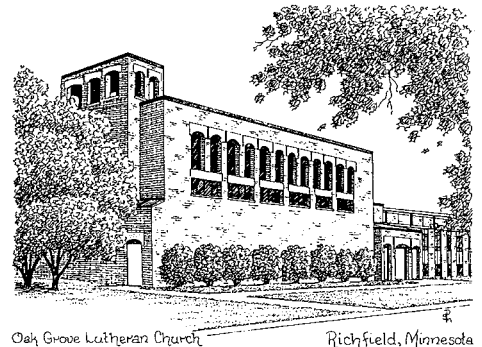


# Twenty Years of Music

## *A Celebration with Messenger*

Friday, June 24

7:00 pm in the sanctuary



Oak Grove Lutheran Church Richfield, Minnesota

## Congratulations to all of our Graduates

### High School

**Zach Beudet** – Richfield, attending UW Madison

**Martha Eichlersmith** – Holy Angels – attending  
Gustavus Adolphus College

**Michona Johns** – Richfield, attending Luther College

**Matthew Krohn** – Richfield

**Allison McClement** – Richfield, attending Normandale College

**Rachel Nycklemoe** – Hopkins

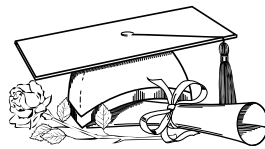
**Corey Olson** – Southwest, attending Northern Michigan

**Cameron Sundin** – Edina, attending Bethel College

**Adam Tuff** – Eastview, attending Michigan Tech

**Amanda Tveite** – Bloomington Jefferson – attending St. Olaf College

**Rachel Hueg** – DeLaSalle, attending St. Katherine University



### College

**Andrew Grabow** graduated on May 6 from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Electrical Engineering

**Justin Tveite** graduated in December, 2010 from Moorhead State University with a BA in Graphic Design

**Christopher Hueg** graduated on May 15 from Lewis University in Romeoville, IL with a major in Theology and a minor in Theater

**Elizabeth Tammen** graduated May 14 from the College of St. Benedict with a major in Business Management and a minor in Political Science.

**Emily Klock Tveite** graduated from Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago

**Adam Zarth** graduated in December from the U of MN with a BA in Chemistry

### June 2011

#### What's Inside . . .

June Birthdays . . . . .	2
Circle Meetings . . . . .	2
Women's Summer Bible Study . . .	2
Deaths . . . . .	2
Baptisms . . . . .	2
From the Pastor . . . . .	3
Refresher Course . . . . .	3
VBS . . . . .	3
Notes of Thanks . . . . .	4
Kitchen Konnection . . . . .	4
Spotlight on Women . . . . .	5
Council Corner . . . . .	5
Help Wanted . . . . .	5
Rally Day 2011 . . . . .	5
Possibilities Survey . . . . .	6
Calendar . . . . .	7



## June Birthdays

- 1 – Les Hanson, Ashley Keller, Warren Swanson
- 2 – Patrick Grob
- 3 – Adrian Athey, Dorothy Cook, Arnie Moe
- 4 – Ann Olson
- 5 – Cordelia Agrimson, Patrice Moe, Spencer Sundberg
- 6 – Gabriel Gomez, Sam Luna, Brian Oman, Velma Peterson, Julia Philibert
- 7 – Alison Brandt, Thanh Dang, Eunice (Harold) Johnson, Marissa Klein
- 8 – Carol Rowell
- 10 – Bonnie Bucher
- 11 – Erik Botsford
- 12 – Jill Ahlstrand, Marcia Longley
- 13 – Kayla Travers
- 15 – Elliott Best, Jim Blomgren, Norma Skogheim, Adam Zarth
- 16 – Sylvia Dietzler, Jeanne (Gordy) Hanson, Jane Peterson, Amy Tvete
- 17 – Mary Beth Mohn, Mardy Sotebeer
- 18 – Emily Baumbach, Erik Beggs, Erin Stertz-Follett
- 19 – Eunice Jurgens, Donald Lusty, Nicholas Truedson
- 20 – Molly Foss, Terri Frankovich, June Sveum
- 21 – Alex Kielty, Valada Krossin, Shannon Olson, Lawrence Schultz
- 22 – Bruce Barnes, Brett Jacobson
- 23 – Deanne Beudet
- 24 – Amy Borg
- 25 – Brad Barrows, Mark Panning
- 26 – Jon Olson, Darla Polzin, Lynn Thompson
- 27 – Anne Bauer, John Bjostad, Teresa Bonneville, Linda Knutson, Connie Lupkes
- 28 – Ramon Ring
- 29 – Jennifer Polzin, Jessica Polzin
- 30 – Allison McClement, Zeke Thomas Rice

