

# 2019 Annual Report

of the  
Congregation and Corporation of  
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**Loving God . . . Changing Lives**

**Vision/Mission Statement: Oak Grove is a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith, seeking to do justice, act mercifully and walk humbly with God.**

---

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church  
2200 West Old Shakopee Road  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55431  
952.888.4621  
FAX: 952.888.2523  
E-mail [ogpc@oakgrv.org](mailto:ogpc@oakgrv.org)

---

## Our Church in Transition



## Table of Contents

<b>Agenda</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Clerk of Session Report</b> .....	<b>5</b>
Minutes of February 17, 2019 Annual Meeting .....	5
2019 Roll Report and Memorial Roll .....	8
2019 & 2020 Church Officers .....	9
<b>Program and Pastoral Staff</b> .....	<b>10</b>
Judy Cooper, Director of Music .....	10
Britta Weber, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries .....	11
Mary Koon, Associate Pastor .....	14
Anne Fisher, Transitional Pastor .....	16
<b>Reports from Session Committees</b> .....	<b>17</b>
Adult Faith Formation .....	17
Budget & Finance .....	18
Building & Operations .....	19
Children’s Ministries .....	20
Friendship.....	21
Gifts & Gratitude .....	22
Green Committee .....	23
Mission Committee .....	24
Supportive Housing Committee ( <i>Mission sub-committee</i> ).....	27
Personnel Committee .....	29
Rainbow Fellowship.....	30
Social Justice.....	30
Technology Committee.....	32
Worship & Music Committee .....	33
Youth Faith Formation Committee .....	34
<b>Board of Deacons</b> .....	<b>37</b>
<b>Presbyterian Women</b> .....	<b>39</b>
<b>2019 Financial Reports</b> .....	<b>40</b>
Endowment Fund 2019.....	41
Session Designated Fund 2019.....	41
Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund 2019.....	41
Property and Equipment 2019 .....	41
Pastors’ Discretionary Fund 2019.....	41
Memorial and Donor Designated Funds 2019 .....	42
Statement of Financial Position .....	43
General Fund - Statement of Activities .....	44
<b>Terms of Call for Pastors 2020</b> .....	<b>46</b>
<b>2019 Staff</b> .....	<b>47</b>

Agenda

**Annual Meeting  
of the  
Congregation and Corporation of the  
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church  
Bloomington, Minnesota  
February 23, 2020**

Call to Order and Opening Prayer	Rev. Dr. Anne Fisher Transitional Pastor
Approval of the Agenda and Declaration of a Quorum	Connie Nesbitt Clerk of Session
Approval of 2019 Congregational Meeting Minutes Annual Congregational Meeting – February 17, 2019	
2019 Roll Report/Prayer for the Communion of Saints	
Reports of Program Staff and Committees	
Report of the Board of Deacons	
Report of the Presbyterian Women	
2019 Financial Reports	Sue Greimel, Treasurer
2020 Budget	Sue Greimel, Treasurer
Approval of changes in Terms of Call for Associate Pastor	Pat Gleason, Personnel Committee Chair
Other business that may properly come before the meeting Report of the Church Chat	Rev. Dr. Anne Fisher/ Mission Study Task Force
Adjournment: Closing Prayer and Benediction	Rev. Mary Koon



*Clerk of Session Report cont'd*

<b>Jim Pickard</b>	8/31/2018
<b>Lauretta Racer</b>	9/10/2018
<b>Jeanne Castle</b>	11/23/2018
<b>Non Members</b>	
<b>Curt Wentz</b>	2/12/2018
<b>Kelly Jo Sanda</b>	5/28/2018
<b>Tammy Freiborg</b>	10/5/2018

Rev. Chadwick then directed everyone's attention to the various Staff and Committee reports. Carol Long, Mission Committee Chair, recognized the current members of the Mission Committee and thanked them for their service. She also thanked the Congregation for their financial support that enables our generous mission giving each year.

The Moderator thanked the Board of Deacons for their service.

There were no questions regarding the Presbyterian Women report.

Rev. Chadwick then moved on to the financial reports. No concerns were raised. He stated that the Session did approve the 2019 Budget in January.

Pat Gleason, Chairman of the Personnel Committee, was then asked to take the floor as the Pastors left the room. He asked for a motion to approve a 3% raise for Rev. Chadwick and a 6% raise for Rev. Koon. He shared that the Committee looks at market comparisons before making these increase recommendations. A motion was made, seconded and approved. The Pastors then rejoined the meeting.

Pastor, Head of Staff

**Compensation**

<b>Salary and Housing</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	Comments
Salary	\$62,742	\$65,704	
Housing	<u>36,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$98,742</b>	<b>\$101,704</b>	

**Vacation**

One month

**Benefits**

Pension	\$ 10,862	<b>\$11,188</b>
Health, Dental, Life Ins-Disability	<u>26,835</u>	<u>27,640</u>
<b>Total Compensation</b>	<b>\$136,439</b>	<b>\$140,532</b>

**Costs Associated with Pastor**

Auto Allowance	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	[Vouchered, IRS rate]
Continuing Education Leave	Two weeks	Two weeks	[Cumulative to 6 wks]
Continuing Education Allowance	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	[Cumulative for 3 yrs]
Professional Expenses	<u>\$ 1,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,500</u>	[Vouchered]
<b>Total Additional Costs</b>	<b>\$ 4,100</b>	<b>\$ 4,100</b>	

Pastor is entitled to one Sunday off per quarter.

Three-month sabbatical leave after six years.

*Clerk of Session Report cont'd*

Associate Pastor-Director of Faith Formation

**Compensation**

<b>Salary and Housing</b>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	Comments
Salary	\$36,990	\$41,009	
Housing	<u>30,000</u>	30,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$66,990</b>	<b>\$71,009</b>	

**Vacation**

One month

**Benefits**

Pension	\$ 7,369	\$7,811
Health, Dental, Life Ins-Disability	<u>18,690</u>	<u>19,811</u>
<b>Total Compensation</b>	<b>\$93,049</b>	<b>\$98,631</b>

**Costs Associated with Pastor**

Auto Allowance	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	[Vouchered, IRS rate]
Continuing Education Leave	Two weeks	Two weeks	[Cumulative to 6 wks]
Continuing Education Allowance	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	[Cumulative for 3 yrs]
Professional Expenses	\$ <u>1,300</u>	\$ <u>1,300</u>	[Vouchered]
<b>Total Additional Costs</b>	<b>\$ 3,900</b>	<b>\$ 3,900</b>	

Associate Pastor is entitled to one Sunday off per quarter.  
Three-month sabbatical leave after six years.

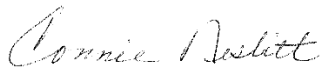
The Moderator then asked if there was any further business to be addressed. There was none.

Rev. Chadwick shared what a privilege it is to serve our Congregation.

Rev. Mary Koon closed the meeting in prayer and benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Connie Nesbitt  
Clerk of Session



William R. Chadwick  
Pastor and Head of Staff

## 2019 Roll Report and Memorial Roll

<b>Active Members, January 1, 2019</b>	<b>492</b>
<b>Gains for 2019</b>	
Confirmands	3
Profession	10
Transfers to Oak Grove	7
Reactivated Members	2
<b>Total Gains</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Losses for 2019</b>	
Deaths of Active Members	-14
Other Losses	-11
<b>Total Losses</b>	<b>-25</b>
<b>Active Members as of December 31, 2019</b>	<b>489</b>

### Membership Review

<b>Baptisms</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>In Memoriam:</b>	<b>Date</b>
Children (C)	5	<b>Members</b>	
Adult (A)	1	Luella DeBono	10/18/2018*
<b>Deaths</b>		Edna Himrich	1/15/2019
Members	14	Jack Carlson	3/5/2019
		Gordon DeLaHunt	4/19/2019
<b>Baptisms:</b>		Phil Hall	5/25/2019
<b>Margot Schrad (C)</b>		Wally Neal	5/28/2019
<b>Frank Kelly (C)</b>		Audrey St. Martin	8/14/2019
<b>Mia Soderlund (C)</b>		Jen Dahlberg	8/24/2019
<b>Samuel Oslund (C)</b>		Marilyn Hardin	10/25/2019
<b>Hudson Knapp (C)</b>		Beverly Carlson	11/2/2019
<b>Anna Lyons (A)</b>		Nancy Bogart	11/8/2019
		Arla Giddings	12/4/2019
<b>Confirmations:</b>		Jim Stanko	12/13/2019
<b>Cassie Acker</b>		Lee Jaeger	12/26/2019
<b>Julian Wenz</b>			
<b>Evan Wilkens</b>		<b>Non-Members</b>	
		Robert Swanell	1/4/2019
		Todd Topel	4/15/2019
		Blake Jaskowiak	5/14/2019
		Eugene Tominski	5/14/2019
		Larry Fritchley	5/23/2019
		Brian Jaskowiak	10/30/2019
		Alice Andersen	11/11/2019

\*learned of her death in April 2019 so she was on our rolls in 2019.



**2019 Church Officers**

**The Session**

**Moderator:**

**Clerk of Session:**

**Treasurer:**

Bill Chadwick/Anne Fisher  
Connie Nesbitt  
Sue Greimel

**Elders**

**Class of 2019**

Milissa Carter  
Arne Johnson  
Greg Johnson  
Andy Snyder  
Jeff Williamson  
David Wilkens

**Class of 2020**

Karen Amato  
Emilie Christy  
Noel Eggebraaten  
Pat Gleason  
Eugene Orr

**Class of 2021**

Mattie Hawley  
Bob Heise  
Anne Klueh  
Bill Pomroy  
Jane Propsom

**Deacons**

**Class of 2019**

Judy Acker  
Gene Dodge  
Jim Goodermont  
Larie Ann Schmidt  
Paul Sowers

**Class of 2020**

Diane Baumgartner  
Morgen Gray/Karen Lignell  
Kay Lancette  
Brandon McKinnon  
Michelle Minea/Rita Raley

**Class of 2021**

Jan Ahlquist  
David Johnson  
Stephen Jones  
Meg Robles  
Bea Sorenson

**2020 Church Officers**

**The Session**

**Moderator:**

**Clerk of Session:**

**Treasurer:**

Anne Fisher  
Connie Nesbitt  
Sue Greimel

**Elders**

**Class of 2020**

Karen Amato  
Emilie Christy  
Noel Eggebraaten  
Pat Gleason  
Eugene Orr  
Davis Radtke

**Class of 2021**

Mattie Hawley  
Bob Heise  
Anne Klueh  
Bill Pomroy  
Jane Propsom

**Class of 2022**

Karen Alonzi  
Pierce Flanagan  
Bob Gerdes  
Carol Osweiler  
Mark Pridgeon

**Deacons**

**Class of 2020**

Diane Baumgartner  
Karen Lignell  
Kay Lancette  
Brandon McKinnon  
Rita Raley

**Class of 2021**

Jan Ahlquist  
David Johnson  
Stephen Jones  
Meg Robles  
Bea Sorenson

**Class of 2022**

Sandy Crum  
Eric Duvall  
Tom Lucic  
Marsha Pridgeon  
Kathy Tominski

## Program and Pastoral Staff

### Judy Cooper, Director of Music

*My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.  
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.  
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

Once again, I am so grateful for the support and encouragement from the staff, congregation and musicians here at OGPC. 2019 was a normal, busy year of music making. Here is a rundown of our many activities:

- Oak Grove Collective (*see below*)
- 2019 was again a year filled with lots of wonderful music.
- We continue to have such loyal and talented folks ready and willing to participate in our music groups.
- Chancel choir sang at 38 Sunday services plus a few funerals and chapel services at Presbyterian Homes.
- Our Hand Bell Choir and instrumentalists also played numerous times during the year.

