

Oak Leaves

A Publication of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Bloomington, Minnesota

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Calendars

Deadline for the July 2017 Oak Leaves is - **June 15** - Articles may be edited for space and/or content.

May/June 2017

Dear Friends:

MAKE A GIFT THROUGH YOUR WILL, TRUST, RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS OR LIFE INSURANCE!

This or similar headlines scream at me from the back page—or front page—of every magazine I read—Nature Conservancy, Christian Century, Sierra, the Augsburg College magazine, Sojourners, etc. Good for them. Those are commendable organizations worth supporting.

In my totally unbiased opinion—well, maybe a little biased—Oak Grove belongs at the TOP of the list of organizations worth supporting with our annual giving *and with legacy gifts*, like wills, retirement accounts, charitable gift annuities, etc. You already know all the good work your dollars (well, God’s dollars, which you have shared with Oak Grove) are doing in the community and around the world.

Let me add two more reasons to make a legacy gift to Oak Grove. All the organizations I listed above have tens of thousands of financial supporters. Oak Grove has only the 500 or so members.

Second, we are in a Reformation time in the Church. This fall we will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. (Luther nailed his 95 theses to the church door at Wittenberg on October 31, 1517.) It seems that about every 500 years the Church goes through tremendous upheaval and change. We are certainly seeing that in the Christian church in the US today. As Oak Grove seeks to continue to be faithful to Jesus in the years and decades ahead it will be important to have strong financial undergirding so that we can remain authentic, creative, nimble and bold as we change and grow to meet the challenges ahead.

The Oak Grove Legacy Committee is eager to assist you in making a gift. Please contact the chairperson, Rod Myers, at 612-670-3886 (myersrod@comcast.net) or retired financial planner Jim Dutcher, 612-710-5791 (jjimdutcher33@gmail.com) or attorney David Hansen 651-402-9086 (dahansen57@gmail.com) for more information.

Faithfully,
Pastor Bill

Congregation News/Events

May-June 2017 Preaching & Lectionary Schedule

Preaching

May 7 Bill Chadwick
May 14 Bill Chadwick
May 21 Bill Chadwick
May 28 Jermaine Ross Allam
Jun 4 Mary Koon
Jun 11 Bill Chadwick
Jun 18 Bill Chadwick
Jun 25 Bill Chadwick

Lectionary

Acts 8:26-39 Ethiopian Eunuch baptized by Philip
Railroad Lessons Part 1
Railroad Lessons Part 2
Galatians 3:1-9 One in Christ
Acts 2:1-4 Pentecost

Upcoming Singles Events

(and anyone who would enjoy the fellowship)

- Friday, May 19**, 11:00 am. They will go to Minnehaha Falls (weather permitting) for a picnic lunch. Meet at church at 11:00 am to carpool. Call Jane Jacobson if you would like to attend (612-267-9068).
- Thursday, June 15**. They will go to Barb Nelson's lake cabin. Meet at the church at 9:30 am to carpool. Bring an item for a potluck lunch. They will return to the church between 5 and 6 pm. Call Jody Milton (952-831-7325) if you would like to attend or have questions.

Oak Grove Blood Drive is May 16.

Please say yes when you are called to donate. Blood drive opens at 1:00 pm and closes at 6:00 pm. Drop-ins are welcome. Contact Paul Schalekamp (952-888-1836 or Schalekamp@aol.com) with questions.

Please note:

The church office will be closed on Fridays, May 26 and June 2 due to Beth's vacation.

Financials

submitted by Sue Greimel, Treasurer

Through Mar 31	2017		Act vs Budg Fav/(Unfav)	2016 Actuals
	Actuals	Budget		
Income YTD	\$173,977	\$172,015	\$1,962	\$191,632
Expense YTD	\$167,756	\$192,642	\$24,886	\$162,158
Income – Exp	\$6,221	(\$20,627)	\$26,848	\$29,473

March income was up \$4,202 from the monthly budget, expenses were under by \$1,594 resulting in a \$3.8K monthly surplus, leaving us with a yearly surplus of \$6,221. This is \$26,848 better than expectations. Thank you!

Social Justice Committee Book Club — May 4 at 7:00 pm will be our last meeting for *A Good Time for the Truth*. On June 1 we will meet for our new book, *Waking up White* by Debby Irving. Books will be available at the meeting on May 4. The cost is \$12.75. At the May meeting, you will receive questions for assigned chapters (we suggest that you bring a notebook to keep track of your answers). The readers of this book will decide together how often we will meet. Marsha Babcock and Jermaine Ross Allam are presenters.

