

The Journey

Fall 2019



SPRUCE GROVE ALLIANCE CHURCH

Thrive Spiritually. Build Community. Reach the Lost



Jesus is our Saviour, our Sanctifier, our Healer, and our Coming King

Welcome



Pastor Scott: scott.buck@sgac.net

Welcome to Spruce Grove Alliance Church (SGAC). We hope that if you are new with us, you will make yourself at home. Please fill out a comment card or stop by the office to introduce yourself to us. As we move into the fall; we still hope that you will make time to THRIVE SPIRITUALLY, be a part BUILDING authentic COMMUNITY and join us as we seek to serve our world and REACH THE LOST with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thanks for picking up the Journey, it is our hope that this publication will help you and your family find a place of connection and community this fall at SGAC. Take time to look through it and prayerfully consider where God is calling you to get involved.

Please remember that the Staff and Elders are here to serve you. Please feel free to be in touch with us if you have any questions or concerns.

Lead Pastor

Rev. Scott Buck

LEADERSHIP STAFF

Main Office: 780-962-4700 250 Century Rd Spruce Grove, AB T7X 1W6

Lead Pastor:

Rev. Scott Buck

Pastor of Outreach, Missions & Men:

Joel Marquez

Youth & Young Adults Pastor:

Josh Palsky

Sr. Lead Associate, Senior's Pastor:

Rev. Art Quist

Pastor of Children's Ministries:

Coreen Frey

Pastor of Apologetics:

Steve Kim

Worship, Arts & Prayer Pastor:

Andrew Bugiera

Pastor of Women's Ministries:

Karen Houcher

Worship Services

Sunday Morning:

9:15 am & 11:15 am

The 2nd full weekend of each month, we offer (gluten-free) Communion, followed by a Benevolent Care Offering.

SGAC Library is available for signing out resources on Sunday mornings.

Children's Ministries

Full children's programming provided at both Sunday Morning Services.

Birth - 24 months - Nursery

2 Year Olds - The Meadow

3 Year Olds - The Marsh

4 yr - K - The Reef

Grade 1/2 - Classroom 1

Grade 3/4 - Classroom 2

Grade 5/6 - Classroom 3

Missed a worship service? Check out www.sgac.net and listen online!

SGAC

Spruce Grove Alliance Church

NEW TO SGAC?

We're glad you're here! A few things we encourage you to do to get to know us:

1. Go to the Welcome Center to pick up a New Comer's Gift Package.
2. Check out www.sgac.net. We'll share a bit about ourselves, and let you know about ways you can get connected at SGAC.
3. Fill out a Connection Card. Take a quick moment to let us know of your visit!

Find a Connection Card:

- In the New Comer's Gift Package
- In one of the chair pockets in the main Sanctuary
- At www.sgac.net.

Ways to stay informed:

1. Check our website for news and information:
www.sgac.net
2. Sign up for our e-newsletters at www.sgac.net
3. Read your weekly bulletin at weekend services (or find a copy on our website under the news section)
4. Find us on Facebook!
 - **Spruce Grove Alliance Church**
 - **Spruce Grove Alliance Church Children's Ministries**
 - **Spruce Grove Alliance Church Filipino Ministry**
 - **Spruce Grove Alliance Church Women**
 - **SGAC Youth**
 - **SGAC Young Adults**

Worship & Preaching Themes

Date	Sermon Title	Text
September 8	A Humble Beginning	1 Thessalonians 1:1
September 15	Works of Faith, Labour of Love and Steadfast Hope	1 Thessalonians 1:2-5
September 22	Receiving the Word in Affliction	1 Thessalonians 1:6-10
September 29	A Message from District	Selected Scriptures
October 6	Entrusted Message	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
October 13	Exhort, Encourage and Charge	1 Thessalonians 2:7-12
October 20	Foundation of God's Word	1 Thessalonians 2:13-16
October 27	Satan's Plot	Thessalonians 2:17-20
November 3	Afflictions	Thessalonians 3:1-5
November 10	Standing Fast in The Lord	Thessalonians 3:6-13
November 17	Least Reached People	Selected Scriptures
November 24	Pleasing The Lord	Thessalonians 4:1-8
December 1	Brotherly Love	Thessalonians 4:9-12
December 8	Christmas Concert	
December 15	Gabriel Sent by God	Luke 1:26-38
December 22	The Promise of Bethlehem	Micah 5:2
December 24	Trip To Bethlehem	Luke 2:1-7
December 29	A New Year	Selected Scriptures

MISSED A SERMON?

If you missed a sermon or want to re-listen to an old one, check out our website. Scroll through old sermons and listen to ones you have may missed. Sermons can be found on our website at:

<http://www.sgac.net/sermons>

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This year's AGM will be held on Thursday, September 19 at 7:00 pm. All members and attendees are encouraged to attend. Annual Reports and Elder nomination information will be available at the Welcome Centre on September 1.

Come and have coffee with the **Future Development Team** before the AGM. Ask your questions and give us your feedback on plans for the Phase 1 – Education Building. Stop by any time from 6:00 until the meeting starts at 7:00.