What started as a pop-up choir in the summer has evolved into a fairly regular small group now called the Oak Grove Collective. They strive to do a variety of music styles and instrumentation. They welcome new singers and instrumentalists. If you're interested, contact Judy Cooper.

And of course, Nancy Hauser, our fabulous organist and accompanist is the foundation of most of our groups. She is outstanding!

I so appreciate the support and encouragement from the staff, the congregation and all those who participate in our music program.

Joyfully,

Judy Cooper

## **Britta Weber, Youth & Youth Adult Director**

I feel incredibly lucky to have landed here at Oak Grove. I have felt immense support and encouragement in this process of getting acclimated to my new position over the last 4 months. I am so grateful! This community is truly unique in its warm and welcoming embrace of all newcomers. It is clear that Oak Grove is constantly striving to be a more inclusive and justice driven community that embodies a love that is joyful, hopeful, and patient.

### **Fall 2019**

My approach to this fall has been focused on getting settled into the rhythm of this community. Therefore, I have put time and effort into relationship building with the middle school and high school youth, their families and friends, and the wonderful leaders in this community. I also think that it is incredibly important to show up for the youth in other areas of their lives, and support them as they explore and pursue their passions. I absolutely adore that I get to attend the myriad of plays, musicals, concerts, and athletic competitions that showcase these talented and dedicated human beings.

I am so grateful for the members of the Youth Committee, as well as every one of the other youth-dedicated community members of Oak Grove for helping me navigate this fall! With their help, WoW! programming has been a wonderful way for our youth to form stronger relationships with each other, their adult leaders, and with God. They are the people who not only help the program run week after week, but encourage it to grow and flourish too. The volunteers of this community are beyond amazing. We are so thankful for their dedication to our youth and their investment in our programs! Together with our Youth Leaders, I have been encouraging the creation of a group identity by providing opportunities for the youth to be in community and fellowship with one another. We have also urged our youth to open their eyes and hearts to members of their wider communities who are in need of support and care by coordinating numerous service events. It has been incredible to see how servant-hearted these youth are!

### **Youth Fellowship, Service, and Fundraising Highlights from 2019 so far...**

#### **Summer of 2019**

High School mission trip to Guatemala! I was unfortunately not able to join, but I have heard time and time again about the tremendous impact this trip had on our youth. Here are some words they shared about their experience:

- This trip wouldn't have been possible without the incredible congregation here at Oak Grove. It's thanks to your support, prayers, and donations that we were able to go on this inspiring trip...to meet new people, to learn new things, to see new sights, to help our neighbors, to grow in faith, and to represent Oak Grove. So all we have left to say is THANK YOU. -Morgan Duvall
- Guatemala was amazing, the scenery, people and the work, were all new experiences. The work was much different from other mission trips. It was more physical, such as digging dirt and moving concrete. Yet it was some of the most satisfying work that I have ever done. Knowing that you are building houses for those who need them is a great feeling. -William Snyder

#### **September**

- A combined youth carwash fundraiser at the Electric Vehicle Expo was full of soapy fun and lots of generosity!

*Britta Weber cont'd*

- Woodcutting weekend at Clearwater provided a chance for middle school & high school youth to reconnect after the summer.
- October
- A combined-youth grounds clean-up with the Supportive Housing Committee & AEON was a humbling service experience for all.
- A senior high Feed My Starving Children service night and church lock-in was a blast!
- A pre-Halloween bonfire for middle school youth was full of spooky stories and laughs!
- A Halloween themed WoW! resulted in an appearance of creative costumes, a joint-youth trip to Vaughn's spook-house, and lots and lots of candy!
- November
- A middle school Feed My Starving Children service night and church lock-in turned into a night of high-energy fun and little sleep...
- High school youth helped serve with Habitat for Humanity. They learned new and practical skills in the process, and built deeper relationships with both friends and strangers while building a home for a family in need.
- December
- A Christmas cookie fundraiser was yet another reminder of the extravagant generosity of this community and their support of our youth!
- High school youth gathered supplies and put together "Bags of Hope" for vulnerable adults and children and then donated these to Simpson House & Children's Hospital.
- There were two fun-filled Christmas parties to end the semester of WoW! A mini-Guatemala reunion was held for high school youth and graduated young adults to share stories and pictures from their trip this past summer.
- A middle school youth trip to VEAP for "Donate or Do" provided them with an opportunity to serve their Bloomington neighbors.
- The 2019 Alternative Market was a rousing success, thanks to our amazing youth who worked hard on the crafty preparations (palm trees and a paper-bag arch), made cinnamon rolls in the kitchen, ran a photo-booth, created a fun atmosphere with juggling and playing instruments, and sold many goods from the booths that will ultimately help others in need! This was a lot of work, but a lot of fun. We hope that the youth will be equally involved in this event next year!

### **As we look forward...**

#### Middle School Winter Retreat 2020

The *Confirmation Experience* encourages middle school youth to grow in fellowship and community with each other in the setting of Oak Grove. This is fantastic, but we would love to create an experience for them to grow in relationship with each other in other ways as well. We are exploring a new opportunity for middle school youth to attend a retreat. We are excited to see the ways in which this experience at Clearwater Camp will strengthen their friendships, and introduce them to new ways in which they can experience each other, and God. We hope to continue this tradition in the coming years so middle schoolers have a community building retreat to look forward to as they enter into a new programming year. We also plan to incorporate a small service project into their weekend so that they can use their time as a gift to others as well.

*Britta Weber cont'd*

### High School Youth Group

We are planning to increase predictability for Sr. High WoW! by implementing more structure into both weekly and monthly programming. We are hopeful that this will help our youth to better depend on the consistency of our programming, and will empower them to look ahead and plan Wednesday nights at church back into their busy schedules. We are confident that this will encourage their conversations with each other and interactions with our programming to be more intentional, productive, and impactful. Ultimately, we hope that this might positively impact our attendance and open our doors in a more welcoming way to friends. Another personal goal that I have is to deepen their awareness and knowledge of scripture and its applicability to the challenges and joys that they encounter in this tumultuous season of their lives. I also hope to delve deeper into social justice issues with them – church is such an important space to have these discussions and to learn how to be agents of change!

### High School Summer Mission Trip 2020

We will be bringing a group of Sr. High youth to Texas to encounter and serve communities different from their own. They will also experience a weeklong camp at Mo Ranch where they will have the opportunity to grow in faith and in relationship with other high school age youth from around the country. We can't wait for this trip!

### Young Adult Ministry

This December brought some college-aged adults back to Oak Grove to spend time with their families over the holidays. This presented a unique opportunity for me to host a Youth Adult Brunch for the young adults of this community where they could meet and reconnect with one another. It is difficult to find a home with a community of faith in the highly transitional years of your early adulthood; I hope to create more opportunities for fellowship and spiritual growth for this demographic as we enter into a new year.

### Youth Collaboration & Leadership

This fall has offered many opportunities for middle school and high school youth to interact through discussions, activities, and service events. It is amazing to witness the leadership potential among many of our high school youth, and I hope to develop a program for them in the coming year that offers them an opportunity to serve as mentors and student leaders. There is immense power in youth to youth connections, and I am excited to see how this might transform the ways that high school youth understand their importance in this community, as well as show commitment to it.

It is exciting to look ahead knowing that there will be continued outpouring of love and support for the youth of Oak Grove. Thank you for making them feel known and important! You all help to create a space of refuge for our youth; you encourage them to walk alongside Christ and alongside each other through the challenges that life brings. You empower our youth to become advocates and allies, and to act with kindness in all circumstances. As they stand on increasingly unstable ground and wobble through some of the most challenging years of their development, you all help to provide comfort and stability. You continuously point them toward the immutable and radiating love of God! Our youth are so fortunate to have Oak Grove as a presence in this season of their lives. It is blessing to share in the ministry with you!

With joy & gratitude, Britta

## **Mary Koon, Associate Pastor**

It has been a year filled with meaning and memories! I am humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve as Associate Pastor here at Oak Grove and to be in ministry with all of you. Each day I thank God for this place, for who you are, and for all the ways you represent God in the community and in the world.

It is a particular honor to be part of Oak Grove's talented staff. Each person brings gifts that serve to nurture and keep our ministries running smoothly. Bill Chadwick's retirement in May was sad for many, including me! Bill was a mentor and friend and I know he inspired all of you. I am glad that we sent Bill off in style, with both tears and laughter.

Anne Fisher, an experienced transitional pastor, arrived in the summer. It is a joy to work with and learn from such a compassionate and talented pastor! Britta came on board in late August and has made good connections with youth and volunteers. In this transitional year, until Britta arrived, I had the privilege to serve as staff resource to Youth Ministry in addition to my "regular" committees -- Deacons, Children's Ministry, Adult Faith Formation and Friendship. All these committees represent on-going ministries and rarely get "time off." I am tremendously grateful for their efforts, their enthusiasm and their energy!

It is always very difficult to select highlights from the year, as I continue to find joy and energy for all areas of church life. I am SO grateful for ALL those who serve around here – from nursery volunteers to the WoW! kitchen crew, to our Monday morning "guys" and office volunteers, to Deacons and Committee chair people. Every ministry deserves to be highlighted, so please forgive me if I've left out one of your favorites!

**Caregivers Tea and Lunch Bunch** -- Caregivers meet monthly to share challenges and joys of caregiving, Lunch Bunch offers lunch and recreation for those with memory issues or others who could use a morning/afternoon out with friends!

**Children's Ministry** – Week after week, adults work with our children, sharing stories of our faith, praying with them, teaching music, and nurturing their spiritual growth. Research shows that if we want young people to grow up and to be a part of church, they need five meaningful connections with adults. Bonds of love and grace are being formed each week – and it is good!

**Messy Church** – Our theme in 2019 was "Peaceful Fights for Equal Rights." The morning of the service, a few people protested outside our church, yelling hateful words to children as they entered. The event provided an opportunity to talk with the children about God's love for all people, as grown-ups in our congregation invited the protestors in for coffee.

**Senior High Mission Trip to Guatemala** – Our dedicated group of leaders and youth had a wonderful time at the mission in San Lucas Toliman. We worked hard, learned a lot about Guatemalan culture (including how to make the perfect cup of coffee!), prayed, and grew closer to one another and to God. What an incredible opportunity to introduce the youth to another culture and to the Mission that works in unity with the indigenous people of Guatemala.

*Mary Koon cont'd*

**VBS** – The week included Bible stories and good children's picture books, art, science, table fellowship, games, music, and this year "Camp Solar Wind." The children learned about wind-sourced energy, and the materials have been used for other students outside of Oak Grove as well!

