

LOVING GOD...

CHANGING LIVES

Oak Leaves



A Publication of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

Bloomington, Minnesota

Inside this issue:

Congregational/
News/Events 2-3

Social Justice /
Supportive Housing 4

Committee News 5

Green/EV Expo 8

Birthdays, 9

Community /
Financials 10

Et cetera 11

Photos throughout

Back Cover :

- Golden Harvest
- Creative Hands

Inserts

- WoW! Schedule
- Faith Formation

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

October 2018

Dear Friends:

October is the time of our annual Gifts and Gratitude Program, in which we invite people to share their pledges of time and treasure for 2019.

You will be hearing from the Gifts and Gratitude Committee through a variety of venues. They do an excellent job. I just wanted to throw in my two cents' worth. Some of you have heard these a few times before.

- All that we are and all that we have are gifts from God.
- God invites us to be co-creators with God in forming a world filled with justice and love, and we do that both with our time and by sharing some of the money that God has entrusted to us.
- The American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association and the Sierra Club have thousands of supporters. Oak Grove has only us.
- Oak Grove spends less than 1% of our annual budget on fund-raising. WAY less!
- You know how much of our annual budget goes to mission — over \$125,000 per year!
- The Bible talks a lot about the tithe — giving 10% of our income. At Oak Grove we talk about “Faithful and Proportionate.” For some a tithe is too much; for some a tithe is too little to give.
- The Apostle Paul said that “God loves a hilarious giver.” May our giving be generous and joyful! (Dedication of pledges is Sunday, October 28.)

Faithfully, Pastor Bill



Charging Station Ribbon Cutting



Guest Musician -- On October 14 at our 10:45 service, our guest musician will be **Catherine Wilson**. Catherine was a member of Oak Grove for several years starting in 1975. She has recorded two albums – one with Nancy Hauser called “Dancing the Spiral” and one called “Seeds of Light – Inspiration for the Spiritual Journey”. Catherine is a published poet, with a book coming out soon. Currently she shares her music and writing, as well as helping to facilitate various workshops and ongoing groups at Aslan Institute in Eagan. Catherine and her husband, George, enjoy spending time with their two daughters and three grandchildren.

For our World Communion Sunday, October 7, we encourage you to wear clothing from your national heritage—kilt, dashiki, wooden shoes, etc.



Oak Grove is a very friendly community. Yay!



At the same time, when the prelude (*church music*) begins, we encourage chatting to take place **outside** the sanctuary. Other worshippers are trying to get into a worshipful mood and the musicians have worked hard to prepare beautiful music. Yes, please greet those around you, but save the extended conversation for after the conclusion of the service. Thanks!

Upcoming Group Events

- >**Tuesday, Oct 2, Noon, Burger 'n' Brew Men's Fellowship** at Zeke's. Pick up a friend who no longer drives and enjoy fellowship over lunch.
- >**Monday, Oct 8, 5:00 pm, Singles** (*and anyone who wants the fellowship and fun*) meet at Zeke's. No reservations needed!
- >**Monday, Oct 15, 9:00 am, Oak Rovers** (*mature adults who enjoy fellowship*) will go to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Sign-up on Sundays, Sep 30 & Oct 7. Carpool from the church. No admittance fee, lunch on your own. Contact Bob or Dorothy Sorensen (952-888-5762) or Mary Jones (612-741-8287) with questions.
- >**Tuesday, Oct 23, 2:30 to 5:15 pm, Singles** (*and anyone who wants to join us*) will work at VEAP and then go to Applebee's for dinner. Bring a donation and we will help by quality checking donations or bagging produce. Those who have been before know the drill — a reminder to wear closed toed shoes. Call Jane Jacobson if you can come or if you have questions (612-267-9068).

Fall Clean-Up

...will be on **Saturday, October 27**
from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. — Bring
 your rakes and come help us get our church
 grounds in shape before the snow falls!
 Yes, we'll have coffee and treats to get you
 started and keep you going!
 We have great fellowship as we work together.

Defibrillator Class/AED Training

Saturday, Oct 27, 1:00 - 4:00 pm. This
 class is open to all. If you are interested,
 sign up NOW by contacting Holly Mae
 Dredge at 952-831-5854.



Caregivers' Tea and Funtime for Loved Ones! October 1, come to tea
 at 2:15 pm. Bring your loved ones for fun time while you are enjoying tea.
 Questions? Call or email Bill Chadwick (bchadwick@oakgrv.org) or Mary
 Koon (mkoon@oakgrv.org).