Worship, Arts & Prayer



Pastor Andrew: andrew.bugiera@sgac.net

Philippians 3:8-12 "...that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness

that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead."

Philippians 3: 14 "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

He has called us to a life of faith and knowledge in Him. Not in a religiously legalistic way but in a way that we are restored to right relationship with Him and with others. This allows us to experience His Kingdom come and will done in our lives. My prayer is that we will experience His Kingdom reign in our lives and that His will would be done in us and through us in this next season of ministry.

Sunday Morning Worship Services

We meet every Sunday Morning at 9:15 & 11:15 to worship our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Everyone is welcome.

Corporate Prayer

Our Wednesday evening Corporate Prayer time will resume again in September. Please watch the future bulletins and next Journey for details.

The first evening together will be September 11 at 6:40 pm in the Prayer Room. For more information please contact Ken at kprixon@shaw.ca.

Men's Outreach Prayer

Men, come pray with us on Monday Mornings at 9:30 am for our outreach ministry. For more information please contact Merrill at merrillj@hotlinkwireless.com.

SGAC House of Prayer

Join us on September 15 for SGAC House of Prayer. A night of unbroken modern worship, praise and prayer. Come and spend time in an atmosphere of scripture-based worship and prayer over our church and community. Additional dates will be October 20, November 17, December 15.

Door to Door Outreach Prayer

Please join us at 6:30 every Wednesday in October as we love our community with a door to door prayer opportunity. For more information please contact Pastor Andrew.

Worship Ministry Volunteers

October 27 we will experience **The WELL** (*Worship, Encouragement, Learning and Laughter*). Please plan to join us for this if you are a part of the worship/tech/drama ministries. Stay tuned to The Journey Updates section in your weekly bulletin for more details.

Singin' the Gospel

Join us on Sunday, September 22 at 6:00 pm for an evening of music & testimony provided by the **The Fehr Family**. The Fehr Family comes from our local area. If you want to inspire your young musicians make sure to bring them to this concert. Also, be sure to mark your calendars for November 24, at 6:00 pm as **Keeper's of the Faith** from Washington State will be with us.

Get Involved

There are many areas for you to be involved. We are always on the lookout for musicians, actors and people interested in behind the scenes and tech. Please reach out to Pastor Andrew to get involved today.

Christmas Eve Services

Join us on Tuesday, December 24 for Christmas Eve at SGAC. Join us for one of our 3 services at 3:30 pm, 5:00 pm, and/or 6:30 pm. Invite your friends and family.

Children birth to grade 6



Pastor Coreen: coreen.frey@sgac.net

We believe that teaching kids about Jesus, faith and Biblical values is critical to prepare them for a purposeful and fulfilling life. We want them to know they are loved, accepted, and belong here as we grow in relationships, teach, and train them in serving. We want to partner with parents to help grow our kids in the respect and love of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Discovery Island

D **New to our Church?** Please fill in a registration form at the “Check In” station in the foyer. All children must check in with one of our station supervisors and pick up a name tag. Parents with children age 3 to grade 4 will also pick up a parent tag. Nursery and 2 year olds can check in and pick up a parent tag outside the nursery. Grade 5-6 do not require a parent pick up tag.

With the change of school grades in September your child may move to a new classroom. Please speak to a check in supervisor if you have any questions.

Please note there will be no Discovery Island December 22 or 29.

Fall Family Festival

F Thursday, October 31 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Fun activities for the whole family. To volunteer please contact a Children’s Ministry staff member. Concession will be available for purchase in support of the Future Development Fund.

AWANA

Ages 2 to Grade 12- A bible training kids club that includes scripture memorization, story time and gym games. Online Registration available at sgac.net/eventregistration, until the program is full, or you may register in the office. \$60/child, limited space.

AWANA Volunteer Meeting on September 4 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Parents volunteering twice a month or more receive 1 child at half price.

Start night is Sept. 11, 2019:

- **4:00 pm to 5:30 pm:** Age 2 to Grade 6 (*Puggles to T & T*)
- **5:30 pm to 6:30 pm:** *Trek and Journey*
- **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm:** Age 3 to Grade 6 (*Cubbies to T&T*)

We will have a 10 minute parent’s information meeting and prayer on September 11 with your child in the Sanctuary at the AWANA start time.

Christmas Musical

- **Auditions:** For all children Grade 2-Grade 6 who like to sing, act or dance. Tuesday, October 8, 3:30pm to 5:00pm.
- **Cast Member Rehearsals:** Tuesdays, October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 19, & 26, from 4:00 pm to 5:15 pm.
- **Rehearsals:** Saturday morning rehearsals for all Grade 1-6 children, November 23, 30 and December 7 from 9:30 to 11:30 am.
- **Performance:** All Grade 1-Grade 6 will be a part of the ensemble on Sunday, December 8 **during both services.**

Deeper Life School of Theology

Higher Education in Biblical Studies

Pastor Coreen Frey: coreen.frey@sgac.net

Intro

We exist to:

- Be obedient to the great commission to make disciples (Matthew 28:19).
- Equip the saints to do the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:11).
- Help raise a new generation of effective servant leaders without sending them away to Bible School; making it affordable and flexible.
- Encourage diligent study of the Word of God and recognize their accomplishments.
- Raise up people who have a thirst to know God and His Word. People who find freedom and wisdom in the Spirit for practical life and ministry.

