

Happy Birthday to the Women of Oak Grove!

It's Party Time!

Featuring Mary Hall, an outstanding musical performer



Mary Hall has been delighting audiences with her musical talents since the age of seven. Today, she is a professional singer and accomplished guitarist. Mary has performed in night clubs and restaurants. She has appeared on various TV shows, private parties, concerts, commercials, and other engagements incorporating a wide repertoire of standard, pop, country, gospel, and show tunes.

Mary will be here at Oak Grove on Tuesday evening, February 15, to help us celebrate our birthdays. Please join us beginning at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin with devotions and a short business meeting (we are in need of a Vice-President...), followed by dessert and Mary's performance beginning at 7:30.

Everyone welcome...bring a friend. Hope to see you there!



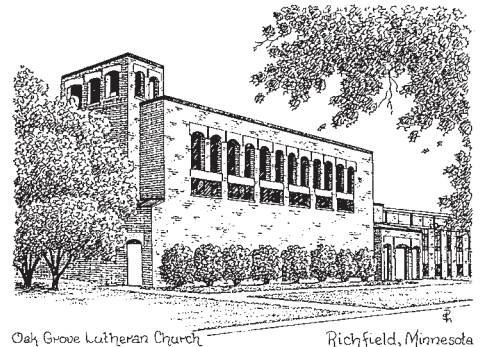
Congregational Annual Meeting Sunday, January 30, 2011

8:30 – 9:15 Worship

9:25-11:05 – Congregational Meeting

11:15-noon – Worship

12 noon – Lunch (Wapo Tacos), Bingo and Youth Fundraiser Bake Sale



February 2011

What's Inside . . .

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February Birthdays

- 2 – Lolita Driscoll
- 4 – Michael Foss, Mary Lou Fowler
- 5 – Charles Bauer, Jr.
- 6 – Shirley Flatau, Jack Hallstrom, Tricia Harris,
Paul Maggitti, Arlie Skogheim, Carol Tveite
- 7 – Jason Sammon
- 8 – Patty West
- 9 – Angela Haugan, Kyle Highum, Rachel
Memelink, Miriah Meyer
- 10 – Kevin Driscoll, Pauline Kjeseth
- 11 – Stephanie Meinke
- 12 – Jessica Lagaard
- 13 – Scott Erie, Kathryn Hinton
- 14 – Paul Andrews
- 15 – Grace Meints
- 16 – Julie Hopkins, Judy Johnson, Keith Shellberg
- 17 - Cathi Doroff, Vivian Jacobson
- 18 – Ann Botsford, Jordan Zoellmer
- 19 - Nancy Gertner, Kristin Olson
- 20 – Jennifer Murdick, Jim Peterson, Cynthia
Shellberg
- 21 – Jaunita Carpenter
- 22 – Caroline Castillo, Zack Jones, Rachel
Nycklemoe
- 23 – Nicholas Driscoll, Marion Petersmeyer
- 24 – Mary Kaye Ashley, Diane Maurer
- 25 – Adria Deutsch, Clement Schulze
- 26 – Randy Hummel, Meredith O’Brien, Cecilia
Wright
- 27 – Charmin Andrews, Mary Keller, Matthew
Krohn, Michael Tveite, Paul Tveite
- 28 – Margaret Olson



Circle Meetings for February

All Circles are Tuesday, February 1, unless noted
Esther - 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Katherine – 1:45 p.m. at Elaine Hafertepe,
6420 12th Avenue

Lydia-Ruth – 7 p.m.

Rebecca – 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.
Doris Bender, Hostess



Deaths

We extend our sympathies to the following families:

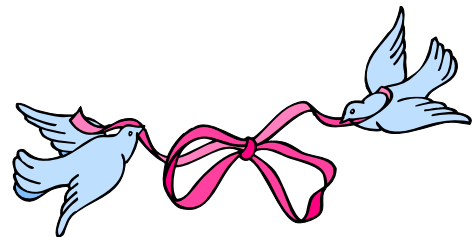
Janet Lind, who died December 20. Her funeral
was held at Oak Grove on Tuesday, December 28.