## Circle Meetings for June

All Circles are Tuesday, June 7, unless noted

**Esther** – 6:00 p.m. at Donna Paakkonen's, 7327 Wentworth Ave. So. Bring a dish to share.

**Katherine** – at 5:30 p.m. at Houlihan's, 6601 Lyndale

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## Women's Summer Bible Study

All women of OG are invited and welcome to participate in a 3-session Bible study this summer. We will meet at 7PM in the Fireside Room on the second Tuesday of each month: June 14, July 12, and August 9.

The title of the study is "Renew, Respond, Rejoice". The first session will explore the issue of hardness of heart, create in me a clean heart, and renewing ourselves. The second session will focus on discerning and using our gifts in a service response to God. The third session exhorts us to "Rejoice in the Lord" even when things are complicated or unresolved.

No advance preparation or knowledge is necessary; study materials and light refreshments will be available. Please consider attending one, two, or all of these informal sessions 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).

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## Deaths

We extend our sympathies to the following families:

**LuVerne Renneke**, who passed away on May 2.  
Her funeral was at held at Oak Grove on May 5.

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## Baptisms



**May 8:** Alexandra Lynn Anderson  
Elliot Reese Olmstead

**May 15:** Evelyn Mae Follett  
Peyton Beverly Tietze  
Blake Anthony Duncan



## *Band with a Message*

Back in about 1970 I was part of the group that broke the “guitar barrier” in our home church. The pastors went along with the plan, and on one Sunday in spring the mighty pipe organ in the choir loft was silent and the singing was led by a few kids with guitars and a bass. If you remember those days, this was more radical than it sounds today. Worship in a suburban Lutheran church meant an organ and a hymnbook, and when we sprang some acoustic folk-rock on the people, and songs they’d heard on the radio, it was a big adjustment. We’ve come a long way.

At Oak Grove, the guitar barrier was broken before I arrived. The Lydia-Ruth Circle, a group of women with a musical flair, had some strummers in their number, and the old Chicago Folk Service had made its inroads here. And then 20 years ago Pastor Ron Prasek asked if I would start up a church band. We did, and named ourselves “Messenger” after this newsletter and because we hoped to bring a message through the music.

So now for 20 years Messenger has been leading the singing of songs not usually found in

the hymnbook. Some band members have come and gone through the years, but Morva has been on keyboards, Kevin on bass, Lolita on vocals, and Brad on lead guitar since the beginning. We’ve been pleased to fill out the sound with Pam on synthesizer, Greg on flute, Mike on the drum set and Carolyn on congas and percussion. I’ll be honest and say that when I became senior pastor, and some of the church leaders said to me, “But we still want you to play in the band,” I was overjoyed. I work here, but rehearsing and playing with them is nothing like work.

I know I speak for you when I say we owe this group a big debt of gratitude for their dedication, professionalism, and desire to help us worship God with music that inspires many. I asked them how we should recognize 20 years of this ministry and they said we should sing and play. So we’re going to have a gathering on Friday, June 24 at 7pm. We’re going to do some of the music that has meant a lot to us through the years. You are invited to come and listen and sing along. It will be a fun night of music with a message.

Pastor Tom Zarth

## **Senior Driver Refresher Improvement Program Offered at Oak Grove**

**Thursday, July 7 from 1 – 5 p.m. – cost: \$20**

The Drive Improvement course is open to the public; pre-registration is requested. A MN Highway Safety and Research Center certified instructor will teach the class.

Persons 55 and older who complete the course qualify for a 10% discount on their auto insurance premiums for three years. Call 1-888-234-1294 to register.

## **85th Birthday Party for June Sveum**

Please join us during the coffee hour  
on June 19th to help us celebrate  
June’s 85th birthday!

