

We are a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith seeking to do justice, act mercifully, and walk humbly with our God.

Loving God... Changing Lives!



OAK GROVE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2200 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington Minn. 55431
952-888-4621 | www.oakgrv.org

April 16, 2023

Messy Church Sunday

10:30 am



*Who Is My
Neighbor?*

A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

*"You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have." – Corrie Ten Boom, Author of *The Hiding Place**

Thought for Messy Church

“Clutter and mess show us that life is being lived... Tidiness makes me think of held breath, of suspended animation... Perfectionism is a mean, frozen form of idealism, while messes are the artist's true friend. What people somehow forgot to mention when we were children was that we need to make messes in order to find out who we are and why we are here.”

— Anne Lamott, *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life*

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Chorale Introit “God Welcomes All”

Call to Worship

Leo Thomas

We gather this day, stranger and friend,

All neighbors,

All loved by God.

We gather to worship,

To sing, to pray, to praise.

To be reminded to be good neighbors and love as we have been loved. Let us worship God!

*Hymn “God of Great and God of Small”

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*Call to Confession

Gabe Chimchirian

Let us now confess before God, knowing that God listens and forgives.

God, give us the eyes of Jesus in order to see our neighbors in the strangers we meet. Teach us what it means to love others as we love ourselves. Forgive us for our selfishness, for our silence, for not caring enough for the people in our communities. Teach us to love and care for all people and the earth the way you do.

*Assurance of Grace

Gabe Chimchirian

Be at peace, people of God! Be at peace knowing that God draws near; that God walks with us in our struggle to follow boldly. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Passing of the Peace

Let us greet one another as beloved community, forgiven and freed to be the people that God created us to be! The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you. (*Exchange the peace with those around you.*)

We Listen for God's Word

Time for Grown-ups "Holy Humor" Oak Grove Children

Hymn of Response "Make New Friends"

Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold.
A circle's round, it has no end, that's how long I want to be your friend.

Scripture Luke 10:25–37 (NT: p. 71 | LPNT: p. 87) Grace Thomas

Sermon in Story "Who Is My Neighbor?" Oak Grove Children
(*by Amy Jill Levine & Sandy Eisenberg*)

Interactive response: Please take the butterfly from your bulletin and write what you will do to be a good neighbor. Move to one of the banner stations and pin your butterfly to the banner.

Hymn of Response "You're My Friend"

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory "How Could Anyone" *Libby Roderick*

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. AMEN

*Prayer of Dedication

Ulysses Thomas

With gratitude and love, we offer our gifts to you. Use them, and use us, to make known the hope, peace, justice and love of Jesus to our neighbor. AMEN.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our God^ in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

^Other options include Father, Mother or Creator

We Go Forth in God's Name

*Closing Hymn

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

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*Benediction

Life is messy...

and God is good!

Let us go in peace to love God and be good neighbors.

We go knowing God's grace goes before us,

Christ walks beside us,

And God's Spirit is within us! AMEN

Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

†††††

Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Mary Koon** | Artist: **Molly Fineran**;

Liturgists: **Oak Grove Children** | Director of Music: **Judy Cooper**;

Sound, Light, Video: **Greg Johnson, Pierce Flanagan & Ruth Dukelow**

Chancel flowers are given by **Howard Baumgartner**,

in *memory* of *wife Susan and their parents.*

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**Welcome, Oak Grove
members and visitors, we're
glad you're here!**

We are proud to be a Matthew 25, Green Care and More Light Congregation.

The congregation of Oak Grove values its roots that go back more than 150 years, even as we follow the movement of the Spirit into new ways of being and doing.

We always welcome your suggestions.

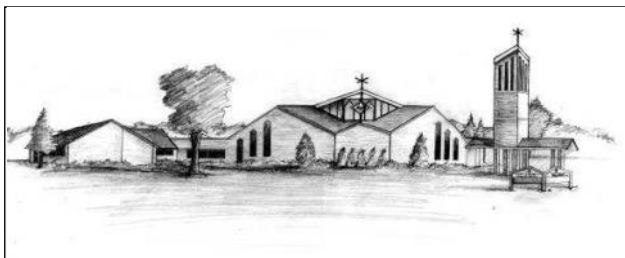
Greeter: **Barb Nelson**

Electrify Everything! Earth Day Expo: Saturday, April 22 (1–5:00 pm)

Do you want to cut your energy consumption by 65% while saving money, enjoying healthier ways of living, and saving creation for future generations? Then quit sending creation up the flue and out your tailpipe! Come celebrate Earth Day at Oak Grove Presbyterian Church!

1–3:00 pm Talks by Experts:

- Insulation & Weatherization
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- Heat Pumps for You



Prayer Requests

Please contact the church office to let us know when you have new requests or updates for family and friends, or when a death occurs so we can support and care for you or your loved one.

ogpc@oakgrv.org

952-888-4621

3–5:00 pm Tours of Oak Grove green projects:

- Solar
- Insulation
- Heat Pump
- LED Lighting
- EVs & EV Charging
- Rain Gardens & Native Plants
- Recycling & Composting
- Build your own KidWind model wind turbine

The tours will take place both inside and outside so dress for the weather. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3Ke8vDH>.

