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**Deadline for
the
July
Oak Leaves
is
June 15**

June
2011

From Pastor Bill Chadwick

The Presbyterian Church (USA) Removes the Blanket Ban on Ordination of LGBT Folks

Dear Friends:

The Book of Order of the PC(USA) is a fluid document, changed every two years through the amendment process. This process works as follows: A proposal to change the Book of Order is brought before a presbytery in the form of an overture. If the presbytery votes yes on the overture it is sent to General Assembly (the biennial meeting of commissioners from every presbytery in the denomination). There a GA committee may change it some (or not) and send it to the entire plenary session of GA for a vote. If approved the overture becomes a proposed amendment and is sent out to the 173 presbyteries for a vote at one of their regular meetings over the next year. If a majority of these presbyteries says yes then the amendment is added to our constitution.

As you know, since the mid-1970s the denomination has been wrestling with the question of what role LGBT folks (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered) may play in the church. For decades now the essential rule has been that non-celibate LGBT people are welcomed as members, but not allowed ordination. The offices in the PC(USA) that are ordained are deacon, elder and minister of the Word and sacrament. Over the years a number of proposals have come before the Church to be more welcoming. None has passed the entire process, but each time the vote is closer.

This past summer the GA, meeting in Minneapolis, approved what is now known as Amendment A and sent it out to the presbyteries for their votes. 87 affirmative votes are necessary for passage. The text of the amendment is below. For more information on this issue you may view the websites of the Presbyterian Church (USA) at pcusa.org, the Presbyterian Coalition (opposed to the amendment) at presbycoalition.org or the Covenant Network (in favor) at covnetpres.org.

THE AMENDMENT LANGUAGE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Shall G-6.0106b be amended by striking the current text and inserting new text in its place as follows:

STRIKING: "Those who are called to office in the church are to lead a life in obedience to Scripture and in conformity to the historic confessional standards of the church. Among these standards is the requirement to live either in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman (W-4.9001), or chastity in singleness. Persons refusing to repent of any self-acknowledged

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OAK LEAVES

Editor Beth Angerhofer
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June 15 is the deadline for the July newsletter. Articles may be edited for space and/or content. Oak Leaves is a monthly publication of:

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2011 Per Capita \$30.46

CONTINUED FROM PASTOR BILL**PAGE 2**

cont'd from page 1

practice which the confessions call sin shall not be ordained and/or installed as deacons, elders, or ministers of the Word and Sacrament.

AND INSERTING: Standards for ordained service reflect the church's desire to submit joyfully to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in all aspects of life (G-1.0000). The governing body responsible for ordination and/or installation (G.14.0240; G-14.0450) shall examine each candidate's calling, gifts, preparation, and suitability for the responsibilities of office. The examination shall include, but not be limited to, a determination of the candidate's ability and commitment to fulfill all requirements as expressed in the constitutional questions for ordination and installation (W-4.4003). Governing bodies shall be guided by Scripture and the confessions in applying standards to individual candidates."

Though many have sought to avoid this phrase, the amendment is, in my opinion, a "local option." That is, there is no *requirement* to ordain LGBT people (unlike the fact that there is a requirement that every nominating committee must submit names of women as well as men for elders and deacons). The decision to ordain is up to the ordaining body. Congregations ordain deacons and elders; presbyteries ordain ministers of Word and sacrament.

You will recall that at its November, 2010 meeting the Session of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church unanimously voted to become a More Light church and joined the Covenant Network, committing us to work for full inclusion of LGBT people.

On May 10th the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, by a vote of 205-56, became the 87th presbytery to say yes! I count it a great honor to be a part of this historic vote. It took me a while to change my mind on this issue, but I have been fully supportive of full inclusion since 1985.

What next for the denomination? We don't know. Some churches are threatening to leave the denomination. I hope that we might be able to agree to disagree and continue to live together as family. Please hold the Presbyterian Church in prayer as this process continues, that we may be faithful to the leading of the Holy Spirit and that we may act in loving ways toward those with whom we disagree.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Bill

By the time this article arrives in your mailbox or inbox, the crab-apples – resplendent in all their blowsy pink – have dropped their petals and leafed out fully. I suppose the lilacs, that are only now beginning to blossom, will be bleached and browning by this mis-sive’s arrival as well.

