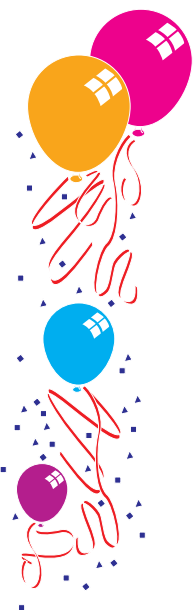


# Rally Day 2010 Features the Best of the Old and New!



**Sunday, September 12**, will be another day of fun, food and fellowship at Oak Grove. In fact, this will be our 6th annual celebration to open the new year of church activities. Look forward to many of your favorite Rally Day activities, but also come for the new attractions!

## Back by Popular Demand!

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets for a festive outdoor worship at 10 a.m. (Traditional indoor worship will be held at 8:30 a.m.) There will be fun games for kids, a picnic with grilled food and treats, music by Caribe and the Weekenders, Bottle Blast and much more. Children's entertainer Tricky Troy will be making an appearance as "The Sheriff in Town!"

The silent auction for charity will also be back.

Money raised from the silent auction will benefit Camp Wapo, The Bridge (services for youth in crisis) and Senior Community Services (home maintenance services for elderly). Please bring your donations to the church office and mark them for the silent auction.

## All New in 2010!

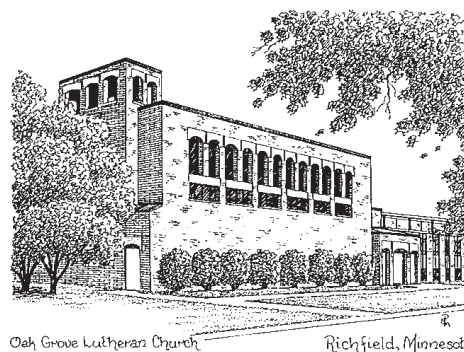
You can also anticipate the arrival of our all-new Minute- to-Win-It Skill Challenges. Contestants (otherwise known as fellow Oak Grove friends) will be put to the test to display unique talents.

The actual challenges will be announced on Rally Day, but here are two examples of the nature of the stunts that people could be asked to do:

- 1) Use a fishing rod to transfer a lampshade onto your head while blind folded,
- 2) Move eggs across the floor by fanning them with a pizza box.

Now remember, don't practice doing these challenges. We'll surprise you with another unique challenge on Rally Day. Contestants will be divided into 3 age groups: 5-10, 11-17 and 18+.

**Rally Day 2010 – It's going to be great!**



## August 2010

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## August Birthdays

- 1 – Beverly Hummel, Natasha Lewis
- 2 – Bots Botsford, Bob Kranz
- 3 – Sara White
- 4 – Melissa Philibert
- 5 – Georgia Ogstad
- 6 – Jewell Mohn, Caren Olson, Margie Risch,  
Angela Scarlett, Janice Weichel
- 7 – Irene Dahlen, Jonita Gomez, Kelsey  
Jacobson, Jennifer Zarth
- 8 – Jeff Faust, Jessica Kielty
- 9 – Dale Clifford, Jeanne Fuller
- 10 – Dave Decker, Sara Peyton, Kay Thompson
- 11 – Roslyn Guzman, Marcella Kallevig, Agnes  
Schmidt
- 12 – Evelyn Wick
- 13 – Leverne Morseth, Jared Sundin, Marian  
Woolery
- 14 – Lillian Knafla
- 15 – Ruth Martinson
- 16 – Pat (Arnie) Moe, Rachel Polzin
- 17 – Arnold Kleinschmidt, Millie Skurdalsvold
- 18 – Connie Fischer, Ruth Johnson, Lester  
Koppang, Sarah LaMeyer
- 20 – Gladys Hanson, Joyce Kleven, Kenneth  
Knutson, Cheryl Nycklemoe, Logan  
Wordehoff
- 21 – Tom Stertz
- 22 – Sharon Brown, Dave Petersmeyer, Ed Rowan
- 24 – Matthew Ashley, Nathan Ashley
- 25 – Pastor Brice Eichlersmith, Ruth Larson,  
Steve Quam
- 26 – Alex Moe, Hilmer Simonson, Marlene  
Studien
- 27 – Lois Howard, Morva Klein
- 28 – Lynn Anderson
- 29 – Ruth Munson, Marissa Thompson, Sean Tuff
- 30 – JoAnn Beggs, Deb Berg, Sara Faust
- 31 – Karen Levisen, Julie Tvete

## You are invited to an OAK GROVE CONVERSATION

The Long Range Planning Task Force is hosting a series of “Conversations” to gain insights into the thoughts of the people of Oak Grove as they move forward with their task. Your participation is welcome!