Baptisms

December 26

Andrew Thomas Alvig, son of David and Emmy
Gavin Matthew Bohler, son of Matthew and Erin
Gwendolyn Carole Sweet, daughter of Luke and
Elly Mae



Thrivent members have until March 31, 2011, to
direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars from 2010 to
a Lutheran nonprofit of their choice. Oak Grove
is eligible to receive **Choice Dollars**. You may
do this at thrivent.com - login to My Accounts
and select choice dollars; or, by calling 1-800-
847-4836 and saying “Thrivent Choice”. If you
are eligible for Choice Dollars, don’t let them go
unused. These are Thrivent fraternal dollars and
do not impact your contract values. If you have
questions, contact Lynn Stertz or Jane Peterson.



We Are One in the Spirit

It's hard to stick together.

I've been thinking about that lately, what with Americans arguing over what exactly causes a tragedy like the one we experienced in Tucson... and the racial divisions that still exist even so many decades after Dr. King gave his life for the cause...and as we count, at the end of the year, those who are no longer among us at Oak Grove because of "THE VOTE" the ELCA took in '09. It's hard to stick together.

This is not news for the writers of the Bible. In the opening pages, two brothers, Cain and Abel, could not seem to hold it together as a family; and one ended up dead, and the other, an outcast in a world that does not treat outcasts very kindly. All sad, if you ask me. But, like I say, it's nothing new.

In this part of the season of Epiphany, in church, we're reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians...and you can just tell that from the very start they had a problem with sticking together. I suppose it's just human nature—trying

to "one-up" your neighbor in terms of how spiritual you are... or how good your cause is... or by what you think is pleasing to God. St. Paul doesn't have any time at all for that. What's important, he wants us all to know, is that, in Christ, there exists a unity that transcends all of the petty things we are inclined to throw against it. He pleads to those Corinthian Christians, but also to us, that we: "Be in agreement, and let there be no divisions among you, but be united in the same mind and for the same purpose."

If only...

Still... every now and then, when we put our own agendas and egos behind us... and step forward with humility and willingness of spirit, we discover something most remarkable: In Christ we ARE one... united by a spirit from beyond our limited selves. You wouldn't think we could do it—and you'd be right. But Jesus does it. And, in him, that unity is real.

Pastor Tom Zarth

Sundays, between the services. . . *It's not just for kids!*

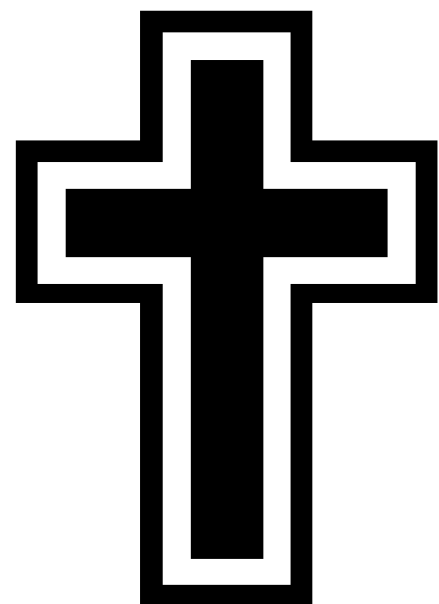
After taking a break over the holidays Adult Education sessions are being scheduled for the coming months.

February 6th "One Night, One Decision, One Difficult Journey"

Shane Mikkleson is an Osseo Police officer who has an engaging story. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear how he works through the hard stuff of life and be surprised to see where he is now. Shane is honest and open about his life and how a tragic accident has changed his life and his priorities.

Future planned sessions include a video series on Revelation, the Lutheran Malaria Project, having honest conversations on life's events, and creation/ecology.

Watch the bulletin each week for information on the current and following Sunday's topics. Plan to attend and learn with the OG community



Notes of Thanks. . .

We want to thank Oak Grove, Jan and Terry Gambaianni, Pastors and everyone who made Bud's day. Also, the calls and cards. What an honor. The cake was delicious and the flowers were beautiful. What a church!!

All our love and prayers,

– **Bud and Shirley Tedamson**

Dear friends at Oak Grove,

Thank you for delivering to me the delicious Christmas cookies and the other assorted snacks and goodies. I enjoyed everything.

