

Youth and Family News

Stuff for parents / adults:

- Doubt, Discussion, Dessert – October 24 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who wants to watch a DVD and talk about it – open to high school and adults. We will have one in the winter also.
- Marriage Booster Retreat – November 21 from 9:15-4:30 at Braemar Golf Course. Register on line at familyfestministries.org

Youth Stuff!

- MEA Getaway – October 15-18, 2009 Cost: \$150. For 9th – 12th grade. Flyers in the office and online at oakgrovelutheran.org
- Moonlight Madness – November 13, 2009 for 6th – 9th grade – cost \$30. More information in October.
- Young Life Boys Small Group – September 14 from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Brandon Foye's - 7333 3rd Ave – Richfield

7th – 9th Graders and Parents

- Middle-school Lock-In run by TIM Team – October 9 & 10 – more information later

Fall Concert of South American Music

The first concert of the 2009-2010 Concert Series will be on Sunday, October 25th at 3 p.m., featuring Nicolas Carter, a harpist, and members of his ensemble, Nube, (Spanish for "cloud"), Tracy Gorman will appear with Nicolas as dancer.

Nicolas was raised in Paraguay, where he learned to play the national folk instrument, the harp. He has been composing, recording and performing harp music for 20 years in the U.S., Europe and South America. Nicolas holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in theatre directing from the U of M and was a Fulbright Scholar in France.

Nube is an ensemble of master musicians who exquisitely blend contemporary Latin American and World Music. Their soulful and relaxing music evokes the warmth of a South American ambience.

Mark the date on your calendar and we hope to see you on Sunday, the 25th of October.

OGCS's



75th Anniversary Stories Request

Have you heard?? Oak Grove will celebrate its 75th anniversary in October 2010!

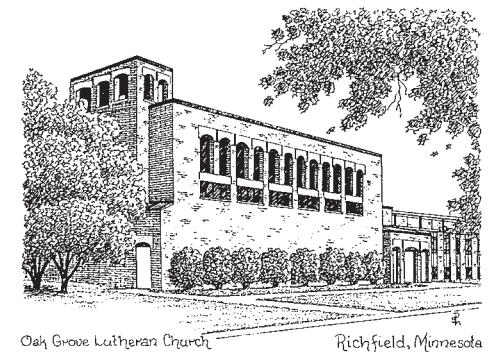
Over the next year we will have fun remembering and celebrating where Oak Grove has come from, where it is today, and where we pray it will go in the future! Right now, we need your help in the “fun remembering” part!

We have looked back over the anniversary booklets from past years and there is lots of history/ timetables in writing, but what we would like to do is gather Oak Grove stories for our 75th. That is where you come in. We would like to gather stories of a fun, touching, happy or even sad memory that you have of Oak Grove- from anytime over the last 75 years. We will occasionally print them in the bulletin and the Messenger to share with others. You are welcome to write your stories or one of the committee members would be happy to interview you at your convenience. Stories can be short or long and of course you are welcome to write more than one!

Come on- let's hear those stories! (See below for a variety of story topics to get your memories working.)

Julie Tvete, Gordy Hanson and Margie Risch

Choir - Boy Scouts - Circles - Men's fishing trip - Young adult group/volleyball - Volleyball marathon - Bible studies - Men's volleyball group - Rally Sunday - TIM team - Wapo - Sunday School Sunday School Christmas program - Advent program - Bells People stories - Confirmation



Oak Grove Lutheran Church Richfield, Minnesota

October 2009

What's Inside . . .

October Birthdays	2
Circle Meetings.	2
Spotlight on Women.	2
Baptisms.	2
Deaths.	2
From the Pastor.	3
Have you Heard?.	3
Sunday Education Hour	3
Notes of Thanks	4
Golden Oaks	4
Kitchen Konnection	4
Calendar	5



