

Confirmation celebrated on Sunday, April 26, 2009

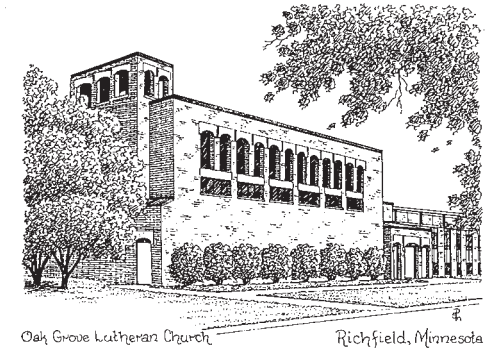


Congratulations to the following 9th graders who were confirmed on April 26, 2009.

Madison Andrews, Ben Dimond, Nick Driscoll, Gabe Gomez, Will Hinton, Lydia Kranz, J.D. Louris, Joshua Myroniuk, Sarah Swenson, Hannah Tammen, Amy Tvete, Kelsie Whited and Jordan Zoellmer.

As you confirm your love for Christ, our prayer is that you will continue to grow in your faith.

May God bless you all!



Oak Grove Lutheran Church Richfield, Minnesota



Youth Camps and Activities

Youth Mission Trips

Oak Grove high school students cooperate with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in south Minneapolis to serve in many different places, from New York to Wyoming. This summer ministry focuses on the students' faith development through service, Bible study and worship.

Camp Wapogasset

A summer camp for kids in grades 3-11 to learn to be disciples of Jesus. Each year Oak Grove has fund-raisers to help those who otherwise could not go to camp.

Young Life

Camp Castaway is an outreach to Richfield high school students and meets Mondays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Each year, they spend a week at Camp Castaway in northern Minnesota. Contact Pastor Brice for more information.

Boy Scouts

Troop 262 has about 24 boys between the ages of 11 and 18 and 12 adult volunteers and meets Mondays at 7 p.m. in the gym. If you are interested in joining the Scouts, contact the church office.

Camp Wapogasset 2009 Camp Dates

July 31 - Aug. 2 - Seeds (2nd & 3rd grade)
July 31 - Aug. 7 - TIM Team (9th - 12th grade)
Aug. 2 - Aug. 7 - 4th thru 9th grade

Camp Castaway - Young Life

2009 camp date: July 5 - 11
Registration, health forms, what to bring to camp? go to www.oakgrovelutheran.org for forms

Six children celebrate First Communion

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper and the First Communion. At the Maundy Thursday and Easter services the following took the body and blood of Jesus for the first time marking it as an important Christian Milestone: Abbie Becker, Grace Becker, Constance Reinhardt, Haley Reinhardt, Jeffrey Reinhardt, and Zoë Grace Zarth.

Their families gathered for a pizza supper March 29 to discuss what the adults remember about their First Communion, the meaning of the wine and bread, and how Communion at Oak Grove is served. They also made First Communion Memory Pieces with their pictures and names to be displayed on the altar cloth for Maundy Thursday.

In recognition of the special Faith Milestone, Zoë Zarth and Family greeted the congregation and Grace and Abbie Becker and Family made bread for Communion.



Abbie Becker, Grace Becker and Zoe Zarth



Jeffrey, Constance and Heather Reinhardt

May 2009

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May Birthdays

- 1 – Debra Benson, Gerald Fors, Brandon Oman
- 3 – Mike Hanson, Sharon Ojile, Jeanne Seleen
- 4 – Edward Penz, Mark Reinhardt, Kristin Schultz
- 5 – Benjamin Blomgren
- 6 – Kimberly Bjostad, Bruce Boyea, Jodi Snyder
- 7 – Dan Curry, Maurice Moe, Mallery Mohn
- 8 – Matthew Koppang
- 9 – Pam Krause, Chris Sunne
- 11 – Kelly Tietze, Janet Travers
- 12 – Jil White
- 14 – Azor Kleven, Winnefred Nelson, Don Solt
- 15 – Jim Forst
- 16 – Tiana Bastain, Al Erlandson, Marca Kassera, Gabe Philibert, Paul Thompson
- 17 – Jeff Bodahl
- 19 – Tiffany Fors
- 20 – Gladys Krohn, Pat Schultz
- 21 – Richard Reinhart
- 22 – Angela Sammon
- 23 – Woodrow Brown, Rev. Lester Dahlen, Benjamin Dimond, Adam Tuff, Catherine Urbach, Maynard Wood
- 24 – Robert Bauer, Ron Keller, Lois Lusty
- 25 – Rosalie Bjorkman, Kevin Larson, John Zarth, Merle Zarth
- 27 – Harris Morseth
- 28 – Pat Botnen, Luiza Peterson
- 29 – Matthew Meinke
- 30 – Scott Bihari, Marion Swanson
- 31 – Vickie Engelhard