Sincerely,

Virginia M. Hillbery

— Kitchen Konnection —

The New Year is underway and February is right around the corner; a very snowy corner at that! I remember Brice's sermon about all the construction in Richfield and how difficult it was to get anywhere; that is better now, but the snow has taken its place. What a mess, huh? I pray that you have not gotten stuck anywhere and left in the cold.

Dinners have been well attended, so I am happy to say that the cold and snow has not stopped our Wednesday evening activities. If you have not given your cook the night off for awhile, please join us. It is a real deal at \$4.00 per plate and it is a great opportunity to visit with friends and maybe make some new ones.

I hope that your year is off to a good start, and, if one of your resolutions is to get fit in 2011, please keep an eye on this article and in the bulletin. It always helps to have the support of friends. Remember, Wednesday evenings are great food for the soul!

Feb. 2...Taco Bar

Feb. 9...Spaghetti and Meatballs

Feb. 16..Chicken Sandwich with Mac & Cheese

Feb. 23..Pizza & Garlic Bread

Dinner served 5:45-6:30pm.

Everyone welcome!!!

\$4.00 per plate.

All dinners served with salad bar and dessert

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

God bless and keep you,

Margie



Spotlight on Women

As we wait for our white snowflakes to disappear, let's aim to chase the cold away by warming up to our Birthday Party on Tuesday, February 15. Please reserve this evening to enjoy some entertainment with Mary Hall as she brings us her music with her Guitar, along with refreshments and then some... We'll be keeping you updated through bulletin notices.

I was able to attend the Wapo Women's Retreat with Mary Kaye Ashley and 17 of our associated Lutheran ladies. It was a very relaxing and meaningful trip; part of this down time for me was spent with a book written by:

Diana Butler Bass titled: *Christianity for the Rest of Us and How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith.*

Christianity for the Rest of Us describes this phenomenon and offers a how-to approach for Protestants eager to remain faithful to their tradition while becoming a vital spiritual community. As Butler Bass delved into the rich spiritual life of various Episcopal, Lutheran churches, United Methodist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian United Church of Christ, certain consistent practices---such as hospitality, contemplation, diversity, justice, discernment, and worship---emerged as core expressions of congregations seeking to rediscover authentic Christian faith and witness today.

It goes on to say that Living in the 21st century at times seems to be all about being connected ---to the satellite, to the internet, to the network, to the wireless world. With the demands most of us have on our attention; it's common for our lives to become unbalanced---and for the lasting connections in our lives to become weakened

Those links are strengthened not just by Bible study or prayer---not just by trying to love your family or your neighbor more---but by balanced attention to caring for one's mind, body and spirit.

The service ends with a hymn:

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

The eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him. 2 Chronicles 16:9

Sincerely,

Dawn Sankey

WELCA Secretary

Milestone Updates

Baptism Birthday's Celebrated

Three children and their families exchanged stories during the Baptism Birthday Milestone on Sunday, Jan. 9.

The event not only celebrates those baptized in 2010, but also to remind all of us our baptisms and to let our light shine as children of God.

The sign of the cross was placed on the forehead of Carter Schmidt and his parents Matt & Jen; Cadence Scherf Forst and her parents Jim and Missy plus godmother Amey; and Spencer Liljenquist and his parents Joan and Dominic, and grandparents Bots and Ann Botsford. Candles were also lit as part of a blessing.

Special Oak Grove guests were Terry and Jan Gambaiani and Shirley and Bud Tedamson who shared how Oak Grove has been a part their family for so many years.



Cadence with mom & dad and godmother Amey



Carter with mom & dad



Spencer with parents and grandparents



Upcoming Milestone Events

Jesus Loves Me Milestone – Sunday, February 6, 9:45 a.m., Fireside Room, 2-year-olds and families

Keys to the Car, Life & God – Sunday, March. 13, 9:35 a.m. Fireside Room, Teens and families

First Communion Milestone – Sunday, April 10, 5 – 7 p.m. Lower Lounge, Sign-ups Coming Soon

First Communion Service – Thursday, April 21, 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Feed My Starving Children

Oak Grove has once again booked the Chanhasen facility for a community service event! With all 60 spots reserved for us, there is plenty of room for congregation members to enjoy this opportunity along with the confirmation classes. Here are the details:

When: Saturday, March 5th (approx. 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.)

