violet Ylineimi
Our Elderly	Shirley Ylineimi
Martha Aho	Art Latto
Della Nelson	Pastor Charlie Bergstedt
Esther Hendrickson	

Thank You

Dear Spruce Grove Church family,

Many thanks for the gas card you gave. It helped greatly as I traveled to be with my Dad in Wausau. Also, thank you for all your thoughts and prayers for my dad and our family during this time. May the Lord bless you all. HE is so good and faithful! Love and God's Peace,
Stacy w/Victor Jr Aho and family

Spruce Grove Cookbooks

The new Spruce Grove Church Cookbook (#2) has been printed, if you would like to purchase a cookbook, please contact Amanda or Hannah Aho.

The first Spruce Grove Church cookbook (#1) has also been reprinted.

The cost is \$12.50 per book, shipping is \$2.50 per book if you need it shipped. Make checks payable to Spruce Grove Church Ladies and send to: Amanda Aho, 15610 490th Ave., Menahga, MN 56464.

Please earmark the check "cookbook". Also specify how many and which cookbook(s) that you would like to purchase: cookbook #1 or cookbook #2.

Funeral

12/27/10 - Ruth Ann Ylineimi died peacefully at her home in Osage, Minnesota, on December 27, 2010, surrounded by her husband, children and grandchildren.

Ruth Ann Ylineimi was born August 21, 1956 in Virginia, Minnesota. She married William Nicholas Ylineimi on February 13, 1976. To this union were born five children: Jess Caleb, Heather Jean, married to Joseph Eugene Furlong, Rebecca Ann, married to Greg Steven Karvonen, Jennifer Mary, and Alison Nicole. She is survived by her husband, children, sons-in-law and six grandchildren: Josephine Ruth Furlong, Sophia Blythe Furlong, Judd Everett Furlong, Rachel Jean Karvonen, Loretta Rose Karvonen and Paul Henry Karvonen. She is also survived by her parents Elmer and Sylvia (Banttari) Johnson, two brothers Timothy (Rebecca) Johnson and David (Marla) Johnson, all of her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She is preceded in death by her parents-in-law, William Caleb and Eleanor (Nelson) Ylineimi.

Visitation was held at the Wevley Funeral Home Chapel in Sebeka on Friday, December 31st. Funeral services were held at the Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church in Wolf Lake on Saturday, January 1, at 1:00 p.m.; Warren Hepokoski officiating. She was buried at Pickeral Lake Cemetery in Wolf Lake Township.

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church

15272 Co Hwy 45, Wolf Lake, 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

Vice Chairman: Harvey Aho (218)538-6640

Secretary: Neil Aho (218)538-6690

Treasurer: Jeremy Howard (218)564-4483

Members: Armas Aho (218)564-4397

Jamin Aho (218)334-2376

Joshua Aho (218)538-6719

Andrew Keranen (218)538-6677

Victor Aho Jr. (218)564-5222

Financial Secretary: Emma Aho (218)841-1997

Sunday School Superintendent:

Jason Aho (218)538-6732

Newsletter Editor: Dayna Anderson (218)564-5093

Church Website

You are invited to check out the church website at:

www.sprucegrovechurch.org

New pictures are added weekly and services are online live during service and are now also recorded and may be accessed any time.

Note: If you personally do not want your picture to be on the internet website, please let Jason Aho know.

Directions to watch services online:

1. Go to church website www.sprucegrovechurch.org, click on watch sermons or services via video web cast.
2. If there is a service live when you get to this point, click play, if there is not a live sermon at the time, you will see a message that says (off air) at the bottom of the screen.
3. At this point you will either have to wait until a service starts or you have the option to watch recorded services on video.
4. If you have questions, call 218-639-4967 or 218-538-6540 and ask for Neil.

Radio Broadcast

Echoes of Mercy broadcast – KWAD – Wadena
Sundays 8:05 A.M. - English--- 9:00 A.M. - Finnish
sponsored by Spruce Grove, Menahga and New York
Mills Apostolic Lutheran Churches

*How beautiful upon the mountains are the
feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that
publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings
of good, that publisheth salvation; that
saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!*

Isaiah 52:7

The newsletter is also available online at sprucegrovechurch.org, 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.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Spruce Grove Apostolic Lutheran Church
60077 500th Street
Sebeka, MN 56477

JANUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
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9 Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Pin # 30842 Organist: Megan	10	11	12 Family Bible Study 7:30 PM	13 Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	14 Worship Service 8:00 PM Pin # 30982 Organist: Deborah	15																																																																																																		
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23 Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Pin # 18609 Organist: Deborah	24	25 Worship Service Menahga Nursing Home 2:00 PM	26 Family Bible Study 7:30 PM	27 Adult Bible Study 2:00 PM	28 Worship Service 8:00 PM Guest Spkr. Orval Wirkkala Pin # 18679 Organist: Jolie	29																																																																																																		
30 Adult Bible Class 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Guest Speaker Orval Wirkkala Lunch Following Service Pin # 18711 Organist: Megan	31	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">December 2010</th> <th colspan="7">February 2011</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>Sa</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			December 2010							February 2011							S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa				1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	26	27	28	29	30	31		27	28						Notes:	
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Menahga	218-564-2030
Wolf Lake	218-538-2030
Sebeka	218-837-2030
Verndale	218-445-2030
Nimrod	218-472-2030

By dialing one of the above numbers just when the service begins you will be prompted to give the pin number. If these numbers are long distance numbers, you will have long distance charges. Pin numbers are in bold type on the calendar above for upcoming services.

Cleaning Group for January:

Adrian & Tamra
Dale & Molly
Julius & Terrie
Tim & Sarah
Andy & Patty
Nick & Megan

FEBRUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
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Cleaning Group for
February:
Youth Group
Chairpersons:
Jolie
Tyrone