## **Mark your calendars for: Vacation Bible School**

**July 18 - 22, 2011**

**Ages 3 yrs old - 5th grade**

**\$20.00 per student - \$50.00 family max**

**Scholarships available**

**Please register by July 11, 2011**

Registration forms can be found in the church office.

Any questions or concerns, you may contact

Kris Brehmer, Education Coordinator

at 612-869-4917 ext. 14

or kris@oakgrovelutheran.org

## *Note of Thanks. . .*

### **Thank you for Serving at HCC**

Oak Grove and Woodlake Lutheran served the Friendship Meal on March 19 at the Hospitality Center for Chinese. Eighteen OG individuals or families provided delicious salads, desserts, and rolls. Three individuals helped to set-up, serve, and clean-up at the event. Six individuals or families provided money to purchase some of the main dishes and we had plenty of food.

The message of God's love and care was presented by the speaker during the program and the staff and volunteers made everyone welcome.

Your contributions of time, talent, and money are very much appreciated by the staff of HCC and the attendees at the meal. It couldn't happen without you.

**Tom & Lynn Stertz**

Thank you to all who helped with the Oak Grove plant fundraiser. Your support helps our youth go to summer camps. The plant sale totaled over \$6,800 with a total profit of over \$2400 for our Oak Grove campers. Thanks again to all who bought plans, helped unload the truck, filled the orders and helped with clean up, etc.

### **Open Arms Door Offering Update**

Thank you so much for helping my group raise money for Open Arms. With your help, I personally raised over \$2,300 and my group has raised over \$8,300. If you want to follow my travels, visit my blog online at: [theadventuresoftiggernotpooh.blogspot.com](http://theadventuresoftiggernotpooh.blogspot.com)

Thanks again,  
**Elisa Tvet**

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**Boy Scout Car Wash**  
**Saturday, June 18 and 25**  
**at Oak Grove from 10 – 2 p.m**

### **Remember Oak Grove in Your Legacy 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. Contact Pastor Tom or Maynard Wood for more information.

## **— Kitchen Konnection —**

It is mid-May as I begin to write, and Mother Nature continues to play tricks on us. After a long, cold winter we finally got the warmer weather, but along with it came clouds and rain. We have missed the sunshine that we so desperately need for our own personal health (Vitamin D) and for the health of our gardens. Isn't wonderful to see all the green popping up; isn't it fun to walk through the gardens to see what has survived the cold winter? But today, after a couple days of warmth and sunshine (even 80 degrees) it is back to the 40-50 degree temps. So Mother Nature is playing tricks on our gardens, too. They will need some extra TLC. A good friend tilled my garden yesterday, so I will try my hand at some tomatoes and other veggies. OG member Steve Harris provided us with some very helpful gardening tips at the forum a couple weeks ago.

As part of Creation Care here at OG, we are contemplating starting a vegetable garden on the Lynsdale Ave. point...any help or suggestions are always welcome. Wednesday evening meals are done for now, but the kitchen remains open for many other activities throughout the summer months. If we can get some veggies going, just think of the mouth watering, home grown, and great tasting salad bar that will be part of the Wednesday evening meals in the fall. Here is a suggestion for a dressing for those raw tomatoes and cucumbers:

½ C. vegetable oil    ¼ tsp. freshly ground pepper  
¼ C. wine vinegar    ½ tsp. dried basil, crushed  
1 ½ tsp. salt            ½ tsp. dill seed

Combine the above ingredients and pour over tomatoes and cucumbers. Chill for at least two hours. ENJOY! Have a wonderful summer.

God bless, Margie

*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. Ephesians 3:16-17...*



**Do you have questions** about church, theology, the Bible, the history of the church?  
[ask.dr.dana01@gmail.com](mailto:ask.dr.dana01@gmail.com)

## Spotlight on Women

We want to thank those of you were able to join us last month for our 'Brainstorming Opportunity'.



The Board would like to thank our Event Leaders and Programmer's who were: Pam Lindquist and Caren Olson for the Spiritual Direction Session.

Also to: Pam Gmitro for her Yoga demonstration

To the ladies who helped with our foot and hand massage we appreciate this T.L.C.

I'd also like to remind those of you who haven't returned your surveys to us yet. To please complete this brief form found on page 6 of the Messenger and return it to Margie Risch or the WELCA mailbox in the back of the office, thank-you.

