

# Oak Leaves

A Publication of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Bloomington, Minnesota

## Oak Grove and Members Honored by Bloomington

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**Deadline for  
 the June  
 Oak Leaves is  
 - May 13 -**

May  
 2011

### Volunteer honored during council meeting

Dr. Cliff Phibbs received the 2011 Health Promotion Award for five decades of volunteer service. Phibbs was honored during the April 4 Bloomington City Council meeting for his service to numerous community organizations and interests that contribute to the health and wellness of Bloomington residents.

Phibbs practiced as a physician and surgeon at the Oxboro Clinic for 48 years. He began volunteering when he became a resident of Bloomington in 1962 and continued to do so after his retirement for organizations such as the Bloomington Advisory Board of Health, Bloomington Board of Education, Bloomington Sister City Organization board of directors and Bloomington Community Foundation. He also started a Medical mentoring program in 2002 at Valley View Middle School to encourage students, particularly minority students, to become doctors. He continues to give his time to monitoring students.

Carol Oldowski, who nominated Phibbs for the award, calls him a modest man. "When I found out about his accomplishments and the recognition he received from others, I felt it was time that his community recognized him. In his unassuming way through his eyes as a physician, Cliff has left a strong impact here."

### Friends of Bloomington Public Schools *from Spring 2011 School*

**Who they are:** Oak Grove Presbyterian Church reaches beyond its congregation and community to provide support to people in need. Throughout its 150+ year history, the church has maintained a strong tradition of service to the local and broader world communities.

**Contributions** In 1994, the church sponsored Homework Connection, a free after-school tutoring program to assist elementary and middle school students to complete homework assignments and reinforce classroom learning. Volunteers work at Olson, Indian Mounds and Oak Grove elementary schools. Members of the church also assist students at Westwood Elementary through its Reading Buddy program. In 2009, the church lent its financial support for the District's Cultural Connections summer program.

### Schools for Peace

The Schools For Peace Task Force and the Mission Committee, like many of you, are disappointed by the 60 Minutes report about Greg Mortenson and the Central Asia Institute. The fundraising strategy for Oak Groves's Schools for Peace project has been to collect all funds in the church account until the completion of the project. Consequently, no funds from Oak Grove have been sent to the Central Asia Institute. The Schools for Peace Task Force and the Mission Committee will continue to monitor the situation as it develops and will respond appropriately when all the facts are clear. Thank you for your understanding.

**OAK LEAVES**

Editor Beth Angerhofer

May 13 is the deadline for the June newsletter. Articles may be edited for space and/or content. Oak Leaves is a monthly publication of:

**OAK GROVE**

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
2200 W. Old Shakopee Road  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
**Phone Fax**  
(952) 888-4621 (952) 888-2523  
**E-mail:** [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org)  
**Website:** [www.oakgrv.org](http://www.oakgrv.org)

**Office Hours**

Monday—Friday  
8:30 am—5:00 pm

**Oak Grove Staff**

Ministers: **the 519 members**

Pastor **Bill Chadwick**  
[bchadwick@oakgrv.org](mailto:bchadwick@oakgrv.org)

Interim Assoc. Pastor  
**Beth Hart-Andersen**  
[bhart-andersen@oakgrv.org](mailto:bhart-andersen@oakgrv.org)

Director of Christian Education:

**Carol Osweiler**  
[cosweiler@oakgrv.org](mailto:cosweiler@oakgrv.org)

Youth Director:  
**Jake Van Pernis**  
[jvanpernis@oakgrv.org](mailto:jvanpernis@oakgrv.org)

Office Administrator:  
**Beth Angerhofer**  
[bangerhofer@oakgrv.org](mailto:bangerhofer@oakgrv.org)

Financial Secretary:  
**Barbara Phenicie**  
[bphenicie@oakgrv.org](mailto:bphenicie@oakgrv.org)

Communications Coordinator:  
**Penny Nesbitt**  
[pnesebitt@oakgrv.org](mailto:pnesebitt@oakgrv.org)

Director of Music:  
**Judy Cooper**  
[jcooper@oakgrv.org](mailto:jcooper@oakgrv.org)

Organist: **Nancy Hauser**

**Lori Ericksen**  
Kitchen Coordinator/Cook

Treasurer: **Sue Greimel**  
[treasurer@oakgrv.org](mailto:treasurer@oakgrv.org)

Clerk of Session: **Connie Nesbitt**  
[clerkofsession@oakgrv.org](mailto:clerkofsession@oakgrv.org)