Help Needed with Marketplace Project

Marsha Pridgeon is making artistic pictures for the December 2017 Mission Marketplace and needs help to mat and frame them for sale. Please contact Marsha (320-630-4277 or Marsha.macy@yahoo.com if you are willing to help with this project.



Book 'em 2017

This is the 25th year of Book'em and the sale this year will be in the vacated Sports Authority store at 1150 W 78th St. Richfield (west of Best Buy). Drop-off at the site is open Wednesdays & Fridays from noon – 5:00 pm and Saturdays from 9 am – 1 pm. If you are unable to take donations to the site, we will have a box in the church hallway. We need gently used books, games, puzzles, CDs, records, DVDs, 2012 and newer software, video games and components. Sorry we cannot accept National Geographic magazines, video and cassette tapes and of course mildewed items.

Sale dates are Friday, June 2 (preview night for a fee) and Saturday, June 3 thru Saturday, June 17 for everyone. All monies raised are used in Bloomington for crime prevention. Thank you so much for your support in donating and buying. Contact Dorothy Beattie with questions (952-941-0742).



**Celebrating Audrey
St. Martin's 93rd birthday!**

Westminster Town Hall Forum,
Thursday, May 4 at Noon
Shaping a New Foreign Policy

Richard Haass is president of the Council on Foreign Relations and former advisor to Colin Powell and special assistant to George H. W. Bush. He is the author of the book *A World in Disarray*.

Westminster Presbyterian Church is at 12th St. & Marquette Ave, in Minneapolis. Parking is available in the area lots. Town Hall Forum presentations are free and open to the public.

Join us for the 2017 Race for the Cure!!
submitted by Sue Greimel

Sunday, May 14, 7:30AM at Southdale. Register at: <https://www.crowdrise.com/TwinCitiesRaceForTheCure2017>. Make sure to select the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church (Greimel) team!! T-shirts and goodie bags will be delivered to Oak Grove on Saturday, May 13. If you're interested in carpooling, please let Sue know.

Contact Sue Greimel with questions (sgreimel@comcast.net; 612-805-2896). If you can't join us, but want to donate, go to: <https://www.crowdrise.com/OakGrovePresbyterianChurch>

**Clearwater
Spring Work Day
Saturday, May 20,
10 am - 4 pm**



**Clearwater Forest
Scholarship Fund!**

submitted by Don Alman

WE NEED YOU! Winter is always a challenge to our facilities, trails, and grounds. You'll get FREE lunch for helping out. From raking leaves, cleaning cabins, picking up downed branches, cleaning windows, sorting crafts, pulling out the boats to more skilled projects which include building a screened in porch on the Hermitage and painting the Grouse Circle bathroom, there is a project for all skill levels and groups. If you are not able to make the work day, but are interested in supporting our ministry through work projects, please contact Rich Swartwood at 218-678-2325 or rich@clearwaterforest.org. There are always projects to be worked on! **SIGN UP TODAY!** (<https://clearwaterforest.z2systems.com/np/clients/clearwaterforest/eventRegistration.jsp?event=2>)

On June 10, 2017, Don Alman will participate in the **15th Annual Lake-2-Lake 50-Mile Bike Tour** to raise money for the scholarship fund. The past thirteen years Don has raised over \$28,700. If you would like to sponsor him this year, please talk to him at church or phone 952-888-4083.

Twin Cities Bronze in Concert, June 4 at Oak Grove



Twin Cities Bronze is a performing ensemble specializing in the music and art of English handbells. Selected by annual audition, this ensemble of advanced ringers hails from the metropolitan area of Minneapolis/St. Paul. One of our Oak Grove members, Andrew Hess, is a member of this handbell choir. They will perform their Puerto Rico Tour send-off Concert at Oak Grove on **Sunday, June 4 at 4:00 pm**. Tickets are \$15 (\$5 for students). Come experience a cultural exchange with Puerto Rico without leaving the Twin Cities! Take a virtual vacation with a program of music from around the world including the debut of their commissioned work, "Acangana," by Puerto Rico composer, William Ortiz. They are directed by Amy Maakestad.