Looking forward to this summer, we all seem to be anticipating the 8th Triennial Gathering in Spokane, Washington scheduled to be held July 14-17, 2011. We can all be a part of it.

As noted in the Tapestry newsletter for Minneapolis Synod Women of the ELCA: Get out your knitting needles and crochet hooks or loom to weave, to create a prayer shawl! They'll be collecting prayer shawls at the triennial gathering this July. The shawls will be given to ministries in our host synod, the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod.

For patterns, check out: [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com) or any of the many books on the topic available at your local library. You can work alone or in a group. Taking the trains to the gathering in Spokane? You'll have time to whip up a least one!

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## HELP WANTED

The YOUTH of Oak Grove are having a  
SCRAP METAL DRIVE.

Please see the attached list of items wanted. Collection dates will be posted soon. Watch for Posters with details. Proceeds will benefit the YOUTH PROGRAMS here at Oak Grove. Questions can be directed to Morgan & Alexis Curry or Julie Tveté.

Please save the following:      CAN NOT ACCEPT:  
Steel                                      Aluminum foil  
Stainless Steel                      Paint cans  
Brass                                      Aerosol cans

Copper  
Aluminum  
Aluminum pop cans  
Soup & Vegetable cans

(LABELS REMOVED PLEASE)

## Council's Corner

Have you ever stopped and wondered who might be our Leaders of the Future? I have. And it's not a comforting thought unfortunately. Societal values continue to change, and I wonder where I will fit into this changing society in the future.

On Sunday, May 1, Oak Grove Lutheran Church had 15 teenage men and women affirm their faith through Confirmation. In front of God, their families and friends, and all of us, their church family, they committed to their faith now and in the future. It was an amazing event.

The students prepared and provided the liturgy, and ALL of them participated in their own unique way. I looked at that group of 15 men and women, and could only imagine how proud they must be for their accomplishment. And I also saw them as leaders of the future.

It is amazing how God brings people and events in and out of our lives at certain times to restore our hearts, refresh our thinking, and give us hope that things will be okay in the future.

Look around you. Try to imagine who you think would be a good leader of the future. And if you are so inclined, and with the strength of God behind you, personally tell them how you feel about them.

Society is changing. And we can all have an impact on that change.

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## Rally Day 2011 Planning is Underway!!

Rally Day 2011 may seem far away, but planning for our annual church celebration is underway. Rally Day 2011 will be held on Sunday, September 11th. As always, you can count on great fun, food and fellowship as the Oak Grove family returns to start the fall calendar of church activities.

Organizing an event like Rally Day takes a lot of planning. That's why we're thinking about this end-of-the-summer celebration before the summer has even begun.

Here's what you can do to be part of the planning team:

- Start considering what you can donate to the annual silent auction
- Join the Rally Day Planning Committee (Contact Kris Brehmer through the Church office)
- Pray for sunny skies with mild temperatures

Watch for more exciting details about this year's Rally Day. It's going to be fun!

# Possibilities Survey. . .

## For the Women of Oak Grove

What is your age group? 18-25\_\_\_26-50\_\_\_51-75\_\_\_75 & over\_\_\_

Are you interested in any of the following activities?

\_\_\_Bible Study...Format?\_\_\_Forum\_\_\_Mini Series\_\_\_Individual

\_\_\_Book Study

\_\_\_Support Group....Your topic of interest\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_Walking Club

\_\_\_Yoga/Exercise Class

\_\_\_Other?\_\_\_\_\_



How often would you be willing to participate?

\_\_\_Weekly...1x\_\_\_2x\_\_\_

\_\_\_Monthly

\_\_\_Studies for...4 weeks\_\_\_6 weeks\_\_\_

What day or days are most convenient for you?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_morning\_\_\_afternoon\_\_\_evening

Do you belong to a Circle here at Oak Grove? \_\_\_yes\_\_\_no

If NO, are you interested in learning more about the circles with the possibility of joining? Please leave your name and phone number if you would like to be called.

NAME\_\_\_\_\_Number\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in Intergenerational Activities, such as mentoring/pairing young to older either individually or in a group setting?

