

LOVING GOD...

CHANGING LIVES

# Oak Leaves



A Publication of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Bloomington, Minnesota

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From Pastor Mary/ Friendship Fair Back Cover

**Insert:**

- WOW Calendar

## Worship Opportunities in March

### Lenten Wednesdays through March 21

We offer quiet worship, beginning at 6:30 pm and concluding no later than 7:15 pm. We will use *The Book of Forgiving* by Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho Tutu, as foundation for the homily time.



### Holy Week



**March 25** worship is at 8:15 and 10:45. ALL are invited to the brunch between services served by the Board of Deacons.

There will be no Wednesday worship on March 28.

**March 29, 6:00 pm** for Soup and Communion Service



**March 30, 8:00 pm** for a Tenebrae Service.

### April 1, Easter Sunday services are:

- **6:45 am Sunrise service with communion at Bloomington Cemetery** (104th St. and Lyndale Ave.)
- **8:15 and 10:45 am worship at the church** to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord



The Children (through 5th grade) will have an **Easter Egg Hunt** at 10:00 am.

Deadline for the April 2018 Oak Leaves is March 15 - Articles may be edited for space and/or content.

### Vote for Your Favorite Hymns During Lent Madness!

We're closing in on the final showdown for the coveted title of 2018 Favorite Hymn! Cast your ballots each week to determine which hymns move ahead in the tournament brackets. The winning hymn will be announced and sung on Easter Sunday. For details, see Oak Grove's website: <http://www.oakgrv.org/2018/01/31/lent-madness-hymn-tournament/>



March 2018

**OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN**  
2200 W. Old Shakopee Road  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
**Phone** (952) 888-4621 **Fax** (952) 888-2523  
**E-mail:** [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org)  
**Website:** [www.oakgrv.org](http://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 502 members**

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

Assoc. Pastor  
**Mary Koon**  
[mkoon@oakgrv.org](mailto:mkoon@oakgrv.org)

Director, Youth & Young Adults  
**Nathan Hirsh**  
[nhirsh@oakgrv.org](mailto:nhirsh@oakgrv.org)

Director of Music:  
**Judy Cooper**  
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Financial Secretary:  
**Meghan Dooley**  
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Organist: **Nancy Hauser**

Treasurer: **Sue Greimel**  
[sgreimel@comcast.net](mailto:sgreimel@comcast.net)

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

Child Care Provider:  
**Lacey Jones**

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

**Parish Associates**

**Deb DeMeester**  
[DeMeesterD@aol.com](mailto:DeMeesterD@aol.com)

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**Umo Udo**  
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**Janet Shannon**  
[janshannon1@comcast.net](mailto:janshannon1@comcast.net)

**2018 Per Capita is \$34.50**

**New Member Inquiry Class**  
**April 8 Noon – 2:00 pm** (lunch and nursery provided)  
**April 15 9:15** meet with Session and join during second service.  
For more info, contact Sandy Crum (952-888-2114 or [skcrum@centurylink.net](mailto:skcrum@centurylink.net))

**Oak Grove's Spring Musical, *Bible Folk***

Come enjoy our talented singers in a performance of ***Bible Folk***. The musical is a group of songs, each about a different Biblical character. These characters, much like us, laughed and cried, were afraid and were strong. Through music we will tell their stories. Their faults, deeds, lives and faith are living examples for all of us.



Performances are **Saturday, March 17 at 3:00 p.m.** and **Sunday, March 18 at the 10:45 am worship service.** No tickets are needed.

Please invite some friends to come with you and enjoy this inspiring musical!

**Sign up for Easter Flowers**

We will have sign-ups in the narthex on March 4, 11, 18 and 25 to donate to the Easter flower fund in honor of or in memory of a person or event. These donations will be used for Easter flowers for the sanctuary with the remainder of the donations going to VEAP. At the same time, you can also order chancel flowers for the Sundays that flowers are still needed for this year. Our goal is to have two arrangements each Sunday. If there is a particular Sunday you would prefer, call Penny Nesbitt at 952-941-6166.



## Upcoming Group Events

**Thursday, Mar 1, 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.

**Saturday, March 10, 5:00 pm, Re-Emergence of the Oak Rovers** (senior adults who enjoy fellowship). Yes! It's finally happening. We're going to have a pizza/card party at Applewood Pointe- party room (8341 Lyndale Ave S, Bloomington). We'll begin at 5 pm and play cards from 7-9 pm. (play for prizes!). Cost is \$10.00. Sign up at church on Sundays, Feb 25 and Mar 4. Contact Don Wagner with questions ([doje65@netzero.net](mailto:doje65@netzero.net); 952-831-4460).

