

LOVING GOD...

CHANGING LIVES

# Oak Leaves

A Publication of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Bloomington, Minnesota

*Inside this issue:*

Fellowship/News	2
Pastor Beth/Other News	3
Evangelism	4
Mission/Social Justice	4-5
Calendar	online
Education	8-9
Children's	8-9
Presbyterian Women	9
Budget/Finance	10
Birthdays	10
Pond Events	10
Memory Loss & Visiting	11
Thanks/Condolences	11
Inserts	
Youth	
Mid-Week Menu	
Blessing of the Animals Pictures	

Deadline for the November Oak Leaves is - October 12 -  
Articles may be edited for space and/or content.

October  
2011

Dear Friends,

What is our goal in the Fall Stewardship Campaign? Simply to help people be faithful followers of Jesus. A sub-goal under that is to grow tithers. I am always inspired by others' first-person accounts of their own journeys of faith. The following is from Linda Johnson:

*As we approach another Stewardship campaign season, I am reminded of a presentation made several years after Greg and I joined O.G.P.C.*

*The Stewardship presentation was a message from a young man whose family were lifelong members of Oak Grove and now he had a family of his own. He stated that when he sat down to pay his bills, the first check he made out was a 10% tithe to the church. That was his commitment and that was all there was to it. Everything else after that will work out.*

*This short and to the point message made a strong impact on me. Since hearing that message, Greg and I have tried our best to make that same commitment to Oak Grove – a 10% tithe. It isn't always easy, but things have worked out.*

*Praying that this commitment helps show that we are **Loving God** and helping Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in **Changing Lives!***

Thanks, Linda.

Faithfully, Pastor Bill

For 2011's Stewardship Campaign, we're sharing ways in which "Loving God ... Changing Lives" has affected members of our congregation and our community. Our programs officially begin on Sunday, October 9 and culminate with Commitment Sunday, November 6, when we have the opportunity to express our gratitude and hope for Oak Grove.

You have (or soon will) received a letter as a reminder of how richly Oak Grove is blessed with staff, programs, and opportunities to spread God's love through service. Please return the postcard included with that letter, call the church office (952-888-4621) or e-mail [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org) to let us know which Thank You Event you'd like to attend:

October 12 after Logos dinner at the Blue Couch (primarily for those under age 45)

October 15 9:30 am breakfast

October 16 11:45 am luncheon

October 18 7:00 pm dessert

Child care will be provided at all events.

**OAK LEAVES**

Editor Beth Angerhofer  
Editor-in-Chief Bill Chadwick

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 524 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)

Adjunct Pastor

Denise Dunbar-Perkins

[chaplain0406@gmail.com](mailto:chaplain0406@gmail.com)

Director of Christian Education:

**Carol Osweiler**

[cosweiler@oakgrv.org](mailto:cosweiler@oakgrv.org)

Office Administrator:

**Beth Angerhofer**

[bangerhofer@oakgrv.org](mailto:bangerhofer@oakgrv.org)

Financial Secretary:

**Barbara Phenicie**

[bphenicie@oakgrv.org](mailto:bphenicie@oakgrv.org)

Youth Director:

**Jake Van Pernis**

[jvanpernis@oakgrv.org](mailto:jvanpernis@oakgrv.org)

Technology 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**

Kitchen Coordinator/Cook:

**Lori Ericksen**

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 is \$30.46**

The **Opportunity Fair** (usually associated with Rally Day), will take place this year in conjunction with the Fall Stewardship Program and will be held on November 6 between services. Each committee and organization within the church will explain its responsibilities and invite your participation.

Oak Grove's **Fall Clean-up** is on October 29. 8:00 am to Noon.



**Singles Fellowship** will go to Color me Mine on Thursday Oct. 20, meet at church at 1:00 to carpool. It's a shop to paint your own ceramics in Eagan. Call Jane Jacobson at 612-267-9068 if you're interested or have questions.