Accreditation

Christian Life Educators Network (CLST Global) is a world leader in church-based theological and leadership education for over 30 years. It belongs to the International Association of Bible Colleges and Seminaries, as well as Peter Wagner's Academic Council for Educational Accountability. CLST Global has met the state requirements under the Post-Secondary Educational Authorization Act and can legally award certificates and degrees ranging from a Diploma of Theology through to a Doctor of Theology.

Divisions of Study

- Historical Theology
- Practical Theology
- Biblical Theology
- Christian Counseling
- New & Old Testament

Degrees Offered

- Diploma of Theology - 30 Credits
- Associate of Theology - 60 Credits
- Bachelor of Theology - 126 Credits
- Master of Theology - 171 Credits
- Doctor of Theology - 300 Credits

Standard of Conduct

We are a community of Christian believers who confess and follow Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. The community is expected to uphold the Word of God and apply Biblical standards to morality and integrity in life. We are to conduct ourselves in a manner in keeping with Christian decorum and testimony. This involves embracing attitudes and actions the Bible identifies as virtuous and avoiding attitudes and actions the Bible identifies as sinful.

Courses Fall 2019

Class Times are Thursday & Friday Evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm and Saturdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

- September 19-21, 2019:
BT515 **"Spiritual Gifts"** with Dr. Ron Cottle. A study of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in scripture. Special emphasis is placed on the 9 charismatic gifts in I Corinthians. 12 - 14.
- October 17-19, 2019:
PT616 **"Spiritual Warfare"** with Dr. Milford Gamble. This course is designed to teach the nature and character of our enemy and learn to use the battle weapons God has provided for us.
- November 14 - 16, 2019:
OT 314 **"The Ten Commandments"** with Dr. Ron Cottle. Learn the Basis for the Old and New Testaments and see how our Western civilization has been founded on these precepts.
- December 12-14, 2019:
BT451 **"Developing Sound Hermeneutics"** with Ian Bond. This course introduces students to the principles of biblical interpretation. Emphasis is placed upon the accurate interpretation of types, allegories, prophecy, and parables.

You must pre-register for all courses ahead of time. Please contact Pastor Coreen to register or learn more.

Youth & Young Adults



Pastor Josh: josh.palsky@sgac.net

For the most up-to-date information on weekly events check out our Facebook group: **SGAC Youth**. We welcome each and every student from

Grades 7 - 12 to come and be part of Youth.

IMPORTANT: All youth must fill out a 2019-2020 youth information form in order to attend all youth events. Please go to our website www.sgac.net/youth or to our Facebook page **SGAC Youth** to fill out this form.

Youth Parents Meeting

Sunday, September 8 at 1:00 pm in The Oasis Room. Meet with Pastor Josh and the Youth Leaders and hear their heart for the growth of the youth this next year. Calendars of events and information forms will be available.

Friday Night Events for Grades 7-12

All events start at 7:30 pm and pick up is promptly at 10:00 pm unless specifically stated otherwise. Youth Events begin Friday September 13 with a brief grade 7 welcome before we jump into our annual game of Dragon Keys! Make sure to keep track of our youth events by following us on our Facebook: **SGAC Youth** or our Instagram page [sgacyouth](https://www.instagram.com/sgacyouth).

Small Groups for Jr. High & Sr. High

Bible Study kicks off on September 10 and runs Tuesday evenings starting at 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm here at SGAC. Also, don't forget to come early at 6:30 pm for our drop in youth Games in the gym before study gets started! Our first study will kick off with Youth Worship and a Grade 7 Welcome!

Trek & Journey

Wednesdays from 5:30 pm until 6:20 pm. Contact Laurie Breitzkreuz at 780-962-2554. Cost is \$60. Register Online at www.sgac.net/eventregistration.

The Gathering

Youth Conference at Sherwood Park Alliance Church

Make sure to register as soon as you can, as the first youth to sign up will have a discounted rate of \$85. Once we run out of our discounted tickets then the rate will increase. You can sign up today on our website. Watch our Facebook and Instagram pages for important updates.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUTH, CONTACT PASTOR JOSH AT josh.palsky@sgac.net

Young Adults

Are you a "Young Adult"? Do you want to learn more about Jesus or the Bible? Do you want to get to know some other Young Adults? If any of these are you then join us Wednesday nights at 7:30 at Mike and Bonny Piska's (13 Linsview Close Spruce Grove). We meet weekly for Bible Study and aim to have events / games nights / Sunday lunches monthly. Follow us at the Facebook group **SGAC Young Adults** and our Instagram Account **YoungAdults.SGAC** for details.