Various groups will be invited to join a Conversation between August and October. The first two Conversations are for anyone who would like to stay after the church service to be part of one.

**First service attenders** can join the Conversation on Sunday, August 15th from 10 – 11:30

**Second Service attenders** are invited to the Conversation on Sunday, August 22nd from 11 – 12:30  
Don't worry if you can't make one of these: there will be plenty of other opportunities!

To prepare, we'd like to know who is coming so, please, register for one of the Conversations in one of these ways:

- Use the sign up form in the church office
- Call the office at 612-869-4917
- Email at: tzarth@oakgrovelutheran.org

We'll send you out some questions ahead of time for you to consider and pray about that will guide our Conversations, so leave both your name and either email or street address.

**Join the  
CONVERSATION!**



## Deaths

We extend our sympathies to the following families:

**Wilbert “Bill” Oman**, whose funeral was held at Oak Grove on June 24th . Bill and his wife, Maxine, joined Oak Grove in 1958.

## Baptisms

**July 11 – Mayson Allen Grobe-Drake  
Ellery Jane Horner**

**July 18 – Madeline Ann Gardner**



## Grateful

This is the month that we say goodbye and Godspeed to Jill Davis, our 9th pastoral intern at Oak Grove. The completion of her year with us marks the end of an era. For the foreseeable future we won't be a training ground for future pastors.

My first thought about this is gratitude. Gratitude for the way this congregation rose to the occasion ten years ago and decided to respond to a growing need for internship sites in the Twin City area, and how over these years you have provided a healthy setting for nine people to learn the ins and outs of pastoral ministry. You've done it by offering a warm welcome, thoughtful feedback, patience in the learning process, encouragement and affection. Oak Grove is known by seminary leaders as a first-rate internship site and we have been invited by them to return to this ministry when and if we are able.

This is also a time to express to you a personal

thank you. Except, I guess, for maintaining a tidy office, I love all the parts of my work among you. I feel continually blessed and fortunate. And the nine years I had of supervising pastors-to-be has been terrifically rewarding, interesting and fun. It's a deep privilege to walk alongside of someone as they grow into their calling to public ministry. I'll continue to be involved in that kind of thing through work on the synod's Candidacy Committee, but I'll miss the camaraderie, intensity, joys and sometimes difficulties of being with a person for a year as they do some really important things.

I know you all "got something" out of having interns around here for nearly a decade. I'm thankful to you for all of the things I got out of it. And thankful for those interns, too, for their sharing, trusting, exploring, challenging, and working out of this gospel work.

Pastor Tom Zarth

## 3rd Session of Women's Summer Bible Study

**Tuesday, August 10, 7 PM**

All women of OG are invited and welcome to participate in the Bible study In August. If you were unable to make the previous sessions, not a problem; each session is independent. We will meet at 7PM in the Fireside Room on Tuesday evening August 10.

The title of the study is "Pray Always." The August session seeks to understand the power of prayer to change us and perhaps our circumstances, too.

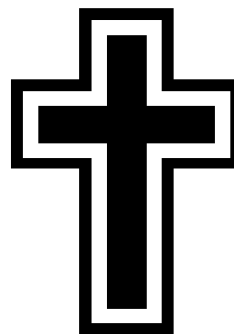
No advance preparation or knowledge is necessary; study materials and light refreshments will be available. Please consider attending this informal study as your schedule allows.

If you would like additional information, you may contact Lynn Stertz, 612-869-3697, [lstertz@usfamily.net](mailto:lstertz@usfamily.net) or Kelli Olson, 651-221-0017, [vbolson7827@hotmail.com](mailto:vbolson7827@hotmail.com).

## Notes of Thanks...

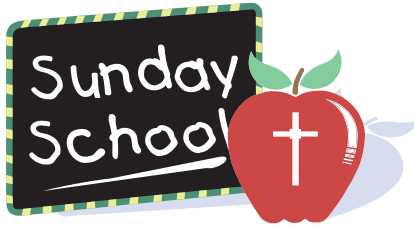
A very sincere thank you to Carol and Jerry Benson for a large, generous donation made to the Oak Grove Concert Series! This gift is in memory of Carol's parents, Dorothy and Elmer Magnuson. It will help support our music ministry for the congregation and the community for years to come.

Thank you Jerry and Carol!