**Three New Fellowship Groups!** This year we determined that a grief group would be helpful to our congregation, so in the fall we started "Forward with Grief." Chaplain Jenny Schroedel and I facilitate the group. In the fall, two new women's groups were started – one in the evening, "Soul Sisters," and one during the day, "Women Who Lunch." Both involve food, fellowship and conversation, and the daytime group enjoys book discussions.

**Deacons** – Month after month, the Deacons nurture the lives of those in our congregation through card writing, communion preparation, prayer, Parents Day Out, grief ministry, hosting the Golden Harvest Dinner and Palm Sunday Brunch. This fall, at the suggestion of Anne Fisher, we started incorporating a service project at each meeting that reaches out to a particular demographic of the church. For instance, in September we sent our college students greeting cards and Starbucks gift cards. This has been an excellent addition to our meetings.

**Visiting, presiding, preaching** -- It has been a huge honor to visit people in the hospital, to preach on a regular basis, to baptize, marry, to preside at memorial services and to do all the work associated with this vocation. There were a number of memorial services during the late fall, and I am thankful for all those who helped provide food and hospitality to families who are mourning. It is an important ministry and you are so appreciated!

**Retreats:** What a joy it is that Oak Grove sponsors three retreats each year – women's, men's and intergenerational. This year, each retreat had 30 participants who learned, played, sang, and worshipped together in God's world at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest.

I continue to attend dance recitals, band concerts, skating competitions, games and plays. The ability to meet young people in the community helps develop bonds of trust and friendship.

Friends, please continue to pray, that led by the Spirit, we will be empowered and energized to continue to work for the transformation and reconciliation of our world. Please pray that we will not grow weary in our call to embody God's love and justice in all we do and say. Please pray that children, youth and adults will know themselves to be God's beloved people – those who are uniquely gifted, loved and blessed in order to be a blessing to others. As we begin our search for the next Head of Staff, may we step boldly into the future, recognizing that God is there! May our faith grow in ways that we cannot yet imagine!

## **Anne Fisher, Transitional Pastor**

This is my semi-annual report as my time with you began at the end of July. I have been impressed with the Oak Grove family since the beginning as you graciously welcomed me as your Transitional Pastor. As Transitional Pastor, I am a short timer in that my tenure will be two years or less. I began working on a Leadership Retreat which we held in November with about 54 attending. During our time together, we set priorities and values of Oak Grove Church. In January 2020, we had Sunday morning Church Chats. We divided into small groups and shared the challenges and strengths of Oak Grove.

The theme this year is "Sharing our Story." On Rally Sunday, I introduced the interim process and encouraged people to share their story of faith. During the "Opportunity Fair" different areas, worship, stewardship, deacons, and mission had prompts for people to share their story. Our theme fit well with storyteller, Kevin Kling, who delivered the message in November.

Milissa Carter led our Gifts and Gratitude with the Stewardship theme of "Sharing our Story." The success of our giving this year and our pledges for next year indicate the trust and investment people are making in Oak Grove Church, even when the Head of Staff position is in transition. It is a sign of a healthy church.

Another sign of a healthy church was our new member class in October; people wanting to be part of the Oak Grove family while it is in transition. We are grateful to Jane Aitkin, Anne Bower Jones, Sean Herron, Andrew Barron and Ann Knutson, Henry and Sonia, Liz Metzler, Dan and Virginia Mitchell, and Jennifer and Cody Hendricks for becoming part of Oak Grove Church.

In October, we elected a new class of Elders: Karen Alonzi, Bob Gerdes, Mark Pridgeon, Pierce Flanagan, Carol Osweiler and Davis Radtke. We thanked outgoing elders, Milissa Carter, Arne Johnson, Greg Johnson, Andy Snyder, Jeff Williamson and David Wilkens. It has been a delight to work with the Session.

For Advent, I led a Wednesday evening class on An Adult Christ at Christmas using John Dominic Crossen and Marcus Borg's book *The First Christmas*, and Raymond Brown's essays on *An Adult Christ at Christmas*. Along with Mary Koon and Mary Pol, I share the Horizon Bible study for the Women's Circles.

I am grateful for the talented staff of Oak Grove. Judy Cooper and Nancy Hauser bring skills of such beauty to each worship service. Britta is a welcome addition as Youth Director as she brings her unflagging optimism and enthusiasm for ministry to all ages. Anne Swenson is dedicated and skilled and brings her own ministry to our finances. Beth Angerhofer has a breadth of knowledge and care for our members. Martinalan Smith and Tim Dubis care for our building for which I am grateful. It is wonderful working with Mary Koon as a colleague in ministry. Her creativity, energy and love for her ministry has been a gift to Oak Grove and to me.

This year we will look forward to beginning the selection of the Pastoral Nominating Committee. We will be seeking a new Administrator as Beth Angerhofer retires in October. We will continue to partner in the ministry and mission of Oak Grove. Loving God....Changing lives.

Anne Fisher



## ***Reports from Session Committees***

### **Adult Faith Formation (AFF)**

Jeff Williamson, Chair

The focus of the AFF team is multiple: to provide multiple opportunities and resources for lifelong faith development (including speakers, Bible study, lessons on spiritual practices, book studies), to encourage community, to promote life-long learning and the application of knowledge to daily life. We seek to work collaboratively with staff and other committees of Oak Grove.

The primary AFF offerings happen Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

#### **2019 Sunday morning highlights:**

The year was full of speakers introducing the congregation to a variety of topics – Bible topics, Rural Health Care Initiative in Sierra Leone, mental health, end of life, Hinduism, supportive housing, Green Committee tour of Oak Grove, healing the sacred hoop, Colossians, history of Christianity and how denominations developed, columbarium, Rainbow Fellowship and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy.

- **January:** Epiphany, biblical storytelling, Martin Luther King.
- **February:** Dr. Carol Nelson on the Rural Health Care Initiative in Sierra Leone, Dr. Bruce Forbes on “Does Valentine’s Day have anything to do with religion,” and Salsa lessons.
- **March:** Mental Health with Barbara Peterson and Merrie J. Kais, end of life topics and Rainbow Fellowship.
- **April:** Cynthia Ray about Dementia-Friendly congregations and Ned Mohan on Hinduism.
- **May:** Supportive Housing with Tashia Weisenburger Pomroy, Green Committee tour of Oak Grove and Mary Pol about Scotland.
- **September:** Opportunity Fair, getting to know Pastor Anne Fisher and Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Britta Weber, Fern Cloud on Healing the Sacred Hoop and an Immigration attorney.
- **October:** Kirk Livingston’s three part series on Colossians and Dr. Bruce Forbes about a brief history of Christianity and how denominations developed.
- **November:** Columbarium Committee, PFLAG (parents, friends, family and allies of the LGBTQ community) with Wendy Peterson, Amy Finnegan and the “White Savior Complex” in Africa and Pastor Alika Galloway did a presentation on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy.
- **December:** Frank Bliss and his experiences at the U.S./Mexico border.

On Wednesday nights, Pastor Bill Chadwick led Discipleship 101 in January and February. In March and April video learning for adults, and a conversation with Pastor Bill. September was Super Women of the Bible with Mary Pol, October we had Life of Mr. Rogers, and Praying the Psalms, November and December was “An Adult Christ at Christmas” with Pastor Anne Fisher.

### **History Sub-Committee of AFF**

The History Sub-Committee of AFF contributed \$2,000.00 to the bill for restoration of the Pond Mission/Oak Grove Presbyterian Cross. The wood from the original Pond cabin at Lake Calhoun (Bde Maka Ska) in 1834, was used in the 1951 cross, placed in front of OGPC. They are currently working on three history signs to be done in 2020. There will be two signs about the Dakota Indians that attended OGPC and one about the anti-slavery roots of early members of Oak Grove including Gideon Pond's two wives, Sarah Poage Pond and Agnes Carson Johnson Hopkins Pond.

We are grateful for the committee members, staff, individuals, and committees that offer program ideas, guest speakers, resources, and share their passion for helping us all grow deeper in discipleship and faith. We continue to encourage all adults to take part in opportunities for learning and growth on Sundays and Wednesdays. It is important for all of us to join together to learn who and what God calls us to be. Please, grab your coffee and join your friends Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings at whatever the AFF offering is that day!

We look forward to another exciting year in 2020 and welcome any and all ideas and participation on our team!

Thanks to all who served on the AFF Committee this year: Karen Lignell, Mary Pol and Mark Pridgeon. Chairperson is Jeff Williamson and staff resource is Mary Koon. The History Sub-Committee was supported by Jim Goodermont and Candy Williamson. Chairperson is Jeff Williamson and staff resource is Mary Koon.

### **Budget and Finance Committee**

Karen Amato, Chair

#### **Mission**

To ensure the financial health and integrity of the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church in support of the mission and ministry of the congregation through effective accounting policies and fiscal management systems.

#### **Accomplishments and Highlights**

The B&F Committee had a very successful transitional year with Anne Swenson joining us in May. Thanks to Lisa Pomroy for getting us through the interim period and refining the Bookkeeper job description. Also thanks to the congregation for your continued generosity, and the Committees for careful spending. We ended the year with a surplus of over \$45,000 – much better than our planned deficit of \$89,627! As a result, we're able to cover the projected 2020 deficit without using any special funds. And with the turn around on our investments, we'll have over \$110,000 to spend on Special Projects!

Highlights of the year included:

- Hiring Anne Swenson as Bookkeeper at 20Hrs/week
- Completing the transfer of \$1.8M in Wells Fargo investments (Session Designated, Endowment, Long-Term Building Maintenance, and Operating Reserve Accounts) to the New Covenant Trust Company
- Transferring another \$200K from Premier Savings to NCTC (Cash Reserve Account)
- Establishing the 2020 Budget

## *Budget and Finance cont'd*

A huge thank-you to Linda Brandner, our outgoing Counter Coordinator and master scanner, for her many years of service (more than 15)! We couldn't have done it without you! And thank you to Iris Karow, who took over Linda's Coordinator role, and the Sunday AM counters (Mark Pridgeon, Iris Karow, Karolyn Lee, Linda Brandner, Julie Andert, Sharon Nolte, Ed Schmidt, Judy Acker, Jody Milton, Diane Baumgartner, Lisa Pomroy, and Mac Davis). We appreciate your help! Thanks also to Maureen Switzer for scanning and filing, and filling in wherever needed!

### **Plans for 2020**

Recruit more members!

2019 Committee Members: Jim Koon (Chair), Sue Greimel (Treasurer), Karen Amato (Session Liaison), Karen Alonzi, Anne Fisher (Staff Resource), and Anne Swenson (Bookkeeper).

### **Building and Operations Committee**

Bob Heise, Chair

#### **Mission:**

Building and Operations is charged with keeping our church building in good repair and the grounds well maintained and providing a safe, comfortable and secure environment for all who enter Oak Grove Presbyterian Church.

