

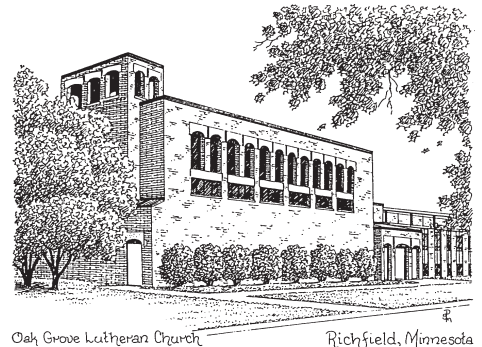
NEW! Live Animal Show Coming to Rally Day

Look for a Live Animal Show Coming to Rally Day on Sunday, September 11th. This all-new Rally Day attraction features Martha Herbert of Creature Encounters with a few of her feathered and furry friends. Martha puts on a great show that kids and adults will both enjoy.

Martha lives with a collection of entertaining animals, including a raccoon, parrot, desert fox, blue tongued skink, hedgehog, chinchilla and many others. Just who shows up depends on the day, but we will be assured of a fun show no matter which animals stop by to visit. Martha has been the headliner at many Wood Lake Nature Center Live Animal Shows.

While you're thinking of Rally Day, please consider donations for the silent auction and bottle blast game. Camp Wapogasset and VEAP will receive funds from this year's silent auction. Please bring donation to the church office.

If you'd like to help with Rally Day, please contact Kris Brehmer.



Oak Grove Lutheran Church Richfield, Minnesota

Outdoor Joint Worship

With our neighboring churches:

Woodlake Lutheran

House of Prayer Lutheran

Richfield Lutheran

Emerson United Church of Christ

Sunday, August 28, 2011

11:00 a.m.

at Veteran's Park in Richfield

64th & Portland



August 2011

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August Birthdays

- 1 – Beverly Hummel, Natasha Lewis
- 2 – Bots Botsford, Bob Kranz
- 3 – Emily Brehmer, 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, Katherine Zoellmer
- 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 Studlien
- 27 – Lois Howard, Morva Klein
- 28 – Lynn Anderson
- 29 – Ruth Munson, Sean Tuff
- 30 – JoAnn Beggs, Deb Berg, Sara Faust
- 31 – Karen Levisen, Julie Tvete

Fall Retreat – “Opening to God”

How do you notice God’s presence?

Where do you notice God’s presence?

How do you listen for God and reflect His presence?

How does God speak to you and through you?

Can you really be in prayer if you’re not just sitting quietly?

If you’ve pondered these and similar questions, join us for a fall retreat on the beautiful St. John’s Campus in Collegeville, MN, beginning with dinner on Fri., Oct. 28, and ending with lunch on Sun., Oct. 30. The retreat will be \$165 per person, which covers private room and bath (linens and towels included), all meals, walking/hiking trails, chapel and supplies. Payment will be due by Oct. 24th.

For further information, please contact Pam Lindquist at 651-206-9652 or Caren Olson at 952-854-0988.

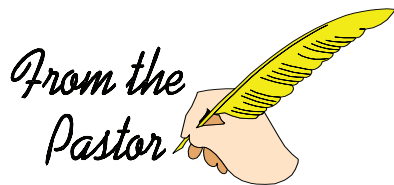
Coffee Hour - August 14th

Join Janice Portukalian and friends for a special thank you to Oak Grove for over 25 years of support and love. Also, help her celebrate her 60th birthday!

Do you have questions about church, theology, the Bible, the history of the church? ask.dr.dana01@gmail.com

Remember Oak Grove in Your Estate Planning

When you make your will, consider naming Oak Grove Enduring Gifts as one of your beneficiaries. Already have a will? You can update it to include Oak Grove Enduring Gifts as a beneficiary. You can help Keep Oak Grove Alive and Growing. Contact Pastor Tom or Maynard Wood for more information.



Worship in the Park

So a guy asks me, “How many Lutherans does it take to change a light bulb?” He couldn’t wait to deliver the punch line: “None. Lutherans don’t believe in change.” Not too funny, but, of course, there’s usually some element of truth to a joke like that. We do tend to follow our typical patterns and go about our usual ways. Well, come the end of August we might shake things up a bit.

C.L.A.R.A. stands for the “Christian Leadership Alliance of the Richfield Area.” Mostly what C.L.A.R.A. is about is a monthly gathering of church leaders of various denominations in the city. Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists, Church of Christ, United Church of Christ, non-denominational and us Lutherans rub elbows on a regular basis and talk about our various ministries, our neighborhood and its needs. That, and hosting a joint Martin Luther King service every January, has been pretty much what C.L.A.R.A. does.

On August 28th we’re going to do something new. At 11:00 am we’re holding a joint worship

service under the shelter at Veterans’ Park, followed by a picnic together. Every church in the organization can’t make it that day but we have the support and blessings of the whole group. What it means for Oak Grove is a change in the usual routine. We’ll have worship as usual at 8:30 that morning. Then we’ll skip the 10:00 service and head over to the park instead.