“To everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.” says the author of Ecclesiastes.

Perhaps there is no season where that sentiment is more apparent than spring. The trees and grass, the flowers and shrubs, are all in a frantic race to shake off the dormant quiet of winter and embrace the warming sun. So we also enter a busy time. The days are long and filled with light; the rhythm of our days shift and we work and play, filling every moment.

As I pause to give thanks for this new season and the unfolding of another, I realize that with every season-changing I find myself returning to a favorite theme: *gratitude*. Meister Eckhart said: “If the only prayer you ever say in your whole life is "thank you," that would suffice.”

I can’t agree more! During these next few months some of us travel to faraway places and some will stay closer to home. If you will be away from Oak Grove make it a point to find a place to worship while you are gone. It can be a fun way to see all the varied ways people “do church.” You may even want to bring a bulletin back to share with either Pastor Bill or me. Wherever we find ourselves this summer let’s remember to offer that simple, central prayer “thank you” to the author and giver of all our days!

Joy and Blessing!

Beth Hart-Andersen
Interim Associate Pastor

WORSHIP FOR:
JUNE 5 - 26
–
Sunday Mornings

SERVICES AT
9:30 AM



JUNE 5
7th Sunday of Easter
Recognition of
Graduates
One service at 9:30
Sermon by
Bill Chadwick

JUNE 12
Day of Pentecost
One service at 9:30
Sermon by
Bill Chadwick

JUNE 19
Trinity Sunday
Father’s Day
One service at 9:30
Sermon by
Bill Chadwick

JUNE 26
13th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
One service at 9:30
Sermon by
Denise Dunbar-
Perkins

Taking Heart Dinners are an opportunity to share a meal and conversation with our Muslim, Unitarian, and Christian neighbors. Oak Grove is part of a south suburban group of faith communities that gather several times a year to foster understanding and friendship. The next Taking Heart Dinner is scheduled for Monday, June 6 at 6:30 at Portland Avenue Methodist Church. The church is located on Portland Avenue, just south of American Blvd. Food is provided. RSVP requested but not required, to Sarah Olson at 952-884-7365.

Presbyterian Clearwater Forest (PCF) is our denominational camp and conference center located on a lake in northern Minnesota just 2 hours and 15 minutes from Bloomington. Oak Grove members have supported PCF for many, many years in a variety of ways. We have offered PCF financial support through our mission dollars and individual donations, Oak Grovers have served on the Board of Directors and raised funds for PCF by riding in the annual bike ride fundraiser. But the strongest connection between PCF and Oak Grove comes from the wide range of camping experiences PCF offers.

Oak Grovers of all ages have participated in the camping opportunities at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest. Many OG members have their first away-from-home camping experience when they attend PCF's summer camps for children. Some spend a week or two every year at camp from 8 years old until after their senior year in high school and then return as camp counselors after that!

During the school year, Oak Grove youth attend Middle School Retreats, High School Retreats and Confirmation Retreats at PCF. Both our church Women's and Men's Retreats take place at PCF as well. Oak Grove families can enjoy PCF together at our Intergenerational Retreat each winter and by participating in PCF's Creative Arts Camp in July.

In addition to supporting Presbyterian Clearwater Forest with financial donations and by patronizing their many programs, Oak Grovers commit volunteer hours to PCF each year to help maintain the camp buildings and grounds. Every fall in early October a group of Oak Grovers head to PCF For Woodcutting Weekend where they cut and stack firewood for use at the camp throughout the winter. Our Mod Mids group also makes an annual trek to Clearwater where they assist with cleaning and maintaining the camp buildings. If you haven't yet been to Presbyterian Clearwater Forest, we encourage you to make it a priority! Their website is: www.clearwaterforest.org.

“Make a case against hunger” for VEAP

Oak Grove has been extremely generous in supporting VEAP with regular donations of non-perishable items on a weekly basis. On June 12th you will be able to support VEAP in a slightly different way. As we did last year, we will be offering the option of making a donation based on the case price of various items. With the purchasing power of VEAP, they are able to buy goods at a lower price, thus making your donation dollar go farther. For example, a case of 30 bags of rice would cost \$13.30, and a case of baking mixes under \$10.00. See a member of the Mission Committee in the narthex after the service on the 12th and take advantage of the opportunity to stretch your donation dollars.