# SUNDAY SCHOOL AT OAK GROVE

2010-2011



**Rally Sunday, September 12**

Outdoor Worship at 10 a.m.  
Followed by a picnic and activities for all ages  
Silent Auction  
from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Sunday school starts September 19

Oak Grove Sunday School 9:45-10:45 for kids ages 3 years – 6th grade

Fee: \$15 per child (\$35 maximum per family)

**PLEASE REGISTER BY AUGUST 29**

Child's First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian(s) names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Any allergies, medical or learning concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to help with Sunday School in any way? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Oak Grove Lutheran Church**  
7045 Lyndale Avenue South  
Richfield, MN 55423  
612-869-4917  
[www.oakgrovelutheran.org](http://www.oakgrovelutheran.org)

# Oak Grove <sup>75</sup> Alive & Growing <sub>years</sub>

Lee, Brad and I moved to Richfield in 1952 and we joined Oak Grove in 1957. The pastor was Le-land Stern.

Brad was confirmed in 1967. The Confirmation classes were very large. The day of the Confirmation service, the class was divided – one service at 2 p.m. and the second at 4 p.m. to accommodate families and relatives. The service was held in the church prior to the existing sanctuary. Pastor Cliff Johnson was the officiating pastor.

When that sanctuary was torn down, Berneice Hoversten and I sat in the car in the parking lot and watched. I picked up a brick which resembled a church. It is in the memorabilia cabinet in the church office.

I played for many Sunday school worship hours plus many events.

Lee became head usher in 1969, replacing Don Rundquist who had passed away. Lee and Bud Tedamson enjoyed ushering together.

Lee and I worked on the Easter garden – Lee built the tomb as close to the size. Many hours went into that project. The theme became with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Saturday before Easter Sunday. Our dedicated helpers were Wendy Larson, Dianna Sorenson, Claire Brandt and Kay Weiss. The children enjoyed the garden and going into the tomb. Many pictures were taken of the children in their Easter finery.

When Lee was head usher and there was inclement weather, he would be out there to help the ladies out of their cars. If it was icy, he would joke with them and say, “If you feel yourself falling, let go!!” They would laugh and giggle, especially Edna Folden!

I have enjoyed being part of the music at Oak Grove, especially Wee Praise.

I was Wedding Coordinator for many years.

The teenagers of Oak Grove have been great! Oak Grove can be very proud of them.

Brad has been with Messenger for several years. They have provided a great addition to services.

I pray Oak Grove will continue to serve Richfield and surrounding communities for another 75 years!

God bless all of you – *June Sveum*

Time is running out to get your 75th anniversary story put down on paper! Please write out your story and put it in the box in the narthex labeled “75th Anniversary Stories” or give your story to Julie Tvette, Gordon Hanson, Margie Risch or drop it off in the church office.

## Kitchen Konnection

It is hard to believe that August is upon us and Rally Day here at Oak Grove is fast approaching. We have so much to look forward to in the months ahead as we continue our 75th Anniversary celebration, but I do hope that you have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy and live each day to its fullest. I pray that your days have been blessed and full of love, and that you have stayed cool on these hot summer days and dry under all the rain (or had fun getting wet on those rainy days). Don't let the summer slip away from you!

The fellowship Hall and kitchen have stayed active with coffee hours, graduation and birthday parties, scrapbooking, meetings, funerals, and VBS. A group of us had a great time walking the 4th of July parade alongside a decorated truck and carrying a big banner boasting of our pride in Oak Grove. We carried signs, passed out flyers inviting everyone to the concert in the

park and to the fundraiser for the Malagasy Church. We handed out candy, and had a live tree on the truck signifying that Oak Grove is indeed ‘Alive and Growing.’ Ron Prasek was back on our pulpit for a day. He shared many fond memories and reminded us that we are a strong, vital, and caring church family.

I am looking forward to the months ahead; the exciting things that are about to happen, and Rally Day and Wednesday evening meals, but I am also trying to slow down to enjoy each day and the blessings that God brings to me. I pray that you are doing the same.

See in September.....God Bless, Margie

**The voice of God is always speaking to us, and always trying to get our attention. But His voice is a ‘still, small voice’ and we must at least slow down in order to listen.**

## Spotlight on Women

As we wait and prepare ourselves to visit the DEAD SEA SCROLLS, the greatest archaeological discovery, on Saturday August 21. Please remember that payments need to be made when you sign up for the Tour, Thank-you.

The WELCA Board would like to ask the Circle Presidents and members for their help on Rally Sunday, September 12. Representatives from each Circle could answer non-members' /new members' questions at the WELCA Memory Table.