The Presbyterian Women Circles invite you to
 join us for this year's study. "God's Promise" is a study
 of the Old and New Testaments showing examples of how
 God is with us through good and bad times as he promised.
 Two circles meet at the church. **Evening Star Circle** meets on the
 first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm; contact Connie Nesbitt at
 612-702-0684. **Goodrich-Nord Circle** meets on the second
 Wednesday at 8:45 am; contact Margaret Koch at 952-881-2582.

We'd love to have you join us for Circle and for the upcoming events!

PW Fall Gathering -- Please join the women of our Presbytery at the Fall
 Gathering on October 13 at Calvin Presbyterian Church in Long Lake, MN. Check-in
 is at 9:00 am. Topics covered are the Niger Coalition, rural health care initiative and
 "The Dwelling Place," a domestic abuse ministry. There is more info in the church office.
Registrations are due October 6. Contact Connie Nesbitt (612-702-0684) for more info.

PW Bake Sale, October 28 between services – for the Presbyterian Women's Mission
 Fundraiser. The congregation has been so generous in the past and we hope you will
 help us again. Please bring your baked goods (homemade or purchased) marked with
 content (especially if nuts and peanuts are included) to the church on Friday,
 October 27 from 1 – 3 pm or Saturday October 27 from 10 – Noon.
 We will price all goods.

PW Knit Tree will be in the Narthex from November 25 through
 December 9. Please cover our tree with homemade or purchased
 mittens, hats, scarves and other small garments. We will donate all
 items to Cornerstone for their Santa Shop. Our past generous
 donations have been greatly appreciated! Last year we
 collected over 80 items. Thanks to all of you! Contact
 Margaret Koch with questions (952-881-2582).

Dear Friends:

The Social Justice Committee recently asked the Session for permission to place a Trans (transgender) Flag next to the Rainbow Flag. Most of us on Session didn't know there was such a thing as a trans flag. We had questions. The primary question was, "Isn't the Rainbow Flag inclusive enough?" We learned that many transgender individuals don't feel the Rainbow Flag includes them. One of Amy Zsohar's college students was embraced at his church when he came out as gay. When he told the church he was trans, the church researched conversion therapy for him and told him he was no longer welcome! The Trans flag will make it clear to the community that we are welcoming of transgender people. The Oak Grove family has five individuals who identify as transgender.

The Transgender Pride Flag was created by American trans woman Monica Helms in 1999 and was first shown at a pride parade in Phoenix, Arizona, in 2000. The stripes at the top and bottom are light blue, the traditional color for baby boys. The stripes next to them are pink the traditional color for baby girls. The stripe in the middle is white, for those who are intersex, transitioning or consider themselves having a neutral or undefined gender. The pattern is such that no matter how you fly it, it is always correct, signifying us finding correctness in our lives. (Wikipedia)

The flag discussion at Session renewed a conversation about whether to have a Black Lives Matter sign on the church property. As a session, we have been reading Michael Eric Dyson's book, *Tears We Cannot Stop*. Friends, that is one challenging book. Some are finding it to be life-changing. The result of that conversation was the decision to place BLM signs on both the Old Shakopee Road and Penn Avenue sides of the building. I want to emphasize that doing so is NOT in any way meant to be a criticism of the Bloomington Police Department. As I noted with the Session, I have had occasion, in my role as pastor, to have several encounters with the Bloomington Police as they dealt with people of color. In each, they could not have been more competent and compassionate.

We as a Session want the community to know that Oak Grove is attempting to reflect the wide embrace of God's love, as we see it in Jesus.

If you have questions about any of this, please feel free to talk to me or to any one of our Session members. Let me take this opportunity to say once again how blessed we are to have such amazing people serving as ruling elders. They are thoughtful, caring and faithful; truly serving with "energy, intelligence, imagination and love," as they have committed in their ordination vows.

Faithfully, Bill



Save Your 2019 Calendars

from the Supportive Housing Committee

Many of us get calendars in the mail this time of year from various organizations that we support financially. Wondering what to do with all those calendars? Bring them in and Supportive Housing will contribute them to Aeon and other organizations that can use them for residents. Look for the basket in the narthex. Thanks!!

Oak Grove Worship is on Facebook!

The technology committee is pleased to announce that you can watch the Sunday morning Oak Grove service on Facebook. The service is available from your home, while traveling or anywhere you can use Facebook. The service will be live streamed – and will also be saved on the church Facebook account for you to watch and share with your friends.

Q: How can you watch your favorite Sunday morning service on Facebook?

A: It's easy!