Of course, you can go to whichever service suits you best. But I hope you’ll consider being among the worshippers in the park. Besides just doing something different, I think it’s a great message to both ourselves and our community. The people of God come in a variety of styles and persuasions, but what we hold in common is deeper than our differences. We each have our traditions and cherish our own worship places, but on the 28th something of the prophet Isaiah’s vision will come true in Richfield when a picnic shelter becomes a “house of prayer for all people.”

Pastor Tom Zarth

Rally Day 2011 is Just Around the Corner!

Rally Day 2011 looks to be one of the most exciting ever. It will surely be a day of fun and fellowship with many activities for everyone. It all happens on the first Sunday after Labor Day - Sunday, September 11th. Here’s what you can expect:

- Two worship choices: A traditional indoor worship at 8:30 a.m. and a festive outdoor worship at 10 a.m.

Immediately following the outdoor worship, the picnic and activities begin, including ...

- Tasty food: grilled burgers, brats and hotdogs; ice cream and more
- Music by Caribe
- VEAP food drive raffle
- Silent auction with funds benefitting Camp Wapo and VEAP
- Inflatable basketball game
- Live animal show with Martha Herbert
- “Minute-To-Win-It” Competitions, Hot Wheels Racing and Bottle Blast
- And much, much more!

Watch the Messenger and the Church bulletin for more exciting announcements.

Want to help make Rally Day 2011 the best ever? Bring silent auction donations to the church office. Call the Church office to inquire about volunteer opportunities. Or consider joining the Rally Day Planning Committee. Contact Kris Brehmer with questions and ideas!



Note of Thanks. . .

I am overwhelmed with all the cards, love and hugs you have shown me for my birthday—it will be one of my most memorable birthdays!

A special thank you to my son, Brad and Judy Johnson for the wonderful reception they arranged. Thank you Lolita, for singing my favorite Gospel song, “In the Garden” and also to Messenger and Morva.

Thank you to the Ushers, Ron Keller, Rita Lien and the secretaries Georgeanne and Lidia. A special thanks to Pastor Tom and Pastor Brice, the Church congregation and all my kids!! Halleluiah! What a wonderful Church!!

Love in Christ,
June Sveum

To Our Oak Grove Family,

We have so many thanks to our Oak Grove family. First for our son Blair, whose surgery went well. Thanks for your prayers.

Next, thanks for all the prayers for Bud while in the hospital and at home. Thanks to Pastor Tom for visiting at the hospital and our home to give us communion. Also, thanks for all the cards and phone calls.

God bless our Oak Grove family.
All our love,
Bud and Shirley Tedamson

LWR Update. . .

The LWR task force delivered 72 school kits and 12 layettes to the LWR warehouse this winter. Thank you to everyone who made donations of supplies or cash. Thank you to Eunice Jurgens and Nancy Buck for sewing the blankets, gowns, undershirts and sweatshirts for the layettes.

We currently have 60 school bags that are ready to be filled with supplies. August is a great time to donate school supplies. The prices are never lower than they are this month. If you would like to make a donation we especially need pencil sharpeners, colored paper and notebooks. We also need pencils, large erasers, crayons and blunt end scissors. You can leave your donations in the office.

Lutheran Social Services Update

Many thanks to the generous members of Oak Grove who donated to fill “Kid Kits” for LSS’s Camp Noah, which conducts day camps in communities that have suffered natural disasters. My goal of 24 kits was doubled to 48 due to the generous donations. Thanks also to members that helped assemble the kits on Father’s Day Sunday, and to members that wrote notes of encouragement and drew pictures of inspiration.

Lutheran Social Services is still accepting donations for the kits, and could use more Beanie Baby toys if anyone has any to donate. Many churches do not include the toy with the art and craft supplies when they assemble the bags. Donations can be left at the Center for Changing Lives in Minneapolis, or contact Oak Grove’s LSS Ambassador, Nancy Gertner, at 612-396-9186. Camp Noah scheduled several camps for July and August. Volunteers are still being accepted as we go to press, so if you’re interested in being a staff member for Camp Noah in North Minneapolis, please contact LSS or Nancy Gertner. Camp Noah will be held at three churches in North Minneapolis the week of 8-12 August from 9AM to 3PM. Volunteers are trained by LSS.

Free Youth Movie Night! **Wednesday, August 17**

First movie Starts at 7pm with a second one to follow as soon as the first one is done. Bring money for pop and candy! Free popcorn! If you have a suggestion on a movie you would like to watch, please email me at jrmurdick@aol.com . Please watch the Bulletin for specific movie details. Contact Jennifer Murdick or Mackenzie Curry if you have any questions.



We'd like to announce the Salad Supper is scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of October on 18th. Our Speaker will be provided by Sarah Wippich of Trinity 1st School and School supplies will be collected for Trinity 1st School on their behalf.