While browsing through a book titled: 'Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul' I came across a brief chapter that I'd like to share with you, entitled: 'Perfect Freedom'.

Charles W. Colson wrote: As one who has served time in prison and has since spent most of my life working in them, I'll never forget the most unusual prison I've ever visited. It's called Humaita Prison; it is in Sao Jose dos Campos in Brazil. Formerly a government prison, it is now operated by Prison Fellowship Brazil as an alternative prison, without armed guards or high-tech security. Instead, it is run on the Christian principles which are the love of God and respect for all men.

Humaita has only two full-time staff; the rest of the work is done by the 730 inmates serving time for everything from murder and assault to robbery and drug related crimes. Every man is assigned another inmate to whom he is accountable. In addition, each prisoner is assigned a volunteer mentor from the outside who works with him during his term and after his release. Prisoners take classes on character development and are encouraged to participate in educational and religious programs.

When I visited this prison, I found the inmates smiling—particularly the murderer, who held the keys, opened the gates and let me in. Wherever I walked, I saw men at peace. I saw clean living areas. I saw people working industriously the walls were decorated with motivational sayings and Scripture. Humaita has an astonishing record. Its recidivism rate is 4 percent, compared to 75 percent in the rest of Brazil. How is that possible?

I saw the answer when my inmate guide escorted me to the notorious cell once used for solitary punishment. Today, he told me, it always houses the same inmate. As we reached the end of the long concrete corridor and he put the key into the lock, he paused and asked, "Are you sure you want to go in?" "Of course," I replied impatiently. "I've been in isolation cells all over the world." Slowly he swung open the

massive door, and I saw the prisoner in that cell: a crucifix, beautifully carved—Jesus, hanging on the cross. "He's doing time for the rest of us," my guide said softly.

*Charles W. Colson*

I will not leave you as orphans  
I will come to you. *John 14:18*

Dawn Sankey, WELCA Secretary



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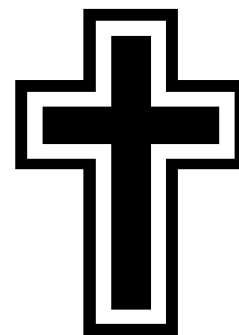
## *Intern Jill Says Farewell*

I just sent in my "First Call" paperwork with a few hours to spare before the deadline; a fantastic week of VBS is coming to a close with over 30 kids enthusiastic about God; and in what seems like the blink of an eye I'm now writing my farewell letter to you.

To everyone at Oak Grove I thank you for all you have shared with me in ministry this past year. From the moment I entered here last fall you have shown me and my family (and each other) abundant love, grace, and forgiveness. I've enjoyed being with you in worship, Bible study, confirmation, Wed. night suppers, Care Club, and the list goes on. Christ is alive in this place!

It's also been an honor to walk alongside some of you in times of struggle. Thanks be to God for his unfailing love and promise to be with us all of our days. I'm not fond of having to say good-bye to a group of people who I have grown to love deeply. My solace comes knowing that regardless of where we are in life we will always be united as the body of Christ; both in life and in death.

God's Peace and Blessings to You,  
Jill



# AUGUST 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting	<b>3</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Summer Bible Study	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 1:00 PM Kindermusik 5:00 PM Kindermusik 6:30 PM Kindermusik 7:00 PM Russian Church	<b>6</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1:00 PM Kindermusik 5:00 PM Kindermusik 6:30 PM Kindermusik 7:00 PM Russian Church	<b>13</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>14</b> 10:00 AM Messenger practice
<b>15</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 1:00 PM Kindermusik 5:00 PM Kindermusik 6:30 PM Kindermusik 7:00 PM Russian Church	<b>20</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>21</b> 10:30 AM Huntingtons Support Group
<b>22</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:30 AM Housing Committee 1:00 PM Kindermusik 5:00 PM Kindermusik 6:30 PM Kindermusik 7:00 PM Russian Church	<b>27</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM TCSLA
<b>29</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00 PM Russian Church	<b>3</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>4</b> 10:00 AM Messenger practice

## *75th Anniversary Celebration*

To culminate the year-long 75th Anniversary Celebration, a dinner will be held on October 30, 2010 at the Holiday Inn & Suites in Bloomington. All current members of Oak Grove will be invited, but we also need names and addresses of parents, siblings, children and former members whom you feel would also like to be included.

Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office. If you need additional space, please attach an additional piece of paper with the needed information. Any questions can be directed to Julie Tvete or Margaret Olson.

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Oak Grove** **75**   
Alive & Growing years