Child Care Provider: **Karen Hill**  
Part-time Custodian: **Tim Dubis**  
Custodian Emeritus: **Bill Broers**

2011 Per Capita \$30.46

# Fellowship

## OAK ROVERS POTLUCK SUPPER

Date: Friday, May 13th  
Time: 5:30 PM  
Place: Fellowship Hall



Sign-ups: In the Narthex on May 1st & May 8th  
Select your choice of dish to bring at sign-up time

"Hot-Dish" OR Salad  
Beverage and dessert will be provided

## Singles— Save the date!

Save June 14<sup>th</sup>.  
We will spend the day at Barb Nelson's cabin.

## Come See South Africa

Former OGPC member, Elizabeth Young, will be presenting a slide show on South Africa at Oak Grove on Wednesday, May 11 at 11:00am. Everyone is welcome!



## Joseph Cast/Crew Party

Cast/Crew Party and Video Viewing of "Joseph" following the second service on May 15. All cast and crew are in-

## Young Adult Breakfast Group

At our first Breakfast Group meeting, we decided to study a fairly new book by James C. Howell entitled *The Beatitudes for Today*. (It looked good and the chapters teare short.) Those who would like to participa are encouraged to buy (or borrow from the library) their own copy of the book and read the first chapter before the next meeting, Wednesday, April 27, **6:30 AM (note the time change)**. We will meet the second and fourth Wednesdays through the end of June and then evaluate where to go from there. We meet at the Perkins at Normandale Village, Normandale Blvd (the southern extension of Hwy 100) at 98<sup>th</sup> St.

## SPRING CLEANUP

Spring clean-up at Oak Grove is Saturday, May 7th 8:00 A.M. until done. Refreshments furnished. All ages are welcome. Things to bring: work gloves and rakes.

Thank you, Building & Operation committee

Dear Friends,

I have for many years declared that “May is why we live in Minnesota!” Finally, we are (pretty) sure that there will be no more snow. The tulips and daffodils are definitely up, the lilacs bloom and usually even the irises show their regal purple heads. Creation comes alive in an explosion of color and bird-song! Many of us find connections with God through the wonders of nature, not just in springtime, of course, but what a wondrous gift this is: May in Minnesota! Enjoy! Give thanks!

\* \* \*

We will celebrate Confirmation/Commissioning on Sunday, May 1, at the second service. It has been my privilege to team with Russ Snyder and Patty Nail in working with our middle school kids this past year and what an unprecedentedly lively (in a *good* way) group! Each youth was engaged and highly participative. What a joy! We teachers sometimes felt like it was difficult to get a word in edgewise. I am grateful for the hard work by the kids, their parents and covenant partners, and co-teachers. Please welcome Troy Bassett, Chloe Williams and Abbey Propsom into full participation as adult members of the congregation on Sunday.

As you know, Jean Mikkelson joined the Church Triumphant on April 11. A native Bloomington farm girl, Jean joined Oak Grove on October 2, 1928, and had been a member here longer than anyone else. That got me to thinking about who else is up in the hall of fame category. I figured others might be curious, so here’s the top 20:

1	Betty Johnson	10/3/1934	11	Eileen Blake	1/1/1952
2	Ruth Juhl	4/7/1935	12	Dora Carr	2/5/1953
3	Audrey St. Martin	3/25/1937	13	Maxine Engberg	12/5/1953
4	Steven St. Martin	3/21/1940	14	Faith Grondin	2/5/1953
5	Elizabeth Stanford	3/28/1945	15	Buzz Grondin	2/5/1953
6	Phillip Hall	4/17/1946	16	Arnie Johnson	4/15/1954
7	Bettie Egeberg	1/4/1947	17	Burnham Bredesen	1/1/1955
8	Jacquelyn Hall	3/22/1948	18	Calvin Chadwick	3/25/1956
9	Lillian Johnson	4/11/1949	19	Norma Hodnik	5/20/1956
10	Evelyn Melum	6/6/1949	20	Muriel Watson	7/ 1/1956

What a witness of faithfulness!