**Oak Rovers** are sponsoring a Christmas show at Chanhassen dinner theatre matinee on Wednesday, Dec 7. We will be seeing Forever Plaid do a Christmas program "Plaid Tidings." All are welcome.

Tickets can be purchased Sundays October 16 & 23 - Price is \$42.00 which includes lunch, show and bus trip.

Call Gordon & Dorothy Beattie 952-941-0742 with questions.

**Oak Grove Shuttle to/from Washburn-McReavy**

**upper parking lot**

Shuttle begins on Sunday October 2. A reminder that off-site parking is available at Washburn-McReavy, Penn Place Apartments and 10108 Penn Ave Apartments. Shuttle service is only available to/from Washburn-McReavy.

Look for the car with the flashing amber light parked near the RR crossing. Round trip is 5 minutes.

8:45 AM until 9:15 AM (Education hour)

**A SIGN** of things to come! That is, a new sign is coming in the next few weeks—a state-of-the-art electronic sign to take advantage of our great spot on this busy corner. This is being financed by a bequest and memorials in honor of Marilyn Dutcher. We are so grateful to the Dutcher family. Thank you! Also, thanks to the sign committee who has been working so hard on this for the past year: Arlyn Grussing, Bob Gerdes, Holly Mae Dredge, Bob Gerdes, Paul St. Martin and Mac Davis.

Please note that because of government privacy laws hospitals and care centers no longer are allowed to notify churches that a person has been admitted (even if the person lists his/her home church at admission). So the only way that the church staff will know if someone is hospitalized is if a family member or friend lets us know. (And we'd rather get 20 calls about the same person than none.) Thanks for your help!

“A monk was once asked, ‘What do you do there in the monastery?’ He replied, ‘We fall and get up, fall and get up, fall and get up again.’”

St. Anselm of Canterbury, late Eleventh Century

‘We fall and get up again.’ I find comfort in hearing that people have been doing this falling and rising for centuries now. We are not alone in our struggle to be faithful. Countless followers before us have been falling and rising again.

One of my favorite Bible passages comes from the prophet Isaiah.

“Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Is. 40:30-31

If I wanted an inspirational poster of this passage I could find loads to choose from, all with soaring eagles. While the image of an eagle in flight makes for a terrific photo, I find the latter part of Isaiah’s passage far more comforting.

“They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”

Life often brings us to our knees. We get a diagnosis that we didn’t expect; we lose a job; someone we love suffers from a long illness, or quick sudden death; relationships crumble; natural or human created disasters wipe us out; confidences are not kept... you get the picture. Sometimes following grave hardships we *are* able “to soar with wings as eagles.” Far more often I find the real miracle is that we can walk and not faint; that we can fall and get up, fall and get up, fall and get up again.

May we find grace and peace in our falling and our rising!

Beth Hart-Andersen, Interim Associate Pastor

**Heritage Sunday** was such a grand day, as we honored our 50-year members and our folks doing 80 or better regardless of tenure in the Oak Grove family. A huge thank you to Sandy Crum, who was the organizing force behind everything, Dorothy and Gordon Beattie who made all the corsages, liturgists Dorothy Sorensen, Audrey and Steve St. Martin (yes, he wrote the prayer), Jim Pickard, Bill Boehne, and Karyn Arazi, all who gave special rides, and everyone else who worked on it. But mostly, thanks to our long-time members and our chronological elders. Dorothy gave out 45 red corsages for folks who are 50+ year members and 48 yellow corsages for people 80 years of age, but not members for 50 years. It was a delight to have our four longest-tenured members in attendance: Betty Johnson, Ruth Juhl, Audrey St. Martin and Steve St. Martin. Also, our two oldest members, Ione Hoaglund, who will be 98 on Halloween, and Olive Kravik, who is a couple months younger, were here. Blessings on all!