Where: Feed My Starving Children (www.fmsc.org)

18738 Lake Drive East, Chanhassen

What: Packaging/preparing food to ship to families around the world.



Our exact shift is from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., so the above times include the drive there and back. Oak Grove is providing a school bus for transportation to and from church to Feed My Starving Children.

It's easier than ever to sign up now—you can simply do it online! Here are your steps:

- 1) go to www.fmsc.org
- 2) in the upper right corner, click on "Register to Volunteer"
- 3) in middle/left side of page it says "Where would you like to volunteer?" Click on "Register on-line" (you'll see Chanhassen, MN listed underneath)
- 4) click on "Join an existing Group or Family"
- 5) "Find with Join Code" -- enter 96277
- 6) our group will come up with Jane Sundin as leader, click on "Confirm"
- 7) here you'll need to create an account for yourself, so you're almost done!

When you have created an account and joined the group, you will get reminder e-mails and will be able to see who has signed up to participate. This is a fabulous way to ensure you're part of the group and avoid playing phone tag in getting yourself registered!

If you don't have online access, simply contact me, and I'll be happy to add you to the group myself.

If you have any questions at this time, you can contact me at either jsundin@comcast.net, or 952-920-0875. There will be more follow-up as we get closer.

Spiritual Formation Retreat

Be still. . .

“In this New Year, when will you make time for a personal retreat, to nourish your soul and practice compassion for yourself, which ripples out into our families, communities, and world?”

If you’re going full speed right now, and who among us isn’t with work, family, and community obligations, the last thing you might be thinking about is taking time for a retreat. But in the midst of all that we do, a retreat may be just what’s needed. No one can go full speed all the time.

A retreat gives us time to step aside from life for a while, to rest and just “be” in a welcoming, peaceful place. A retreat gives us: time to stop and rest; time to return to basic attitudes and beliefs; time to rest in God, in whom we live and move and have our being; time to be physically quiet, away from all the noise of everyday life; time to commune with God through prayer and reflection in peaceful and comfortable surroundings; time to build our relationship with God; time and space to deal with questions in our lives; time to clarify a perspective, perhaps acquire a new perspective on a situation; time to refresh and build balance in our lives; time to establish, reestablish, or expand our consciousness of God in ourselves and in the universe; time to listen quietly for God in our lives.

In Scripture we read that Jesus would simply go off and pray. Early Christians would go off into the

desert to get away from their busy lives in order to find time alone for prayer and closeness to God. We all need some time to be alone for these purposes and a retreat provides that opportunity. It gives us time to pause, to listen, to reflect, and to discern where we are, where we’re going, and how we get there, all within a spiritual, God-centered setting.

An opportunity for just such a retreat, a quiet time away, is coming. Join us for prayer time with others, for time alone, and for time with God.

February 25-27, 2011 (Friday evening through Sunday noon)

St. John’s Abbey Guesthouse
Collegeville, MN

\$150 includes lodging (private room w/bath), meals, walking/hiking trails, chapel.

For further information contact Pastor Brice 612 869 4917, Pam Lindquist 651 206 9652, Caren Olson 952 854 0988.

Retreat: a time to step aside from the busyness of life for a while, a time to rest and just “be” in a welcoming, peaceful place; a time to rest in God, in whom we live and move and have our being.

“Be still and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10

Youth and Family

Faith Formation for Kids, Families and Adults

Mark these dates for Camps 2011

Castaway - June 26 thru July 2

Camp Wapogasset

Tim Team - July 29 thru August 5

Youth Camp - July 31 thru August 5

SEEDS - July 29 thru July 31

VBS - TBA

Family Fest Winter

Warm-Up Weekend

February 18 thru 21

at Grand View Lodge in Nisswa.

Check all the information out at
familyfestministries.org.