Circle Meetings for May

All Circles are Tuesday, May 5, unless noted

Esther – 7:30 in the Fireside Room

Katherine – 1:30 p.m. at Mary Francis' home – 6709 10th Avenue

Lydia-Ruth – 7:30 p.m. at Lynn Stertz' home – 7304 Clinton Ave South

Rebecca – 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Anona Swenson, hostess

Sarah – 1 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Bea Fure, Hostess.

Spotlight on Women

Cell Phone Recycling

Women of the ELCA has teamed up with the Women's Funding Network and the Good Deed Foundation to **recycle 250,000 cell phones by May 1, 2009!** Money raised through the recycling campaign will be used to:

1. Support programs that lift women and families out of poverty.
2. Help provide lasting solutions to climate change, a major contributor to poverty worldwide.
3. Provide 911 emergency phones for senior citizens and people at risk.

In the United States alone, more than **half a billion** cell phones are no longer being used and are ready for recycling, and another **11 million** phones are added to that total every month!

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There is a box in the narthex where you can place you old cell phones to be given to Good Deed Foundation.

The offering at the Oak Grove Women Birthday Party in February was \$211.50.

Please Note

A reminder that summer worship begins May 24th with worship at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Summer office hours – 8:30 – 3 p.m. will begin after Memorial Day .

Deaths



We extend our sympathies to the families of:

Morris Klukken, who died March 26. Morris joined Oak Grove in 1955.

Doris Pearson, who died April 12. Doris joined Oak Grove in 1976.



I am Oak Grove

At a routine trip to the doctor the other day what caught my eye were the poster-sized ads for that clinic hanging on the wall. The faces smiling out from the pictures, attractive as they were, didn't seem to be professional models. But dressed in the uniforms of nurses, aides, techs, or docs, they communicated that this was a place they were part of, this was *their* story, this is what they proudly did—sort of an “I am Fairview” approach. Not a bad ad campaign.

The ELCA has embarked on a new ad campaign lately. Maybe you saw one of the spots on television during Holy Week. Soon we'll start seeing messages on billboards, on the sides of city busses and in certain magazines. The church wants to get the word out about Lutherans, and when you see the ads you'll notice a common theme.

These ads are all about other people: rebuilding houses after the Katrina disaster, feeding hungry kids in a South African shantytown, a free clinic in Milwaukee for

people without health insurance, literacy programs for women in sub-Saharan Africa. I'm grateful for the direction the ads take. They show that the transforming power of the gospel has practical application in the real world. Why bother to promote a church that isn't making a difference in the lives of others?

But I also like the approach of the Fairview campaign, where the people in the ads are pleased and proud to be part of that place. In a way, it's more like the “advertising” we ourselves do. We know it's unseemly to take a lot of credit for the good things we might do for others with our offerings or our efforts. But it's a different matter to stand up and say why you are glad to be part of something: like being a Christian, or a Lutheran, or a member of Oak Grove. Each of our lives can tell that story—tell what we are pleased to be part of, and proud of, and why. I am Oak Grove and so are you. What comes next is just what difference that makes.

Pastor Tom Zarth

There is Music in the Air!

You'll want to come to hear the music that Dawn Alitz, former Oak Grove member and soboist, and Lawrence Archbald, organist, have prepared for the annual Thursday Musical Community Concert at Oak Grove on Saturday, May 9 at 3 p.m..

