

Oak Leaves



A Publication of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Bloomington, Minnesota

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

November 2017

Dear Friends:

This is Thanksgiving month. (Actually, I try to live my life as if every month and every day is THANKSGIVING.) I am so grateful for so many things related to our ministry together as the Oak Grove community. I shared a number of those last month, so I won't make another list. There are always so many opportunities for fun and service. As you know, Mary Koon is constantly bubbling up with new ideas and Nathan Hirsh is matching her output. Suffice it to say, I am never bored.

Just in worship this month we have the following lineup:

November 5 **All Saints Sunday** as we remember and honor those who have entered the Church Triumphant. Also that day we will **dedicate financial pledges**. Your faithfulness undergirds all we will be able to do (or not do) in 2018. I can't wait to see how God has moved in your hearts and therefore the ministry possibilities for which we can say "yes." Following worship we will hold the **Golden Harvest Dinner** for our members who are doing 80+ and for Friend-to-Friend teams. Always a true highlight of the year!

November 12 **Recognition of Veterans** (Veterans or widows/widowers of veterans, please bring a labelled photo of yourself/spouse in uniform to the church office by November 8 so we can display them in the sanctuary.)

That afternoon will be the **"chartering" of our sister church, Chain of Lakes**, in Blaine (see p 9 for more info).

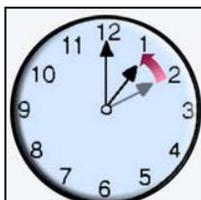
November 19, **Pulpit Exchange** with Chain of Lakes pastor Paul Moore preaching here and Oak Grove Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director Nathan Hirsh preaching there.

Wednesday, November 22, 7:15 PM, **Thanksgiving Eve Joint Worship Service** with our sister church, Presbyterian Church of Apostles (at Oak Grove).

Sunday, November 26, Thanksgiving Sunday, our first chance to hear **Nathan Hirsh preach**.

I've been so grateful for the enthusiastic response of so many of you in the **Discipleship 101 Class**. Remember, each class is designed to stand alone, so please come even if you haven't been before. (Wednesdays from 6:15 to 7:15 PM, supper at 5:45.) And bring a friend, even (or especially!) if he/she is not from Oak Grove. This is really "Bible for Dummies," so don't feel embarrassed if your biblical background is weak or non-existent.

Thankfully, Pastor Bill



Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday, November 5. Remember to set your clocks back one hour (for example, change 11:00 pm to 10:00 pm) before you go to bed!

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Website: www.oakgrv.org

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
8:30 am—5:00 pm
Friday—8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Oak Grove Staff

Ministers: **the 515 members**

Pastor **Bill Chadwick**
bchadwick@oakgrv.org

Assoc. Pastor
Mary Koon
mkoon@oakgrv.org

Director, Youth & Young Adults
Nathan Hirsh
nhirsh@oakgrv.org

Director of Music:
Judy Cooper
jcooper@oakgrv.org

Office Administrator:
Beth Angerhofer
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Financial Secretary:
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Organist: **Nancy Hauser**

Treasurer: **Sue Greimel**
sgreimel@comcast.net

Clerk of Session:
Connie Nesbitt
clerkofsession@oakgrv.org

Child Care Provider:
Lacey Jones

Part-time Custodians: **Tim Dubis**
MartinAlan Smith

Parish Associates

Deb DeMeester
DeMeesterD@aol.com

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Mary Pol
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Umo Udo
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Janet Shannon
janshannon1@comcast.net

The Deacons' Bench – Did You Know? The Deacons' Transportation Ministry provides rides for our members (mostly for medical appointments or treatments). An email group matches a volunteer driver with a requested ride. Drivers who can provide a ride simply "reply to all" to communicate their ability to help. If you find that you need to request a ride, simply phone the church office (952-888-4621) and Beth will begin the email communication. If you would like to add your name to the drivers' list, contact Rory Scott at roytscott@yahoo.com, or leave a note in his church mailbox.

