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Inserts (3):

- WoW! Calendar
- Faith Formation
- New Member Info

Deadline for the March 2017 Oak Leaves is - **February 15** - Articles may be edited for space and/or content.

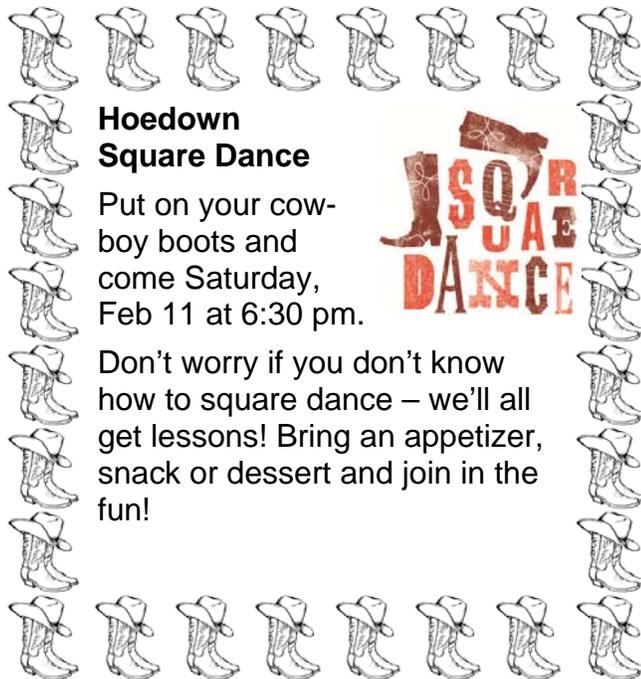
February
2017



Call for Congregational Annual Meeting

Please remember to attend the annual meeting on February 26 immediately following 10:45 worship.

Then, join us for the **Chili Cook-off**. Bring a pot to share for judging and/or enjoy tasting all the good recipes.



Hoedown Square Dance

Put on your cowboy boots and come Saturday, Feb 11 at 6:30 pm.

Don't worry if you don't know how to square dance – we'll all get lessons! Bring an appetizer, snack or dessert and join in the fun!

Self Reflection During Lent

Once again this year the Session is encouraging committees and other groups to skip business meetings during Lent (if possible and practical), in order to free up time and space in our lives for self-reflection. It is also intended to encourage each of us to participate in the Lenten Wednesday worship services, each week from 6:30-7:15 PM, beginning Ash Wednesday, March 1.



Join Choir for Special Performances

submitted by Judy Cooper

Do you like to sing but don't have time to make a commitment to singing in choir all year? Think about joining us to sing with only a few rehearsals. On **Sunday, February 5**, the sopranos and altos will sing. The final rehearsal will be Wednesday, February 1 at 6:15 pm. Anyone whose voice range falls into soprano or alto is welcome to join us – even if you sang with the tenors!!! If you have questions, contact Judy Cooper (jcooper@oakgrv.org).

OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN
2200 W. Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431

Phone Fax

(952) 888-4621 (952) 888-2523

E-mail: ogpc@oakgrv.org

Website: www.oakgrv.org

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

8:30 am—5:00 pm

Friday—8:30 am—3:00 pm

Oak Grove Staff

Ministers: **the 518 members**

Pastor **Bill Chadwick**

bchadwick@oakgrv.org

Assoc. Pastor

Mary Koon

mkoon@oakgrv.org

Interim Assoc. Pastor

Jermaine Ross Allam

jrossallam@oakgrv.org

Director of Music:

Judy Cooper

jcooper@oakgrv.org

Office Administrator:

Beth Angerhofer

bangerhofer@oakgrv.org

Financial Secretary:

Meghan Dooley

mdooley@oakgrv.org

Organist: **Nancy Hauser**

Kitchen Coordinator/Cook:

Lori Magiera

Treasurer: **Sue Greimel**

sgreimel@comcast.net

Clerk of Session:

Connie Nesbitt

clerkofsession@oakgrv.org

Child Care Provider:

Lacey Jones

Part-time Custodians: **Tim Dubis**

MartinAlan Smith

Parish Associates

Deb DeMeester

DeMeesterD@aol.com

Bruce Ervin

bruervin@aol.com

Denise Dunbar-Perkins

chaplain0406@gmail.com

Umo Udo

umo.udo@leaderoptions.com

Janet Shannon

janshannon1@comcast.net

2017 Per Capita = \$33.75

Intergenerational Weekend, March 3 -5

Psalm 16:3 *How excellent are the Lord's faithful people!*

My greatest pleasure is to be with them.