Examples: Prayer Partner, Cooking and/or baking together, sharing hobbies, adopted grandparents, other suggestions?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Would you participate in a community service project sponsored by the Women of Oak grove? \_\_\_yes\_\_\_no

Examples: Meals on Wheels, Paint-a-thon, Serve meals at a homeless or Domestic Violence shelter, etc. Other ideas?\_\_\_\_\_

Please share any ideas, hopes and dreams, and/or suggestions that you have for the women of Oak Grove and the community.

*Thank you for answering this survey. Please return it to the church office and you will receive a free gift.*

*God Bless!*

Margie Risch, Carolyn Aura, Dawn Sankey, Marilyn Tuff, Kelly Olson, & Kathie Curry

# JUNE 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE STARTS 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball	<b>30</b> 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	<b>1</b> 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	<b>2</b> 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 12035 7:30 PM Basketball	<b>3</b> Loaves and Fishes 4:00 PM SCRAPBOOKING	<b>4</b> 10:00 AM Messenger practice
<b>5</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 12:00 PM Fellowship Hall Reserved 2:00 PM Flute Recital 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball	<b>6</b> 6:00 PM City of Richfield Public Meeting 6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting	<b>7</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	<b>8</b> 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	<b>9</b> 7:30 PM Basketball	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM CARE CLUB 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting 8:00 PM Basketball	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Summer Stretch 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 12035 7:30 PM Basketball	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 AM Boy Scout Car Wash 10:00 AM Messenger practice
<b>19</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 1:00 PM Drama Camp Set-Up 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	<b>22</b> 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	<b>23</b> 8:30 AM Housing Committee 9:00 AM DRAMA/MUSIC CAMP 9:00 AM Summer Stretch 7:00 PM DRAMA CAMP PERFORMANCE 7:30 PM Basketball	<b>24</b> 7:00 P.M. Messenger Concert	<b>25</b> 10:00 AM Boy Scout Car Wash
<b>26</b> 8:30 AM Worship Service 9:00 AM Kids Leave for CASTAWAY 10:00 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Caribe 5:00 PM Men's Volleyball	<b>27</b> 12:00 PM Lunch Bunch 6:00 PM City of Richfield Public Meeting	<b>28</b> 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM CARE CLUB 6:00 PM Basketball 8:00 PM Basketball	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM Youth Basketball 7:30 PM Youth Group Study Hall	<b>30</b> 9:00 AM Summer Stretch 7:30 PM Basketball	<b>1</b> Loaves and Fishes 4:00 PM SCRAPBOOKING	<b>2</b> 10:00 AM Messenger practice 11:00 PM Kids Return from CASTAWAY

## Equipping the Ark for Camp Noah!

A Logistics Support Mission by Nancy Gertner

(Serving as an Ambassador to Lutheran Social Services from Oak Grove)

On Sunday, June 19, between the worship services, approximately 9:30 AM - 9:50 AM

Yes, we will do this activity on Father's Day, as an expression of sharing our abundance with children whose earthly parents were unable to protect their children from experiencing devastating disasters.

**Mission:** Pack 24 kits for children attending Camp Noah of Lutheran Social Services

Camp Noah plans a busy summer of providing a fun and nurturing week of structured activities to children that have experienced disasters. With so many floods this year in Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and other southern states, there is no shortage of children needing attention after losing their home and possessions.

Volunteers needed for packing the kits are 8-10 people of any ages. Additional volunteers could write notes to the children to be included in the kit.

We will pack kits for 24 children. If you would like to provide items, here is what is needed:

Kits include: • Pack of markers (8 or 10 count, preferably washable) • Paint set + brush (watercolor, usually 8 count of colors) • Glue stick • Child-sized scissors • Mechanical pencil • Small container of Play dough • Note to the child

We will also pack a Beanie Baby or small stuffed animal in each kit, which Nancy will provide.

If you want more specifics on the items needed, you can check the Oak Grove Facebook page. If you would like to volunteer to participate in this event, you can also sign up at the church's Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/OakGroveLutheran](http://www.facebook.com/OakGroveLutheran) Or call Nancy Gertner at: 612 396 9186 or email: [nancygertner@mac.com](mailto:nancygertner@mac.com) You may also make a monetary donation to Oak Grove Lutheran Church for purchase of the items. Please make your donation of items or money by June 12.