- Fall kick off is at Jubilee Park on Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 pm: Pizza and games in the park. Bring \$5 and a lawn chair, we will have some large hard to miss signs or maybe balloons so you can find us!
- Back by popular demand ... Young Adults Retreat! Mark your calendars for October 18-20, 2019 at Camp Nakamun. First session at Camp will start at 8:00 pm Friday evening and we will finish after lunch on the Sunday. \$150/person (non-refundable) with registration opening September 15.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUNG ADULTS CONTACT **Corisa Vanderveen: 780-996-8687** or **Bonny Piska: 780-916-3648**.

Women



Pastor Karen Houcher: karen.houcher@sgac.net

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

-John 10:10 NIV

The abundant life that Jesus came to bring is a life centered on Christ. When we abide in Him he brings us joy and peace even in the midst of difficult circumstances. I hope that you will join us where you can as together we have fun, learn, and grow in Jesus.

New Women

It's hard to know where to start or where you fit in when you're new to a church. If you are new to SGAC or new to being involved at SGAC I'd love to meet you and answer any questions that you might have about what is available for you to get involved in. Let's meet after either the 9:15 or the 11:15 service on September 22 in the Prayer Room for a few minutes.

Women's Prayer

Mondays at 9:30 am in the Library. Join us for a time of Thanksgiving/Praise, interceding for the church and its leadership, sharing our blessings and needs and enjoying the special fellowship one experiences in prayer, be it silent or audible. "Then you shall call and the Lord will answer". (Isaiah 58:9)

Parents First Day Back to School Connecting & Prayer

September 3 after you drop off your children for school, stop by the church to connect with others over coffee and snacks in the foyer. As well, there are ladies who would love to pray with you for your child(ren), and their school, teacher, and principal.

Women's Retreat

Save the Date: April 17-19, 2020 at Camp Nakamun

Deep Dish

Women Building Connections, Community, and Conversation

A casual time for women of all ages and stages to come together and get connected. Drop in to the Fireside Room, between 7:00 pm -8:30 pm the first Tuesday evening of each month starting in October, for a time of building friendship with other women. Enjoy some coffee and dessert as we dig deeper into life and faith.

2 Little 4 Me

Children's Toy & Clothing Sale

The 2 Little 4 Me Children's Clothing and Toy Sale this fall is an outreach event as we open our doors to the community on Saturday, September 21 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Invite your friends and neighbours to stop in for the sale and to check out the church. Check our Facebook page **2 Little 4 Me Children's Clothing & Toy Sale** for details.

Daybreak & Evening Edition

Women of all ages join us either at Daybreak on Tuesday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00 beginning October 1 or for Evening Edition on Thursdays from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm in the Fireside Room, beginning September 26 for a special series "**Worldview Training**" with Pastor Steve Kim. It is important that we are equipped to understand why we believe what we believe so that we can answer questions that come our way from our children or our friends and relatives.

Register online, in the church office or at the Welcome Centre on Sundays. Childcare is available with pre-registration for Daybreak.

Unplanned the Movie

Monday, September 9 at 7:00 pm at Landmark Theatre in Spruce Grove. Tickets are available through the office at \$12.50 per ticket. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Keenagers & Other Ministries



Pastor Art: art.quist@sgac.net

Families often have members at various stages of life. The church is not at all different. We are so pleased to have a church family that welcomes many young

families, lots of kids, a great group of teens and a broad mix of young, mid-life and senior adults. Everyone is important and we seek to care for all.

Keenagers Bible Study & Prayer

Each Wednesday morning a great group of senior adults meets at 9:45 am in our Oasis Room for a wonderful time of fellowship, singing the old hymns, prayer and study of God's Word.

This fall, beginning September 4, we will once again resume our study of *David, – The Shepherd, The Man, The King – His Life, His Victories, His Follies, His Psalms.*

Each first Wednesday of the month we enjoy a great home-cooked meal together. The cost for this is \$10.00.

Old Fashioned Hymn Sing

Every now and again, I chat with someone who says, "I sure love the old hymns!" Well here's your chance! Join us the second Sunday of most months at 6:00 pm for a great time of singing, sharing stories and fellowship over some finger food that folks bring along to share (we provide the coffee and juice). Check the website.

Grief Care

Have you lost a loved one, a friend, or are you grieving some other loss? Watch for upcoming communication about an opportunity to meet with others and share in this time of encouragement. Dates and times to be announced.

Keenagers Harvest Meal

Yes it's harvest time again and we invite you to join us for a great harvest celebration banquet. We will be meeting for this great event at 12 noon on September 21 in the Oasis Room. Tickets are on sale at \$15 each. You may contact the church office to register or check with someone at the Welcome Centre on Sundays Along with a great meal and wonderful fellowship, we look forward to having Norman Rice as our special guest. Norman brings his great Newfoundland sound, humor and entertainment.

Baptism and Church Membership

Baptism is an ordinance of the church that Christ has commanded. It is also such a joy to witness a person giving public testimony of their decision to trust Christ as their Saviour and of their faith journey.