#### **Accomplishments and Highlights:**

- Performed weekly building and grounds maintenance checks
- Reconfigured two HVAC units
- Performed Sprinkler Maintenance
- Defibrillator/CPR class held in October
- Installed cabinets in choir room
- Choir storage closet shelving installed
- Painted choir room
- Removed trees to eliminate shading of solar panels
- Replaced broken pump in education wing boiler
- Fire department inspection required compliance update of alarm panel equipment
- Installation of additional security cameras
- HVAC gas line leak identified and fixed
- Main entrance sidewalk fixed
- Trees and bushes along the north side of north parking lot trimmed and removed
- Education wing Room 9 painted

## *Building and Operations cont'd*

### **Responsibilities:**

- Oversight of maintenance contracts (custodial, snow removal, lawn care) and building insurance
- Meeting state and city safety inspections
- Managing HVAC and lighting systems to maintain high efficiency

### **Committee Members:**

Don Alman, Holly Mae Dredge, Allen Greimel, Don Latourelle, Gene Morris, Rory Scott, Bob Sorensen, Frank Uvodich

Staff resource: Rev. Anne Fisher

### **Children's Ministries**

Karen Gerdes, Chair

**Mission:** To nurture Christian faith formation of children through creative forms of education, fellowship, outreach, and music. To provide a safe environment that is loving and accepting of all children.

### **Accomplishments:**

- January- Feed My Starving Children – well attended –intergenerational
- February – Family Pizza Party, co-sponsored by the Friendship Team
- April – Messy Church—taken from the book *Peaceful Fights for Equal Rights*
- May – end of Faith Formation –recognizing teachers and volunteers
- June –VBS -- “God’s Love is Everywhere” We see God in acts of service, ourselves, one another, and in creation. Lots of great helpers and children!
- September – new programming began—Laura Orr became “main” teacher for elementary, rotation of teachers for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders  
Sue Greimel worked with children to make cinnamon rolls on Rally Day and a waffle breakfast to raise funds for CROP Walk
- October – Family Halloween Party – led by the Fineran and Thomas families
- December – Christmas pageant

**Sunday Faith Formation:** Elementary classes led by Laura Orr, Sue Greimel, Mary Koon, Emma Wasko, Bob Gerdes, and Paul Sowers. Children explored Bible stories through art, science and cooking.

Karen Gerdes, Linda Johnson, and Marleen Singhrai lead **Preschool**. They introduce those 3-5 years old to the Bible, Jesus, and a loving and caring environment.

### **Wonderful Wednesdays (WoW!)**—led by

January – April 2019 Jim Koon, Cece Klueh, Anne Klueh, Connie Nesbitt

September – December 2019 Jim Koon, Cece Klueh, Anne Klueh and Judy Acker

## *Children's Committee cont'd*

We are so grateful for the many volunteers who allow all of our infant, toddler, and children's programs to thrive.

- Judy Cooper, Caitlin Lucic and Brandon McKinnon lead our Wednesday **music programs**. We are grateful for their expertise and energy.
- Lacey Jones and Shannon Murray staff the **nursery** and offer a loving and nurturing environment. Lacey and Shannon are aided by countless volunteers who were recruited and organized by Laura Orr in the spring and Terry Taylor in the fall.
- **Children's Church** is led by Karna Mikkelson, Terry Taylor, Mindy Hendrickson, Sarah Elbert, with numerous youth and adult helpers.
- **Birthday Card Ministry**- Sue Powers.

Thanks to all who actively support children and young families with time, prayers, friendship and financial gifts. Each of our volunteers gives countless hours to make our children's experience of God and church one that is filled with joy and love.

**Children's Committee members:** Karen Gerdes (chair), Mattie Hawley - session representative, Laura Orr and the rest of the parents of young children  
Staff resource is Mary Koon.

## **Friendship Committee**

Jane Propsom, Chair

**Mission-** To share good news of Jesus Christ through the Gospel.

### **Functions-**

- To provide a welcoming and safe environment for visitors
- To encourage members to become reflective of the ethnic diversity of our community
- To support personal evangelism through adult and youth education
- To facilitate and coordinate opportunities for fellowship among its members and friends of Oak Grove

### **Accomplished**

- Facilitated two inquiry classes for new members
- With help of many members, planned a retirement party for Bill Chadwick
- Scheduled greeters for Sunday morning worship
- Organized the summer worship and picnic at Moir park
- Had three successful retreats at Clearwater- women's, men's and intergenerational
- Set up Rally Day/opportunity fair
- Singles fellowship continues to meet monthly
- Lunch Bunch meets monthly to provide respite for caregivers.

Continued thanks to Ron Dubis and Sandy Crum for always welcoming visitors on Sunday at the Welcome table - giving out fresh cookies and information about Oak Grove.

**Committee Members** –Jane Propsom , Chair, Jane Jacobson, Carol McCarthy, Chad Acker, Larry Pearson, Ron Dubis, Sarajane Myers, Bob and Pamela Ritter, Don Wagner, Candy Williamson, Bea Sorenson, Kathy Tominski and Marilyn Eidem

This year was another year of trying new things -- we stopped some, changed some, and added some new. We kicked off our year with annual planning and again measured our goals with two lenses: Is this encouraging members to give of their time, talents, and treasure and / or is this thanking members for giving of their time, talents, and treasure?

We decided to stop collecting the time and talents information for existing members. It is complex and time-consuming to capture, report on, and update this information. We will continue to make the time and talents sheet available for the New Member packet and to connect initial interests with the right people.

We held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Per Capita Sunday in February of this year. We promoted this Per Capita Sunday through the existing writing communication channels and during a Minute for Per Capita one Sunday morning. We saw an increase in Per Capita donations in both 2018 & 2019 after this effort and plan to continue this for 2020.

The 2020 pledge campaign kicked off in September. This is the most important responsibility for our committee and held even more importance this year as we seek a new head of staff. As we did our planning, we sought to keep Commitment Sunday as the focus, without distractions of so many other wonderful things that happen here at Oak Grove. During the month of October, we aligned the Faith Talk themes along with the sermon for cohesive messages. On Commitment Sunday while communion was served, two youth of our congregation collected pledges. The service was followed by a thank-you reception with cake and ice cream. We sent thank-you notes in response to pledges received, and follow-up emails / calls to request any missing pledge cards. These were received with grace. We are so grateful for your joyful and giving hearts!

We held the faith talks this year solely during the month of October as part of our giving campaign. Acknowledging that a number of people do not feel comfortable standing at the pulpit and sharing their story, we introduced a new format for sharing one's story. We offered an interview / conversation time, outside of the service, to capture their story, which was then presented to the congregation by a Gifts & Gratitude Committee member. We hope to open the door to more stories by offering additional flexible formats.

We are pleased with the accomplishments of 2019. Thank you for serving God with us!  
Milissa Carter, Karen Diller, Barb Johnson, and Bill Pomroy

In 2019, the Green Committee continued Oak Grove's push to net zero for all energy. In other words, to produce more clean energy from solar and wind than we consume. The good news is that we are very close to achieving this goal for both electricity and natural gas. Highlights include:

- Building of the St. Cloud Community Solar Garden from which we subscribe for 85% of our electricity.
- Activation of our rooftop solar panels from which we get 25% of our electricity.
- Membership in Xcel's *WindSource* from which we get 100% clean energy from wind turbines in western Minnesota.
- These three clean energy sources produce enough clean energy to avoid or credits to offset the greenhouse gases produced by both our electricity and natural gas use. And we are paying approximately the same as we did back when we were using energy derived from fossil fuels.

Another goal is infiltrating and treating as much storm water run-off as we can into the groundwater and not into Nine Mile Creek/Minnesota/Mississippi River:

- Revised plans to build a large rain garden in front of the Education Wing to take storm water away from the church and off Old Shakopee Rd and to clean it and to recharge groundwater rather than having it run-off as pollution. The rain garden will be built in the summer of 2020 and will be paid for, and maintained for 2 years, by Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

Conducted education and outreach related to climate change and sustainability:

- January 2019: "*Climate Change: Gloom, Doom or Boom?*" presentation featuring Sam Potter, PhD climate scientist and Willis Mattison, PhD ecologist.
- Participated in Nine Mile Creek Watershed District's "*Sustainable Residential Landscaping Class*" for area residents at Discovery Point in Eden Prairie in April.
- Was re-certified as being an *Earth Care Congregation* by the PC (USA). Hosted the first meeting of the Earth Care Congregations of the Twin Cities area in May and provided tours of our church.
- In June 2019, we hosted a tour of Oak Grove for other Bloomington churches and companies as part of the Bloomington Sustainability Commission- Partners in Energy program.
- Built model wind turbine stands and a testing "wind tunnel" and taught kids about wind energy in a vacation bible school KidWind activity. Did a similar outreach event with kids at the Bush Lake Izaak Walton Chapter
- Held our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "EV Expo" on Sep 14, 2019 that attracted 250 visitors to the church through the efforts of 25 Oak Grove volunteers.
- Hosted monthly Bloomington Citizens Climate Lobby meetings at Oak Grove throughout 2019

### Plans for 2020

- Put on KidWind and KidSolar sessions to teach kids and their parents about renewable energy. Train educators and package the KidWind equipment in a trailer so it can travel and be shared among different groups.
- Start a comprehensive program to collect recycling, compost, and trash throughout the building using 3-receptacle “centers” with signage and guidance by our youth.
- Replant the remaining area in front of the Education Wing in native plants and grasses and not turf grass.
- Create a PowerPoint loop presentation showing our monthly production from rooftop solar, community solar, water and recycling/composting/trash.
- Train Oak Grove members to “*Prioritize Climate*” at party caucuses on February 25.
- Develop classes and events for April 19, 26, May 3 and May 10 in Adult Faith Formation celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day.
- Organize and host our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual EV Expo on September 19, 2020.
- Work with other church committees and churches to develop ways that Oak Grove members and community can dramatically cut our carbon emissions and protect the poor and young from the terrible destruction of uncontrolled climate chaos....as we are seeing in Australia, Greenland, Arctic, California and in massive flooding throughout the world.

We invite you to join the Green Committee. We especially need people who can graph data and create presentations. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday night of the month at 7pm, and you can attend by phone if you desire.

**Committee Members:** Bob Gerdes, Al Frechette, Al Greimel, Pdon Pinkham, Anne Fisher, Erin Anderson-Wenz and John Crampton. Special thanks to Sunny Ray Snyder for her excellent leadership as Green Committee Chair for the past 3 years.

### Mission Committee

Greg Johnson, Chair

The Mission Committee Vision Statement: **To restore God’s creation by using our congregations’ resources and talents in service to our community and the world.**

**Matthew 25:35** -- *For I was hungry, and you gave Me food; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in.*

### The Mission **Committee Mission** Statement

In order to realize our vision:

- We support a diversity of people and organizations, both locally and globally.
- We incorporate mission in our worship and educational opportunities.
- We encourage fellowship activities to have a mission component.
- We offer our facilities for a wide variety of uses.
- We support denominational mission efforts.
- Through prayer, we seek God’s guidance, blessing and support for all aspects of mission.



*Mission cont'd*

“Life’s persistent and most urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Oak Grove is an amazing church!! One reason is its commitment to mission. Where there’s a need, Oak Grove will respond. This article is a summarization of the many and varied organizations supported by Oak Grove.