Blessings,

Pastor Bill

**WORSHIP FOR:**  
**MAY 1—29**  
 —  
**Sunday Mornings**  
**Services at**  
**8:15 and 10:45 AM**



**MAY 1**  
*2nd Sunday of Easter*  
 Sermon by  
 Bill Chadwick  
 (Confirmation)

**MAY 8**  
*3rd Sunday of Easter*  
 Sermon by  
 Beth Hart-Andersen

**MAY 15**  
*4th Sunday of Easter*  
 Sermon by  
 Carol Osweiler

**MAY 22**  
*5th Sunday of Easter*  
 Sermon by  
 Bill Chadwick

**MAY 29**  
**ONE SERVICE AT**  
**9:30**  
*6th Sunday of Easter*  
 Sermon by J  
 Jake Van Pernis

**SPRING BLOOD DRIVE** – Coming on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 7:00pm. Please mark your calendars with this important date. If you have not donated before and would like to be added to our donor calling list, please call Ted Kocher at 612-280-4832 or e-mail to [ekochoer@mchsi.com](mailto:ekochoer@mchsi.com).

"It is forbidden to taste of the pleasures of this world without a blessing." – *The Talmud*

We gathered around the table the smell of the bouillabaisse that we would eat filled the air. We came to that table in joy; everyone (except I) was in their late seventies and scattered through their eighties. Spring was in the air, the ice on the lake was going out, tulips were on the table and we held hands to say grace. The host turned to me and said; "I could ask you to say the grace... but I want to... I want to because I am so grateful!" And her prayer reminded me of my own deep gratitude.

"Blessed are You, Lord God, King of the Universe, who brings forth bread from the earth." The ancient traditional Jewish prayer of blessing can be altered to fit our joy at this time of year...

"Blessed are You, Lord God, King of the Universe, who has given us our Lord Jesus Christ and him raised from the dead!" Blessed are You, Lord God, King of the Universe, who renews the earth and her people through the gift of seasons."

I, too, long to say thanks because *I am so grateful*... I give thanks for this congregation; for the members and staff; for the countless ways the Gospel is lived out through this people and for the shared opportunity to serve our Lord. We have entered the season of Easter-tide. Christ is Risen! We live into that good news in gratitude and praise.

With Joy and Thanks-

Beth Hart-Andersen

Interim Associate Pastor

### **"Growing Future Generations at Oak Grove through Legacy Gifting"**

Thanks to all who attended our first Legacy Giving Luncheon! Over 40 members enjoyed a delicious lunch and learned many helpful tips concerning wills, annuities and tax benefits through legacy gifting to Oak Grove.

For those who were unable to attend the first luncheon, the Legacy Gift Giving committee is repeating this lunch & learn event at noon on **Sunday, May 22, 2011**. Our goal is to find ways for us to support the next generation of worshipers to continue the legacy of mission and ministry here at Oak Grove Church. Steve Keiser, Development Officer with the Presbyterian Foundation, will lead a workshop entitled "**Creative Giving--Ways to Support Christ's Church Beyond the Annual Pledge.**" Steve will provide valuable information that you can use both for giving now and in making your estate a lasting legacy of faith. He will discuss options you may not have considered to provide for your family, reduce your taxes, and support the church and other ministries of your choice. If you are involved in estate planning or are looking for creative ways to and did not attend the first event, this luncheon is a must. **Please contact Al Netten 952-881-4607 or Bettie Egeberg 952-884-2089 if you plan to attend or would like more information.**

### **Dakota Room Saying for May**

The beautiful simplicity of "the nest" is filled with proof of life moving forward and the promise of birdsong to come.

Healthy Women Healthy Families  
 Protecting and restoring the health of women and children

The Healthy Women Healthy Families ministry of Presbyterian Church USA supports health projects that care for women and children in Africa, helping families escape a vicious cycle of poor health and poverty. Healthy Women Healthy Families assists church partners with prevention and care projects in four countries: Malawi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Southern Sudan. Here women often struggle to protect the health of their children and themselves in communities where the lack of health services can have tragic consequences:

- \*A woman in Africa dies from cervical cancer every ten minutes.
- \*Complications of pregnancy or childbirth claim the life of one out of every 16 women.
- \*As many as 100,000 women each year suffer fistulas as a result of obstructed labor.
- \*More than 30 percent of children are malnourished, and two out of five are stunted in their growth.
- \*Malaria kills 3,000 children every day.
- \*800,000 children die each year from diarrhea and dehydration.

Healthy Women Healthy Families helps church partners provide critically needed prevention and care services including prenatal care, cervical cancer screening, fistula surgery, nutrition, immunizations, health screening, primary care, health education and malaria prevention.