- Open Facebook on your iPad, computer, phone, etc
- In the Search box, type "Oak Grove Presbyterian Church." You'll see a picture of our church.
- Click "Videos" to see all of the services available
- Click on the service you would like to watch, and enjoy!

Q: Are all of the services available?

A: Many services are available now. As we get more Facebook volunteers to film during the service, more will be available in the future.

Q: Why does the audio sound buzzy?

A: As we learn how to use the technology, we will continue to improve the audio. Bear with us — we have already made several improvements.

Q: Can the videos be saved for viewing later?

A: The videos are hosted on Facebook and will be available for about 3 months. The videos cannot be transferred to DVD, etc. for archiving.

SAVE THE DATE

Pledge Sunday
is coming
October 28.
Celebrate Oak Grove
Church and its mission.
Out of gratitude, we will
serve cake and ice cream
following the second service.

The Gift & Gratitude Committee

2019 per capita is \$35.70/member

Society 2018 Sustainable Home Tour is a **free, self-guided** event that is **open to the public**. The tour is designed to help spread knowledge of sustainable living practices by connecting homeowners to the curious public. The event consists of numerous locations in our region that have agreed to showcase sustainable features of their homes and buildings. A featured house powered by solar is the **Pax Pdon, built by Oak Grove member, Pdon Pinkham** near Hastings (35 miles by highway from Oak Grove church). For more information and directions, go to: <https://www.mnrenewables.org/sustainable-home-tour/>

21 Youths Challenge US Energy Policy In Court

Landmark environmental case scheduled to go to trial at the U.S. Courthouse in Eugene, Oregon on October 29.



Our Children's Trust elevates the voice of youth to secure the legal right to a stable climate and healthy atmosphere for the benefit of all present and future generations. Through our programs, youth participate in advocacy, public education and civic engagement to ensure the viability of all natural systems in accordance with science.

Our Mission is to protect earth's atmosphere and natural systems for present and future generations. We lead a game-changing legal campaign seeking systemic, science-based emissions reductions and climate recovery policy at all levels of government. We give young people, those with most at stake in the climate crisis, a voice to favorably impact their futures.

More info at <https://www.ourchildrenstrust.org>;
<http://gatehousenews.com/climateyouth/home/site/registerguard.com>;
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jamesconca/2018/08/03/children-change-the-climate-in-the-us-supreme-court-1st-climate-lawsuit-goes-forward/#549308d93547>

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Tools

EV EXPO



Tesla



Youth Car Wash



October 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 Christy Thorson-Ankoviak | 20 Arla Giddings**89; |
| 2 Amy Pittenger; Karen Rysavy | Candy Williamson; |
| 3 Mac Davis | Kathy Scotting |
| 5 Peggy Harsh | 21 Julian Wenz*14; Tim Dubis |
| 6 Lee Jaeger**90 | 22 Bea Sorenson**86; Chris Diller; |
| 7 Gordon DeLaHunt; Julia Knapp | Ulysses Thomas*3 |
| 9 Doris Ebeling | 23 Bev Chadwick |
| 10 Kae McQueen; Pam Williams | 24 Ty Flanagan*15 |
| 11 Lynda Mielke | 25 Catherine Myers*8 |
| 12 Harper Krentz*5; Mike Arazi; | 26 Evelyn Melum**99; Judy Moynihan |
| Nuella Parker*10 | 26 Patricia Knapp |
| 16 Paul Sowers | 27 Doodee Backstrom |
| 18 Jeff Olson; Marleen Singhrai | 28 Bev Noble; Crystal Winkelman; |
| 19 Carol McCarthy**86; Ngadhe Philip*11 | Helen Christensen**86 |
| | 31 Howard Baumgartner**91; Kent Schrad |



Fun at Children's Church





Want to enjoy fellowship while you're making meals for your family? Group Meal Prep Saturday, October 6, 9-11:00 am. We can have up to 10 adults meeting in the church kitchen to assemble 4 meals each to take home, freeze, and later prepare for their own families. We shop for you and provide ingredients, directions, and childcare. We welcome all cooking abilities.

Suggested contributions are \$30 for four 3-portion meals or \$60 for four 6-portion meals. Make checks payable to Oak Grove Presbyterian. Each meal prep session is a bit of an adventure. Plan to be flexible and have a sense of humor! Registration is limited to the first 10 families. Please e-mail Laura Orr (LauraOrr637@gmail.com), or sign up in the narthex by Wednesday, October 3, to participate.

Annual Oak Grove Presbyterian Women's Retreat

is a time of whatever you need; fun-relaxation-education-exercise-fellowship. We hope you will get from it what you need. The 2019 retreat will be January 18-20 at Clearwater Forest. Our theme this year is "Walking in the Spirit of Hope." Please sign up early to help us in the planning process,

<http://bit.ly/2019womenretreat>.