Pride Festival

Oak Grove will help staff a booth at the Twin Cities Pride Festival the 25th and 26th of June. The booth is designed to create awareness of "More Light" Presbyterian churches in the metro area. The mission of Twin Cities Pride is to "commemorate and celebrate our diverse heritage, inspire the achievement of equality and challenge discrimination." The "Pride Celebration" is really a collection of many events that take place mostly in June of each year. In addition to the events that are organized and run by Pride, work is done with other community groups and organizations that are planning events during the same time frame to include their events as a part of the Pride Celebration. Participation in this event by Oak Grove is through the Social Justice and Evangelism committees. Oak Grove members are encouraged to attend. For more information go to: <http://www.tcpride.org/>.

Bang, Boom, Crash!

One Voice Mixed Chorus, Minnesota's GLBTA Chorus, is presenting their spring concert on June 11 & 12 at In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre. One Voice's mission is *"Building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song"*. In their spring concert, One Voice and guest drumming ensemble CRASH bring together choral music and percussion from around the world in a high-energy concert celebrating our community's diversity. Music ranges from Haitian Voodoo Chants and Tanzanian folk songs to new works by local composer Mary Ellen Childs. Tickets & info: www.ovmc.org or 651-298-1954.

**News for the Common Good Events — Twin Cities World Refugee Day
Saturday, June 25, 2011, 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis**

The Twin Cities World Refugee Day celebration includes a community resource fair, vendors providing a variety of delicious foods and hand made goods from around the world and entertainment. Visit www.tcworldrefugeeday.org for more information and a schedule of events.

Social Justice**Living Simply so Others can Simply Live**

How about looking in your garage this summer and offering to share one or two things with your neighbors so that they don't have to buy the items? And perhaps your neighbors will have a couple of items to share with you so that you don't have to go out and purchase them. Less stuff!

We're signing off for the summer. Next installment: Sept.

Peace,

Kris Jacobson for the Social Justice Committee

It's getting tough to find new ways to say "Excellent job!!"!! Our General Fund is in great shape heading into summer - thank you to those who are current with (or ahead of) your pledge! While our Per Capita donations are down slightly from Budget, everything else is doing great. Isn't it nice to be able to give ~\$6,000 to One Great Hour of Sharing, and ~\$500 to VEAP (from the Easter Flowers)? Oak Grove is blessed to have such a caring congregation, as evidenced by the ~\$2,000 received in Memorials (honoring Jessica Coogle, Rollie DeLapp, Kim King, Jean Mikkelson, and Helen Peter). Our New Covenant investments are also doing well - up \$58.4K (5.44%), as of May 10th! Thank you for continuing to put the needs of others 1st!!

Through Apr 30th	2011		Act vs Budg	2010
	Actuals	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actuals
Income YTD	\$222,826	\$212,327	\$10,499	\$202,839
Expense YTD	\$220,851	\$228,875	\$8,024	\$199,292
Income – Expenses	\$1,975	(\$16,548)	\$18,523	\$3,548

Confirmation

Congratulations to the Confirmation class of 2011:
 Chloe Williams, Troy Bassett, Abby Propsom
 Confirmation Sunday was May 1.



Presbyterian Women

Oak Grove's three circles (Evening Star, Goodrich-Nord, and Ruth) will not meet until September. Next year our study will be based on the Beatitudes.

During the summer **Ruth Circle** will meet for lunch (11:30) at Gideon Pond on the second Thursdays during the summer. The dates are June 9, July 14 & August 11.

Goodrich-Nord Circle will meet for brunch at Taste of Scandinavia in the Festival Foods – 98th and Lyndale - on Wednesday, June 8 at 10:30 a.m. Call Ethel Furuli at 952-844-0435 for more information.

Special thanks to Pastor Bill, Pastor Beth and Carol Osweiler for helping each of our circles in our study of the Book of Revelation this past year.



Oak Grove's Summer Office Hours

Please note that our office will be closing at noon on Fridays from June 3 through September 2. Summer office hours are Mondays -Thursdays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM and Fridays 8:30 AM – Noon .

CLEARWATER FOREST SCHOLARSHIP FUND!