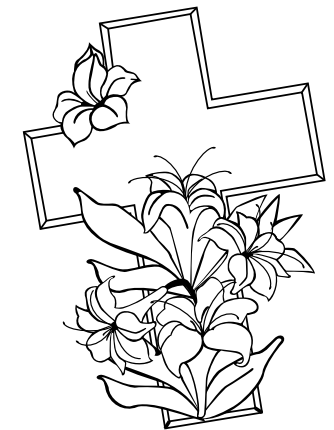
Dawn and Lawrence will be collaborating on an oboe/organ duo and there will be a World Premier of New Folk Dances for Oboe and Guitar by R.J. Maderich 11.

These excellent performing artists come to us as part of Thursday Musical's community outreach. We hope you will come to receive the inspiration that this classical music will afford you.

This concert promises to be just like “downtown” so bring your family and friends to support this special performance.

There will be a freewill offering to help support future concerts at Oak Grove and a reception will be held after the concert.

OGCS



Notes of Thanks. . .

A BIG thank you to everyone, especially Julie Tvete, Butch Lupkes, Mark Hueg, Vonnie Nelson, Kelli Olson, Teresa Vik and Lucas Becker, who donated time, money and supplies to the Youth Lock-In in March. Twenty-five kids, 8th – 12th grade enjoyed a night full of movies, games, fun and fellowship. We had a blast! Once again, thank you!

— Jennifer Murdick and Elisa Tvete

I thank God for you every day at Oak Grove! With God, your prayers and faith, we will be healed. God bless you all and keep praying.

– Dianna Sorenson

Thanks to everyone for the cards, prayers and visits at the time of my back surgery and during my recovery at home. They were all very much appreciated.

– Bots Botsford

Thanks to everyone for your prayers and cards for my sudden illness and surgery. It is such a comfort to know others care and are thinking of you. God Bless all of you

– JoAnn Beggs

— Kitchen Konnection —

It is hard to believe that our Wednesday evening meals are coming to a temporary end. Summer is approaching fast, activities at O.G. are winding down, and, for the most part, the church will be quiet on Wednesday evenings for the next three months.

I have enjoyed being your host and cook over the past several months. I hope that you have enjoyed the meals and the fellowship that came along with them. I plan on being back in September to start the meals all over again.

Our Oak Grove kitchen will remain in use for concert receptions, community meetings, Sunday morning coffee hours, VBS, funeral lunches (if necessary), and other activities that fill our church over the summer months...and so the fellowship continues.

DINNER WILL BE SERVED ON MAY 6 & MAY 13.

Cook's choice menus as production and inventory are reduced due to less activities over that last couple of weeks. I promise that no one will go home hungry!!!

A special thanks to all who helped out in the kitchen. Have a wonderful, safe, and fun summer. And remember, all days at OG (not just Wednesdays) are great food for the soul.

God's blessings to all, *Margie*

Golden Oaks . . .

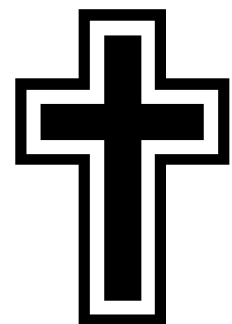


The Golden Oaks will meet at **Noon on Monday, May 11, 2009 at the church.**

We will have a "Make your own sandwich" lunch with the trimmings. Cost is \$2.

Our speaker will be **Chuck Tindell**. Chuck is a Lutheran Pastor who is currently Visitation Pastor at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley and chaplain for the Apple Valley Police Department. He will regale us with humorous stories about aging. **You need to hear him. He is a real hoot!**

Bring your friends. They will thank you after hearing Chuck.



What is Parish Nursing? A Refresher Course

A Parish Nurse is a professional nurse who is called and committed to the healing ministry of the church. Parish nursing is a blend of ministry and nursing. A focus on the whole person centering on spirituality.

A Parish Nurse is:

**An Advocate - An Educator - A Referral Source
A Listening Ear - A Coordinator of Volunteers**

Parish Nursing does not provide hands on nursing care but instead focuses on physical, spiritual and emotional wellness. It is not a replacement for pastoral care, community/public health nursing, medical care or social agencies, but a partnership with these services.

Programs available through the Parish Nurse Program@oakgrovelutheran:

- Visitation Ministry
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Blood Pressure Screening

Watch for more programs in the future.

Please contact me with any questions, suggestions or concerns you may have. I am thrilled to be a part of the Oak Grove Family!

Stephanie Burley - 612-869-4917
or oakgrovenurse@yahoo.com