PC(USA)'s annual Mother's Day Project, a popular mission activity co-sponsored by International Health and Development and Presbyterian Women, benefits Healthy Women Healthy Families. Oak Groves's Mission Committee will be selling special Mother's Day Cards to support this program. The cards will be available on Sunday, April 24 and on Sunday May 1.

**Financials**

Keep up the good work (or works!!)! Thanks to all of you, we've been able to stay current with our Mission obligations, and pay our Per Capita ahead of schedule! That puts us in nice shape heading into summer. Even though our monthly Income was under budget by \$3.5K, Expenses were right on, so we're still \$2K in the black for 2011. Our New Covenant investments are also doing well - up \$33.9K (3.16%), as of April 14th! Thanks for continuing to support the mission of Oak Grove!!

Through March 31st	2011		Act vs Budg	2010
	Actuals	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actuals
<b>Income YTD</b>	\$171,897	\$160,600	\$11,297	\$153,466
<b>Expense YTD</b>	\$169,886	\$172,169	\$2,283	\$147,974
<b>Income – Expenses</b>	\$2,011	(\$11,569)	\$13,580	\$5,493

**Mission****Guatemala Coffee Price Increase**

Hundreds of acres of farmland were destroyed during Tropical Storm Agatha in May 2010, decreasing supply in the region.

Heavy rains during the rainy season damaged a great deal of crops, causing lower outputs.

Inconsistent weather throughout the world - particularly in Vietnam, Indonesia, Columbia, and some African countries - have lowered the worldwide production of coffee and increased demand for what little is available.

Guatemalan coffee from Lake Atitlan and Antigua is becoming recognized throughout the world as extremely high quality; international coffee distributors are willing to pay more for this region's product.

Rumors circulate that drug cartels are laundering money through the sale of coffee, artificially inflating the price in Guatemala.

**The World Jubilee**

The World Jubilee, formerly Third World Jubilee, is a registered non-profit organization, providing alternative marketing for economically disadvantaged groups from around the world since 1979. Profits are directed back to the groups. The World Jubilee is held twice annually: The Spring Market is held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in St. Paul, and the Fall Market is held at Colonial Church in Edina.

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This year Oak Grovers sold coffee and olive oil. Judy Kocher, Bob Nesbitt and Greg Johnson sold 81 bags of coffee. Bob and Sandy Crum, and Import Peace, sold 85 bottles of olive oil and 50 bags of za'atar, a Middle Eastern herb. Bob Nesbitt and Greg Johnson sold 81 bags of coffee. Bob and Sandy Crum, and Import Peace, sold 85 bottles of olive oil and 50 bags of za'atar, a Middle Eastern herb.

**Living Simply So Others Can Simply Live****Meatless Mondays**

There are a growing number of people in the U.S. who have joined into the "Meatless Monday" movement. It is good for the environment AND for one's health. A website is easily accessible with recipes adding to any that you might already have ([meatlessmonday.com](http://meatlessmonday.com)). Give it a try.

Kris Jacobson/Sandy Crum for Social Justice committee

## Fellowship Fair Activities Still Available

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the second annual Oak Grove fellowship fair was held. There were approximately 300 sign-ups for 36 different areas and events. Did you miss out? There's still time to join your fellow Oak Grovers for some fun and fellowship. Here is a list of available activities. If one piques your interest, contact Ron Dubis at 887-6852 or [rojiti@aol.com](mailto:rojiti@aol.com) and he'll direct you to the proper person so you can participate.

*Art Journaling; Art outings; Jazz Brunch at Aster Café or Famous Dave's; Beer making and beer history; Bike outings; Brat stand; Canning and Jelly making; Church clean-up days; Civil War Roundtable; Cricket event; Drive-in movie AT CHURCH; Family Camping; Greeters for summer; Kayaking, Knitting & Crocheting, Loaves & Fishes, Metal Detecting, Mill City Museum & Lock & dam tour; Mountain biking; Oasis for youth; One Family/One Faith Community; Off loom weaving; Paint-a-thon; Pickle ball; Ping Pong tourney; Presbyterian Women & circles; Race for the Cure; Retreats; Sailing; Saturday golf; S'more fest; Special event setup; Suppers with sippy cups; Twins outing (waiting list); Walking group; Zoo group.*

So try an activity you've never experienced, or sign up for another you enjoy often and have some fun connecting **with people you see in church but haven't gotten to know!**

### A New Exciting Addition to God's Kingdom (preschool ~ 5<sup>th</sup> grade)

Starting May 1<sup>st</sup>, God's Kingdom Kids will have extra time to share what they have learned, sing a song, or have a special snacks to end their time in God's Kingdom.