Join us for a weekend of relaxation, recreation and fellowship with friends of all ages in Leaning Tree Lodge at Presbyterian Clearwater Forest near Brainerd, MN. We welcome individuals, couples and families in all forms to this event. Leaning Tree Lodge has 15 rooms, each with a double bed and a single bed, closet, desk and vanity area. You share a bathroom with the room next door. We prepare meals in the lodge kitchen.

Arrive Friday evening and depart Sunday morning after breakfast and worship. Enjoy outdoor recreation – cross-country skiing, sledding, snowshoeing, hiking, etc. – or indoor activities -- cards, games, puzzles, reading, resting, eating, etc. by the fireplace. \$71 per room per night + \$15 per person (\$8/child) for food. (Final costs will depend on the size of our group.) Example: fee per couple would be \$142 (2 nights/room) + \$30 (food)

Sign-ups begin on Sunday, February 12. Contact Larry and Priscilla Pearson with any questions (pear3408@aol.com or 952-835-9480).

Upcoming Group and All-Church Outings

>**Thursday, Feb 2, Caregivers' Tea & Funtime Respite Care** at 2:00 pm at the church.

>**Tuesday, Feb 7, Burger 'n' Brew Men's Fellowship** at noon at Zeke's in Bloomington.

>**Saturday, Feb 11, 7:30 pm, Oak Rovers** (mature adult fellowship) attend Little Shop of Horrors at Bloomington Center for the Arts.

>**Sunday, Feb 12, 2:30 pm, Oak Grove Timberwolves Outing. All ages are welcome!** Look for a sign-up for tickets and carpooling in the narthex, or contact Ron Dubis 612-868-9194.

>**Thursday, Feb 16, Lunch Bunch Respite Care** at 11:00 am at the church.

>**Saturday, Feb 25 defibrillator class.** If you are interested in attending, please contact Holly Mae Dredge at 952-831-5254.

Chancel Flower Openings

We have openings for Sunday chancel flower arrangements including (number available in parentheses): February 5 (2); February 26 (1); March 5 (2); March 12 (2); March 19 (2); and March 26 (1). Sign up in the narthex on Sundays, March 5, 12 & 19 for both weekly chancel flowers and Easter flowers. Or contact Penny Nesbitt to claim a Sunday (rpnesbitt@msn.com or 952-941-6166).



Congregation News/Events

February 2017 Preaching Schedule (Year of Shalom)

Feb 5	Mary Koon	Feb 19	Bill Chadwick
Feb 12	Gwin Pratt (guest preacher from Church of the Apostles)	Feb 26	Bill Chadwick (Annual Meeting)
		Mar 1	Ash Wednesday

Social Justice

Meet your State Legislators —

Please join members of the Social Justice Committee on February, 23 for the annual Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC) Day on the Hill and have the chance to speak directly with your state legislators. JRLC is the largest and most inclusive interfaith public interest group in Minnesota -- people of diverse faiths bringing vision and wisdom to the public realm for the well-being of Minnesotans. JRLC is authorized and governed by four Sponsoring Members: the Minnesota Catholic Conference, the Minnesota Council of Churches, the Jewish Community Relations, Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas, and the Islamic Center of Minnesota.

JRLC's Day on the Hill is an opportunity for people of faith from around the state to join together, be inspired, learn about critical issues, and have an impact at the state capitol on issues to people in our faith traditions. The day begins with breakfast and keynote speaker and information on specific topics. After the morning, you'll be scheduled with the senator and representative from your own district and your chance for direct contact with your elected representatives. For more information, or if you are interested in participating, please sign up in the narthex, or contact Ron Dubis at 612-868-9194.