On July 9, 2011 Don Alman will be participating in the 9th Annual Lake-2-Lake 50 Mile Bike Tour to raise money for the scholarship fund. The past seven years Don has raised \$13,410.

If you would like to sponsor him this year, please talk to him at church or phone (952) 888-4083.

Singles

Tuesday, June 14, we're going to Barb Nelson's cabin. We will meet at the church at 9:30 am and return by 6:00 pm. Call Jody Milton, 952-831-7325 if you will be coming.

Pot luck picnic and outdoor theatre at Staring Lake Park in Eden Prairie, "Bye Bye Birdie." Friday, June 17th at 5:00 PM. Call Jane at 952-944-3846.

Taizé Prayer for Christians

On Friday, June 3, at 7:30 p.m., the Church of St. Richard at 7540 Penn Ave. S., Richfield will host contemplative Taizé Prayer for Christians of all traditions. Taizé prayer is an ecumenical prayer service that focuses on simple meditative songs, scripture, and silence.

This month's service will be held at the start of St. Richard's Midway Carnival. On Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, there will be rides, games, food and fun for the whole family. For more information, contact the parish office at 612.869.2426. We look forward to welcoming you!

Looking Ahead (July-September):

July 10 - Afro-centric Worship Service (inspired by the establishment of the new country of Southern Sudan on July 9).

August 14 - Annual Outdoor Worship and Picnic at Moir Park

August 27 (Saturday) - Blessing of Animals

September 11 - Rally Day, Observance of Tenth Anniversary of 9/11

September 18 - Heritage Sunday honoring long-time members and folks over 85 years of age

Summer Preaching Schedule

June

5 Bill Chadwick
12 Bill Chadwick
19 Bill Chadwick
26 Denise Dunbar-Perkins

July

3 Beth Hart-Andersen
10 Bill Chadwick
17 Bill Chadwick
24 Denise Dunbar-Perkins

August

7 Bill Chadwick
14 Bill Chadwick
21 TBD
28 TBD

Dakota Room Calendar - June "Can't make it to Ceylon this season? Travel the world through tea! Savor the blends as they reflect their exotic origins in your very own teacup at home."

At Gideon Pond House (401 East 104th Street — Between Nicollet and Portland Avenues)

19th Century Dakota Women's Clothing Sunday June 12, 2 pm

Thomas Shaw will illustrate how Dakota women adopted and altered European materials and styles to suit their needs and tastes, incorporating nontraditional materials into Dakota apparel. This brought about a significant change in Dakota women's dress and contributed to a distinct appearance. Mr. Shaw was the assistant site manager at Historic Fort Snelling for twenty years, and actively works in the field of U.S. Indian policy. House tours at 1:30 and 3:30 pm. Suggested donation \$2, youth through high school are free.

Gideon's 201st Birthday Party! Sunday, June 26, 1:30 – 4 pm

Enjoy birthday cake and sing Happy Birthday to Gideon himself, portrayed by a costumed re-enactor. Tours of the house will include details of Gideon's family and stories of growing up in Connecticut. Suggested donation \$2, youth through high school are free.

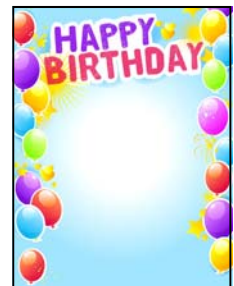
John Philip Sousa Memorial Band Outdoor Concert - Free Sunday June 26, 7 pm

The Sousa Band has been entertaining local audiences for 40 years, providing great crowd-pleasing music. Volunteer musicians from all over the Twin Cities recapture the spirit of bands at the turn of the twentieth century. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, and enjoy some ice cream, which will be on sale to raise funds for the Bloomington Historical Society. Picnickers welcome!