The Deacons' Health Ministry is experiencing a shortage in their supply of medical aids available to the congregation for borrowing. Specifically, there is a need for wheelchairs, commodes with arms for extra support, and walkers. If you have items you would like to donate to this ministry, please contact the church office or Marikay Wolf (mwolfhome@comcast.net). Thank you!

The Third Annual Golden Harvest Dinner takes place Sunday, November 5, immediately following the 10:45 am service (remember to set your clocks back an hour Saturday night, Nov. 4!) This dinner is a celebration for our members who are 80+ years young by the end of this year and for Friend to Friend pairs. Hosted by Deacons; assisted by Elders.

Upcoming All-Church and Group Events

Adult Events

Thursday, Nov 2, 2:00 pm, Caregivers' Tea and Respite Care — for all caregivers and their loved one(s) to share experiences and have a small time of respite.

Tuesday, Nov 7, Noon, Burger 'n' Brew Men's Fellowship at Zeke's. Bring someone who is not able to drive and share in fellowship with others. No need to RSVP!

Thursday, Nov 16, 11:00 am, Lunch Bunch Respite Care. Bring your loved one and give yourself a little break to run errands or enjoy coffee with a friend.

Mature Singles (*and any mature adults who enjoy fellowship*):

Monday, Nov 13, 5:00 pm we will meet at Zeke's for dinner and fellowship. No need to call, just show up and enjoy!

Looking ahead: **Friday, December 1, 2:30-5:15 pm, Donate & Do at VEAP**
Bring a donation and help stock shelves at VEAP. We will go out to eat afterwards. Call Jane Jacobson at 612-267-9068 if you're interested.

2017 Per Capita is \$33.75
2018 Per Capita is \$34.50



Join us Wednesday, November 22 at 7:15pm for Thanksgiving worship at Oak Grove. This is a joint event with Presbyterian Church of the Apostles. After worship we will continue with fellowship and refreshments.

We need pies for our fellowship gathering after the service. If you are willing to donate pies, please contact Ruth Dukelow at ruth.dukelow@gmail.com to let her know how many pies you are planning to bring. All flavors are welcome!



Help decorate the church for Christmas!

You have the opportunity to help decorate the church by donating money in honor of, in memory of or in celebration of a special event. Your contributions allow us to provide flowers and greens for the sanctuary with the remaining donations going to VEAP. Sign up on Sundays, November 26, December 3 and 10.

While you're at it, order chancel flowers for Sundays in 2018!
If there is a particular Sunday you prefer,
call Penny Nesbitt at 952 941-6166.



Come to the Cabaret, Saturday, November 11, 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Musicians from Oak Grove will present an evening of music from Broadway. Chancel Choir, along with soloists, small groups, and instrumentalists will entertain you with familiar and new songs from Broadway musicals.

Following the performance, please enjoy some food and beverage in Gideon Pond hall. No tickets are needed. However, donations will help the youth mission trip to Guatemala next summer. Please come to support and enjoy the talented folks we have here at Oak Grove!! Contact Judy Cooper (jcooper@oakgrv.org) with questions!

MISSION GIFT FAIR is fast approaching. December will be here before we know it. We will continue to support the Presbyterian Mission Agency by offering you an opportunity to purchase animals, tools, clean water and other items that will make an impact on those in need. In addition, you will still be able to purchase SHE Project items from Pakistan, coffee, olive oil, give to KIVA and other items that we might be able to offer you. And of course, we will have auction items for you to purchase as gifts for family and friends.

How can you help? We are putting a call out now for you crafters, woodworkers, quilters, knitters, canners, and bakers to think about what you can do to help this event's success. Make wooden children's toys, quilt, sew, paint a picture, provide a service; the list goes on and on. We want to build our inventory of wonderful auction offerings. Think about what you can contribute. If you have ideas or suggestions to share, please contact Sharon Nolte at 952-884-1014.



**Attention
Loaves and
Fishes
Volunteers!**

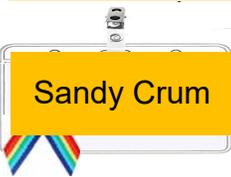


Loaves and Fishes for November 10 has been canceled due to closure of Creekside Community Center.