Financials

“**Per capita**” is what Oak Grove pays per member for the administrative expenses of the presbytery, synod and General Assembly. **In 2017 that is \$33.75.** This means that Oak Grove in total is required to pay about \$18,000 per year for these services. Some of you give a gift to cover your per capita on top of your general fund giving, about \$4000 total. *Thank you!* If everyone would do so we would have available an extra \$14,000 for mission giving! If you are able to cover your per capita, that would be fantastic. Blessings!

Please Check Your Year-end Statements Carefully *submitted by the Financial Secretary*

Year 2016 contribution statements should have arrived in your mailbox last week. Please take time to review your information carefully. If you did not receive a statement or you have found an error, please contact Meghan ASAP. Once the Year 2016 books have been closed we cannot make any changes.

Thank you, *Meghan*



**Member,
Frank Bliss
teaching in
India**



TECH CORNER provides computer tips...

A reminder that occasionally computers and other devices fail and information is lost. It is imperative that you have a backup plan for data on your device if it fails. That data may include pictures, address files, and any documents that you have created or saved that you do not want to lose. Backing up this data can be accomplished in many ways.

The least expensive way is to back up selected files on a USB flash drive that cost between \$5 and \$20 depending on the size. This method however, does not let you update the backup files. Each time the file is updated it has to be resaved to the flash drive.

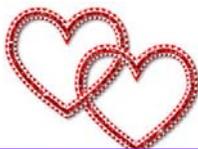
A user-friendly backup plan is using a portable backup drive which costs \$50 to \$75. This allows you to update your backup files on a daily basis without any additional effort.

You can purchase a backup service that is available on the "Cloud." It is available through your internet and/or your cell phone provider for a nominal fee.

Presbyterian Women Circle News

Circle News – *Evening Star* meets Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00 pm at the church; call Connie Nesbitt, 952-935-3810. *Goodrich-Nord* meets Wednesday, February 8 at 8:45 am at the church; call Joan Stanko, 952-888-7577.

Next Coordinating Team Meeting, Tuesday, March 7 at 8:30 am. Business meeting will begin at 9:00. All women members of the church are encouraged to attend.



February Birthdays

(If you don't see your birthday, we either don't have that information or you requested that it not appear.)

*Important birthday (1-21) ** Significant birthday (85+)



1 Katherine Jacobson*15	16 Sharron Meier
3 Tiffany Davidson	17 Douglas Duvall*18
4 Jim McCarl**85; Erin Wenz	18 Jeanne Castle**89
5 Grace Diller*1	19 Bev Heise
6 Sharon Nolte; Rich Schuette	21 Elizabeth Longrie; Annalisa Pearson
7 Jim Rogers	22 Petra Johnson*10
8 Mike Glausser; Mark Rysavy; Ed Schmidt	23 Zachary Orr*4
10 Pat Boehne; Sue Greimel	24 Stephen Jones; Sunny Ray Snyder
11 Yvonne Erickson**88; Katie Johnson; Audrey St. Martin**93	25 Jeri Anderson; Steve Lang; Penny Nesbitt; Lisa Stanford
14 Michael Bliss; Emma Lang*11	26 Jennifer Marrone
15 Yvonne Dodge; Amber Reis; Janice Wright	28 Lois Burnes**85; Nancy Hoaglund



Condolences to family and friends of:

Velma Fagerlund, Jane Lund's mother, died December 21.
Rosella Schuette, Rick's mother, died December 24.
Bertha Magiera, Lori (our cook's) mother, died December 27.
Janice Dawes, Karen Gerdes' aunt, **died January 6.**
Josephine Watson, Don Olson's sister, died January 6.