**WORSHIP FOR:  
OCTOBER 2—30**  
—  
**Sunday Mornings**  
**SERVICES AT**  
**8:15 & 10:45**



**OCTOBER 2**

*27th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*World Communion Sunday*  
Sermon by  
Bill Chadwick

**OCTOBER 9**

*28th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Sermon by  
Bill Chadwick

**OCTOBER 16**

*29th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Sermon by  
Bill Chadwick

**OCTOBER 23**

*30th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Sermon by  
Beth Hart-Andersen

**OCTOBER 30**

*31st Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Sermon by  
Carol Osweiler

**Looking Ahead**

**November 6th—All Saints Sunday.** People are invited to bring in--ahead of time or that day--photos of their deceased loved ones to display around the sanctuary. We will especially honor those of the Oak Grove family who have entered the Church Triumphant in the preceding year.

**November 13—Healing & Prayer Shawl Dedication Sunday.** During our worship services, we will be emphasizing healing and there will be prayers offered for those individuals who request it. In addition, we will be dedicating prayer shawls that day.

**November 26—Advent Festival** at 9 am in Gideon Pond Hall. Sue Greimel is organizing this event...if you can help, please let her know (612-869-5947 or sgreimel@comcast.net).

**Save October 16 on your calendar for supplemental picture directory!**

Evangelism Council will be making a supplemental picture directory that will include members that have joined since March 2009. Also, if your picture was not in the 2009 picture directory, you can have your picture taken Sunday, October 16 and it will be included in this new directory. It helps to put names with faces, and it makes for a friendlier church.

## Mission—Social Justice

### Arizona Trip

On October 9th after the 10:45 am service, we will have a short meeting for all people interested in a possible trip to Green Valley, AZ in March or April of 2012. If you are unable to attend but are interested please call Doodee Backstrom at 952-831-1922.

### VEAP – Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People

VEAP is a local non-profit agency serving low-income families, individuals, elderly and disabled persons in the communities of Bloomington, Edina, Richfield, and South Minneapolis. VEAP has a unique connection to Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in that it was initially housed at OGPC. Oak Grove members provide support to VEAP in numerous ways – volunteering at the VEAP office, collecting food through food drives, serving on the VEAP Board of Directors, working at fundraisers, and giving financial support. **To date in 2011, Oak Grove has provided \$6961.43 in financial support to VEAP.**

VEAP serves people in our community by providing relief, support and hope in times of need through the following programs:

- Transportation Assistance
- Social and Financial Support
- Food Pantry Assistance
- Children and Youth Services Programs

Some stories from VEAP...

A family of three living in Richfield was temporarily missing a father because he was deployed with the National Guard. Mom was working full time, but lost her job when she lost her childcare. She had a new job lined up, but it did not start for another two weeks and the next month's rent was already due. She used her last paycheck from her old job to pay March rent, but her first paycheck from her new job would not be until the middle of April, when May rent was due. Because of her gap in income, she had no funds to pay for April rent. VEAP used General Funds for a loan for her April rent and assisted with food.

One family had worked with VEAP in the past, and called again with a financial need. Because of their previous funding they were not eligible for financial assistance at that time. VEAP signed the family up to use the food pantry once a week for two months to help stretch their funds and made sure the family signed up to use the Back to School program. Even those two interventions allowed the family to correct their financial situation and get back on their feet again.

**Project Homeless Connect** is a one-stop-shop comprehensive support services for people experiencing homelessness. Guests are partnered with volunteers to identify and access necessary resources, explore previously unused benefits, and eat lunch together. Project Homeless Connect is a service delivery model that has consistently been proven to be crucial in eliminating barriers to housing, employment, education, and the myriad other factors that contribute to long-term homelessness.

**Schools For Peace –**

Veeda Javaid, director of the Presbyterian Education Board, inspired all those who heard her speak at the Rally Day Pot Luck lunch with her stories of the Presbyterian schools in Pakistan. We are all very, very excited about PEB, our new partner in our school building project.

On Saturday, October 8, the Schools for Peace Task Force will host a Harvest Dinner Pot Luck to raise funds for the school project. The dinner will be pot luck style and we are suggesting participants bring dishes made from either local foods currently in season or made with foods grown/produced in Minnesota. The dinner will begin at 6:00 pm. We will be joined by representatives of Friends of PEB, a support organization based in St. Cloud.