Fun in the GaGa Pit!



Thanks to Oak Grove for supporting the 2017 South of the River CROP Walk! With the Waffle Breakfast proceeds, Mission and individual contributions, we raised over \$1,000 – 3rd among all ten congregations! Huge thanks to Bob & Karen Gerdes, Sue Greimel, Mary Koon, Carol Long, & Vaughn Sheff as they joined 110 walkers on a beautiful October day for a 4-mile walk to stamp out hunger! Preliminary walk total: \$11,128!!



Nametags — The Friendship Committee would like to remind you of the goldenrod nametags that some of our worshippers wear. These are provided by request and are worn until the worshipper decides to join Oak Grove. Please remember to warmly greet those who are wearing these name tags.

Also, have you noticed the rainbow ribbons that some have on their name tags? This indicates that the individual is a member of Rainbow Fellowship, a group at our church for GLBTQ members (and their supporters). If you would like a ribbon added to your tag, please ask at the Welcome Table (under the information screen).

Creative People! Come and Join the Creative Hands Across the River Crafters

No matter what your interest, bring your projects and join our friendly monthly meetings alternating between Oak Grove and the Presbyterian Church of the Apostles (PCA — 701 E. 130th St, Burnsville). On November 11 from 9:00—Noon, we will meet at Oak Grove. It is a fun way to get to know folks from PCA & Oak Grove and to get some work done on your crafting projects. Plus, we have treats!

November 11 - Oak Grove

December 9 - Church of the Apostles

January - no meeting because of
Women's Retreat

February 3 - Church of the Apostles

March 3 - Oak Grove

April 7 - Church of the Apostles

May 5 - Oak Grove

Questions? Contact Yvonne Dodge
yvonedodge@hotmail.com (Oak Grove)
or Dawn Baddeley dawnrn90@comcast.net (PCA)
A partnership activity between PCA and OGPC.

Presbyterian Women (PW) have two study circles that meet from September to June – **Evening Star Circle** meets Tuesday evening, November 7 at 7 pm (contact Connie Nesbitt, 952-935-3810); and **Goodrich-Nord Circle** meets Wednesday, November 9 at 9 am (contact Joan Stanko, (952-888-7577)). Both circles meet at the church. All women of the church are welcome to join a circle.

Adult Faith Formation 2017 – 2018 - LOVE GROWS HERE

Love is from God. Love is of God. God is love. As we learn more about God as revealed in scripture, and more about the world around us, we pray that the spirit will open our hearts to greater possibilities to share love in this place and time.

Sundays in November

Nov 5 Green Team, “Racing Extinction,” Part 2- Join the Green Team to view the second part of this important film and discussion about how we can make small implementations that will help prevent further climate change.

Nov 12 Join the Social Justice team for a panel discussion on becoming a Sanctuary Church. Social Justice is currently gathering information on the process of Sanctuary -- What is it? How might it happen? When and how does it happen? Is God calling Oak Grove to become a Sanctuary or Sanctuary supporting church?

Nov 19 Immigration 101 with Bill Davnie, M. Div. Bill, the recently retired clerk of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, will present the basics on immigration in our world today. Bill is an interesting and dynamic speaker, with a wealth of knowledge and wisdom to share.

Nov 26 – Oak Grove Christmas traditions – open mic. Join us in the social hall for a “show and tell” about Christmas Traditions at your home and in your family. This is a relaxed conversation just as we begin Advent.

Wednesdays in November continue the Discipleship 101 series.

11/22 – OG hosts **Thanksgiving Eve service/fellowship** with Presbyterian Church of the Apostles.

The Children’s Ministry curriculum this year for both Wednesday and Sunday is “Love in a Big World: Building Character and Hope in Kids.” Through scripture, good children’s literature, service and activity, we’ll explore themes of love, humility, fairness, organization, responsibility and more.