This month my readings took me to the book "A WOMEN GOD CAN USE" by Pam Farrel. I found an intriguing article titled:

Children of the Light

How can good overcome evil? The idea of being light and the idea of being God's temple are connected. Just as the temple in Jerusalem was the symbol of God's holiness, righteousness and truth, so we too, as the church, are the representation of God's righteousness on earth. Paul expresses this idea when he says "For you were once darkness, but now are light in the Lord, live as children of light." (Ephesians 5:8)

Just as light emanated from the temple and proclaimed the glory of God, God's life emanates from us and proclaims the transforming power of God. In so doing, our lives expose the darkness of unrighteous living.

Living together as a body, we build one another up and grow toward maturity. As family, we find our attitudes and values changed as love becomes the touchstone of our lives. As God's temple we find our lives taking on a holiness which exposes evil for what it is. Living together as a holy temple means rejecting dark things and building our commitment to goodness, righteousness, and truth.

How does the church expose evil? By mounting a crusade, or picketing? Hardly. Evil is exposed by providing an example of righteousness. Paul put it this way: "Everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible" (Ephesians 5:13-14). As children of light, we reveal darkness for what it is. In the light shed by the holiness of God's people, evil is revealed as evil.

So what did the temple look like when God's glory took residence? First Kings 8:10-11 explains what it looked like when the glory of the Lord took residence in the temple Solomon built: "When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the Lord. And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled his temple."

Second Chronicles 7:1-3 adds to the picture and says, Fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple...When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the Lord above

the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshipped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, 'He is good; his love endures forever.'"

The prophet Ezekiel tries to explain what the glory of the Lord looked like to him, "Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking" (Ezekiel 1:28). He notes later, "Then the glory of the LORD rose from above the cherubim and moved to the threshold of the temple. The cloud filled the temple, and the court was full of the radiance of the glory of the LORD (Ezekiel 10:4). That is the picture God is trying to explain when He says we are children of the light. His glory, revealed through our lives, will have a dramatic impact on people.

You are children of the light, seems to not say what we should do or be, but rather who we are because we dwell in His presence. His presence has a natural affect on us—and on the world around us.

There are times when we can ponder, plan and think out our actions and reactions, but this title of children of the light seems to lead us to the conclusion that when we are in Christ we are different. We have radically different reactions, even when there is no time to write a flowchart or business plan. The context is that Ephesians 5:8 is followed by verses 15 & 16: "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil."

God adds to the picture when He says, "You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled" (1 Thessalonians 5:5-6).

You are sons of the light, sons of the day. You and I are to be alert, in control of our senses.

About the Author: PAM FARREL is Director of Women's Ministries and the author of several books, including *Women of Influence* and *Love to Love You*. She and her husband, Bill, are the founders and directors of *Masterful Living*, an organization that provides practical insights for modern couples. The Farrels and their three children live in Southern California.

From the Shadow of the Almighty,
Dawn Sankey
Secretary for the Women of Oak Grove

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT OAK GROVE

2011-2012

Rally Sunday, September 11

*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 18

*Oak Grove Sunday school 9:45-10:45 for kids ages 3 years – 6th grade
Fee: \$15 per child (\$35 maximum per family)*

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
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Richfield, MN 55423
612-869-4917
www.oakgrovelutheran.org

AUGUST 2011

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 3:00 PM Camp WAPO begins (Gr 4-9) 5:30 PM Men's Volleyball	1		2 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	3 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	4 7:30 PM Basketball	5 Loaves and Fishes TIM Team Returns from WAPO (Gr 9-12) 2:00 PM Camp WAPO ends (Gr 4-9) 4:00 PM SCRAPBOOKING	6 10:00 AM Messenger practice
7 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 1:00 PM Drama Camp Set-Up 5:30 PM Men's Volleyball	8 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 6:00 PM Rally Day Planning Committee Meeting	9 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting 7:00 PM Women's Summer Bible Study 8:00 PM Basketball	10 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	11 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 7:00 PM DRAMA CAMP PERFORMANCE 7:30 PM Basketball	12	13	
14 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:30 PM Men's Volleyball	15	16 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	17 6:30 PM Youth Movie Night 7:30 PM Youth Basketball	18 7:30 PM Basketball	19 5:00 PM Wedding	20 10:00 AM Messenger practice	
21 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:30 PM Men's Volleyball	22 12:00 PM Lunch Bunch	23 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	24 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	25 8:30 AM Housing Committee 7:30 PM Basketball	26	27	
28 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 11:00 AM Community Outdoor Worship 5:30 PM Men's Volleyball	29	30 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	31 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	1 7:30 PM Basketball	2 Loaves and Fishes 4:00 PM SCRAPBOOKING	3 10:00 AM Messenger practice	

Register now for Sunday School at Oak Grove!

Is there a three-year-old in the house?

The first day of class starts Sunday, **September 18, 2011.**

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

On Sunday, **October 2, 2011**, all three-year-olds will be presented with a Spark Story Bible at a special Milestone event.

Please let me know as soon as possible, if you have a 3 year old that will be attending Sunday school.



Even if you are not new to Sunday school, please register your child so that we can have up-to-date information.

Kris Brehmer, Education Coordinator

(Please find registration form on page 6)