FEBRUARY 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Blood Pressure Checks 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:30 AM No Sunday School - Annual Meeting 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball 8:00 PM Basketball | 31 12:00 PM Lunch Bunch 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 1 6:00 PM Basketball 6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 8:00 PM Basketball | 2 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Spirit Bells 6:30 PM Carolers 6:30 PM Junior Bells 6:30 PM Wee Praise 7:00 PM Chorale 7:00 PM Grand Chimers 7:00 PM Joyful Singers 7:30 PM Faith Bells | 3 6:00 PM Basketball 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 12035 7:00 PM Russian Church 7:30 PM Basketball | 4 Loaves and Fishes OFFICE CLOSED 4:00 PM SCRAPBOOKING | 5 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Joy Bells 10:00 AM Gym Reserved |
| 6 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM 2 year old Milestone - Jesus Loves Me 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Education Hour 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball 8:00 PM Basketball | 7 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 8 6:00 PM Basketball 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 11386 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting 8:00 PM Basketball | 9 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Spirit Bells 6:30 PM Carolers 6:30 PM Junior Bells 6:30 PM Wee Praise 7:00 PM Chorale 7:00 PM Grand Chimers 7:00 PM Joyful Singers 7:30 PM Faith Bells | 10 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Russian Church 7:30 PM Basketball | 11 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 PM Square Dancing | 12 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Joy Bells 10:00 AM Girl Scout Troop 11386 12:00 PM RGSA |
| 13 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Education Hour 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 12:00 PM RGSA 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball 8:00 PM Basketball | 14 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 15 6:00 PM Basketball 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 8:00 PM Basketball | 16 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Spirit Bells 6:30 PM Carolers 6:30 PM Junior Bells 6:30 PM Wee Praise 7:00 PM Chorale 7:00 PM Grand Chimers 7:00 PM Joyful Singers 7:30 PM Faith Bells | 17 9:00 AM NSR Training 6:00 PM Basketball 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 12035 7:00 PM Russian Church 7:30 PM Basketball | 18 OFFICE CLOSED | 19 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Joy Bells 12:00 PM RGSA |
| 20 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Education Hour 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 12:00 PM RGSA 3:00 PM Riverside Singers 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball 8:00 PM Basketball | 21 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 22 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball | 23 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Spirit Bells 6:30 PM Carolers 6:30 PM Junior Bells 6:30 PM Wee Praise 7:00 PM Chorale 7:00 PM Grand Chimers 7:00 PM Joyful Singers 7:30 PM Faith Bells | 24 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Russian Church 7:30 PM Basketball | 25 OFFICE CLOSED Retreat at St. John's | 26 Retreat at St. John's 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Joy Bells 10:00 AM Family Gathering 10:00 AM Girl Scout Troop 11386 12:00 PM RGSA 7:00 PM TCSLA |
| 27 Retreat at St. John's 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 9:45 AM Education Hour 11:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 12:00 PM RGSA 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball 8:00 PM Basketball | 28 12:00 PM Lunch Bunch 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts | 1 6:00 PM Basketball 6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 8:00 PM Basketball | 2 9:30 AM Bible Study 6:00 PM Spirit Bells 6:30 PM Carolers 6:30 PM Junior Bells 6:30 PM Wee Praise 7:00 PM Chorale 7:00 PM Grand Chimers 7:00 PM Joyful Singers 7:30 PM Faith Bells | 3 6:00 PM Basketball 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 12035 7:30 PM Basketball | 4 Loaves and Fishes OFFICE CLOSED 4:00 PM SCRAPBOOKING | 5 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Joy Bells 12:00 PM RGSA 2:00 PM Feed My Starving Children |

Please join us on January 29th (9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon)

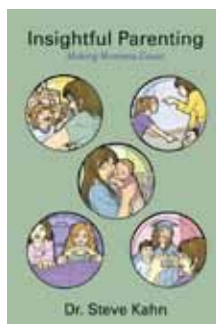
Insightful Parenting: The Workshop!

**Facilitated by Dr. Steve Kahn and hosted by
Oak Grove Lutheran Church**

This is the approach that focuses on our lives as parents! Learn how to be at your best even when your children are being their most challenging selves. And this is the only 3-hour workshop of the year.

You will gain a better understanding of why you might get upset or react too emotionally at times and you will have the chance to learn about your blind spots and learn how to see the teaching opportunities in all the moments of childhood.

To reserve your spot, contact Pastor Brice at 612-869-4917 or Brice@oakgrovelutheran.org



Location of workshop:
Oak Grove Lutheran Church
7045 Lyndale Ave. Richfield, MN 55423

Cost: \$10 per family

Dr. Kahn's book on
"Insightful Parenting: Making
Moments Count"

is available for \$12.00
at www.drstevekahn.com.