With a 2019 budget of \$127,000, here is a recap of the donations:

General Mission Pledge	\$41,780
Syrian American Medical Society	3,000
Schools for Peace (Pakistan)	5,000
SLT Scholars (Guatemala students)	1,000
International Village Clinic (India)	8,000
San Lucas Mission (Guatemala)	5,000
Bridging	1,000
The Sheridan Story	4,000
Clearwater Forest	4,000
Cornerstone	3,000
Homework Connection	8,000
Loaves & Fishes	7,000
Meals on Wheels	3,000
Oasis	3,000
Simpson House	1,400
Supportive Housing	15,000
VEAP	6,000
Green Valley Samaritans	2,000
Youth Mission Trip	1,000
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	3,000
Undesignated Mission Projects	1,820 (\$870 for Whitney Gerdes (International Association for Refugees); \$700 to help Sunday Akway move: \$250 for the CROP Walk)

In addition, through special donations, \$4,688 was donated to VEAP, and \$625.30 to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

In January, the Mission Committee held a planning meeting to identify goals and objectives for the year. Here are the major goals, and their status:

1. Fund Sheridan Story from Mission budget – Session approved the budget for 2020, which included the Sheridan Story as a separate line item.
2. Identify a water organization to support – There is \$1,500 for a water project in 2020.
3. Re-design the Mission Gift Fair – The Mission Gift Fair was revised – see results below.
4. Initiate a Mission-focused Sunday service – The Session approved this for Sunday, February 9, 2020.
5. Increase support for NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) to \$1,000 a year – Session approved the Mission budget for 2020, which includes NAMI as a separate line item.
6. Re-design the Mission brochure – The brochure has been re-designed.

*Mission cont'd*

In February and March, the Mission Committee held a fundraiser for the Sheridan Story. In addition to the \$4,000 in the budget above, there was a need for another \$6,750 to meet the need for our annual commitment. Oak Grove responded!! We raised over \$11,000!!

In late May, Frank Bliss drove to the Annunciation House in El Paso, TX to distribute the items, which were collected at Oak Grove, to the migrants at the border.

In October, Oak Grovers were very instrumental in helping at the fundraiser for the International Village Clinic (IVC). The total amount raised was \$35,636. \$20,000 of that total will be used to add one more year of classes to the new IVC school. Thanks to the Oak Grovers who were involved in that event!!

In December, the Mission Gift Fair was held. The proceeds were \$6,823.75 for the Presbytery Mission; \$1,905 for Kiva; \$1,265 for Clearwater Forest; \$320 for Guatemalan coffee and Palestinian Olive Oil; \$235 for the S.H.E. Project. Therefore, the total was \$10,548.75. Oak Grove is very generous!!

Every year, PC(USA) sponsors four major offerings. Here is Oak Grove's response:

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$7,379
Pentecost Offering	\$1,247
Peace & Global Witness Offering	\$ 614
Christmas Joy Offering	\$2,215

All during the year, Gar Nordin manages the Kiva account for Oak Grove. Here is his report:

Kiva is an international nonprofit, founded in 2005 and based in San Francisco, with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Kiva supports people looking to create a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. The Kiva funding model is simple... choose a borrower, make a loan, get repaid, repeat... a constant roll-it-forward model!

In December 2014, the Mission Committee established an account with Kiva. Monies that go into Oak Grove's Kiva account are from donations by individuals and not from the Mission Committee's budget. The Mission Committee administers Oak Grove's Kiva account each month where current loans are reviewed and new loans are made.

**In 2019**, Oak Grove's Kiva account made **43** loans totaling **\$7,475** in **21 countries** around the world.

Since the establishment of the Oak Grove's Kiva account in 2014, the account has now made **137 loans** totaling **\$30,250** in **48 countries** around the world!

**Nearly 80 % of the loans are made to women** to help build their businesses and support their livelihoods in areas such as agriculture, food markets, clothing, construction, arts, transportation, health and many others.

## *Mission/Kiva cont'd*

Also in 2019, Oak Grove joined a Kiva Team called "**Climate Pilots.**" The purpose statement of the team states, "We loan because we would like to promote climate-friendly projects and promote small loans." We funded several Climate Pilot projects in 2019.

We thank all of you who have contributed to Oak Grove's Kiva account. To learn more about Kiva, go to [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org), or talk to any member of Oak Grove's Mission Committee.

Together, we are changing lives. Dreams are universal, opportunity is not.

Thanks to the entire congregation for their support during 2019!

**Mission Committee members:** Greg Johnson (chair), Iris Karow, Sharon Nolte, Mary Crampton, Lucy Clyde, Gar Nordin, Noel Eggebraaten, Stephen Jones, Cecelia Laurie. Anne Fisher is the staff liaison.

### **SUPPORTIVE HOUSING COMMITTEE** (SHC) (*Mission Sub-committee*)

Sue Powers, Chair

#### **Mission**

- To support individuals/families in unstable housing situations (i.e. Oasis for Youth, residence in NOAH [Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing] apartment buildings.)
- To become skillful advocates for the growing need of affordable housing for low income earners in our communities.
- To inform members of Oak Grove about the affordable housing crisis in our communities and ways to prevent the loss of existing affordable housing to developers who wish to upscale the apartment complexes and then raise rents to a point where they are no longer affordable.
- To support non-profit housing organizations whose goal it is to PRESERVE existing affordable housing, PREVENT displacement of low income earners and their families from housing being threatened by gentrification and PROVIDE new housing where needed.

#### **How Do We Do This?**

- Become aware of the issues surrounding homelessness and affordable housing
- Attend training sessions and educational seminars sponsored by organizations such as Jewish Community Action ([Jewishcommunityaction.org](http://Jewishcommunityaction.org)) and Minnesota Homeless Coalition ([mnhomelesscoalition.org](http://mnhomelesscoalition.org)), an advocacy group that trains people to speak to their respective legislators during "Homeless Day on the Hill."
- Support non-profit organizations (i.e. Oasis, VEAP, Aeon) that provide supportive services to the homeless and precariously housed.
- Invite guest speakers to present Adult Faith Formation (AFF) sessions to inform Oak Grove's congregation about issues surrounding homelessness and the desperate need for affordable housing.
- Send SHC members to the meetings of the Bloomington Housing Coalition (BHC) whose mission is to influence government organizations to increase the number of affordable housing units and preserve those already in existence in this community.

### **Organizations We Support**

- OASIS FOR YOUTH-began as a drop-in and resource center located right here at OGPC in July of 2010. They continually expand their services of support for homeless and precariously housed youth. The SHC uses part of the funds received from the Mission Committee to provide support for the scattered-site housing program specifically focused on youth who may be attending school and/or have employment but do not make enough money to pay the full cost of renting an apartment that allows them to have a safe and stable housing opportunity.
- AEON (aeon.org) is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating and keeping affordable housing through preservation, rehabilitation and new construction. The SHC is committed to working with Aeon to help with cosmetic improvements to a property in Richfield the organization recently acquired. Thanks to Aeon, this property (Season's Park) was preserved as affordable housing rather than being sold to a developer who was interested in rehabilitating the property and renting these units at market rate. In 2019, the committee delivered monthly flyers to each of the 427 units as Season's Park apartments informing residents of the dates and times the VEAP Mobile Pantry would be at the apartment complex.

In the spring, we held a bike clinic to help residents get their bikes in repair for the warmer weather. Oak Grove Youth joined the committee, residence and employees of Season's Park to clean up the grounds in the fall. In December 2019, Aeon acquired another affordable complex in Bloomington and the SHC was there to help spruce up the property using funds provided by Aeon.

### **Other Activities**

- As in previous years, the committee sponsored the "Giving Tree" which the Oak Grove congregation generously supported by providing gifts and gift cards for our Oasis youth; as well as toilet paper, diapers and wipes for a "Donate and Do" evening at VEAP in which our youth participated.

Our sincere thanks to ALL Oak Grovers for their generous and loving support of this committee. BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL!

**Current Committee Members:** Nancy Hauser, Carol Long, Joey Oslund, Carol Osweiler, Lisa Pomroy, Sue Powers, Chair

**Mission:** To ensure a caring, nurturing and collegial church work environment and perform all aspects of personnel management.

The Personnel Committee provides personnel with an Oak Grove church member liaison to facilitate issue resolution and annual performance review.

The Personnel Committee is responsible for maintaining and updating Personnel policies and job descriptions, conducting performance reviews, putting forth salary & benefit recommendations to the Session, assisting with job searches, conducting disciplinary actions, hiring and terminations.

**Accomplishments and Highlights 2019:**

- Reviewed current staff salaries, and recommended increases as appropriate.
- Adjusted benefits where appropriate.
- Developed and submitted 2020 Personnel Budget.
- Accepted the resignation of Meghan Dooley, Financial Secretary.
- Accepted the resignation of Bill Chadwick, *Pastor, Head of Staff*.
- Hired Shannon Murphy to fill the position of *Assistant Nursery Staff*.
- Hired Britta Weber to fill the position of *Youth and Young Adult Ministries Coordinator*.
- Hired Anne Fisher to fill the position of *Interim Pastor, Head of Staff*.
- Hired Anne Swenson to fill the position of *Bookkeeper* replacing the position of Financial Secretary.
- Updated job descriptions for *Bookkeeper, Head Pastor, Associate Pastor, Youth and Young Adult Ministries Coordinator*.
- Updated employment records of all staff.
- Conducted annual review for all staff.

**Plans for 2020:**

- Continue to support staff through one to one liaisons.
- Update the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church Personnel Policies and Procedures
- Perform search and hire a permanent *Pastor, Head of Staff*
- Beth Angerhofer, *Office Administrator* has announced her retirement for October 2020, and therefore will need to perform search and hire an *Office Administrator*.
- Update employment records of all staff.
- Conduct annual review for all staff.

**Committee members for 2020:** Pat Gleason (chair), Mary Bowen-Eggebraaten, Pierce Flanagan, Maureen Switzer, Bill Pomroy, and Anne Fisher (Staff Resource). A sincere thank you to Sonya Butler and Anne Klueh and Dave Johnson who retired at the end of 2019.

## Rainbow Fellowship Committee

Susan Skovran, Chair  
Session Liaison: Karen Amato

**Mission:** Rainbow Fellowship provides fellowship, support and resources for members and allies of the LGBTQIA community. As member of More Light Presbyterians, we encourage full participation of LGBTQ people in the life, ministry and witness of our congregation and welcome all who wish to join us in faithful service for justice, peace and love.

Events of 2018-2019:

- **Rally Sunday** – We now have 38 supportive individuals on the Rainbow Fellowship email list.
- **Hosted FMSC event** – 14 people participated.
- **AFF** – speaker Morgen Gray: My Story
- **Hosted all church caroling at Nine Mile Creek Senior Living** - 27 people provided joy to the residents.
- A **Rainbow “Flash”** walk up during second service contributing to “noisy offering” benefiting Feed My Starving Children.
- **Joined all church Feed My Starving Children event**, followed by our holiday party hosted by Anna and Jan Ahlquist.
- **AFF** – Q&A session – mediated by Morgen Gray
- **“Cookies, Carrot Cake and Closet Cleaning”** event
- **Clothing donations to ARC Village.**
- **Rainbow Fellowship Sunday:** Speakers Morgen Gray, Susan Skovran and Shawn Wimberly

Chairperson for 2019-2020: Marsha Pridgeon

A gracious thank you to Oak Grove’s open and affirming congregation who greet all with open arms. Peace for your journey.