\* \* \* \* \*

**More about Episcopal Family Services (ECS) and Oak Grove**

The ECS Supportive Housing Program, in which Oak Grove will be participating, will pair OGPC with a homeless family in our area to sponsor for about one year. In addition to financial support we will provide to ECS to aid the family, volunteers will be needed to assist the family in a variety of ways.

Here’s how you can help!

Volunteer to be in a **Leadership group**. These volunteers commit to meet with the ECS case managers once a month for two hours. The ideal number for this group is four to six people. This number is perfect for sponsoring one family. The more leadership groups, the more families we can assist. The volunteers also have to commit to a training session given by ECS.

**A Mentor Volunteer** must be a part of a leadership group and agree to make some contact with the family by phone once a week and in person at least once a month.

**Support Volunteers** are church members who will respond to the various needs that might arise. Examples of things that these volunteers might do is find or donate a couch, a bed, perhaps be a baby sitter or just big sister or brother.

We don’t know what problems will evolve with the family during the course of 12 to 16 months, but we do know that when they do arise, there will be no better place in the world to obtain love and understanding than by becoming part of the Oak Grove Community.

Please volunteer to make our vision a reality. Join us for Adult Ed on November 20 to learn more.

Mike Glausser, Frank and Bev Bliss, John Crampton

\* \* \* \* \*

**Heifer Project** events are coming in November & December! Help raise money for donations of animals to families around the world.

**Sunday, November 13 Adult Ed session** on the Heifer Project and related events will provide information about Heifer Project and feature some new additions to our Alternative Gift Market this year.

**Saturday, November 19** — Join us for our **International Potluck** at Oak Grove. Bring an international dish to share and make a donation for the Heifer Project.

**Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** — Our Heifer Project Alternative Gift Market will take place. Start planning now for the crafty items or delicious food you can donate for our sale and silent auction.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Upcoming Mission events:**

October 8 – Harvest Dinner Pot Luck in support of Schools for Peace Project.

October 9 – CROP Walk

November 19 – Heifer Project International Pot Luck

December 4 – Heifer Project Alternative Gift Market

December 12 – Project Homeless Connect

**Adult Education**

October 2 Session #2 of "Jesus Through the Eyes of Luke", taught by the pastors, running Sunday mornings, September 25-October 30, 9:15 AM. (Each class will stand alone so come when you can.) Each of the four gospels presents a unique picture of Jesus. That of Luke is especially winsome, with the strong emphasis on compassion, women, prayer, and the universality of the gospel (not just for Jews). The class does not presuppose that you have ever before opened a Bible. You will not be asked to read aloud. You will not have to share your most embarrassing moment. You will be asked to come with an open mind and inquiring heart. Let us discern together what Luke the physician can teach us today about our brother Jesus and what it means to be his disciples in the 21st century.

October 9 Session #3 of "Jesus Through the Eyes of Luke"

October 16 Session #4 of "Jesus Through the Eyes of Luke"

Highlights of the 2011 Guatemala Oak Grove Mission Trips Presentation by participants of this year's mission trips. Learn about the work they did, the wonderful people they met, and see photos of many of their experiences in this beautiful country.

October 23 Session #5 of "Jesus Through the Eyes of Luke"

October 30 Session #6 of "Jesus Through the Eyes of Luke"

"Climate Change Impact" — Dr. John Abraham kicks off the Green Committee's Climate Change series. John is a nationally known climatologist and engineering professor from St. Thomas University. He will discuss climate change by presenting evidence proving that humans are warming the planet. He will also provide suggestions for how to discuss climate change with people who are hostile. Finally, Dr. Abraham will share with us some upcoming events that will help us move toward a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future.

**Wednesday Evenings:**

October 5-October 26 Video Series and Discussion: "Saving Jesus"

**Children's Worship Time**

This program is for children in Grades 1-3 and will be held on Sundays, October 16 and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

This is a special time when the children attend the first part of worship as a group and after the Word to the Wise time in worship all go to the Children's Library, lower level.

