

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!



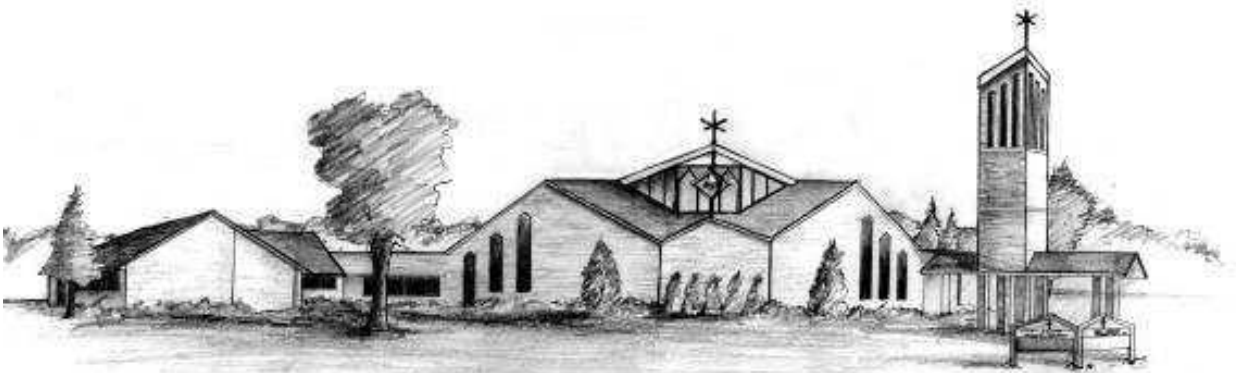
**OAK GROVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

Sept. 10, 2023

15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am



Rally Day!

A Thought to Ponder (from the Social Justice Committee)

“I swear to the Lord I still can’t see why democracy means everybody but me.” – Langston Hughes, Poet and writer, "The Black Man Speaks" from Jim Crow's Last Stand (1943)

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

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 (*based on Psalm 119:33–37*)

Carol McCarthy

Teach us, O LORD, the way of your statutes,

And we will observe it to the end.

Give us understanding, that we may keep your law

And observe it with our whole heart.

Lead us in the path of your commandments.

Turn our hearts to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.

Turn our eyes from looking at vanities;

Give us life in your ways.

In this time of worship,

Call us into your way, your truth, and your life.

*Opening Hymn

“Let us Build a House” (vss 1–2, 4–5)

*Prayer of Confession

Carol McCarthy

Merciful God, we confess that we often desire justice that is not restorative. We want those who have wronged us to suffer, while we desire mercy for ourselves. We confess that at times we shirk our responsibilities for other's suffering in this world, and at other times we do not hold those in power accountable for injustice. Forgive us and call us into your ways. Teach us how to begin the work of reparation and restoration. When we seek forgiveness, remind us to forgive others who wrong us in the same way. Teach us how to do better and guide us in living into your righteousness. Call us to seek justice for the most vulnerable among us. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

Carol McCarthy

God hears our own cries when we have been wronged. God knows our inmost hearts and knows our hurts. God grants us forgiveness when we seek it and when we work to repair what we have wronged.

God loves us, and nothing anyone has done or will do, and nothing we have done or will do, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Carol McCarthy

Let us greet one another as new beings, reconciled to God and one another.
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 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (verse 1) 547

Scripture Matthew 18:15–20 (NT: p. 20 | LPNT: p. 24)
 Romans 13:8–10 (NT: p. 162 | LPNT: p. 197)

Message

Presentation of Tithes & Offerings

Call to Offering

Anthem/Offertory “We Are Singing, for the Lord is Our Light”

trad. Zulu song, arr. Hopson

***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**

God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source for hope and love in this church family, and in the community beyond us, in the name of Jesus Christ. 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**

“Go with Us, Lord”

748

***Benediction**

Nancy Jensen’s 40th Anniversary Celebration *(on screens)*

** Please rise in body or in spirit.*

^ During hymn, children 3, 4, & 5 years old may leave for Children’s Church



Participants in worship today include:

Presiding Pastors: **Bart Roush & Mary Koon;**

Liturgist: **Carol McCarthy** | Musicians: **Chancel Choir;**

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

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

Chancel flowers are given today by **Margaret Koch**,
in *memory* of **husband Paul Koch and Scott McHale**, and
Pat Boehne, in *memory* of **husband Bill**.

Chancel flowers were given Sept. 3 by **Verona Stoesz**,
in *memory* of **husband Chuck**
and in *honor* of **children & grandchildren**.