**Tuesday, Mar 6, 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!

**Monday, Mar 12, 5:00 pm, Singles** (and any adults who enjoy fellowship) will meet at Zeke's for dinner and fellowship. No need to call, just show up and enjoy!

**Thursday, Mar 15, 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.

**Thursday, Mar 22, 11:00 am Singles will go to Bachman's** for lunch and to enjoy the flowers. Meet at church at 11:00 AM to carpool. Please call Jane Jacobson (612-267-9068) if you're interested and if you will be carpooling.

**Monday, Mar 26, 6:30 pm Men's Mentor Group** will meet at Willie McCoy's for dinner prior to the 8:00 pm meeting at the church.



**Men's Mentor Group dinner at Willie McCoy's**

## Easter Orchestra

It's time to get your instruments out and warm up a little so the orchestra can play both services (8:15 and 10:45) Easter Sunday. Two rehearsals – Saturday, March 24 and Saturday, March 31 at 10:00 am at the church. Please let Judy Cooper know if you can join in so she can get folders ready for you. Any questions? Contact Judy Cooper ([jccoper@oakgrv.org](mailto:jccoper@oakgrv.org); 952-250-9226).



**Presbyterian Women (PW)** have two study circles that meet from September to June. **Evening Star Circle** (contact Connie Nesbitt, 952-935-3810) meets Tuesday evening, March 6 at 7 pm at the church; and **Goodrich-Nord Circle** (contact Joan Stanko, 952-888-7577) meets Wednesday, March 14 at 8:45 am for Bible study and fellowship. All women of the church are welcome to join a circle.

**Next Coordinating Team Meeting** will be Monday, March 5, at 1:30 pm at the church. All women who are members of the church are welcome to attend.

**LOAVES AND FISHES**

2nd Thursday and  
Friday of each month.

Contact  
Pamara & Bob Ritter at  
aylabam2@comcast.net



## News from the Session

The Nominating Committee is accepting suggestions from the congregation for members you would like us to consider for the Class of 2021 Elders and Deacons. To submit yourself or another name for consideration, please choose one of these options:

- **Survey Link:** Click on or type in the survey link below on your computer to nominate someone – you will see Oak Grove in the form. <https://goo.gl/i2dfTN>
- **QR Code:** Follow instructions to use the QR code below with your mobile phone to take the survey. You will need a QR Code Reader app on your phone. These are typically free via the Apple and Android App Stores.
  - Open the QR Code reader on your phone.
  - Hold your device over a QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your smartphone's screen.
  - Most devices automatically scan the code and load the link. You may need to press a button to "take a picture."
- **Paper Form:** We also have paper forms for nomination at church in the coming weeks. You can turn one into the church office or put in the offering plate.

Contact Eugene Orr (deugeneorr@gmail.com) with questions.



## Westminster Town Hall Forum presents SUZY HANSEN

Thursday, March 22, Noon, **An American Abroad in a Post-American World**

Journalist and editor living in Istanbul and writing on Turkish politics and foreign affairs. Author of *Notes on a Foreign Country: An American Abroad in a Post-American World*.



Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Mall & 12th Street, Minneapolis.  
[westminsterforum.org](http://westminsterforum.org). Parking is available in nearby ramps.

### Why is coffee in the Narthex?

The coffee, tea, and cookie table has been moved to the Narthex because the Friendship Committee and staff feel that it is more welcoming and less intimidating for visitors. There is a host/hostess at the table between AFF and the worship service to greet people and we've seen more mingling and visiting in that area. Please be aware of people you don't know and invite them to join you!



### Creative People!

#### 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 Presbyterian Church of the Apostles (PCA — 701 E. 130th St, Burnsville). We meet monthly at 9:00 am. 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!

**March 3** - Oak Grove  
**April 7** - PCA

**May 5** - Oak Grove  
**June 2** - PCA

Questions? Dawn Baddeley [dawnrn90@comcast.net](mailto:dawnrn90@comcast.net) (PCA) or Yvonne Dodge [yvonesdodge@hotmail.com](mailto:yvonesdodge@hotmail.com) (Oak Grove).

*A partnership activity between PCA and OGPC.*

**Adult Faith Formation LOVE GROWS HERE**

Join us in March for events to strengthen our faith through learning and experience!

**Sundays in March**

- Mar 4 – Keeping our Church Safe — Security Update presented by Bob Nesbitt
- Mar 11 – What is an ally? How can I be an effective one? What can I do now? These are common questions in our current political and social climate. Join us to hear allies share their experiences, get great tips to be a successful ally and learn what you can do now. Presented by the Rainbow Fellowship.
- Mar 18 – Northside Women’s Space and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy presented by Rev. Alika Galloway.
- Mar 25 – Come enjoy the Palm Sunday Brunch provided by the Deacons.