In this program, the children will have an opportunity to practice their worship skills, learn the congregational responses to prayer, and develop a respect for worship. The Children's Committee wants the children to understand that God's people come to worship, not to receive but to give of themselves.

Sunday, October 30, this group will participate in worship together. Also on this Sunday, seven 3<sup>rd</sup> grade children will receive their Bibles during the 10:45 am service.

Parents of children in Grades 1-3 will be receiving a letter from Carol Osweiler, Director of Christian Education. If you have not received a letter and want your child to attend please call Carol at the church, 952-888-4621.

***Mary Koon Hired as our new Director of Christian Education***

*We are delighted to announce the hiring of our new half-time Director of Christian Education (we decided to drop the new-fangled title of Director of Lifelong Learning.) You will recall that about 18 months ago, with Associate Pastor Dries Coetzee leaving, the Session was discerning future staffing needs. The Session hoped to put more time and dollars into programming for youth. Carol Osweiler suggested that the Children's Education program was now in good shape and could be staffed by a half-time person, allowing us to move ahead with a full-time Youth Director. The Session concurred and we have been on that course since. It was also decided by the Session to continue responsibility for staffing adult education with this position, so that approximately 80% of the person's time will be overseeing Children's Education and 20% given to Adult Education.*

*With Carol's retirement coming October 30<sup>th</sup> a search committee was formed to hire the part-time DCE, with hopes that the new person could begin mid-October for a two-week overlap with Carol. The search committee of Jeanine Radtke, Lori Wasko, Julie Flanagan, Jane Jacobson, Priscilla Pearson (and ex-officio Bill Chadwick) began its work at the beginning of the summer. The position description was finalized and the job was posted throughout the Twin Cities and nationally. A dozen resumes were received.*

*Five very good candidates were interviewed. Yet it was not a hard decision. One knocked our socks off! Not only does Mary have extensive experience, but her warm and lively manner is utterly delightful. Her references were, without exception, superlative and each one said, "I'd hire her in a heartbeat!" The Search Committee's vote was enthusiastic and unanimous, as was the vote of the wider group of elders and leaders who participated in the second interview. We are so thrilled that she accepted the position!*

*Mary is a 2011 graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary (UCC) with broad experience in both United Church of Christ and Presbyterian Churches. Her previous church staff positions include small group coordinator, junior high school Girls Group designer/facilitator and Christian Education Director for adults. Mary also has extensive experience as a preschool teacher. She is married to Jim Koon, whose job transfer with TCF recently brought them from LaGrange, Illinois to Minnesota. They live in Wayzata and have four mostly grown children. Mary is a baker and a runner and is an active volunteer in her community. Mary will begin work on October 16. Welcome, Mary!*

*Mary writes:* I am delighted to become part of the life of Oak Grove and look forward to working with children, families and adults. Part of the appeal of the church for me is its vibrant spirit, commitment to inclusive community, hospitality and passion for lifelong faith formation. I really can't wait to get started and to see how God's spirit will move as we work and grow together.

**Presbyterian Women News**

CIRCLE NEWS – Evening Star Circle meets Tuesday, October 4 at 7 pm in the Fireside Room. Call Mary Jones, 952-831-7655. Goodrich-Nord Circle meets Wednesday, October 12, at 9:15 am at the church. Call Joan Stanko, 952-888-7577. Ruth Circle meets Thursday, October 13, at 9:15 am at Gideon Pond Activity Room. Call Ethel Furuli, 952-844-0435.

NEXT COORDINATING TEAM MEETING - will be held Saturday, November 5, at 8:30 am. The business meeting will begin at 9:00. All women who are members of the church are welcome to attend.