God's Kingdom Sunday Morning program will now be 9:15 am~10:30 am.

The children will come to the gathering time at 9:15 am and go to their classroom until 10:15 am, the same as usual. After their classes end at 10:15 am, their teachers will then lead them to the community room for this extra 15 minutes of sharing.

The Children's Committee feels it is a good way for the children to review what has happened in their classrooms by sharing the "good news" with their friends.

We strongly encourage parents to come to the community room at 10:15 to be a part of this special time of sharing. It is important for parents to meet their God's Kingdom child(ren) since teachers do not like to let the children leave the room without the parent present.

## Presbyterian Women

### CIRCLE NEWS –

Evening Star Circle meets Tuesday, May 3, at 7 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Call Mary Jones, 952-831-7655. Goodrich-Nord Circle meets Wednesday, May 11, at 9:15 a.m. at the church. Call Joan Stanko, 952-888-7577. Ruth Circle meets Thursday, May 12, at 9:15 a.m. at Gideon Pond Activity Room. Call Ethel Furuli, 952-844-0435.



PROGRAM ON SOUTH AFRICA - Following the Goodrich-Nord Circle Meeting on May 11 (at approximately noon) former Oak Grove member Elizabeth Young will be presenting a slide show and program on South Africa in Gideon Pond Hall. All women who are members of the church are welcome to attend.

NEXT COORDINATING TEAM MEETING - will be held Saturday, May 7, at 8:30 a.m. The business meeting will begin at 9:00. All women who are members of the church are welcome to attend.

**SPARKS!**

Igniting the Inner Strengths of Young People

A Follow-up to the Homeless Youth in Suburbia Event

For parents, educators, youth pastors, volunteers, anyone interested in youth development in their community

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2011

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Oasis for Youth Drop-In Center

2200 West Old Shakopee Rd Bloomington, MN 55431

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Registration is required:** info@oasisforyouth.org by May 4, 2011. For more information contact Monica Williams at 952-831-3213. This event is free for all. Limited seating. Please register early.

Facilitated by Nancy Tellett-Royce, Senior Consultant

Search Institute

www.search-institute.org

Sharing the latest research on thriving and SPARKS – the inner strengths and passions all young people possess. Learn how SPARKS can change a young person's life and put them on a positive path to succeed, no matter what their economic status or parenting situation.

SHORT TOUR OF OASIS FOR YOUTH DROP-IN CENTER AVAILABLE AFTER THE EVENT

Oasis for Youth

[www.oasisforyouth.org](http://www.oasisforyouth.org)

[infor@oasisforyouth.org](mailto:infor@oasisforyouth.org)

## May Birthdays

MAY	1	**Adelle Madsen (91 years young), *Davis Radtke (8 years old)
MAY	2	Gary Meier, Eugene Morris, *Kaitlyn Wasko (18 years old)
MAY	3	*Ben St. Martin (18 years old)
MAY	4	Jim Carroll, Barbara Johnson
MAY	5	Miriam Ebeling, Sarah Olson, Jean Wagner
MAY	6	**Halcyon Hursh (92 years young), Mark Pridgeon, Travis Scott
MAY	8	Derril Shantz, **Glenn Wideman (88 years young)
MAY	9	Marilyn Hardin, Linda Johnson, ** Betty Vance
MAY	10	Charline Miller
MAY	11	Nancy Scott
MAY	12	*Anji Chadwick (15 years old)
MAY	13	Diane McNutt, *Andrew Nail (21 years old)
MAY	15	**Gloria Fretheim (87 years young),
MAY	16	Sharlene Glausser
MAY	17	*Erik Olson (19 years old), *Abigail Propsom (14 years old), Paul Wasko
MAY	18	Sue LaPointe
MAY	19	Sue Cavanaugh, **Grace Long (86 years young)
MAY	22	*Amelia Leach (6 years old), *Charlie Schuchman (4 years old)
MAY	23	Kelly Reed, Susan Rusch, Kaitlin Scott
MAY	24	Catherine Randol
MAY	25	*Ethan Hohensee (19 years old), *Malorie Holloway (13 years old)*
MAY	27	Kristin Bull
MAY	28	*Lily Siegel (6 years old)
MAY	29	**Eileen Blake (86 years young)
MAY	31	Sue Lang, Darlene Morton

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



**The Power of Forgiveness—Town Hall Forum**

Frederic Luskin, Ph.D., is the Director of the Stanford University Forgiveness Project. His extensive research on forgiveness therapy demonstrates the power of forgiveness to affect physical and emotional change in individuals and organizations. He is the author of the books Forgive for Good, Forgive for Love and Stress Free for Good.