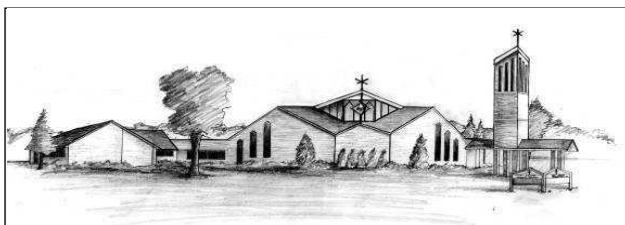
Oak Grove Presbyterian Church

**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.



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

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY

Unique Opportunity to Help Feed Kids in Bloomington

Oak Grove supports Every Meal, a program to send bags of nutritious food home from school with students each week, with financial assistance and volunteers. Volunteers deliver the bags to Oak Grove Elementary every week and Indian Mounds Elementary every other week on Friday mornings. Time commitments are approximately 8:00–8:30 am. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mary Crampton (mary.crampton@gmail.com or 612-865-7890).

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Sept. 23: EV Expo (11 am–3pm) at Oak Grove

Test-drive a selection of today's best-selling EVs with dealers. Talk to EV owners about their driving experiences. Try out a selection of E-Bikes, E-Mowers and E-Lawn Tools. Learn how you can charge your EV at home and on the road and save money. View the future of clean transportation with an E-School Bus and E-Mass Transit that will dramatically cut carbon emissions, clean up our air, and slow down global warming. Learn about EV tax credits and rebates.

The Expo is free and open to the public. Sign up to volunteer and take a flyer to friends and family members, available in the church narthex. For more information on volunteering, contact Larry Klueh, (kluehlj@yahoo.com). For more information on the Expo, visit <https://bit.ly/3DUxE3s>.

Saturday, Sept. 30: Woodcutting at Clearwater Forest

This is an event for all ages. Families can treat this event as an introduction to the property and a full weekend to hike, bike, kayak, swim and fish. We have campsites and some rooms with beds available if you would like to come up the night before and/or stay Saturday. If interested in going and/or knowing more about the event, please contact Carrie Wilkens at 952-240-5022 or carriewilkens@comcast.net.



The white rose on the baptismal font commemorates the completion of Baptism for **Yvonne Erickson** who joined the church triumphant on Sept. 5, 2023. "In Life and Death we belong to God."

OAK GROVE & COMMUNITY



Sept. 11 | Singles Fellowship (5–6:00 pm)
Zeke's (7700 W Old Shakopee Rd)
Contact Jane Jacobson (612-267-9068)

Sept. 11 | Soul Sisters (7–8:30 pm)
Contact Pastor Mary

Sept. 12 | Lunch Bunch (11a–2:00 pm)
Contact Pastor Mary

Sept. 13 | Goodrich-Nord Circle (9:30 am)
Pres Homes (9901 Penn Ave S)
Gideon Pond Dining Room (2nd Floor)
Contact Meg Robles (612-670-1257)

Sept. 14 | Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)
Denny's (4209 American Blvd W)
Contact Jack Kley (952-831-4138)

Sept. 19 | Tea for Caregivers (10:30 am)
Contact Pastor Mary

Sept. 20 | Ladies Who Lunch (12–2:00 pm)
Book: *Girls, Woman, Other*
by Bernardine Evaristo
Location: home of Joyce Reinke
Contact Pastor Mary

All events are at Oak Grove unless otherwise noted.

Oak Grove at Bloomington PRIDE: Sunday, Sept. 10 (12–5:00 pm)

Location: Bloomington Civic Center
Grounds (1800 W Old Shakopee Rd)

We are very excited to host a table at the Bloomington PRIDE Festival this year! Please mark your calendars and come out for music, food, and a lot of joy! We hope to see you there!

Bible Study Begins Sept. 14!

Join Pastor Bart and/or Pastor Mary on Thursdays at noon for bible study to look at the scripture that will be the basis for the sermon the following Sunday. We will read the scripture together and then dive in!

An email with the Zoom link is sent out each Thursday morning.

WoW! Dinner & Programs Begins Sept. 13! Join us Wednesday evenings for a time of fellowship. No reservations are needed. Dinner begins at 5:45 pm and each meal includes salad and dessert. The suggested meal donation is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children and a max of \$20 per family. Faith Formation begins at 6:15 pm.

Menu: Sept. 13: Pizza | Sept. 20: Tacos | Sept. 27: Breakfast for Dinner

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.