**Wednesdays in March**

Enjoy a contemplative worship experience at 6:30 following WoW! Dinner (these worship times will continue through March 21).

**March News from Clearwater Forest**

Registration for Clearwater Forest summer programs 2018 is going strong! Go to [www.clearwaterforest.org](http://www.clearwaterforest.org) today to check out the 2018 lineup and register online! The theme this summer is “Light the Fire,” where campers will explore the big questions surrounding how we can impact the world with the light of Christ. Clearwater Forest offers programs for anyone grades 3rd through recent graduates, and with all of the fantastic options available this summer there is sure to be something for everyone!

Campfires, kayaking, high ropes, sailing, worship, hiking, archery, swimming, giant games on the playfield, and s’mores are only small parts of what Clearwater Forest is all about. Living in community, learning independence and cooperation simultaneously, developing new friendships in a safe environment, experiencing outdoor ministry, and developing a deeper relationship with Christ makes a week at Clearwater Forest a truly life-changing experience.

For more information please check out [www.clearwaterforest.org](http://www.clearwaterforest.org) or give the office a call at 218-678-2325.

**Mark your calendars for upcoming events from Children’s Ministry**

**Messy Church**, April 22 -- We want all children to be part of this extraordinary Sunday. This year’s theme will be “Old Turtle and the Broken Truth,” a message particularly relevant to our time. Children will practice on Wednesday evenings so we hope you can take part! If your child would like to be a reader or have a solo, please contact Mary ([mkoon@oakgrv.org](mailto:mkoon@oakgrv.org)).

**Lenten Collection for VEAP**



**T & T**  
(toilet paper & tuna)

Sponsored by Children’s Committee

Bring items to church through Palm Sunday, March 25.



**Save the Date for Vacation Bible School!!!** -- *Embrace the Fruits of the Spirit!* -- a children’s curriculum designed to help children explore the Caribbean to discover the fruits of the spirit and how to apply them in their daily lives. For 3-year-olds through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Monday – Friday, June 18 – 22, 9 AM – Noon.

Look for sign-ups after Easter!

# Condolences, Congratulations!

## Condolences to family and friends of:

**Amanga**, Simon Omot's 36-yr-old sister in South Sudan, was killed by rival tribal members.

**Richard Majerus**, Yvonne Dodge's father, died January 27.

**Judy Acker**, Judy Acker's sister-in-law (same name, different individual), died February 4.

**Curt Wentz**, Yvonne's husband, died February 13.



## Souper Bowl Sunday



Children  
Made Soup

## Congratulations!

**Derek Flanagan**, senior at Kennedy High School and life-long Oak Grover! This winter, Derek received the Gold Key award in the MN Scholastic Art Competition and qualifies to be entered into the National Scholastic Art Competition. Derek also achieved his Eagle rank in Boy Scouts. Way to go, Derek!

**Rachael Hudson** is Mrs. Weston in Jane Austen's, *Emma* at Theater in the Round, 245 Cedar Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55454. *Emma* runs through March 3. Shows are at 7:30 pm on Fridays and Saturdays and at 2:00 pm on Sundays.



Members donated  
quilts and blankets  
to Bridging

## March 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+)



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Rosalie Johnson   | 19 Nancy Hauser; Myles Johnson*4;<br>Dan Marrone; Greg Wenz; Allison Wruck                            |
| 2 David Johnson   | 20 Patsy Fisk   |
| 5 Arnie Erickson**91; Emmanuel Boateng*21;<br>Stephen Tolvstad              | 21 Meg Robles   |
| 6 Margaret Comstock**90   | 22 Alexander Johnson*6  |
| 7 Ruth Dukelow; Laurie Grussing; Jane Propsom                               | 23 Christie Rossow; Lynette Severson  |
| 8 Art Fisk  | 24 Constance Freeberg*12  |
| 9 Anne Byers; Nana Yaw Kwarteng Tutuwaa*18;<br>Madelyn Rossow*8; Emma Wasko | 25 John Kim; Rich Price   |
| 10 Troy Bassett*21; Jack Wenz*16  | 26 Edna Himrich**97   |
| 11 Molly Fineran*4  | 27 Holly Mae Dredge; Kathy Howell; Svea<br>Kanne**97; Maren Karow; Bob Nesbitt;<br>Austin Ritterspach |
| 12 Heidi Schuchman  | 28 Enid Lang; Michelle Minea; Fran Muller;<br>Sue Powers  |
| 14 Seth Thomas  | 29 Jim Goodermont   |
| 15 Marian Schwartz**88  | 30 Chuck Mikkelson; Phyllis Pettit**96  |
| 16 Cara Scotting**86  |   |
| 17 Jim Lignell; Connie Nesbitt; Laura Orr                                   |   |
| 18 Joan Stanko  |   |

### Healing Touch Ministry

As part of our spiritual care ministry, Oak Grove will offer Healing Touch sessions on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. One-hour sessions start at 3 pm and end at 8 pm – sign up in the office. We believe that Healing Touch is part of a holistic model of care and are excited for this new opportunity!