Pastor Art will conduct Baptism Classes during the 9:15 am service (class at 9:30 am) on Sunday, September 8 and during the 11:15 am service (class at 11:30 am) on Sunday, September 15. These classes will be held in the Prayer Room.

We encourage Church Membership as a 'next-step' in your life within the body of Christ here at Spruce Grove Alliance Church. **Pastor Art will conduct Church Membership Classes** during the 11:15 am service (class at 11:30 am) on Sunday, September 8 and during the 9:15 am service (class at 9:30 am) on Sunday, September 15. These classes will be held in the Prayer Room.

Maintenance Team

Would you like to serve with some odd jobs that involve some 'fixing' skills? Please call me or stop by my office and I'd love to chat with you about this great opportunity.

Apologetics



Pastor Steve: steve.kim@sgac.net

Apologetics is sadly an unfamiliar word for many in the church. “It must be a very Canadian discipline,” I was once told.

Actually, apologetics has nothing to do with saying sorry. Rather, it is a discipline in which you seek to provide the rational basis for your beliefs. In short, why do we believe what we believe? As I head into my first full ministry year at SGAC, I hope to “whet the intellectual appetite” of the SGAC family as we train together in seeing the whole world through the lens of a Christian worldview.

SGAC Reads Book Club

We will be starting a book club called “SGAC Reads.” We will meet twice a month, Monday evenings at 6:30 pm in Portable 3. We will start with Andy Bannister’s *“The Atheist Who Didn’t Exist: Or: The Dreadful Consequences of Bad Arguments.”* (He’s British, so this title is supposed to be funny rather than offensive.) This easy-to-read book humourously tackles some common objections put forward by our atheist / agnostic friends and neighbours. After this book is done, we will read John Gray’s *“Straw Dogs: Thoughts on Humans and Other Animals.”* In this book, atheist professor John Gray takes secular humanists to task and shows that secular humanism owes an immense debt to Christianity.

Save the Dates: September 16 & 30; October 7 & 21; November 4 & 25; December 9

The Thinking Series

The Thinking Series is back. Over the course of 5 weeks, we will explore these questions: ***What is the meaning of life? Does God exist? Do all religions lead to God? Why is there evil? Is there life after death?*** This will be a fantastic opportunity to bring a friend, family, or neighbour who is seeking, as we will be meeting in a neutral location, Perks Coffee House in Stony Plain. *Dates: September 10 - October 8. Starts at 6:30 pm.*

Apologetics Boot Camp

Once a month, we will get together on a Saturday for apologetics Boot Camp. We will meet from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (bring your own lunch) and delve into various worldview issues together. We will cover such topics as: ***spotting logical fallacies, the nature of truth, arguments for God’s existence, how to communicate apologetic insights, which worldview can make sense of objective morality and how.*** *Dates: September 21, October 12, November 16, December 7.*

“Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

-Colossians 4:5-6 (ESV)

Outreach, Men & Missions



Pastor Joel: joel.marquez@sgac.net

And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.
-Matthew 4:14

We have a loving, gracious, merciful and powerful God who is actively working in the lives of people here in Spruce Grove, the neighboring towns and city. And He is giving us an opportunity to become part of His work. Come join us as we reach the lost for Jesus here in Spruce Grove and beyond.

Outreach

- **SEPTEMBER:** One of the focuses of Corporate Prayer this month is Outreach. Join us September 11, 18 & 22 at 6:40 pm as we pray for our church, our city and the world.
- **OCTOBER:** We will be having a commissioning / training on October 2 at 6:40 pm in preparation to our door to door ministry. Our door to door ministry will commence on October 9. Watch the bulletin and the church website for more details on how you can be involved.

HANDS & FEET MINISTRY: *"The Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy." Psalm 140:12.*

Hands and Feet is a ministry that is made up of many people from the Spruce Grove and Edmonton area who make and deliver 100 lunches two to three times a month.

Thank you to everyone who supports this ministry through prayer, donations and time. If you're interested in helping or supporting this group in any way, please contact Natalie Boldt at natalie@mikeboldt.ca. We are always in need of food items to be donated as well as specific clothing items. If you would like to help make the lunches, you are welcome to join us in the kitchen, or if you would like to handout the lunches downtown we are happy to have people come for that as well.

Men's Ministry

MEN'S MINISTRY KICK-OFF: Join us for a social night as we begin our ministry this year. Come and hear about our fall study and meet the lead team at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 21 at the Terney's (26409A Township Road 515A, Spruce Grove). Supper will be provided.

FALL STUDY: Come join us for Monday Night Men from 7-9 p.m., beginning on September 30, as we study *"Quest to Authentic Manhood – A Man and His Design."* Starting with meaningful insights into the current state of manhood, the study helps men navigate through some manhood realities that have created cultural confusion. It follows by unfolding God's manhood mandates for all men and offering clear definition of authentic manhood that helps guide men on their journey. Be the man that God created us to be.

Online registration for this 6 week course opens September 4. Registration fee is \$20.00. Sponsorship is available if needed--talk to Pastor Joel for more details.