Dates to remember:

Sunday, November 5 – **Gift Making for Mission** for the Alternative Market at 9:30 am

Wednesday, November 8 – **Acolyte Training** after Children’s Choir

Tuesday, November 14 – 3:00PM – **Candle-making** begins—social hall

Wednesday, November 29 – **Wreath-making and candle dipping**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – DECEMBER 10—10:45 SERVICE

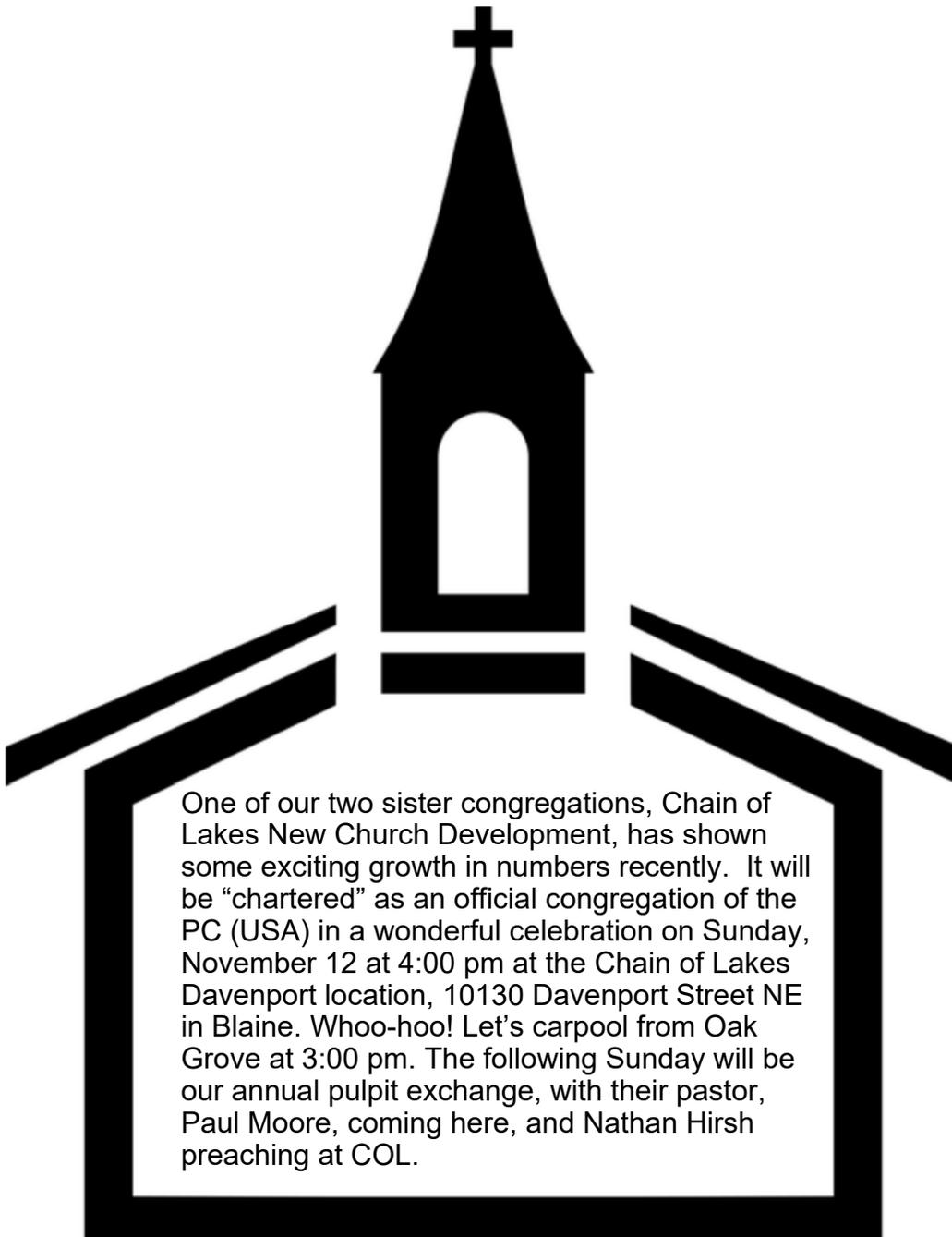
Rehearsals - Saturday, November 29 (before wreath making),
Wednesday, December 6 during WoW! Program
Saturday December 9 – 9:30 am

Saturday, December 9 following pageant practice — **Parent’s Day Out** until noon.