October Birthdays

- 1 - Robert Athey, Rachel Becker, Marilyn Mueller, Eloise Peterson, Janice Portukalian, Marlys Solt
- 2 - Kristin Risch, Jean Schultz
- 3 - Paul Larson
- 4 - Gary Lien
- 5 - Kay Weiss
- 6 - Erven Bodahl, Shannon Murphy, Tim Oien
- 7 - Janice Grussendorf, Mike Hartke, Tom Hoyne, Jonathan Zoellmer
- 8 - Jay Alstrand, Marion Robinson, Linda Stuermer, Nancy Suneson, Pam Tietze
- 9 - Jeremy Earl, Naomi Nycklemoe, Clarence Timmer
- 10 - David Hinton, Audrey Swanson
- 13 - Kelsey Murphy, Bo Myroniuk, Isaac Philibert Hannah Tammen, Polly Wickum
- 14 - Trenton Blades, Nicholas Martin, Todd Swenson
- 15 - Adam Sokolski, Jim Sundberg, Teresa Vik
- 16 - Rev. Louis Becker
- 17 - Daniel Benson
- 18 - Mary Lorensen, Daniel Tvete
- 19 - Patricia Hanson
- 20 - Richard Lien, Anton Petersen, Sandra Reinhardt
- 21 - Mervyn Becker, Muriel Hanson, Ashley Johnson
- 22 - Todd Folstad, Lidia Grabow
- 23 - Rick Beaudet
- 24 - Emma Crawford, Eunice (Al) Johnson
- 25 - Daniel Johnson, Carol Rice, Eugene Tedamonsen
- 26 - LuVerne Renneke
- 27 - Jeffrey Ahlstrand, Marion Gustafson, Carol Krohn, Irene Lane, Benjamin Peyton
- 28 - Amanda Myroniuk
- 29 - Penelope Becker, Steven Krohn
- 31 - Linda Bauer, Edith Nelson, Nicole Tietze

Circle Meetings for October

All Circles are Tuesday, October 5, unless noted

Esther - 7:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Katherine - 1:30 p.m. at Mary Wood's, 7501 Clinton Ave S.

Lydia-Ruth - 7:30 p.m. at Ann Botsford's 10006 Wahburn Ave S

Rebecca - Carpool from church at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, October 1st, to go to Mt. Olivet Care-view to have lunch with Audrey Swanson.

Sarah - 1 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Spotlight on Women

ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF OAK GROVE

The power of prayer is awe inspiring! I believe we cannot utilize enough this power that God has gifted to us. During the month of October, we would like to encourage you to 'Invite and Pray.' Invite another woman to November circle, or any other church event, and then pray that if it is God's will, this woman will be gently encouraged by the Spirit to join in the activity. Keep in mind that it may not be God's time for this woman or it may not be God's intent for this woman to participate in the event you have chosen for her. Do not be discouraged...but continue to pray for God to move in this woman's life, in His way.

Of course you do not have to stop praying about this at the end of October!! But make October a good time to start. Invite and pray.

Baptisms



August 30 - Ian Michael Willey

Deaths



We extend our sympathies to the families of:

Phyllis Eklund, who died August 24.

Lloyd Bergren, who died September 7.

Notes of Thanks. . .

Dear Oak Grove,

Thank you so much! We really appreciated you paying for much of our trip to Wapo. We really enjoy going every year. It is a great experience to make new friends, meet up with old ones and get back in touch with God. We extremely appreciated it this year because we got a little lazy with the fundraising and didn't raise as much as we needed. That shows that we need to pay more attention to money. Thank you again for paying for not only our trip, but other people's too. Wapo is a great treat and we enjoy every minute of it.

— Mackenzie, Alexis and Morgan Curry

Thanks to our Oak Grove family for all of your beautiful cards and well wishes for our 60th wedding anniversary. A special thanks to Margaret Olson and the Sarah Circle.

— John and Mert Zarth

Golden Oaks . . .



We will begin our years' activities on Monday, October 12, 2009 with a visit to Abdallah Candies in Burnsville. We will meet at Oak Grove at 9:30 for coffee, rolls and business. We will then carpool to Burnsville to view candy making at 11:00 AM, view a video of candy making, enjoy samples and spend whatever time you wish in their gift shop. We need carpool drivers, so please let us know if you intend to go and/or can be a driver.

There will be minimal walking at Abdallah's so don't let that stop you from going.

Sign up sheet will be in the Church office.

—Kitchen Konection—

As you read this, September has come and is almost gone already! Time flies when you're having fun, so they say. It is fun to be back into the fall swing of things. My children have had a wonderful start to the school year, they both like their teachers and they enjoyed re-connecting with their friends. Wednesday evenings are busy for them, too. They help get the meal ready and then they are off playing in the gym to run off some energy before playing bells and singing in the youth choir. We have a great group of talented kids who will keep us entertained throughout the year and wonderful adults who help them. So, please join us for some fun on Wednesday evenings and see our congregation in action.