SOCIAL NIGHTS: We are planning to have social nights in October & November for men to connect and build community. Please check the bulletin & church website for details and dates.

SAVE THE DATE: Men's Retreat – March 6-8 at Camp Nakamun

Missions

SGAC CLUSTER INTERNATIONAL WORKERS: Thank you for supporting our international workers through prayer and giving to the Global Advance Fund. Our cluster workers include:

- A&J – Asian Spice Creative Access
- Ace & Cecilia – Desert Sand Niger
- Darren & Naomi – Asian Spice Thailand
- Joy & Lulu – Sea to Sea Canada

Refugee Sponsorship

Pastor Joel: joel.marquez@sgac.net

Exciting news from the refugee team! It is with great joy that we introduce to you the Ranjbar family! Lots of meetings, paperwork and emails have been going on behind the scenes to prepare for the approval of the Ranjbar's application and we give thanks to God that their application has been approved! Shafiq, Frozan and their two daughters, Dayana and baby Dilaro, who was just born in May, are very thankful that Spruce Grove Alliance Church has chosen them to be sponsored.

Both Shafiq and Frozan were born in Iran, lived in Afghanistan and due to war and religious persecution they fled and are living in Tajikistan. We believe that God has chosen this family for us. The evidence is in the many details that have come together from the C&MA International workers and other missionaries from Edmonton who have been helping the Ranjbar family overseas.



As a team we have been meeting with the elders and different ministry groups within the church to inform the congregation about sponsoring a refu-

gee family. We have been doing different fundraisers to raise money to support the family when they arrive. We were told that the process could take anywhere from 1-3 years but we recently found out that the family could be arriving in just a few months! We are very excited about this, but it also means there is a lot to be done to prepare for their arrival. The three biggest priorities are the financial obligation, finding and furnishing a home and creating teams of volunteers to help with daily tasks.

The refugee sponsorship fund is currently at \$17,719.74 and we need to raise \$40,000.00 to support the family for a year. We would ask that you would prayerfully consider donating to this fund as we support and care for the Ranjbar family as they settle in Spruce Grove.

The refugee team would ask that if you have a home or rental property available for the family to please let us know. We will also be asking for different items to help furnish the home as well as volunteers to help the family on a daily basis, so please prayerfully consider how you can help and donate your time and resources. The team is available anytime for questions or donations. Feel free to contact Pastor Joel or Natalie Boldt at natalie@mikeboldt.ca.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’”
“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Matthew 25:25-30

Discipleship Pathway

Walking with Jesus Mark 3:13-15



Centered in Jesus Christ, we will Thrive Spiritually, Build Community, and Reach the Lost by loving our community and serving the world.

It is the goal of SGAC to have the **resurrected Jesus** at the centre of all things. Our desire is to see people grow in their spiritual journey. From one who **investigates** the claims of Jesus to one walking with Jesus as a **mature** person of faith.

To help with the journey we have developed this wheel that helps identify key steps along the pathway. The foundation of a Christian life is to first **believe** in the person of Jesus Christ as the only substitute for our sin, then to **repent** or turn from our sins, followed by a public profession of our faith through the waters of **baptism**. Finally we are to be **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** in order to walk out the Christian journey. In order to mature in our faith we long to encourage followers of Jesus to develop rhythms that foster and strengthen a daily personal relationship with Jesus through prayer and scripture reading.

The second leg in the journey is to “Study to show yourself approved” (2 Tim 2:14-16). It is our hope that each person that attends SGAC would have a clear, in-depth, accurate and full understanding of the **Word of God** and seek to apply it in their daily lives.

In addition, as the Bride of Christ walks in the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the **fruit of the Spirit** will be evidenced in our lives. As the fruit of the Spirit is evidenced so too will we operate using the **Spiritual gifts** in order to glorify God, edify the body and reach lost people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Finally, we desire to encourage maturing believers to **serve/mentor** others in the church and those seeking truth and salvation. We long to be a people who make a significant impact for the Kingdom. That Jesus would be pleased by our service and sacrifice.

The Discipleship Pathway has been created to help you discern what the next step is for you in your faith journey. Maybe you have resolved who Jesus is but you are not sure how the Old or New Testament fit together, consider attending our “Understanding” studies to gain a deeper knowledge. You have a basic grasp but need to strengthen your bible knowledge. Or maybe you have a decent understanding of God’s word but want to dive in a bit deeper on a specific subject. Please consider: Daybreak or Evening Edition, Men’s Monday Night study, Keenagers, Young Adults, Youth or Awana. These studies are geared to help you grow in your *understanding of God’s Word*.

The Blessing:

We all have a powerful need to know that someone in this world loves us and accepts us unconditionally. We especially crave our parents' blessing, and without it, we may become angry and driven, or detached and empty. We may also feel this hurtful lack between brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, or even within our religious congregation.

Now family counselors Gary Smalley and John Trent, Ph.D., show us how we can transform our lives - even when it is no longer possible to receive our parents' blessing. They reveal the five key elements of the blessing, describe the most common home situations where a blessing has been denied (one of them may be ours), and offer practical, effective methods to heal broken hearts and families. Facilitated by Dave Frey. Starting September 25.