As always, we need volunteers to make many of these events happen. If you are not currently helping with children’s programming, but would be willing to help with a one time event, please contact Mary Koon at 952-888-4621 or mkoon@oakgrv.org.

Deb Demeester receives Emmy Award for the Convenings

Winning an Emmy was never on Deb DeMeester's bucket list but the Director of Leadership Development for the Synod of Lakes and Prairies received the Governors Award Emmy on Oct. 7 for her volunteer work with the Convenings. The National Academy of Television Arts & Science - Upper Midwest Chapter Board of Governors Award is the most prestigious Regional Emmy Award in the Midwest chapter. It honors visionary, long-standing relationships that creatively and effectively use corporate, non-profit and broadcast resources to showcase the power of broadcasting to advance a mission or message. The Convenings is a multi-year effort to help Minnesotans talk about late-life planning and living as fully as possible until the end of life. The complete story is at "[Winning an Emmy](http://files.constantcontact.com/17207f49001/c35c5e61-ad98-425f-be4c-dde7b06c2389.pdf)" (<http://files.constantcontact.com/17207f49001/c35c5e61-ad98-425f-be4c-dde7b06c2389.pdf>).



One of our two sister congregations, Chain of Lakes New Church Development, has shown some exciting growth in numbers recently. It will be "chartered" as an official congregation of the PC (USA) in a wonderful celebration on Sunday, November 12 at 4:00 pm at the Chain of Lakes Davenport location, 10130 Davenport Street NE in Blaine. Whoo-hoo! Let's carpool from Oak Grove at 3:00 pm. The following Sunday will be our annual pulpit exchange, with their pastor, Paul Moore, coming here, and Nathan Hirsh preaching at COL.

November 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+)



2	Sonya Butler, Alice Hawks, Bob Heise	17	Carol Wanless; Shawn Wimberly
3	Betsy Marvin	18	Terrie Hall; Randy Johnson; Gary Rossow
5	Marilyn Eidem; Cassie Snyder; David Wilkens*15	20	Julie Andert; Liam Sowers*8
6	Andrew Paape*13	21	Lila Netten; Mitzi Pickard**92
8	Makree Cham*3	22	Ella Snyder*20
9	Carol Long	23	Adam Wilkens
10	Evan Wilkens*13	26	Gus Gillies*9
12	Kathy Hansen	27	Phil Hall**86
13	Karyn Arazi; Bud Burnes**88	28	LeRoy Horn; Natalie Myers*10
14	Bev Carroll; Paige Ferguson; Elise Kelly	29	Jan Carter; Maxine Engberg**92; Isabelle Wideman**94
15	Brayton Montcho*1; Barb Skogland	30	Dick Fields; Jeanne Goodwin
16	Dan Olson; Frank Uvodich		

Financials

submitted by Treasurer, Sue Greimel

Through Sept 30	2017		Act vs Budg	2016
	Actuals	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actuals
Income YTD	\$488,481	\$509,694	(\$21,213)	\$512,775
Expense YTD	\$517,815	\$568,892	\$51,077	\$512,003
Income – Exp	(\$29,334)	(\$59,198)	\$29,864	\$772

Thanks to everyone for keeping current with pledges – we're within 2.6% of expectations! And with the program year in full swing, we're hoping to improve on that :o). While overall Income is down, so are our expenses, which means we're still doing better than our plan. If that continues through year-end, we'll require less of our operating reserve to cover the deficit – great news!

Thanks, Condolences & Congratulations!