FALL GATHERING – "Faith Empowers Community: Serving our Sisters in Christ", Saturday, October 15 at Calvin Presbyterian Church, 177 Glendale Drive, Long Lake. The cost is \$15 per person. We will be carpooling from the Oak Grove parking lot at 8:30 am. The program starts at 9:15 am and lasts until 2:30 pm. Registration deadline is October 6. If you have questions, call Dee Schneider at 952-888-2553 or Lou Traeder at 952-888-5621. Registration forms will be available in the church office.

Through Aug 31st	2011		Act vs Budg	2010
	Actuals	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actuals
<b>Income YTD</b>	\$425,671	\$419,113	\$6,558	\$399,693
<b>Expense YTD</b>	\$434,610	\$450,643	\$16,032	\$403,245
<b>Income – Expenses</b>	(\$8,939)	(\$31,529)	\$22,590	(\$3,552)

Want the good news or the bad news 1st? OK, bad news it is. We're back in the red for the year (from \$622 in the black to \$8.9K in the red). Now the good news. We're \$5K ahead of our Mission obligations and still doing much better than Budget (by \$22.6K)! Monthly income was \$8.8K under budget (are you still on vacation??), expenses \$3.8K under. New Covenant has had its ups and downs, as well. As of Sept 16th, we've lost \$14.3K for the year (-1.33%), with \$730.3K in Endowment, \$262.8K in Session Designated, and \$65.3K in Long-Term Building Maintenance. Thanks to everyone for keeping up on their pledges, while also honoring our faithful servants (Memorials were received in honor of Akosua Awere, Betty Bresley, Eleanor Conrad, and Keith Ritchie).

## October Birthdays

(If you don't see your birthday, we don't have that information or you requested that it not appear.)

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

- 1 Shayna Larsen-Nordin
- 2 Karen Rysavy
- 3 Mac Davis, Dick Frank (\*\*92 yr young); Alexandra Johnson (\*21 yr old); Michael Ndula
- 5 Peggy Harsh
- 6 Alice Jaeger
- 7 Gordon DeLaHunt; Les Druley (\*\* 97 yr young)
- 8 Andrew St. Martin (\*21 yr old)
- 9 Doris Ebeling
- 10 Pamela Williams
- 11 Lynda Mielke
- 12 Michael Arazi
- 13 Ardella Frank (\*\*86 yr young)
- 14 Olivia Wood (\*20 yr old)
- 15 David Alexander
- 16 Lori Wasko
- 18 Ron Cavanaugh; Jeff Olson; Marleen Singhrai
- 19 Carol McCarthy
- 20 Arla Giddings; Candace Williamson
- 21 Tim Dubis
- 22 Bill Broers (\*\*87 yr young)
- 23 Beverley Chadwick; Eric Tighe
- 24 Van Vanatta (\*\*87 yr young)
- 25 Tom Lucic
- 26 Patricia Knapp; Evelyn Melum (\*\*92 yr young); Judy Moynihan
- 27 Doodee Backstrom; Susan Baumgartner
- 28 Helen Christensen; Beverly Noble
- 31 Howard Baumgartner; Ione Hoaglund (\*\*98 yr young)



## Pond Events

**401 E 104th St.**

### Dakota Language Drop-In

**Sunday, October 2, 1:30 – 4 pm**

Discover Dakota - the first language spoken in Minnesota - through hands-on learning activities, a nature walk, and games the Dakota still play today. Win prizes and take home learning resources. While beginners learn the basics, more advanced students can participate in small group conversation and role playing. Experienced teachers will lead the activities.

### The Buckthorn Bust is Back!

**Saturday, October 15, 8:30 am—12:30 pm**

Help pull buckthorn from the grounds.

### In Pursuit of the True Story

**Sunday, October 16, 2 pm**

Dean Urdahl presents *Pursuit*, the third installment of his U.S./Dakota War of 1862 saga. A historical novel about the aftermath of the War, it includes the prison at Mankato, the Internment Camp at Fort Snelling, Crow Creek, and General Sibley and General Sully tracking down the Dakota who escaped. Dean is a former American History teacher at New London-Spicer schools and is a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives. He is working with Congress to repeal the Dakota Exclusion Act. Dean will have his books available for sale and signing.