## Social Justice Committee

Carol Frechette, Chair

**Mission:** To promote social justice, the concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society.

### **Accomplishments and Highlights:**

- Filled and distributed Homeless Bags several times.
- Viewed and discussed the video [Chosen](#) and scheduled it for March 1, 2020 Faith Formation.
- Presented the award winning video [Trigger](#) at a special showing in the Sanctuary and inserted a notice in the Oak Leaves.
- Registered as a [Move to Amend](#) Congregation and hosted a meeting of churches.
- Proposed a [Gun Violence Resolution](#) for members to consider and engaged members in several efforts to address gun violence.



## *Social Justice cont'd*

- Members participated in JRLC Day on the Hill - Meet with Your Legislators.
- Participated in Rally Day and stamped money to promote getting money out of politics and encouraging members to donate items for the homeless bags.
- Submitted several Oak Leaves articles including:
  - Information to help members follow and participate in social justice related legislation in congress and the Minnesota legislature.
  - Articles about the homeless bag project and materials needed.
  - An article about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy.
  - An article recommending a program on fighting racism.
  - An article about the Minnesota Homeless Memorial March.
- Presented a Faith Formation on the Sanctuary movement to support immigrants.
- Presented a Faith Formation on Pastor Arika Galloway's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy
- Donated to Annunciation House in El Paso, Texas in support of Frank Bliss's volunteer work there.
- Donated to Isaiah Sanctuary Network to support their work with immigrants seeking sanctuary.
- Donated to Exodus Lending to support their services in lieu of payday lending.
- Donated to Simpson House and a family that helps with homeless people.
- Donated to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy that *“equips K-12 Northside scholars to be accelerated learners, game-changing global leaders, and justice-oriented entrepreneurs. We practice radical hope through the healing of racialized trauma, academic excellence, artistic expression, and innovative activism.”*

### **The Committee monitored the following legislation:**

- MN HF 9, Red Flag Bill: Passed house stopped by Republican controlled Senate
- HF 8, MN Firearms Background Check Bill: Passed house not accepted by Republican controlled Senate.
- HR 8, Firearm Background Checks: Passed House by 232 Democrats and 8 Republicans. Being held up by Republicans in Senate.
- S 66, Assault Weapons Ban: Being held up by Republicans in Senate.
- HR 1, For the People Act: Passed House by 234 Democrats and 0 Republicans. Being held up by Republicans in Senate.
- H.J.Res. 48, Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States providing that the rights extended by the Constitution are the rights of natural persons only. Referred to Judiciary and Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. This coincides with the resolution proposed by the Social Justice Committee, adopted by Session in 2016, and by Presbytery in 2017 (Presbytery Newsletter “Emerge”).

**Committee Members:** Marsha Pridgeon, Bob Ritter, Pamara Ritter, Anne Ritterspach, Paul Schalekamp, Doodee Backstrom, Ron Dubis, Susan Thomforde, Emily Christy, Allen Frechette, Lily Dodge, Frank Bliss, Nancy Kachel, Mary Jones, Mary Bowen-Eggebraaten, & Carol Frechette, Chair

## **Technology Committee**

Andy Snyder, Chair

**Mission:** To create an environment using the website, computers, lighting, video, and sound technology, to enhance the worship experience and lives of Oak Grove members, staff and surrounding community. The scope of the committee includes purchasing and servicing office and staff computers and related office equipment, Wi-Fi and email capability, phone system, and sound, lighting and video (SLV) equipment and systems.

### **Accomplishments and Highlights:**

- 2019 is the year that the technology committee enhanced Oak Grove outreach by streaming the Sunday service on Facebook. We are now streaming and saving the Sunday worship service to Facebook for members to enjoy from home or travel.
- The technology committee installed a new video camera.
- Continue with the Tuesday afternoon working tech team at OGPC to address issues that arise during the week and to interface with staff members.
- Installed several new computers and monitors for church team members.
- Started training several new members to operate the SLV board.
- Purchased and implemented new rechargeable Hearing Assist Receivers, allowing for hands-free use.
- Supported the EV Expo and provided Internet access for the EV charging station and solar panel installations.
- Several members of the committee supported the International Village Clinic fundraiser in St. Paul with video equipment and operational personnel.

### **Potential Projects looking forward in 2020**

- Transition Tech committee chair duties to Pierce Flanagan.
- Identify long-range goals and funding requirements for next 3 years.
- Plan for replacement projectors in the sanctuary.
- Upgrade wireless microphone units to a new federal standard.
- Install several new computers.

### **Committee Members:**

Mac Davis, Bob Gerdes, Gordon Goodwin, Greg Johnson, Larry Klueh, Mike Steskal, Andy Snyder (Session member). A special thanks to each of the Technology Committee members for their continued support.



**Mission**

To oversee and coordinate all aspects related to worship and music in conjunction with the pastors.

**Functions**

- Participate in hiring the Director of Music, Choir Director, and Organist
- Recruit and coordinate liturgists, ushers, advent candle lighters and communion servers
- Provide oversight to the Sanctuary Guild and Pew Crew
- Through the Sanctuary Guild, provide banners, paraments, vessels, and other liturgical art pieces and decorations for the sanctuary
- Submit names and recommendations for Session approval of those individuals seeking baptism
- Provide flowers for worship services
- Recruit funeral, wedding, and communion service coordinators
- Develop and submit policies for weddings, funerals, and baptisms
- Arrange for supply pastors as needed
- Coordinate special music ensembles and events
- Recommend resources for worship such as hymnals, Bibles, etc.

**Accomplishments and Highlights**

- **Provided liturgists, ushers, and communion servers.**
  - In 2019, coordinators were Dick Nichols (liturgists), Larry Klueh (ushers), and Jacques Chasse and Cecelia Laurie (communion). Sandy Crum coordinated greeters.
- **Coordinated supply pastor needs.**
  - Over the summer of 2019, we invited a handful of supply pastors to conduct services, including Jim Brasel, Anna Kendig, Deb DeMeester, Mary Pol and John Lee.
  - For November, we invited Kevin Kling to visit and provide us with his stories.
- **Special music** provided in 2019 included:
  - Capitol City Brass for Palm Sunday
  - February: Salsa del Soul
  - May: Hope Rising
  - World Communion Sunday: Hakuna Matata Children's Choir
  - Special Events:
    - Centennial Singers
    - River Heights Chorale
- **Ordered EcoPalms** for Palm Sunday
  - EcoPalms are sustainably grown and harvested in Guatemala and Mexico. All of the harvesting communities either have or are in the process of obtaining an outside sustainable certification from SmartWood, a division of Rainforest Alliance. The forests in which these palms reside are being protected from agriculture and logging because of the palms residence.
- **Baptisms** – provided review of baptism requests and recommendations to Session.

## *Worship & Music cont'd*

- **The Sanctuary Guild** prepared the sanctuary beautifully for Lent, Easter, World Communion Sunday, All Saints Day, Veterans Day, and Advent. The Guild is a great group who are always willing to do whatever is needed!

**2019 Worship and Music Committee members:** Judy Cooper, Anne Fisher, Eugene Orr (Chair), Andrew Hess, Anne Klueh, Sarajane Myers, Caitlin Lucic, and Dick Nichols

## **Youth Faith Formation**

Anne St. Martin Klueh, Chair

The purpose of the Youth Faith Formation Committee is to provide leadership, plan and coordinate programs and ministries for senior high and middle school youth. These provide opportunities for:

- Sharing stories of faith and faith development
- Leadership
- Outreach and mission
- Interconnectedness and relationships with the whole church

## **Highlights and Happenings from 2019**

The youth program again saw many changes during 2019. We began the year continuing to provide services for our youth with the help of amazing volunteers while preparing the groundwork for hiring a new youth director.

- In early January, we formed a search committee to recruit and hire a Youth and Young Adult Ministries Coordinator. The committee included Pastor Mary Koon, Pastor Bill Chadwick, Noel Eggebraaten, Russ Snyder, David Wilkens, Vaughn Sheff and Anne Klueh. We examined our hopes for the services we, as a church, wished to provide for youth who are saturated with activities through school and community. We prayerfully looked at resumes, had phone interviews with four candidates and, in the end, were thrilled to meet Britta Weber! Our committee invited youth members Anna Lyons and Lily Dodge for a final interview in March and we had no doubt, Britta was the one! We then had to be patient as Britta finished her degree at St. Olaf and completed summer obligations. She joined us in mid-August and hit the ground running!
- While waiting, our committee continued to reflect on what does and doesn't work in our youth programming. We worked to be as transparent as possible with ourselves and each other to lay groundwork for success when Britta arrived.
- Amy Zsohar dedicated herself to Sunday morning faith formation classes for high schoolers. Arne Johnson generously stepped up to join her as classes began in September. Travis and Rory Scott continued to be leaders with the high school youth during WoW! Chad Acker also joined this team as needed. Themes for study and discussion this past year included, "Who are you?" love, climate change, how our faith helps us in hard times, and mental health concerns. Our youth continue to show concern for the state of our world and desire to work for justice. In the spring, youth sent valentines to our state legislators urging the demise of "conversion therapy" for gay and lesbian folks.
- We continued to be intentional about combining the middle school and high school youth together on a regular basis. This has helped create a space where high school youth can share their experiences and offer support about the transition from middle school to high school. With Britta's guidance, we are looking at ways to increase peer mentoring in 2020.
-

## Youth cont'd

- We had several successful fundraisers for the trip to Guatemala and for Triennium, including, but not limited to the chili cook-off, a wild and wonderful cake auction, a car wash at the EV Expo and two photo booth opportunities.
- Some committee members attended a Connex Community training, "Come to the Well: Drink and Be Known" in February, led by Rev Dr. Rachel Keefe. She presented on how the church can respond to mental health concerns, especially suicidality. In response, Oak Grove presented a workshop on primary adolescent mental health diagnoses in April and a follow-up workshop on how to respond to depression and suicide ideation, particularly in youth, in July. Presenters were Vaughn Sheff, Mary Koon and Anne Klueh. 25-30 Oak Grove members attended each workshop.
- In mid-June, the long awaited (postponed from 2018) trip to Guatemala took place. Twelve youth and nine adult leaders from Oak Grove had a life-changing experience traveling to San Lucas Toliman in Guatemala. The group experienced Guatemalan culture through service at home construction sites, sampled small restaurants and street food, played with children in the park, and participated in multiple lectures, learning experiences, and tours. They explored, discovered, and were able to grow closer to one another, the people of San Lucas, and to God.
  - **\*All who participated were aware that they would not have had the experience without the generous financial and spiritual support of Oak Grove members. Thank you!** (Please see Britta's report for more)
- In July, four students, Cassie Acker, Tedo Phillips, Kaitlin Rossow and David Wilkens, attended Triennium in Indiana with 36 participants from the Twin Cities Presbytery and thousands from across the country. All had a remarkable time in this spirit-filled experience. Many thanks to Amy Zsohar for not only chaperoning, but also for taking such a strong leadership role and for making great connections with other members of Presbytery .
- Other summer activities: Amy Zsohar and Shawn Wimberly opened their home and yard for a camp-out in August; a last hurrah before school began.
- As we celebrated Britta's joining us in August we held several fellowship activities, as well as a parent/youth session to understand better the needs of our youth and how to move into the new school year.
- Britta continues to reach out to youth individually to try to ensure they know that Oak Grove is in their corner.