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Ladies Who Lunch: Wednesday, April 19 (noon)

Join us at the home of Iris Karow to discuss the novel, *The Exiles*, by Christina Baker Kline. RSVP to Iris (ikwilt@msn.com) or Mary (mkoon@oakgrv.org or 952-888-4621). We look forward to an afternoon of good food and conversation!

Evelyn (Crystal) Winkelman Memorial Service: Friday, April 21 (1:30 pm)

Please join us for a memorial service to celebrate the life of Crystal. Visitation begins at 1:00 pm with the service at 1:30 pm which will also be livestreamed.

Following the service, you are invited to join the family and friends in Gideon Pond Hall for light refreshments and continuing conversation around the table.

<https://bit.ly/3ZY8iKF>

Adult Faith Formation: Sunday, April 23 (9–10:00 am)

Please join us before worship as Andrew Ulasich, West and South Metro Organizer for ISIAH, will present, *Fighting Climate Change in Minnesota*.

<https://isaiahmn.org>

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Tuesday, April 25 (10 am to noon)

We are looking for more people who love to knit or crochet. The patterns, yarn and needles are provided. This ministry started over 16 years ago at Oak Grove. Recipients say they feel surrounded with prayers and love. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Nancy Kachel at 952-884-1895. We hope you will join us!

Oak Grove Cleanup Day: Saturday, April 29 (8:30 am to 3 pm)

Please join us for our annual clean, rake, sweep, wash, put away, get ready for better weather time at Oak Grove. Please plan to join us for the day or part of the day if you are busy. We encourage you to bring your own rake, gloves, and smile. Snacks and liberal breaks will be provided. This is traditionally a really fun time; some say it's the best day of the year!

Interested in joining Oak Grove?

Class will be held following the 10:30 am service on Sunday, April 30 (lunch and childcare available) and during education hour on Sunday, May 7 (9:15–10:15 am), with introductions to the membership at the 10:30 am worship service. Questions? Contact Sandy Crum (952-715-1252). We would love to have you join!

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Oak Grove Craft & Hobby Fair Sunday, April 30 (9–10:15 am)

If you love painting, quilting, or woodworking, or if you have a hobby or collection that is unique, this is a chance to share your talents and interests.

If your collection is too large, or you are unable to attend, we are hoping to be able to create a video so you can still take part. Children and youth are especially encouraged to participate!

If you wish to participate, there will be a sign-up in the narthex or contact Ron Dubis (612-868-9194).

Shred Event/Youth Fundraiser: Saturday, May 13 (10 am to Noon)

Join Oak Grove Youth and ShredRight for a shredding event and fundraiser. Bring an unlimited amount of documents to be securely shredded onsite to the church parking lot. The cost is \$10/grocery bag or \$20/box. Your contribution will help fund the Youth trip to Washington, D.C. as well as help the environment.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: Thursdays

Join other Oak Grove men for a time of fellowship while enjoying breakfast. The group meets weekly on Thursdays (7:30 am) at Denny's (4209 American Blvd W, Bloomington 55437). Questions? Contact Jack Kley at 952-831-4138.

Contribution Statements

Statements were sent out last week covering all donations/offerings Jan. 1 through March 31. We invite you to review your statement for accuracy. Feel free to contact Laura Nemcek (952-512-2052 or LNemcek@oakgrv.org) with any questions
THANK YOU!

Bloomington-Richfield Grief Support Coalition: Thursdays (4:30–6:00 pm)

Churches in the Bloomington-Richfield area are working together to provide free support and education for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one.

You can start any series at any time. There is no commitment on attendance and no cost, just show up!

The Spring Series (March 30–May 18) will be held at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church (901 E 90th St, Bloomington 55420)) in the education building behind the church (enter at door #6).

For more information, please visit <https://brgriefcoalition.com>.

April 20: Where Are We Now?

April 27: Navigating Life After Loss

Oak Grove's Purpose

Oak Grove is a joyful, inclusive, compassionate community of faith seeking to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

Values

Beyond our faith in God, our example in Jesus, and guidance from the Holy Spirit, our congregational values are the underlying ethic by which we define our community.

Authenticity

Celebratory Joyfulness

Compassion

Deep Relationships

Humble Curiosity

Inclusivity

Justice

Statement of Land Acknowledgement

We collectively acknowledge that Oak Grove Presbyterian Church is located on the traditional and ancestral lands of Indigenous people. We reside on land that holds great historical, spiritual, and personal significance for the Dakota, Native Nations and Indigenous people of the region. The land was ceded by the Dakota to the U.S. Government through treaties created and upheld with racist underpinnings.

By offering this land acknowledgment, we affirm tribal sovereignty and will work to hold Oak Grove Presbyterian Church accountable to Indigenous people and Nations. We recognize, and continually seek to support and advocate for the sovereignty of the Native Nations in this territory and beyond.

For more information, please visit our website www.oakgrv.org.