

Please take home with you!

Announcements March 9th

WELCOME! Everyone is asked to please sign the red Welcome Pad!

*Please check all appropriate columns and pass the pad along to others in the pew. The RESTROOMS are downstairs by the back entrance. **It is good that you are here!***



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Steve can be reached at 412-716-0940, or pastor@oakgrovelc.com. His regular office hours for non-crisis church business are Monday thru Thursday, from 9 AM to 1 PM. If coming to see him in the office, it is always best to call ahead as he may be in meetings or visits during this time. He is normally off on Fridays. He is available 24/7 for pastoral emergencies.

Pastor is always happy to visit with you at home - just reach out and let him know if you'd like for him to visit! Please also be sure to notify him about those who are hospitalized, as well as any names that need updated on our shut-in visitation list.

Church Secretary Job Opening - We are officially ready to begin searching for our next church secretary. The job description for the position has been completed and approved by Council and Mutual Ministry. We would like to start by offering the position internally among the congregation first, before we advertise it externally. In summary, the church secretary will work approximately 5-10 hours per week, at a rate of \$16.90/hr. 2-3 hours per week must be completed in the church office, the rest can be completed remotely if the candidate desires. Schedule is flexible. Certain technological proficiencies will be required. Katie has graciously offered to train her replacement (thank you Katie!!). If anyone is interested in the position (or knows of someone who may be interested), please see Pastor for the full job description. Thank you.

Easter Flowers 2025 Order Easter Flowers to decorate the Altar on Easter Sunday. Order forms in the back of church near bulletins: Lilies are \$9 Tulips (Red, Pink, or Yellow) are \$9 each, Violets are \$4.50 Orders are due by March 23rd 2025.

Thank You to everyone who helped put on our pancake breakfast last Sunday!

Confession - Pastor Steve is always available for private Confession and Absolution by appointment if it is desired by any. It is a common misconception that we do not have Confession in the Lutheran Church! The Reformers maintained Confession in the early Lutheran Church and some find that it is helpful to them in their faith walk. No better time than the Lenten season to take advantage of this!

HUNGRY FOR SOUP? There is soup in the freezer in the basement for sale. Take how much you like and put the money in the container - \$3.00 a pint and \$6.00 a quart. Any questions see Lynn Goehring.

Pastor Steve is building a cohort of children who will receive their **First Communion in the Spring**. If your child is 6 years old or older, and has not yet received First Communion, please contact Pastor Steve. He also welcomes grandchildren and neighbors of parishioners to participate!

Children's Palm Sunday Play. We are hoping to involve as many Children and Youth in Oak Grove's Palm Sunday program as possible! We are gathering the kids together on April 6th for practice during Sunday School. The play will be on April 13th during the Worship Service. There will be a part for ALL Kids and Youth to play. We are praying that kids and families will find joy in supporting this reflection of the blessing of the Easter Miracle.

Donations are needed for the April 13th Potluck and Easter Egg Hunt. Please donate some candy or bring a covered dish. There is a signup sheet on the back table.

Please let Wetauna Cypher know if your child is graduating from high school or college.

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ADULT FORUM is beginning study of a new book: “Life Lessons from Hebrews” by Max Lucado. The book inspires the reader to think about a new way of connecting with and following God; thinking about Jesus as our compassionate high priest; and knowing that our faith is a connector between this life and the next. The book is an “easy read” as well as inspiring. It is available on Amazon as a hard copy or Kindle e-book format, is reasonably priced and should provide for interesting and thought-provoking journaling and discussion. This study will continue on Sunday, March 9th with a discussion on Lesson 1. It would be best to read Hebrews chapters 1-2 in advance of this session. We have a few copies of the book remaining for those who still need or want one!

Good News Club- We're pleased to announce that Good News Club will be returning to Freedom Elementary this spring! The club will be meeting on Wednesday afternoons after school at 3:30 PM for eight weeks, starting January 29th, through March 19th. **We will be accepting donations of snacks,** as we did last year, for the kids during the meetings! Feel free to bring in snack donations and drop them off at the office at any time of the week; please label the snacks so we know what they are for. Thank you!!

Lutheran Disaster Response is collecting to help victims of the current California wildfires. If you would like to give to contribute towards this work, they've created a convenient QR code to make it easier for your funds to go to the correct place. Please scan the QR code with your devices if you'd like to help.



Note from Katie: I have decided that it is time for me to step down from the secretary position. It has been a great experience working with our congregation. Thank you for your support and all the help, especially during the time we were without a pastor.

Good Neighbor Fund - this new giving fund was established in 2024 to address requests to Pastor for financial assistance both within our congregation and outside in the community. If anyone wishes to contribute to the fund, please note it on your offering envelope! An informational sheet is available in the narthex and on our website.

Google Reviews - please don't forget to leave Oak Grove a 5 star review on Google, if you haven't already done so! This is a proven method used by marketing experts to increase an organization's visibility on Google search results!

Oak Grove has created a new PayPal account, to make it easier than ever for you to give to our church! Scan the QR code below on your devices to give directly to Oak Grove safely and securely via PayPal



UPCOMING EVENTS

ATTENTION ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS!! Effective as of Sunday February 2nd, we have changed our Sunday School format! Kids will arrive at 8:45 and go to the Lower Level of the Church. Parents may then proceed to the Sanctuary where our regular Worship Service will begin at 9:00, as always. The acolyte will join the service when the congregation receives the sign of Peace. The remaining children will rejoin the service as they will come upstairs to ring the bell for the Lord's Prayer, participate in Communion and the blessing, and be dismissed with their families. We are hoping that this will be a great way for kids to receive instruction about the Bible and our loving Lord, Worship in “Kid-Style” fellowship; build their faith, and meet the needs of their families as well.