WINTER SERIES Bloomington-Richfield Grief Coalition

4:30 - 6:00 pm Thursdays,
 through Feb 23, 2017
 St. Luke's Lutheran Church
 1701 West Old Shakopee Rd.
 952-881-5801

Date	Topic
Feb 2	<i>Habits of Resilience for Grievers</i>
Feb 9	<i>Hope and Healing</i>
Feb 16	<i>Strategies for Getting Unstuck</i>
Feb 23	<i>Discovering Hope in the Maze of Grief</i>

Thank You, Oak Grove

Karen and I are thankful for all the prayers and love that the Oak Grove Community have shared on behalf of our family. My Brother in Law, Bob Haff has made significant improvement after a stroke on Jan 8, My sister, Dawn has had her surgery relating to her breast cancer and is feeling better each day. Karen is in California as I write this note to celebrate the life of her Aunt, Janice Dawes. *Bob and Karen Gerdes*

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the kindnesses shown by all of you during these past weeks. The time and efforts to help us get through this hard time is so appreciated. There was so much we didn't need to do as you were there to support us and help us before and during the service for Ron. The cards with the comforting words were warmly received, along with the hugs! You all are the best! Hugs are still welcome anytime!! Love and Blessings,
Sue LaPointe, Lisa LaPointe and Mark Erickson, Pam (LaPointe) Struntz and family



Thank you for Your Support!

Another large anonymous gift has been received for the Building Maintenance Fund (for significant projects like roof, HVAC, etc). Our functional, clean and beautiful building is a key component of our ministry, our mission and our outreach efforts. We are grateful!

Jeff Williamson was born in Shakopee and comes from a long line of ministers, missionaries and elders. Freedom, education and equal rights for all people were major components of their Presbyterian faith. His Williamson ancestors came to see slavery as a great evil and they brought their 73 slaves from South Carolina to Ohio in order to give them their freedom. They were in on the ground floor of the Underground Railroad in Ripley, Ohio and the surrounding area.

Ten of Jeff's ancestors were missionaries to the Dakota Indians in Minnesota, South Dakota and Nebraska. His great-great-grandfather, Gideon Pond and his brother, Samuel developed the Dakota alphabet and started doing the first translations into Dakota. Gideon was the editor of the *Dakota Friend* a bilingual newspaper in Dakota and English. Jeff's other great-great-grandfather, Thomas Williamson completed the translation of the Dakota Bible a few months before his death. John Williamson, his great-grandfather authored an English-Dakota Dictionary. The Williamsons also were involved in advocating for the Dakota people after the U.S./Dakota War of 1862. In particular Thomas Williamson went to see Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson and was able to obtain pardons for over 200 Dakota prisoners who had been sentenced to death by unfair trials. Thomas and John Williamson and Gideon Pond were in on the amazing mass conversions of the Dakota to Christianity after the war.

Jeff had four aunts who were missionaries to China. Mabel Williamson is known for her book *Have We No Rights?* which was published in 1957. This book has amazing reviews and is still used in missionary training. Mabel and her sister Frances wrote textbooks in Chinese to train incoming missionaries to China. Frances wrote a book about Martin Luther. After the Communists took over in China in 1951, the missionaries were forced to leave. Mabel continued as a missionary in Singapore, Malaya and Indonesia while Frances continued in the Philippines. The other sisters, Hazel and Theo, were married and decided to retire from missionary work at this point.

His Dakota Mission ancestors and his aunts in China faced many hardships and were in many dangerous situations but were fearless and knew that if they were killed they would be going to a better place. Jeff's family attends Lac qui Parle Mission Sunday every year. This is an event where the descendants of the missionaries and the descendants of the early Dakota Christians along with other interested people gather for a church service led by Dakota pastors and a Dakota choir sings hymns that the missionaries translated into Dakota. Just as his ancestors did he continues to have great relationships with Dakota Christians.

Website Update

For many months now the Social Media Committee has been working on updating our website. The latest hitch has been getting the website to "talk" to our office software, for receiving and recording donations, etc. Finally it was decided to hire a person to fix this and other final issues. This is in process now and we are also just beginning the process of hiring a Communications Specialist at five hours a week to manage it and our Facebook account, etc.



Westminster Town Hall Forum,

Tuesday, February 14, Noon

IRSHAD MANJI, From Polarization to Conversation

Founder of the Moral Courage Project at the University of Southern California. Advocate for human rights, diversity, and inclusion. Author of *The Trouble with Islam*.

Westminster Presbyterian Church is at 12th St. & Marquette Ave, in Minneapolis. Parking is available in the area lots. Town Hall Forum presentations are free and open to the public.