June Birthdays

- JUN 1 **Olive Montgomery (87 yrs young)
- JUN 2 Al Netten, **Jack Roddy (88 yrs young)
- JUN 3 Bing Solomon
- JUN 4 Gar Nordin
- JUN 5 **Margaret Josephson (85 yrs young)
- JUN 6 Kelly Nail
- JUN 7 Mathias Elinge, Joyce Shantz
- JUN 8 **Burnham Bredesen (95 yrs young), *Andrew McNutt (15 yrs old), Bob Sorensen, Yvonne Wentz
- JUN 12 **Lauretta Racer (86 yrs young)
- JUN 13 Nancy Augustson, Judy Gentry, *Clayton Larson (16 yrs old)
- JUN 14 Carol Bayert
- JUN 16 James Michael
- JUN 17 Judy Kocher
- JUN 18 *Elizabeth Alonzi (15 yrs old), Ron Dubis
- JUN 20 **Elizabeth Vanatta (87 yrs young)
- JUN 21 Marikay Wolf
- JUN 23 *Chloe Williams (14 yrs old)
- JUN 25 Sarah E. Olson, Rebecca Paape, Joe Tighe
- JUN 26 Brent Bull,*Sam Radtke (5 yrs old)
- JUN 27 John Anderson, Al Greimel,**Norma Hodnik (86 yrs young), Patty Nail, Rory Scott, Russ Snyder
- JUN 28 Scott Bliss, *Tedo Omot (7 yrs old)
- JUN 28 **Harley Racer (87 yrs young),* Amber Reed (14 yrs old)
- JUN 29 Marcia Neal, **Clyde Varner (91 yrs young), Dottie Zebe
- JUN 30 Diane Baumgartner, Barbara Bennett, Marlene Teien

***Important birthday**
**** Significant birthday**



CONDOLENCES TO:

Anne Byers, on the death of her step-mother, **Jeanne Byers**. A service was held April 10 in Arizona.

Heather Duvall, on the death of her mother, **Marcia Hansen**, on March 8. A service was held in Illinois.

Joan King, on the death of daughter, **Kimberly**, on April 11. A service was held on April 16 in California.

The family of Jean Mikkelson, on her death April 11. A service was held at Oak Grove on April 19.

Lila & Al Netten, on the death of Lila's brother, **Bill Topp**, on April 13. A service was held in Iowa.

We would like to thank everyone at Oak Grove Church for their kind words, memorials and the wonderful help with the reception for my daughter, Jessica Ferguson Coogole's memorial service. It's helped our family to have your support and friendship during this tragic time.

Paige Ferguson & family

We would like to thank each and every one for your thoughts, cards & prayers during Kim's long illness and now her death. It was a long struggle for her and now she is out of pain. Blessings to all of you.

The Kimberly King Family

Dear Friends: It is true that Oak Grove is a caring, friendly, action-oriented community! Since my injured-foot metatarsal surgery, I am so grateful for your thoughtful cards, delicious homemade frozen dinners/beautiful pink tulip plant (choir members), handicapped items, visits/rides/lunches, and concerned phone calls. Also appreciated were the two rides for the Church Services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday! I was delighted to receive warm welcomes at Church... What a rare opportunity I have been given through this experience to meet Oak Grove folks who were names in the directory before, as well as to renew old friendships! I do sincerely thank you!

In His love and blessings,

Judy Gentry

It is with great appreciation that Oak Grove thanks the **Gebhard family** for the memorial gift received in honor of Gebhard family members.

I want to thank you for the opportunities that OGPC has provided for my students this year. They have actually enjoyed washing the tables and chairs in the social hall. We look forward to continuing next school year also.

Debbie Dukelow

Thank you to all of the special Oak Grove people who did special things for me during my recovery from knee surgery. Thanks to everyone who sent cards. People read them to me and they were very enjoyable. Thank you for the flowers which I received while at Martin Luther Manor. I appreciate all of the people who have come to visit because days can get long when you're home alone. Thank you to the special person who took me to Target because I just couldn't stand being at home one more minute. Finally, I would like to thank Jean and Don Wagner for eating most meals with me while at Martin Luther Mannor and together we encouraged each other to just keep on going. Don not only helps Jean with her meal, but he also helps others who happen to be sitting at the same table and when he had time, he would also help the rest of us get back to our rooms after meals. **Jane Lund**



Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 191
Minneapolis, MN

A Publication of:
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Visit us on the web!
www.oakgrv.org

Vacation Bible School

Shake It Up Café...



Where Kids carry out God's recipe.
Children become chefs-in-training as they
discover God's recipes for living.

Vacation Bible School will be
July 16 - 20
from 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon

For 3 year olds through 5th grade
(completed 2011)

Bring your friends and join us for a week of fun.

Cost - \$15 per child or \$35 for families with 3 or more children.
Registration forms available in the church office and online at
www.oakgrv.org