## Financials

*submitted by Sue Greimel*

Through Jan 31	2018		Act vs Budg Fav/(Unfav)	2017 Actuals
	Actuals	Budget		
<b>Income YTD</b>	\$60,835	\$60,892	(\$57)	\$58,972
<b>Expense YTD</b>	\$55,397	\$65,099	\$9,702	\$45,171
<b>Income – Exp</b>	\$5,438	(\$4,207)	\$9,645	\$13,801

# 2018 Men's Retreat



## **Lent: Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In**

*from Pastor Mary Koon*

On Ash Wednesday we gathered for worship to mark the beginning of Lent – 40 days of preparation for Easter. As the confirmation students smudged our foreheads with ashes, they repeated the sacred words “From dust you have come, to dust you will return.” Our time on earth is limited, and God, who gives us life, sustains us and calls us beloved. We are not without hope.

Lent invites us into an intentional time of self-reflection and prayer as we journey toward Jerusalem with Jesus. What might this mean to our daily living?

In the time with children, I suggested a way to help us frame the season of Lent – reaching up, reaching out, reaching in. Imagine lifting your arms high into the air, then spreading them out in front of you, then bringing them in, crossing them and wrapping your arms around your middle in a big hug.

Reaching up. Lent is a good time to learn more about God, about Jesus – who he is, what he says, how his words still challenge us today. Open your Bible and read the stories of Jesus, of God’s people. Commit to worship on Sundays and Wednesdays. Join a small group – a Book of Forgiveness study, a PW Circle, or men’s prayer breakfast. Come rehearse for Bible Folk (presentation the weekend of March 18) and learn more about the people of our faith.

Reaching out. We exist in an interconnected world, and our actions make a difference. Collect pennies for One Great Hour of Sharing, and tuna and toilet paper to bring to VEAP. Volunteer for Loaves and Fishes (contact Bob & Pamara Ritter at aylabam2@comcast.net). Practice kindness toward yourself and others and the earth. Forgive. Live simply. Become an ally to those on the margins. As followers of Jesus, we are grieving for the loss of life and injuries that occurred in Parkland FL. We are angry at the continued refusal of our government to place policy over people. Let us pray that our broken hearts may be the catalyst for ministry with all who suffer, and lead us to action on behalf of innocent lives.

Reaching in. The world is full of noise, busyness and distraction, making it difficult to hear God’s still, small voice. Carve out some time each day for prayer – with or without words! Let a space of quiet nurture your soul as you journey deep into the heart of God. This is not a luxury, not an “add-on,” because prayer and quiet are essential to a life of service and faith.

May we feel the very presence of God as we journey together with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the glorious promise of new life. Let us hold on to hope as we make our way in this beautiful and broken world. The world God loves so very much.

## **Friendship Craft & Hobby Fair**

### **Artists & Hobbyists! Combined Friendship/Craft & Hobby Fair**

On April 22 during the education hour in Gideon Pond hall, we will have our annual friendship fair. This event provides opportunities to do things you enjoy or just want to try without a major commitment. As an added dimension, we offer you the opportunity to showcase your artistic talents. If you love painting, quilting, or woodworking, or you have a hobby or collection (children and youth are especially encouraged to participate!) that is unique, this is a chance to share your talents and interests with others in the congregation.

The purpose is to find a wide range of family, intergenerational, active and not so active events to get small groups of people together for fun and fellowship. For the more active, there are Oak Grovers willing to lead groups for sailing, kayaking, and mountain biking. Long time groups will provide info on Loaves & Fishes, Presbyterian Women & circles and the annual Twins outing.

Activities can be physically active or not (please consider accessibility when choosing a venue); a one-time event or ongoing; and preferably (but not necessarily) be low- or no-cost.

If you are willing to take charge of an activity, or wish to display your artwork, collection, or hobby, contact Ron Dubis at 612-868-9194 or any member of the Friendship Committee. If you have suggestions for small groups, there will be a box in the Narthex for this purpose.