MS 150 – June 9-11, 2016

submitted by Chad Acker

Chad would like your support in fundraising efforts for MS. Your tax-deductible contribution will help the National MS Society fund groundbreaking research and life-changing programs for people living with MS. And ultimately, end MS forever. Donations are accepted online at http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Bike/MNMBikeEvents?px=14945909&pg=personal&fr_id=27006 or by checks made payable to the National MS Society and given to Chad. Please contact Chad Acker at 952-237-2142 or c_r_acker@yahoo.com if you have any questions or would like to help. Thank you so much for your support!

The **Defibrillator class** will be October 21, 2017. If you are interested in attending this class, please contact Holly Mae Dredge at 952-831-5854.

Adult Faith Formation Sundays in May

- May 7 Threats to the Birds & Bees – Birds.** Don Arnosti, Conservation Director Minnesota Izaak Walton and former Policy Director Minnesota Audubon presents the Audubon Society's exhaustive study on bird extinction in North America. The study examines the inability of birds to adapt to rapid climate change and its devastating impact on habitats and ranges. The study and interactive guide are available online.
- May 14 Threats to the Birds & Bees – Bees & Butterflies.** Paul Erdmann, Commissioner in Bloomington's Sustainability Commission, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and Secretary of the Bush Lake Izaak Walton Chapter talks about severe threats to bees, butterflies and other pollinators in North America. He will focus on the toxic role of chemicals and the general refusal of the ag industry to curtail or limit use. He will also talk about the native plant restoration projects in the area and help you adapt landscaping to help pollinators.
- May 21 Gordon Stewart - The gnat's supremacy's as large as thine:** Faith beyond very exceptionalism. *Be Still! Departure from Collective Madness* is a new book of essays by frequent MPR contributor and newly-retired Presbyterian pastor, Gordon Stewart. It echoes the call of the Navajo sage and the psalmist who invited their hearers to stop—"If we keep going this way, we're going to get where we're going"—and be still—"Be still, and know..." Like pictures in a photo album taken from a unique lens, these essays zoom in on singular moments of time where the world is making headlines, drawing attention to the sin of exceptionalism in its national, racial, religious, cultural, and species manifestations. Gordon will be here to share some essays and sign books.

Children's Ministry



Invite your friends to join us for **Vacation Bible School** for 3 years through 5th grade--9:00 am-Noon !!! We will explore "HERO" qualities – courage, integrity, responsibility, empathy, and patience !!! We will have drama, science, creative arts, music and

more!! Contact Mary (mkoon@oakgrv.org) or Karen (bkgerdes@comcast.net) with questions.



May/June Nursery Volunteers

- May 7** Jeanine Radtke/Marlene Teien
- May 14** Jim Koon/Chris & Karen Diller
- May 21** Sharon Fields/Nancy Kachel
- May 28** Laura & Eugene Orr/Cindy St. Martin
- Jun 4** Bev Bliss/Seth & Allison Thomas

- Jun 11** Leslie Jones/Marlene Teien
- Jun 18** J & B McKinnon/Jeanine Radtke
- Jun 25** Katie Krentz/Laura & Eugene Orr

May/June Birthdays

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

*Important birthday (1-21) ** Significant birthday (85+)



May

- 1 Davis Radtke*14; Leo Thomas*3
- 2 Gary Meier; Gene Morris**89; Nola Norris*8; Katie Wasko
- 3 Ben St. Martin
- 4 Jim Carroll; Barbara Johnson
- 5 Miriam Ebeling; Sarah Olson
- 6 Halcyon Hursh**98; Mark Pridgeon; Travis Scott
- 8 Derril Shantz**88
- 9 Marilyn Hardin**89; Linda Johnson
- 10 Kyler Petchell*7
- 11 Nancy Scott
- 12 Anji Chadwick*21
- 13 Gene Dodge; Diane McNutt; Andy Nail
- 14 Christina Persaud*14
- 15 Luella DeBono**97; Gloria Fretheim**93; Kent Randol**88
- 16 Sharlene Glausser; Jeanne Wahtera
- 17 Chad Acker; Erik Olson; Abby Propsom*20; Paul Wasko
- 18 Sarah Elbert; Sue LaPointe
- 19 Sue Cavanaugh; Michelle Gray; Janet Shannon
- 22 Charlie Schuchman*10
- 23 Kaitlin Krentz
- 24 Cassie Acker*12; Catherine Randol**86
- 25 Malorie Holloway*19; Madeleine Elbert*10
- 27 Jermaine Ross Allam
- 28 Lily Siegel*12
- 29 Eileen Blake**92
- 30 Aubri Petchell*3
- 31 Sue Lang; Arne Johnson