Thank You, Oak Grove

Thank you to Pastors Bill and Mary and to all who have sent cards and phoned during Kent's illness following surgery.
Kent & Catherine Randol

Many, many thanks to Pastors Bill and Mary, the choir, Oak Grove family and friends, for the prayers, visits, cards and calls during my surgeries. I am so proud to be a part of a very loving and caring church community.
Karolyn Lee

A heartfelt thank you to the Oak Grove congregation for your kind words of concern and sympathy at the passing of our mom, Gaella Pederson. We especially thank Bill and Mary for their tender, loving visits and prayers with mom and with the family as we planned her service; Nancy and the choir for the beautiful music, and all those who helped in organizing, ushering, doing sound, preparing food, serving and cleaning up. Mom came to most music events and many special services here and loved and commented on how friendly people were to her . . . especially those who sat near and helped her! THANK YOU!!
Judy Cooper, Sonya Butler, Tom Pederson and all the family

Condolences to family and friends of:

Donna Castle died September 26.
Gaella Pederson, mother of Sonya Butler and Judy Cooper, died October 10.

Congratulations!

Everly Louise Mee was born September 7 to Anne (Greimel) & Mike Mee. Proud grandparents are Sue & Al Greimel.

Grief Support Coalition

Thursdays thru November 16, 2017,
 4:30-6:00 p.m.

St. Edward's Catholic Church,
 9401 Nesbitt Ave. S., Bloomington MN
 952-835-7101 Stedwardschurch.org

Date	Topic
Nov 2	<i>Grief & Family Systems</i>
Nov 9	<i>Grief: Who Gets Me Through</i>
Nov 16	<i>A Time of Remembrance</i>

**SAVE THE DATE----
 WOMENS RETREAT**

January 12, 13 & 14, 2018
 (ML King, Jr. Weekend)

"NURTURING YOUR CREATIVE SOUL"

Creativity is God's gift to us.
 Using our creativity is our gift back to God.

Contact Karen Gerdes with questions
 (bkgerdes@comcast.net)

**Westminster Town Hall Forum,
 Tuesday, November 28, Noon
 Crime and Punishment in Black America**

Author of the book *Locking Up Our Own*. Founder of the Maya Angelou Public Charter School serving incarcerated and at-risk youth. Professor of law at Yale Law School.

Westminster's Town Hall Forum is free and open to all.
 Westminster Presbyterian Church is at Marquette Ave & 12th St., Minneapolis.
 Parking ramps are located near the church.

Building and Operation Committee News

Over the past several years the Building and Operations and Green Committees have worked together to reduce electricity and natural gas use to cool and heat our building. Our 8 HVAC units located on the roof of the building cool and heat our building. Recently, we've had more upkeep cost with our 16-year-old units. Industry standards indicate a 15- to 18-year lifespan of this type of unit.



In August we paid for a due diligence report to examine the current condition of our old HVAC units. The report indicated that 4 of the 8 units had major repair needs and the other 4 need minor repairs. The two committees began discussions about replacement versus repairing our current units. With Oak Grove's commitment to reduce our carbon footprint we decided to replace our older HVAC units with much more efficient units currently available. Three different companies presented bids for the replacement project. The newer units also have considerable rebates available for the ultra high efficiency HVAC units.

On October 10 we finalized the contract with Altemp Mechanical to replace all 8 HVAC units with ultra high efficiency units. Altemp needs 4 weeks to have the units assembled to Oak Grove's specifications and make pre-installation adjustments. Installation of equipment, testing and calibration will happen November 13 to 18. All work will be completed by Thanksgiving.

Thanks for your patience. Altemp Mechanical did a great job of blending our desire to get the highest efficiency replacement units and the realities of the fall heating season and other construction constraints. We are confident that we are receiving excellent service and the latest in high efficiency air conditioning and heating products.

The final cost after rebates will be approximately \$85,000. We will pay for this out of a special fund for building maintenance and repair that was set up through a very generous gift from one of Oak Grove's members. We are so blessed!



2017 Woodcutting Weekend at Clearwater Forest