## Congregational News & Other Events

### How to Visit People with Memory Loss

by Pastor Bill

Some people feel very uncomfortable visiting folks suffering from dementia. The Caregivers Support Group wanted me to encourage people and offer some suggestions. (The women in the group especially wanted to encourage their spouses' male friends to drop by and visit their spouses.) Based on my seven years of experience as a chaplain to folks with memory loss let me make the following suggestions:

1. Show up! The right words are less important than simply your presence. It doesn't have to be a long visit.
2. Use appropriate touch: a handshake, a hug, holding hands.
3. Avoid "baby talk," but use short sentences. Give enough time for the person to answer.
4. Don't correct or argue with the person. Redirect the conversation if necessary.
5. Don't ask too many questions about current things. Rather start conversations with subjects from the long past: "Tell me about your first job." "What was your hometown like?" "Tell me about your high school, your first girlfriend or boyfriend, your hobbies, etc."
6. *Reminisce Magazine* is a wonderful resource to help prime the conversational pump.
7. Bring something with you—photos, a child, a pet, the newspaper, snack, flowers.
8. Look around at the photos in their room to find things to talk about.
9. Affirm the individual in positive ways. Paraphrase the feeling content of what he/she is saying. "That must be really frustrating" is a helpful phrase.
10. Music is a wonderful thing to share with many. Sometimes I will bring the hymnal and simply sing through the first verse of many of the old hymns with people.
11. Folks who are well into dementia and largely unable to talk still often can say the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, the Lord's Prayer and other familiar scriptures.
12. Be aware that many people experience "sundowning," that is, their memory issues and anxiety increase late in the day. It's often best to visit in the morning or early afternoon.
13. *Ideas for a Better Visit* is a very helpful pamphlet available in the narthex.

*Thank yous*

Thank you to all of my Oak Grove family for your thoughts, prayers and cards during my recent recovery. God Bless you all,

*Betty Johnson & Family*

#### Condolences to the families of:



**Paul Wright (wife, Janice McCutchan)**, on his death. Service was at Oak Grove on August 18.

**Mary Jane Cochran (husband, Darrell)**, on her death August 22. Her service on August 26.

**Robert Chalmers**, ordained Presbyterian minister who served Shakopee Church, Christ Presbyterian and Masonic Home on his death. Service was on Friday, September 2.

**Myra Carroll-Pezella**, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Howard Lake, MN, on her death September 4. Service was held September 9.

**Victor Watters**, friends of Greimels, on his death.



A Publication of:

**OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

2200 W. Old Shakopee Rd.

Bloomington, MN 55431

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
TWIN CITIES, MN  
PERMIT NO. 90-191

Phone: 952-888-4621

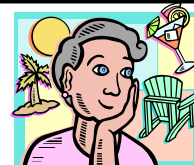
Fax: 952-888-2523

Email: [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org)



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

## Help Us Celebrate Carol's Service to Oak Grove Church



Carol Osweiler will soon be entering the wonderful life of RETIREMENT. Her last day with us will be October 30, 2011. Plan to join us to celebrate with Carol all of the positive, mind changing, life-molding activities she has brought to Oak Grove Presbyterian Church. Our party will be in Gideon Pond Hall immediately after the 10:45 am worship service on October 30.

Carol has given so much of herself in helping all of us (children & adults) to appreciate the importance of growing in our faith, working & playing together, and having an active worship life. She has helped us to have FUN and to enjoy our Lord and Savior.

Please mark your calendar and RSVP your intention to attend this celebration and help Carol ease into retirement with style and grace. Call the church office at 952-888-4621 or e-mail Beth at [bangerhofer@oakgrv.org](mailto:bangerhofer@oakgrv.org).

*If you wish to make a special financial gift to Carol as a Thank You for all that she has done for OGPC, write your check to Oak Grove with a memo that it is a "Gift for Carol." Please note that such gifts will not be reflected on your annual church contribution statement.*