He will be speaking at the Westminster Town Hall Forum (at Westminster Pres Church, Nicollet Mall & 12th Street) at noon on Thursday, May 5. Contact Susan McKenna at 612-332-3421 (smckenna@2pc-mpls.org) with questions or visit westminsterforum.org for more information.

**Young Adults Focus Group**

For those who weren't able to attend the last focus group meeting of younger members I invite you to the next one, to be held on Sunday, May 22, 9:15-10:15 AM in the Community Room downstairs. Please bring your ideas as to how Oak Grove can better serve you. And THANKS to those of you who participated in the first meeting. Very helpful.



**Looking for Green Committee Members**

From Wikipedia: Environmentally friendly (also eco-friendly, nature friendly, and green) are synonyms used to refer to [goods and services](#), [laws](#), guidelines and policies considered to inflict minimal or no harm on the [environment](#).

Al Frechette and John Crampton have agreed to kick off the Green Committee (the name for now) at Oak Grove. What is the Green Committee, you ask? Well, it'll be what you make it out to be. You can determine your goals and objectives. You can change the name. You can decide to become an Earth Care Congregation, which is determined based on objectives defined by PC(USA). Al and John are looking for interested Oak Grovers. If you'd like to participate on this very exciting committee, send an e-mail to either Al ([frech001@tc.umn.edu](mailto:frech001@tc.umn.edu)) or John ([jcrampt@comcast.net](mailto:jcrampt@comcast.net)). Thanks!!

Thank you so much to our Oak Grove family for the prayers, hugs, cards, and caring conversations I have had with many of you after the death of my father, John Jung. He had a huge influence in our lives and we were so blessed to have him for so many years. God's blessings to all of you.

*Karen and Bob Gerdes and family*  
.....

Thank you to my Oak Grove family for your prayers, cards, food, visits, rides & words of encouragement during this time of healing after my fall. I am so blessed to be part of this caring congregation. God Bless you.

*Verona Stoesz*  
.....

I'm deeply grateful for all the congratulations, cards, hugs, thanks, and encouragement on the celebration of my 25 years here at Oak Grove. Thank you to Bill and the personnel committee for planning the beautiful reception on April 3rd. I was very touched by the thought and time put into its preparation, as well as the number of people who attended!

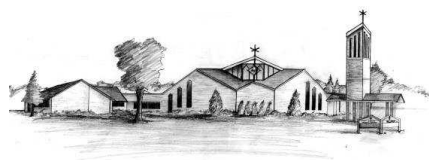


In addition to a very generous amount of money, I received a beautiful piece of artwork.

The painting is of a very vivid sunset; the words above and below the sunset say, "at the end of the day" "it's all about who you love, and letting them know". I can certainly say, I feel loved here at Oak Grove.

My life during these 25 years at Oak Grove has been blessed in numerous ways. Thank you so much for all your support!

**Judy Cooper**



A Publication of:

**OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

2200 W. Old Shakopee Rd.  
Bloomington, MN 55431

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U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 191  
Minneapolis, MN

Phone: 952-888-4621  
Fax: 952-888-2523  
Email: [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org)



Visit us on the web!  
[www.oakgrv.org](http://www.oakgrv.org)

## Adult Education

May 1 Immigration Issues, Part I Come join us for an informative three-part series on immigration issues in Arizona. Doodee Backstrom will tell us about the Green Valley Arizona Samaritans and their work.

May 8 Immigration Issues, Part II Doodee will present background information on immigration in Arizona.

May 15 Immigration Issues, Part III Doodee will be back to lead us in a discussion of legal issues surrounding immigration and projects undertaken by other humanitarian groups in the Tucson area.

(Each part is a stand-alone session. Come for one, two, or all three classes!)

May 22 Amanda Hunter will join us to talk about the Shower of Stoles Project. We'll learn about how the project started, how it has grown, how various churches in our area are using the stoles, and hear stories about some of the stoles. (You may remember that Oak Grove hosted a display of some of the stoles earlier this spring. To view the stoles online and read about the individuals they represent, go to [www.welcomingresources.org](http://www.welcomingresources.org). Click on "Shower of Stoles" and then ("Online Exhibition".)