June

- 2 Al Netten
- 3 Bing Solomon; Mary Sullivan**87
- 4 Gar Nordin
- 5 Belle Sheff*11
- 6 Kelly Nail
- 7 Joyce Shantz**89
- 8 Andrew McNutt*21; Paul Schalekamp; Bob Sorensen; Yvonne Wentz
- 9 Daniel Hendrickson*13; Mary Hendrickson*13
- 12 Laretta Racer**92
- 13 Nancy Augustson**87; Judy Gentry; Angela Romeo**87
- 14 Carol Bayert; Karen Lignell
- 16 Jackie Steskal*11
- 17 Micaela Johnson*18; Judy Kocher; Amy Zsohar
- 18 Elizabeth Alonzi*21; Ron Dubis
- 20 Larie Ann Schmidt
- 21 Marikay Wolf
- 23 Mark Longrie
- 25 Jacques Chasse; Sarah E. Olson; Becky Paape; Joe Tighe; Janice Ahlquist
- 26 Samuel Radtke*11
- 27 John Anderson; Whitney Petchell*1; Al Greimel; Patty Nail; Rory Scott; Russ Snyder
- 28 Scott Bliss; Tedo Philip*13; Amber Reed*20; Betty Rogers
- 29 Gracelyn Decknatel*2; Connie Johnson; Allison Thomas
- 30 Diane Baumgartner; Will Snyder*16; Marlene Teien

Condolences to family and friends of:

Donald Hop, Al Netten's brother-in-law, died March 21.

Mary Crow, died April 14.

Thank You, Oak Grove

My Oak Grove Family, I thank you for all the birthday wishes I received from you and also prayers, cards, food and visits after my surgery and recovery. God bless you for your kindness. *Verona Stoesz*

Congratulations!

June Leone Sorensen was born April 11 to Andrew & Kimberly Sorensen. Proud great-grandparents are **Bob & Dorothy Sorensen!**

Nora May Kelly was born April 13 to Elise & Sean Kelly. Proud big sister is Harriet.

For People in the Midst of War

(This prayer was forwarded to us by our presbytery's executive, Jeff Japinga.)

O God, you have loved each of us since before we were born, and you love each of us in equal and abundant measure. Yet we sometimes choose not to see ourselves in one another. We sometimes choose to live as though we were not the brothers and sisters we know ourselves to be.

Pour your blessings upon all your people in every nation, especially in Syria, South Sudan, Iraq, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Burundi ...for whom we pray today, whatever their faith or ethnicity. Preserve their lives, deliver them from the terror of war, and, when this is over, guide them in the way of reconciliation and peace. Bring them a deepening sense of their oneness in the human family, that those things that unite your people may be seen and felt as greater than anything that can ever divide us. Amen.

—Barbara Cawthorne Crafton in *Women's Uncommon Prayers: Our Lives Revealed, Nurtured, Celebrated*, edited by Elizabeth Rankin Geitz, Marjorie A. Burke, and Ann Smith

Contributors Still Needed on Presbytery Committees

"We fearlessly follow the Holy Spirit
into a changing world."



The Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area will elect its new officers and members of presbytery committees at its annual meeting on Tuesday, May 9. There are still opportunities for participation on most presbytery committees, and include key needs for the Board of Trustees (finance or legal experience) and the Committee on Ministry (especially ruling elders). Also needed is a Young Adult Advisory Delegate, age 17-23, to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

Presbytery committees hold an important role in supporting the life and health of the congregations of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area. Bring your skill and passion to the table. Contribute to our shared ministry. If you are interested, contact Manley Olson at 651.644.2848 or manleyolson@gmail.com.



Grief Support Coalition
Thursdays April 6 – May 25,
4:30-6:00 p.m.
Oak Grove Lutheran Church
7045 Lyndale Ave S, Richfield

Date	Topic
May 4	<i>Will I Always Feel This Way? Surviving The First Year</i>
May 11	<i>The Greatest of These is Love: Cherishing What Remains</i>
May 18	<i>Where Are We Now?</i>
May 25	SERVICE OF HEALING

**Loaves &
Fishes
Oak Grovers
at work**

