

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

Loving God... Changing Lives!



OAK GROVE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2200 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington Minn. 55431

952-888-4621 | www.oakgrv.org

May 14, 2023

6th Sunday of Easter

10:30 am



A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

“Anything that’s human is mentionable, and anything that is mentionable can be more manageable. When we can talk about our feelings, they become less overwhelming, less upsetting, and less scary.” – Fred Rogers, American television host, author, producer, and Presbyterian minister

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

"Gentle Waves"

by Nicolaus Meyers

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Words

The earth and everything in it was created by God: the world and all who live in it.

We recognize the Dakota people as the traditional stewards of the land where we now worship. We acknowledge the historic and on-going harm done to Indigenous people.

We are called as a people of faith to do justice, act mercifully, and walk humbly with God.

Therefore, we commit to repair relationships through action, honesty, listening, truth-telling, repentance, and restoration.

Centering Time/Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Kylie Borchardt

Friends, let us worship God today, for God is great –

God has blessed us with life, with faith, and with community.

Let us worship God today, for God is good –

God forgives us, and encourages us, and loves us. God is with us always.

Let us worship God today –

Because we are God's people. Let us worship with our whole selves!

*Opening Hymns

"Come All You People"

388

(children are invited to come and receive an instrument to play along with the hymn)

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

591

*Prayer of Confession

Kylie Borchardt

Holy God, we are quick to criticize, quick to judge, quick to blame. We fail to offer others the same grace we receive from you. We hold ourselves up as superior and fail to address the patterns of dominance we perpetuate. Forgive us. Help us seek understanding and compassion. Help us accept the love you offer us and share your love with others.

*Assurance of Grace

Kylie Borchardt

Christ transforms, redeems and renews. Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Kylie Borchardt

As God's beloved community, forgiven and freed, let us greet one another in peace and love. 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 the Young & Young at Heart

Hymn of Response

"I've Got Peace like a River"

623

Scripture

John 14:15–21 (NT: p. 109 | LPNT: p. 133)

Message

Affirmation of Faith

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings**Call to Offering****Anthem/Offertory** "God Our Creator, Source and Sustainer" *arr. Hayes****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**

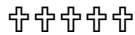
Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (*^ Father, Mother or Creator*)

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.

We Go Forth in God's Name***Closing Hymn** "I Will Come to You" 177***Benediction****Postlude** "Prayer"** Please rise in body or in spirit.*

The white rose on the baptismal font commemorates the completion of Baptism for **Roger Hornnes** who joined the church triumphant on May 8, 2023. "In Life and Death we belong to God."



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastor: **Mary Koon**;

Marimba: **Lydia Traeder** | Liturgist: **Kylie Borchardt**

Musicians: **Chancel Choir**;

Organist/Pianist: **Nancy Jensen** | Director of Music: **Judy Cooper**;

Sound, Light, Video: **Andy Snyder, Pierce Flanagan & Ruth Dukelow**;

Chancel flowers are given by **Rod & Maryjane Myers**, in *memory of Norma Myers* and in *honor of Catherine Seyller*, and **Sue Cavanaugh**, in *honor & memory of the May family Mothers*.

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

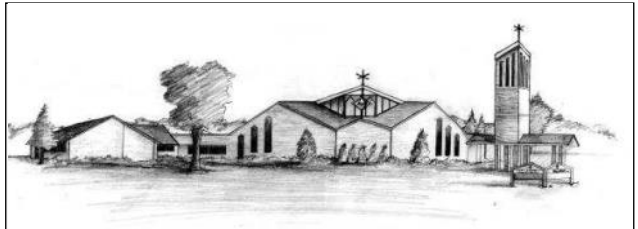
**Welcome, Oak Grove
members and visitors, we're
glad you're here!**

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: **Iris Karow**



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

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

The Oak Grove Nominating Committee invites the congregation to submit recommendations of people to serve as Elders or Deacons of Oak Grove (or Youth Elder for the class of 2024). You may also nominate yourself. Qualifiers are a faithful heart open to learning and growing, and a willingness/ability to meet for collaboration in service of God to our congregation. ***All nominations are due by Sunday, June 11, 2023.***

To suggest a name for consideration, nomination forms are available on the Welcome table, online at to www.oakgrv.org/nominate/ or by speaking with Pastor Bart or Kathy Howell (952-200-5129 or kathyhowell@comcast.net), Nominating Committee Chair.