## Confirmation

### Program Overview

Vaughn Sheff and Jane Propsom kicked off their 6<sup>th</sup> year leading the Confirmation Experience program. Vaughn and Jane run an engaging program that allows students to learn, discuss and ask questions about theology, faith and life. Our discussions revolve around our annual theme, and this year it is: *Stories*. Therefore, we are focusing on stories from The Bible, stories we tell each other and our own personal stories. In addition, we regularly examine inter-faith study, Bible study & literacy and address larger questions that drive faith formation (e.g. hunger, social justice, poverty). The goal is to provide a comprehensive and instructive curriculum that supports our student's faith formation.

Currently 15 youth participate in our program, with ~10 to 12 attending weekly.

As part of this program, students are paired with a Covenant Partner who mentor the students along their faith journey. Additionally we invite our adult faith leaders, such as Britta Weber

### Youth cont'd

and Mary Koon, to lead a discussion with the class. We have five 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are eligible to be confirmed as members this year: Belle Sheff, Sam Radtke, James Robles, Jack Glusser, and Lizzie Jeschke. We hope all of them will choose to be confirmed in May 2020 as part of the Confirmation program.

In May of 2019, Cassie Acker, Julian Wenz and Evan Wilkens were confirmed.

### **Service & Fellowship Activities**

At least once per month, the Confirmation class engages in a service or fellowship event. To date there have been four major activities:

- 10/09/19, Clean Up @Season's Park Properties: Picked up trash around the properties to assist our neighbors in the Richfield neighborhood and care for the Earth!
- 10/20/19, Bonfire: Arne & Jacque Johnson hosted a bonfire at their residence, with Britta providing the coordination & snacks for this amazing fellowship event!
- 11/22/19 – 11/23/19, FMSC & Lock-In: Completed a service event at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) Friday evening, then engaged in fellowship activities until Saturday morning!
- 12/18/19, Donate & Do: We sorted and packaged toilet paper/diapers for VEAP to support those in need within our community. Then received a tour & overview of VEAP---what an amazing community resource!

Vaughn and Jane are awesome and dedicated teachers and we are very lucky to have them in this role!!

#	Student LN	Student FN	Grade	Covenant Partner
1	Sheff	Belle	8	Sue Greimel
2	Radtke	Sam	8	Chad Acker
3	Glusser	Jack	8	Chad Acker
4	Robles	James	8	Kris Jacobson
5	Jeschke	Lizzie	8	Sue Greimel
6	Steskal	Jackie	7	Iris Karow
7	Carter	Matthew	7	Jim Koon
8	Jones	Hannah	7	Karen Alonzi
9	Elbert	Madeleine	7	Karen Alonzi
10	Gillies	Tatum	7	Milissa Carter
11	Stirratt	Marleen	7	Cece Klueh
12	Kashmark	Emma	7	Cece Klueh
13	Wenz	Katrin (Kat)	6	Amy Zsohar
14	Johnson	Eva	6	Amy Zsohar
15	Myers	Natalie	6	Amy Zsohar

Youth cont'd

## Looking ahead to 2020:

As we move into the new year we continue to look at the unique ways we, as a church, can support and challenge our youth. We will strive to make our offerings meaningful and relevant for all students.

- High School Mission Trip is set for 6/21-6-27/2020. Amy Zsohar is excited to lead us on a trip to MoRanch, a Presbyterian Retreat Center in Hunt, TX, which has been a very special place to Amy and her family over the years. The event next summer is a celebration of youth with small and large group sessions, music, spiritual and recreational opportunities (much like a mini-Triennium). The center is on the Guadalupe River and is very beautiful. The plan is to rent vans and do some mission projects in cities along the route. (Please read Britta's report for more details.)

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the committee for all of their work, for training me in, and for their dedication to our youth, especially during the year we were without a director. Extra thanks go out to Mary Koon for all of the support and assistance in the months before Britta joined us!!

**2019 Youth Committee Members:** Anna Lyons, Amy Zsohar, Chad Acker, Jane Propsom, Rory Scott, Russ Snyder, Travis Scott, Vaughn Sheff; and Britta Weber and Mary Koon, staff resources and Anne Klueh, Chair.

## Board of Deacons

Judy Acker and Larie Ann Schmidt, Co-Moderators

The ministry of the deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies of structure, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.” (Presbyterian Church USA Book of Order) The primary responsibility of a deacon of Oak Grove Presbyterian Church is to be responsive to the needs of the church and its members.

Your Deacon Board is a dedicated group of people who served Oak Grove with compassion and joy in 2019. We were blessed to have Pastor Mary Koon as our staff support during the year. Our theme for the year was **“Pass it On”** – ... *It only takes a spark to get a fire going And soon all those around, can warm up in its glowing, that's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it, you spread His love to everyone You want to pass it on, I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found, You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound I'll shout it from the mountain top – PRAISE GOD I want the world to know; the Lord of love has come to me I want to pass it on.*

We thank the dedicated outgoing members who completed their three-year term at the end of 2019: Judy Acker, Larie Ann Schmidt, Paul Sowers, Gene Dodge and Jim Goodermont. The following are the sub-committees of the Deacon Board:

*Board of Deacons cont'd*

- **Alert and Visitation:** The Deacons reach out, through hand written notes, calls and visits, to people who are new to the weekly prayer list. Thanks to the entire congregation who have expanded on that ministry by writing notes and sending cards from the Deacon's Bench (located in the Narthex) each week. CareNotes are also available in the Narthex. This committee also oversees the Friend-to-Friend Ministry, partnering active church members with those who are mostly homebound. Activities include regular visits, calls, and the Golden Harvest Dinner honoring Friend-to-Friend pairs and congregation members 80 years of age and older. Friend-to-Friend callers provide small gifts to their partners at Christmas and Easter.
- **Communion:** Deacons prepare the elements and do clean-up for Communion monthly and as required for special services of worship, and recruit servers every other month for the worship services at Presbyterian Homes in Bloomington.
- **Membership:** This sub-committee meets regularly with our staff support to keep track of members who have not been in regular attendance, and reaches out to these members in an attempt to encourage them to renew their commitment or to discover their intent about membership at Oak Grove.
- **Fellowship:** This sub-committee plans and oversees the Palm Sunday Brunch and the Golden Harvest Dinner. Deacons also staff Parents Day Out after pageant rehearsal, nurturing our youngest Oak Grovers.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** The deacons support the Prayer Shawl Ministry in conjunction with Presbyterian Women. The crocheted or knitted prayer shawls and mini bears are given to people in times of illness or loss, and supplies and cards are restocked as needed.
- **Simple Meal Ministry:** Meals consisting of soup and bread are delivered to people in need when a quick nutritious meal would be most helpful. The soup and bread are made by volunteers and/or deacons in the church kitchen and then frozen.

**Health Ministries:** This program oversees the lending of medical equipment for use by members, family and friends of Oak Grove. Personal visits, calls and cards to those congregation members remembering the first year loss of a family member are coordinated through this sub-committee. This committee supports the monthly Caregivers' Tea and the Respite Care lunch, which are scheduled the first and third Thursdays of the month respectively. This program has brought great comfort and peace to those who are working with family members who have memory or other health issues.

We thank the Oak Grove family for your support of the Board of Deacons, and welcome any ideas of better ways to serve our congregation in 2020.

**Mission:**

The Mission of the Oak Grove Presbyterian Women is to nurture our faith through Prayer, Bible Study and Fellowship and to support the Mission of the Church worldwide.

There are two Circles at Oak Grove that meet September thru May at the church. The Goodrich-Nord Circle meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. The Evening Star Circle meets on the first Tuesday evening of the month at 7 pm. In 2019, the Circles studied "God's Promise." These lessons are written by women from within the Presbyterian Church for women's studies. Pastors Mary Koon, Mary Pol and most recently Anne Fisher, lead our study each month. Their insight and knowledge make our gatherings much more fulfilling. We thank them.

Nancy Kachel, Dorothy Beattie and Jody Milton take turns coordinating the receptions held after funerals. This year there were a total of thirteen.

Several Oak Grove women attended the Fall Gathering held by women of our Presbytery. These Gatherings are daylong events that include excellent speakers and wonderful fellowship.

We had a very successful bake sale in the Fall. Bev Heise and Jody Milton coordinated this event again this year. We give the proceeds from this sale to various missions. Margaret Koch coordinated the Mitten Tree in December. This year she reported that it held 134 articles that were donated to Cornerstone.

We welcome new members to join us.

**2019 Presbyterian Women Officers:**

Moderator: Connie Nesbitt

Secretary: Mary Jones

Treasurer: Maureen Switzer

Goodrich-Nord Circle

Co-Chairs: Margaret Koch & Bev Heise

Treasurer: Jan Ahlquist

Evening Star Circle

Chair: Connie Nesbitt

Treasurer: Linda Johnson

**Financials Follow on Next Page**



## Endowment and Session Designated Funds

The Endowment Fund was established in 1988, with the donated principal to be held in perpetuity. The money is invested with the New Covenant Trust Company in socially responsible stocks. \$58,699 is available for 2020. \*2019 gifts of \$4,333 will be transferred to Endowment in 2020, and Endowment gains of \$176,098 will be transferred to Long-Term Building Maintenance.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2019	<b>\$934,088</b>
Bequests/Gifts	0*
Dividends and interest	24,179
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment	269,347
Fund expenses	(2,338)
Transfer to Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund	(\$0*)
<b>Ending Balance, December 31, 2019 *transfers pending*</b>	<b><u>\$1,225,276</u></b>

### Session Designated Fund

The Session Designated Fund was established in 2004, primarily of gifts from Mabel Johnson and Eugenie Whitney. The money is also invested with the New Covenant Trust Company. Under the Session's current policy, up to 15%, each year, of the fund value is available for Special Projects. Session has authorized \$56,022 for use in 2020 for special projects.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2019	<b>\$296,838</b>
Bequests/Gifts	0
Dividends and interest	7,172
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment	70,192
Fund expenses	(705)
Transfer to General Fund	18
<b>Ending Balance, December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$373,480</u></b>

### Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund 2019

The Long-Term Building Maintenance fund was re-established in 2015 from Endowment Fund earnings. The money is invested with the New Covenant Trust Company, and is restricted to building maintenance. \*2019 Endowment gains of 176,098 will be transferred to Long-Term Building Maintenance in 2020.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2019	<b>\$276,603</b>
Dividends and interest	4,547
Unrealized gain (loss) on investment	27,563
Fund expenses	0
Transfer from Endowment Fund Gains	\$0*
<b>Ending Balance, December 31, 2019 *transfer pending*</b>	<b><u>\$308,713</u></b>

### Property and Equipment 2019

Net Book Value, January 1, 2019	<b>\$2,795,028</b>
Additions	0
Depreciation	(144,857)
<b>Net Book Value, December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$2,650,171</u></b>

### Pastors' Discretionary Fund 2019

-- It is a joy for us pastors, on your behalf, to be able to help people in need. The Pastors' Discretionary Fund has long been a part of Oak Grove's mission. It is funded entirely by special donations and is not a part of our general budget. We use the fund to help Oak Grove members, those recommended by members, and some community members. (We refer most folks who come to our doors for emergency assistance to VEAP.) This year, we helped 12 people with rent/housing, medicine, electric costs, car repair/transportation, food, counseling, and education costs for a pastors' children in Africa. Thank you for your generosity and support of this important mission.