The Truth Project Part 2:

The Truth Project is designed to take participants on a guided tour of the Christian worldview. In the process we will consider the questions "What is Truth", "Who is God" and "Who is Man", and then go on to explore the fundamental issues of History, Science, Philosophy & Ethics and the Social Order within which we live.

We will be running through the final 6 weeks of the Truth Project this fall. Anyone is welcome to attend. Facilitated by Peter Spaans. Starting September 25.

The Journey - A Tale of Hope

With RESCUE CAMBODIA Dancers

Join us on Sunday, September 29 at 6:00 pm for this unique event. Traditional dances will be performed by young men and women from **RESCUE CAMBODIA** (<http://songkruea.org/>). They will not only entertain you but you will also get to hear firsthand the stories of how God continues to work through this amazing ministry. Free Admission - free will offering will be taken.

Please note that we are looking for people to billet the dancers for 1 night during this event. Please contact the church office if this is something you are able to do.

Fall Family Festival

Thursday, October 31 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Fun activities for the whole family. To volunteer please contact a Children's Ministry staff member. Concession will be available for purchase in support of the Future Development Fund.

SGAC's Christmas Banquet

Mark your calendars for this evening out. SGAC's Christmas Banquet will take place on Friday, December 6 at 6:00 pm. Join us for a delicious meal, fantastic entertainment and door prizes. Tickets will go on sale in November so watch your bulletin for upcoming details.

Children's Christmas Musical

Join us on Sunday, December 8 at both regular morning services for the yearly children's Christmas concert. Prepare to be entertained and blessed by all the hard work the kids have put into making this a great morning for all who attend.

Christmas Eve Services

Join us on Tuesday, December 24 for Christmas Eve at SGAC. Join us for one of our 3 services at 3:30 pm, 5:00 pm, and/or 6:30 pm. Invite your friends and family.

RightNow Media

rightnow MEDIA

We are excited to share that our church now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

As a church staff, we're always looking for ways to help you develop and strengthen your faith. We believe that RightNow Media will be a tool to serve you as you live out your faith at home, at work and in your neighborhood. RightNow Media has videos for everyone—kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals—all aimed at helping you grow.

You should have already received an official invitation email to give you FREE access to RightNow Media. If you haven't received it yet, check your mail filter (because it came from RightNow's system, it may have gotten caught there). If you did not receive an email, no worries, it's easy to join.

Visit www.sgac.net/rightnowmedia to start using this resource today.

RightNow Media Training

Many of our church family are using and enjoying the expansive online library of bible studies, sermons, children's videos, and other great Christian resources that are available through our church-wide subscription to Right Now media. However, we recognize that many more members of our family find this daunting to setup and use. If you are someone that has not made use of this great resource because technology is not your strength then we would like to help you use this giant library in your home. Come out and learn step-by-step how to access and use the Right Now online library. With take-home instructions and an easy setup walk-through on various technology we will help you get connected regardless of your familiarity with the internet.

Join us for one of these informative sessions on either Saturday, September 14 at 10:00 am or Monday, September 16 at 7:30 pm. Please sign up in the office.

Giving at SGAC

How can I donate at SGAC?

We have five methods of donating to SGAC:

1. ONLINE GIVING

Whether it is a one-time gift or you would like to schedule a recurring donation, you can give online to Spruce Grove Alliance Church using a Visa or MasterCard debit cards or the traditional Visa or MasterCard credit cards.

2. DIRECT PAYMENT FROM A BANK ACCOUNT

Pick up a pre-authorized debit agreement form at the Welcome Centre. You can fill it out and then return it with a voided cheque - just drop it in one of the offering plates or return it to the Welcome Centre in an envelope marked "Confidential: Donations Clerk".

3. ENVELOPES IN THE CHAIR POCKETS

There are envelopes in the chair pockets in the sanctuary that you can use to make an offering at any time. Please print your name and address (and Giving Number if you have one) clearly so we can correctly disburse the funds and issue your tax receipt. If you don't already have a Giving Number, please inquire in the office and we'd be happy to set you up with one.

4. INTERAC

Use Interac at the Welcome Centre to make your donation while at church, then fill out your donation envelope as normal including your name, address, giving number and insert your debit receipt so we can disburse funds as directed.

5. E-TRANSFER

Use E-Transfer to give at SGAC, using giving@sgac.net. Please include your offering envelope number and contact information. The money is deposited directly into the church account and does not require a security question. (This method of giving is not to be used for registrations.)

Where are the funds used?

General Fund: *Make a donation to support the Ministry of Spruce Grove Alliance Church.*

Your donation to SGAC will help support the general ministries of our church in Spruce Grove. This includes ministry staffing, office staffing, facilities, operating costs and other administrative costs.

Canadian Ministries Fund: *Make a donation to support Canadian work of The C&MA.*

Contributions to the Canadian Ministries Fund will go towards church planting in Canada, the C&MA's Ambrose University/College and Seminary and to other Canadian initiatives.