For more information contact Karen Gerdes at bkgerdes@comcast.net.



Financials

submitted by Sue Greimel

Through August 31	2018		Act vs Budg	2017
	Actuals	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actuals
Income YTD	\$561,166	\$517,186	\$43,980	\$437,582
Expense YTD	\$500,336	\$524,773	\$24,437	\$458,901
Income – Exp	\$60,830	(\$7,587)	\$68,417	(\$21,319)

Congratulations!

Debbie Dukelow has retired after 35 years of teaching special education students in the Bloomington school system.

Sarajane Myers auditioned and has been selected as part of the Senior Dancers who will perform at a number of Timberwolves and Lynx basketball games.

Thank You, Oak Grove

Thank you for your prayers, cards and calls. I could feel your prayers lifting me up when my spirit was at its lowest. *Jan Norman*

Our wonderful Oak Grove family came through countless times to help me during my diagnosis and then the radiation treatments. Thank you all for the wonderful cards, many words of much needed encouragements, food, visits and especially the drivers who took me daily to my treatments. Thank you Pastor Bill for your calls, prayers and help setting up my drivers. Oak Grove is truly a caring, compassionate and supportive church where the love is shown constantly. I love my church. Thanks to everyone. *Karolyn Lee*

Dear friends, all I can say now that I am better is "it could have been worse!" Thank you for helping in my recovery with cards, calls and visits. It all helped!! Amen! *Margaret Comstock*

Thank you to the Oak Grove congregation for your support and sympathy for the passing of my mother, Susan. Your cards and well wishes are very much appreciated by my Father, myself and the rest of our family. We would also like to thank all those volunteers that helped to make Mom's service a very beautiful moment. *Diane Baumgartner*

Condolences to family and friends of:

Vi Knutson died August 21.

Kathy Craven died August 27.

Mike Acker, Chad's uncle and Judy's brother-in-law, died September 6

Lauretta Racer, died September 10.

Ivan Goll, friend of Tim & Terry Taylor, died in September.

Grief Support Coalition

Thursdays through Nov 15, 4:30 - 6:00 pm
St. Richard's Catholic Church
7540 Penn Ave S, Richfield, MN
612-869-2426 www.strichards.com

Date	Topic
Oct 4	<i>The Mind-Body Connection</i>
Oct 11	<i>My Story</i>
Oct 18	<i>Dealing with Being Grief-Struck</i>
Oct 25	<i>How Grief Affects the Family System</i>

Fourth Annual Golden Harvest Dinner

For Our Members Who are 80+ Years Young - Save the Date!

October 21, at Noon hosted by the Deacons, just after 10:45 am worship. Letters of invitation to all (for whom we have birthdates) will be in the mail soon. We invite all Oak Grovers who are 80 and over (by the end of the year) and their significant other or driver. Come eat, enjoy, be entertained and celebrated. Friend to Friend pairs will join the festivities. Elders will help the Deacons in hosting this event.

Watch your October bulletins for more details!

Westminster Town Hall Forum

Tuesday, October 23, Noon

What We Can Learn from Flint, Michigan

Presented by **Mona Hanna-Attisha**, physician and scientist whose research exposed dangerous levels of lead in Flint's water supply. Associate professor of pediatrics at Michigan State University and pediatrician at Hurley Children's Hospital.

Free and open to the public. Westminster Presbyterian,
1200 Marquette Ave. Minneapolis.
Parking available in nearby ramps.

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).

Check the schedule below for dates and locations.

It's a fun way to get to know folks from PCA & Oak Grove and to get some work done on your crafting projects.

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

A partnership activity between PCA and OGPC.

Future Dates (Second Saturdays unless noted)

Oct 6 at PCA (1st Saturday)	Feb 9 at PCA
Nov 3 at OGPC (1st Saturday)	Mar 9 at OGPC
Dec 1 at PCA (1st Saturday)	Apr 13 at PCA
Jan 12 at OGPC	May 11 at OGPC

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Website: www.oakgrv.org

Office Hours

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

Oak Grove Staff

Ministers: **the 488 members**

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

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Financial Secretary:
Meghan Dooley
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Organist: **Nancy Hauser**

Treasurer: **Sue Greimel**
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Clerk of Session:
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Child Care Provider:
Lacey Jones

Part-time Custodians: **Tim Dubis**
Martin Alan Smith

Parish Associates

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2018 Per Capita is \$34.50
2019 Per Capita is \$35.70