Thank you!

Summer Schedule (Memorial Day through Labor Day)

- Sunday service begin at 9:30 am
- Church office hours: 8:30 am–3 pm (Mon–Thurs) & 8:30 am–noon (Fri)

Vacation Bible School

Join us June 12–15 (Monday–Thursday), 9:00 am to noon, as we explore what all living things need to live – shelter, food, water, air and community – and how we can have compassion for the living earth.

Through scripture, games, science, music, art, and yoga, children will consider how to become co-sustainers and participants in the work of God’s creation. Using Psalm 104 as our grounding text, we will closely examine the interconnectedness of the whole earth, humans alongside nature and creatures.

We welcome all children 3 years old through completed 5th grade. The cost is \$30 per child (\$70 for three or more children), and scholarships are available upon request. Please register at: www.oakgrv.org. For more information, please contact Pastor Mary.



OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



May 17 | Ladies Who Lunch (12–2:00 pm)
Book: *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck
Location: home of Linda Vaughn
RSVP to Pastor Mary

May 18 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)

May 18 | Grief Support Coalition (4:30–6 pm)
Topic: Finding a Place for Joy
in the Grief Journey
*St. Bonaventure Catholic Church
(901 E 90th St, door #6)*

May 21 | Adult Faith Formation (9–10:15 am)
Topic: Sensible Gun Legislation
Presenter: Moms Demand Action
Note: this will be the final program until fall

May 23 | Prayer Shawl Ministry (10am–Noon)
Contact Nancy Kachel (952-884-1895)

May 25 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)

May 25 | Bible Study (12–1 pm)
via Zoom (<https://bit.ly/2YttqhM>)

May 25 | Antiracism Accountability (6:30–8 pm)
via Zoom (<https://bit.ly/3JQoN4l>)

May 29 | **Memorial Day:** Office Closed

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

Congregational Meeting: Sunday, May 21 (following worship)

There will be a very short congregational meeting immediately following worship to elect a Deacon. We hope you will join us.

Pentecost Special Offering: April 10–May 28

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

Thank you!

Ways you can give: Use the special offering envelope, write a check to Oak Grove (put Pentecost in the memo line) or donate online at:

<https://www.oakgrv.org/donate/>

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

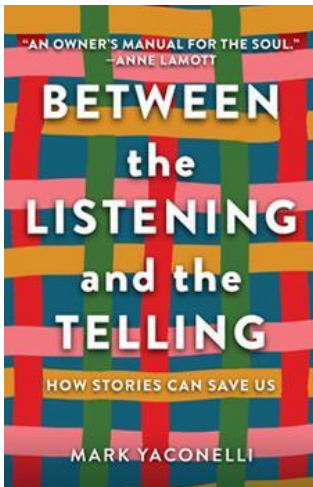
We collectively acknowledge that Oak Grove Presbyterian Church is located on the traditional and ancestral lands of Indigenous people. We reside on land that holds great historical, spiritual, and personal significance for the Dakota, Native Nations and Indigenous people of the region. The land was ceded 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.

Summer Book Discussions: Stories & Spiritual Memories

Consider joining Pastor Bart in conversation with one of these titles. Each book will be discussed on a Thursday evening or Sunday morning. Feel free to come both days or just one, whichever fits your schedule. Thursday evening discussions are at a location to be determined from 7–8:30 pm. Sunday morning discussion will be at church from 10:30–11:30 am. If you need help acquiring any of the books, please contact Pastor Bart.