Beginning Balance, January 1, 2019	<b>\$ 2,192</b>
Donations	10,578
Expenses	(5,708)
<b>Ending Balance, December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 7,062</u></b>

*Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.*

## **Memorial and Donor Dedicated Accounts - 2019**

Memorials were given during 2019 in Memory or Honor of: Vern Berglund, Nancy Bogart, Bev Carlson, Jen Dahlberg, Lyle Daly, Erlene Elliott, Larry Fritchley, Arla Giddings, Phil Hall, Marilyn Hardin, Alice (Lee) Jaeger, Brian Jaskowiak, Audrey St Martin, Eugene Tominski, Todd Topel, Elizabeth & Van Vanatta

**Examples of some of our Dedicated Accounts are listed below:**

	<b>Balance 1/1/2019</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Balance 12/31/2019</b>
Allen Youth Camping Scholarship	\$5,218	\$350	\$350	\$5,218
Allen Seminary Scholarship	\$221			\$221
Building Maintenance & Repair	\$83,021	\$40,788		\$123,809
Choir Robes	\$2,145			\$2,145
Clearwater Camp Scholarship	\$2,258	\$2,465	\$2,115	\$2,608
Columbarium/Memorial Garden	\$175	\$10,000	\$680	\$9,495
Dalquist Women's Retreat	\$1,163	\$1,261	\$300	\$2,124
Deacons	\$589			\$589
Education	\$112	\$951		\$1,063
Green Initiatives	\$714	\$1,486	\$2,200	(\$0)
GPH Décor	\$1,250			\$1,250
History Committee	\$853			\$853
Kachel Mission Scholarship	\$9,384		\$1,775	\$7,609
KIVA Micro-Loan	\$0	\$2,405	\$2,405	\$0
Landscaping	\$3,389			\$3,389
MS "Seekers" Program	\$178			\$178
Music	\$8,455	\$395	\$2,450	\$6,400
Organ Fund	\$16,437	\$100	\$14,800	\$1,737
Presbyterian Mission Agency	\$0	\$6,824	\$405	\$6,419
SafeNights	\$6,070		\$2,210	\$3,860
SD Memorials	\$112	\$7,834	\$3,666	\$4,280
SH Mission Trip	\$2,877	\$7,517	\$7,165	\$3,229
S.H.E. Project	\$0	\$235	\$235	\$0
Sheridan Story Meals	\$0	\$11,927	\$11,910	\$17
Supportive Housing	\$248	\$939	\$429	\$758
Social Justice	\$1,474	\$730		\$2,204
VEAP	(\$120)	\$6,408	\$6,288	\$0
Worship	\$944	\$1,397	\$508	\$1,833
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$147,167</b>	<b>\$104,011</b>	<b>\$59,890</b>	<b>\$191,287</b>

***Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.***

**OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
December 31, 2019 and 2018

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
General Fund checking account	\$ 134,179	\$ 105,262
E-bay checking account	-	-
Pastors' Discretionary Fund checking account	7,062	2,192
Savings & CD accounts	20,001	50,003
Investments - Cash Reserves	198,473	
Investments - Operating Reserve	181,729	
Investments - Long-Term Building Maintenance	308,713	263,503
Investments - Session Designated Fund	373,480	296,838
Investments - Endowment Fund	1,225,276	1,210,691
Prepaid Expense	466	
Property and Equipment	4,858,794	4,855,983
Accumulated Depreciation	(2,208,623)	(2,060,955)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 5,099,548</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,723,517</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 11,546	\$ -
Deferred revenue	-	80,641
FSA balances	2,700	-
Education carryovers	3,755	5,901
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>\$ 18,001</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 86,542</u></b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted - General Fund Equity	\$ 14,911	\$ 35,927
- Operating Reserve	150,000	150,000
- Unrestricted This Year	89,423	(23,733)
- Dedicated Accounts	262,512	170,032
- Pastors' Discretionary Fund	7,062	2,192
- Session Designated Fund	373,480	296,838
- Property & Equipment	2,650,171	2,795,028
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b><u>3,547,559</u></b>	<b><u>3,426,284</u></b>
Temporarily Restricted - Dedicated Accounts	-	-
- Endowment Fund	695,419	404,231
- Long Term Building Maintenance Fund	308,713	276,603
Permanently Restricted - Endowment Fund	529,857	529,857
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b><u>1,533,989</u></b>	<b><u>1,210,691</u></b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>5,081,547</u></b>	<b><u>4,636,975</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$ 5,099,548</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,723,517</u></b>

*Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.*

**Oak Grove Presbyterian Church Statement of Activities**  
**GENERAL FUND - STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2020 (Budgeted), 2019, and 2018**

	Budget 2020	Actual 2019	Actual 2018
<b>REVENUES &amp; SUPPORT</b>			
Contributions and bequests	\$ 741,375	\$ 749,827	\$ 741,045
Dividend/Interest income	\$ 300	\$ (112)	\$ 55
Unrealized/realized gain (loss) on investments	\$ (175)	\$ 9	\$ 7
Per capita	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,908	\$ 6,253
Other Income	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,453	\$ 8,469
<b>TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES</b>			
2019 Surplus	\$ 37,303		
2019 Realized Gains on Wells GF Investment	\$ 30,825		
<b>TOTAL REVENUES &amp; SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$ 818,128</b>	<b>\$ 757,084</b>	<b>\$ 755,830</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
<b>Program services</b>			
Mission	\$ 119,430	\$ 112,000	\$ 125,745
Supportive Housing	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	
Social Justice	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,850	\$ 2,999
Green Committee	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,871	\$ 3,962
Friendship	\$ 4,510	\$ 2,625	\$ 4,122
Rainbow Fellowship	\$ 1,500	\$ 671	
Deacons	\$ 3,520	\$ 1,617	\$ 1,532
Worship and music	\$ 6,940	\$ 5,649	\$ 4,723
Multicultural	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 408
Next Church	\$ -	\$ 2,302	
Personnel	\$ 476,927	\$ 403,902	\$ 439,791
Christian education	\$ 15,950	\$ 11,977	\$ 7,599
Stewardship	\$ 1,890	\$ 722	\$ 742
<b>General and supporting expenses</b>			
General	\$ 1,135	\$ 217	\$ 8,453
Per capita	\$ 17,958	\$ 17,921	\$ 18,009
Office and administration	\$ 22,835	\$ 24,335	\$ 20,362
Technology	\$ 26,383	\$ 19,341	\$ 22,900
Building operations	\$ 97,350	\$ 85,521	\$ 88,696
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 818,128</b>	<b>\$ 710,521</b>	<b>\$ 750,044</b>

*cont'd next page*

**Oak Grove Presbyterian Church Statement of Activities cont'd**  
**GENERAL FUND - STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2020 (Budgeted), 2019, and 2018**

	Budget 2020	Actual 2019	Actual 2018
<b>OPERATING INCOME OVER/(UNDER) EXPENDITURES</b>	\$ 0	\$ 46,563	\$ 5,786
<b>OPERATING RESERVE GAINS</b>		\$ 50,360	
<b>Available from Session Designated Fund</b>	\$ 56,022	\$ 44,526	\$ 49,429
<b>Available from Endowment Fund</b>	\$ 58,699	\$ -	\$ 50,758
<b>Technology</b>			
New Server/Upgraded Internet/Phone			\$ 7,400
<b>Green Committee</b>			
Sanctuary LEDs			\$ 8,157
<b>Building &amp; Ops</b>			
Security Cameras			\$ 5,871
Fire Panel			\$ 2,291
Solar Panels			\$ 59,536
Roof Repairs			\$ 9,886
<b>General</b>			
Chain of Lakes Donation		\$ 7,500	
<b>GENERAL FUND CHANGES - YEAR END</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 89,423</b>	<b>\$ 5,786</b>
Special Projects covered by Operating Reserves	\$ -		\$ 78,991
Special Projects covered by SD Memorials			\$ 8,365
Total Available:	\$ 114,721	\$ 89,423	\$ 0

***Note: Some totals may not agree due to rounding.***

## 2020 Pastors' Terms of Call

Associate Pastor, 2020	
Salary	\$42,239
Temporary Augment	\$10,000
Housing	<u>\$30,900</u>
Total	\$83,139
Vacation	1 month
Benefits	
Pension	\$9,145
Health etc.	<u>\$23,249</u>
Total Compensation	\$115,533
Auto <sup>1</sup>	\$1,600
Education leave <sup>2</sup>	two weeks
Education allowance <sup>3</sup>	\$1,200
Professional Expense <sup>4</sup>	<u>\$1,300</u>
	\$4,100
Associate Pastor is entitled to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One Sunday off per quarter</li> <li>• Three-month sabbatical leave after six years</li> </ul>	
<sup>1</sup> Vouchered, IRS rate	
<sup>2</sup> Cumulative to 6 wks	
<sup>3</sup> Cumulative for 3 yrs	
<sup>4</sup> Vouchered	

Transitional Pastor, 2020	
Salary	\$65,000
Housing	<u>\$25,000</u>
Total	\$90,000
Vacation	1 month
Benefits	
Pension	\$ 9,900
Health etc.	<u>24,305</u>
Total Compensation	\$ 124,205
Auto <sup>1</sup>	\$1,400
Education leave <sup>2</sup>	two weeks
Education allowance <sup>3</sup>	\$1,200
Professional Expense <sup>4</sup>	<u>\$2,500</u>
	\$5,100
<sup>1</sup> Vouchered, IRS rate	
<sup>2</sup> Cumulative to 6 wks	
<sup>3</sup> Cumulative for 3 yrs	
<sup>4</sup> Vouchered	

## **Oak Grove Presbyterian Church 2020 Staff**

Rev. Dr. Anne Fisher, Transitional Pastor

Rev. Mary Koon, Associate Pastor

Judy Cooper, Director of Music

Britta Weber, Director, Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Beth Angerhofer, Office Administrator

Anne Swenson, Bookkeeper

Nancy Hauser, Organist/Hand Bell Choir Director

Tim Dubis, Janitor

Martinalan Smith, Janitor

Lacey Jones, Childcare Provider

Shannon Murray, Assistant Childcare Provider