Wednesday nights are great food for the soul!

October 7 Chicken sandwich/fries

October 21 Mexican Buffet

October 28 Spaghetti and meatballs

So whatever you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the Glory of God – 1 Corinthians 10:31

All dinners are served with salad bar and dessert. Cost is only \$3 per plate. Clean-up help is always welcome; eat free if you have some time to help.

God bless, Margie



Germ Warfare

These are the days I really feel for the state epidemiologist. With the N1H1 flu about to raise its ugly head amongst us, the news from that office must not be very pleasant to bear. It reminds me of the Old Testament prophets – Isaiah, warning of the coming invasion of the Assyrians, or Joel, predicting a plague of locusts – and how speaking of impending disasters is nobody's idea of fun. People tend to either ignore you or you scare them half to death.

Well, the flu, apparently, is on its way and places businesses and schools are making their plans for when it gets here. Places of worship, too, are asking questions about their role in this. I heard a news spot on the radio the other day that presented a Catholic church in Baltimore through the "eyes" of the N1H1 bacteria. The first danger spot was the holy water font near the back. Next was all the touching and hugging that gets done during the passing of the peace. Finally, the rites of Communion, especially the use of a common chalice, were pointed out as germ-bearers.

It's not very often you hear a bishop talking about changing practices that are centuries old. The report was inter-faith, as well, worrying about Muslims pressing their faces to mosque carpets, encouraging Jews to "wave" to the Torah scrolls as they pass by instead of kissing them, and Protestant clergy considering giving people fist bumps instead of handshakes.

Of course, all this could get rather silly, but we should still do our part. I think, for now at least, we will forego the formal greeting we typically give to each other at the beginning of the service. Some people have long been bothered by this anyway, and now we can give them their due. Pastors would still like to greet you at the door, but if you're worried about getting the germs that rode in on some person up ahead of you, please feel free to skip the usual handshake. We won't take it personally. Meanwhile, we all can be friendly and welcoming as always without the formality and just stay home when we're sick. I expect we'll weather this well, resting in God's promise of wholeness and peace.

Pastor Tom Zarth

Is your marriage due for a tune-up?

Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend

October 16-18 in Duluth

November 20-22 in Brooklyn Center

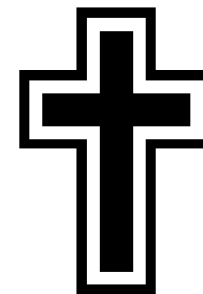
Is your timing off? Does your marriage lack spark? Attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend will make your marriage run like new. You'll spend two nights in a comfortable hotel and enjoy five delicious meals from Friday at 7 p.m. to Sunday at 5 p.m. Four presenting couples, including a Lutheran clergy couple, give a series of presentations followed by questions the couples discuss in private. There is no counseling and no group sharing. It's great for couples who have a good marriage and want to enrich their relationship and does wonders for marriages that have lost their luster through the years.

For more information, contact Dick and Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105 or Pete and Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575 or visit www.godlovesmarriage.org

Have You Heard?

Oak Grove's special effort this summer to raise money to help ministries in our area affected by cuts in the ELCA budget due to the economy allowed us to send over \$7,300 to the synod's Making a World of Difference Fund. What a wonderful, generous response! Thank you.

This, plus gifts from other congregations and individuals allowed all the cut funding to be restored.



Sunday Education Hour: Psst... It's not just for kids.

October 4 and 11 - *Rediscovering the Book of Faith*

As part of the Book of Faith initiative here at Oak Grove We will explore together where our Book of Faith came from, who wrote it, and how it came the Bible. Pastor Tom leads the discussion.

October 18 - No adult education hour: All Veterans Memorial Pancake Breakfast.

October 25 - Our Reformation Sunday guest preacher and presenter, the Rev. Susan Tjornehoj, is the Director of Evangelical Mission in the Minneapolis Area Synod. Pastor Tjornehoj works with new mission starts in our synod as well as all congregations eager to renew and grow their mission. For the kick-off to the year-long celebration of our 75th anniversary we couldn't have a more passionate advocate for mission minded congregations than Sue. Don't miss it!