Future Development Fund: *Make a donation to support SGAC's Future Development Fund.*

This fund has been approved by the Board to be used for major building repairs, equipment purchases and the development of the existing site with a new Christian education wing, sanctuary, chapel and office space.

Global: *Make a donation to support the Global work of The C&MA.*

Around the globe Alliance workers are active. Your gift to Global Advance will help support the full-time missionaries that have been sent from SGAC to the Desert Sand, Asian Spice, Silk Road and Caribbean Sun districts of the world. GAF funds are forwarded monthly to the Canadian Alliance Head Office.

Refugee Sponsorship Fund: *Make a donation to support SGAC's sponsorship of a refugee family. Your gift to the Refugee Sponsorship Fund will go directly to the sponsored family to help them get settled during their first year in Spruce Grove. This will be an amazing opportunity for the body of Christ to come together and love beyond our walls.*

You are able to direct your donations to any of the above funds through designations on the offering envelopes and/or through the on-line giving page.

Future Development *Phase 1 Update*

AGM Q&A On Thursday, September 19, Come and have coffee with the **Future Development Team** before the AGM. Ask your questions and give us your feedback on plans for the Phase 1 – Education Building. Stop by any time from 6:00 until the meeting starts at 7:00.

FUNDRAISING:

With reaching the milestone of the first two million of cash in June, the focus for the next third (\$2 million) from new/renewed 3-year pledges has begun. We again are asking that everyone who calls SGAC their home church to prayerfully consider their ability to participate financially towards development of Phase 1. Pledges ranging from \$100/yr. and up all help to meet our goals and will be required to proceed. Whether you are submitting a pledge for the first time or plan to renew for the next three years, we are asking EVERYONE to submit a new pledge form so that we know your intentions. New/renewed 3-year pledge giving started on September 1st. Pledge forms can be found at the Welcome Centre or on the SGAC website; “Get Involved”, “FDP Phase 1”. Communication regarding fundraising will continue until we have a combined total of \$4 million of cash and pledges which will fulfill the 2/3rds guidelines of the district and would allow us to proceed with construction of the Education Centre (Phase 1).

CONSTRUCTION:

Utility upgrades started in the summer. The wet weather has caused some delays, but the work continues to move forward. By mid-August, a new waterline has been installed and servicing the facility, as well as relocation of the gas meter. Storm water installation is well underway and will continue. Other utility upgrades include the sanitary sewer work which is planned for later August; and electricity upgrades and connection will be completed along with Fortis and is anticipated to take place in September. Building construction plans, and communication with the city continues in preparation for construction once district fundraising guidelines are met. The utility upgrade work that has been completed has been a huge success and we are thankful that everyone has been safe and the work has moved ahead in a timely manner despite all of the rain we have experienced. Please take time to thank Peter Spaans, Peter Leder and Jerrid Quintal on their excellent work and perseverance moving the upgrades forward.

Join us today and help build a spiritual home for the people of Spruce Grove and Parkland County!

CONTACT

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your opportunity to support this project further, please contact any member of the Future Development Team, visit sgac.net/phase1, or email phase1@sgac.net.



Building a Spiritual Home for Spruce Grove

EXPLORE:

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus? What's my next step?

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE:

God loves you and created you to know Him personally. He has a wonderful plan for your life. "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

OUR CONDITION:

People are sinful and separated from God, so we cannot know Him personally or experience His love and plan. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

GOD'S RESPONSE:

Jesus Christ is God's only provision for our sin.

Through Him alone we can know God personally and experience God's love and plan. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8
"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" John 14:6

OUR RESPONSE:

We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord; then we can know God personally and experience His love and plan.
"Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12.
"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast."
Ephesians 2:8-9

(Resource: Knowing Jesus Personally)

BAPTISM

If you are interested in learning more about Baptism, come to an information session on September 8 or 15 during each service, in the Prayer Room. Contact Pastor Art to sign up at art.quist@sgac.net.

Baptism is a public declaration of one's belief in God and a testimony of God's involvement in a person's life. It is a decision to tell the world that we love Jesus, that we believe He died and rose again for us, and that we want to live our lives for Him.

We at Spruce Grove Alliance Church understand baptism as a personal decision that each believer must make after entering into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. For that reason, we do not baptize infants or others who have not yet placed their faith and trust in Jesus.

Baptism is not required for salvation. The Bible says, "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9). Baptism in itself does nothing without faith. It is simply an outward sign or a public declaration of what God has done in a person's life.

Like all C&MA churches, Spruce Grove Alliance Church practices baptism by full immersion in a public setting. We understand this to be the Biblical pattern, expressing death to self and new life in Jesus Christ (see Romans 6). Under certain circumstances, however, we will consider a different method of baptism.

RESOURCES

- **RightNow Media**
- **SGAC LIBRARY:** Enjoy numerous fiction and nonfiction resources, available for sign-out.
- **FOR BIBLE STUDY:** www.biblegateway.com
Questions? Contact Us!

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