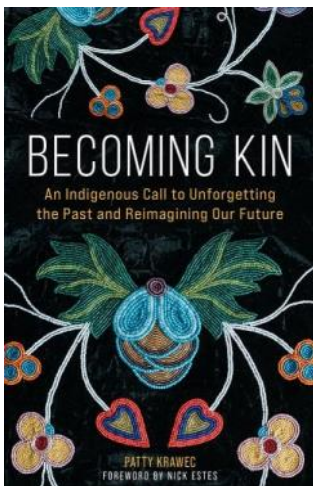
Thursday, June 1 or Sunday, June 4

Between the Listening and the Telling: How Stories Can Save Us

by Mark Yaconelli

We tell stories to remember who we are. We tell stories to savor the pleasure of living. Stories can be medicine, and they can transform entire communities. Stories tether us to what matters most: our families, our friends, our hearts, our planet, the wondrous mystery of life itself. Yet the stories we've been telling ourselves as a civilization are killing us.

Fear is wisdom. Vanity is virtuous. Violence is peace. In the pages of *Between the Listening and the Telling*, storyteller, author, and activist Mark Yaconelli leads readers into an enchanting meditation on the power of storytelling in our individual and collective lives.



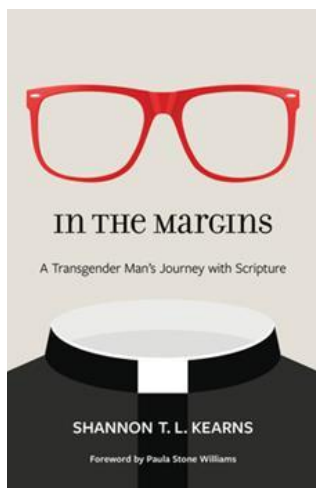
Thursday, June 22 or Sunday, June 25

Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future by Patty Krawec

We find our way forward by going back. Weaving her own story with the story of her ancestors and with the broader themes of creation, replacement, and disappearance, author Krawec helps readers see settler colonialism through the eyes of an Indigenous writer.

Krawec asks, “What would it look like to remember that we are all related? How might we become better relatives to the land, to one another, and to Indigenous movements for solidarity?” This remarkable sojourn through Native and settler history, myth, identity, and spirituality helps us retrace our steps and pick up what was lost along the way: chances to honor rather than violate treaties, to see the land as a relative rather than a resource, and to unravel the history we have been taught.

Summer Book Discussions: Stories & Spiritual Memories

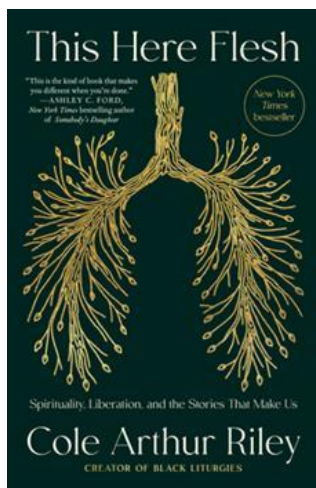


Thursday, July 20 or Sunday, July 23

In the Margins: A Transgender Man's Journey with Scripture
by Shannon T. Kearns

Moving the conversation beyond transgender inclusion to demonstrate the unique and vital theological insights transgender Christians can provide the church. Father Shannon Kearns writes about his experience as a transgender man which has often made it difficult for him to fit in—especially in the context of Christianity—and it has also shaped his perspective in important ways on complicated, gender-transgressing aspects of theology and Scripture.

In the Margins weaves stories from Shannon's life into reflections on well-known biblical narratives, such as Jacob wrestling with the divine, Rahab and the Israelite spies, Ezekiel and the dry bones, and the transfiguration of Jesus. In each chapter, Shannon shows how stories have helped him make sense of his own identity, and how those same stories can unlock the transformative power of faith for those willing to listen with an open mind and stand alongside him in the in-between.



Thursday, Aug. 24 or Sunday, Aug. 27

This Here Flesh by Cole Arthur Riley

In this book, author Arthur Riley reflects on the stories of her grandmother and father, and how they revealed to her an embodied, dignity-affirming spirituality, not only in what they believed but in the act of living itself.

Writing memorably of her own childhood and coming to self, she boldly explores some of the most urgent questions of life and faith: How can spirituality not silence the body, but instead allow it to come alive? How do we honor, lament, and heal from the stories we inherit? How can we find peace in a world overtaken with dislocation, noise, and unrest? At once a compelling spiritual meditation, a powerful intergenerational account, and a tender coming-of-age narrative, *This Here Flesh* speaks potently to anyone who suspects that our stories might have something to say to us.