Confirmation - Because we missed several Confirmation classes due to severe weather and other schedule conflicts, we need to make up some material! Pastor will be offering Confirmation class weekly, starting Sunday, 3/9, going thru our final review day on Sunday, 5/4 - with an exception for Easter Sunday, 4/20, there will be no class that day. Attendance at all these classes is not mandatory for the Confirmation kiddos, but attendance to as many sessions as possible is encouraged. We will cover the most important material on 3/9, 3/16, and 3/23, please make every effort to attend these sessions if possible. Thank you!

Lenten Worship Schedule - Beginning Wednesday, 3/12, we will offer our Lenten midweek soup suppers on Wednesdays at 6 PM, followed by Holden Evening

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Prayer at 7 PM, going thru Wednesday, 4/9. Our Holy Week worship schedule will be the same as last year's - Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be at 7 PM. We will once again be holding an Easter Vigil on Saturday, 4/19 at 8 PM. Sunrise service on Easter morning will be hosted by Unionville United Methodist Church this year, exact time TBD. Easter worship at Oak Grove will be at our usual service time of 9 AM.



To start the prayer chain, please call Vivian Leonberg at 724 774-5967.

Lenten Zoom Study - Pastor will be offering an online Zoom Bible Study this year during Lent! We are using a course entitled "Walking with Jesus", studying Lenten themed Gospel stories. The study will be offered at 7 PM on the Monday nights of 3/10, 3/24, 3/31, and 4/7. Those who do not have access to a computer may attend in person at the church if they like (from the Youth Room), but this will be primarily a Zoom focused study! Please see Pastor as we get closer to the start date for the Zoom link.

Mark your calendars for **Powell Road Clean-up on Sat, 4/19** (day before Easter). Many volunteers make the clean-up fun and quick! Please refer questions to Wetauna @ 724-561-9965.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH

Bill Smith, Gary Steeb, Fred Schomburg, Pat Gasper, Scott Cooper, Angelika, Janet Pfaff, Millie Steinacker, Billie Joe and Her Family, Garrett Petty, Melissa Kaercher, Toni McConnell, Judy Vincent, Annette Zajac, Sister Mildred, Laken Hoover, Shawn Hilliard, Steve Fleming, Robin James, Ruth Ann Greiner, Hazel Withers, Jackie Rose, Tina and Brandon Martinez, Carmie and Ollie Dambach, Tracy Shaffer, Kelly Baker, Tom Brenckle, Ryan O'Kelly, Dale Majors, Bob Burr, Joy Tipping, Jim Fessler, Tom Applequist, Bill Goehring, Beth Chinn, Lorraine Koscinski, Bud Worst, Holden Eckman, Desiree Conrad, Dillan Matteran, Pastor Tony Schneck, Dave Greene, Devin Betz, Regis Kaelin, Wendy Kline, Leslie Rick, Abby Hunter,

For those who grieve:

For those who serve in the armed forces:

Josh Morris, Nick Durfey, Kyle Ellis, Jordan Escamilla, Thomas Jordan, Chris Schomburg, Ethan Fritzley, Tom Supe, Eric Hunter

CHURCH CALENDAR

This week:

- Sun., Mar. 9th:** Sunday Service 9AM
- Sun., Mar. 9th:** Adult forum
- Sun., Mar. 9th:** Confirmation 6PM
- Sun., Mar. 9th:** Youth Group @ Unionville 6:30PM
- Mon., Mar. 10th:** Lenten Bible Study Zoom 7PM
- Mon., Mar. 10th:** Cub Scouts 630PM
- Wed., Mar. 12th:** Good News Club Freedom Elementary 3:30PM
- Wed., Mar. 12th:** Lenten Midweek Dinner and Worship 6PM
- Thurs., Mar. 13th:** Social Ministry Meeting 1PM

Next week:

- Sun., Mar. 16th:** Sunday Service 9AM
- Sun., Mar. 16th:** Adult forum
- Sun., Mar. 16th:** Confirmation 6PM
- Mon., Mar. 17th:** Council Meeting 6:30PM
- Wed., Mar. 19th:** Good News Club Freedom Elementary 3:30PM
- Wed., Mar. 19th:** Lenten Midweek Dinner and Worship 6PM

Coming soon:

- Sun., Mar. 23rd:** Sunday Service 9AM
- Sun., Mar. 23rd:** Adult forum
- Sun., Mar. 23rd:** Confirmation 6PM
- Sun., Mar. 23rd:** Youth Group @ Unionville 6PM
- Mon., Mar. 24th:** Lenten Bible Study Zoom 7PM
- Wed., Mar. 26th:** Good News Club Freedom Elementary 3:30PM
- Wed., Mar. 26th:** Lenten Midweek Dinner and Worship 6PM
- Sun., Mar. 30th:** Sunday Service 9AM
- Sun., Mar. 30th:** Adult forum
- Sun., Mar. 30th:** Confirmation 6PM

Those Serving This Sunday (Mar 9th)

Please take home with you!

Leader: Barb Minzenberg
Reader: Joyce Burr
Acolyte: Lucas Schomburg
Ushers: Anna and Elliot Schomburg
Altar: Vivian and Tracy
Counters: Tracy Collins and Pat Joreitz
Audio/Video: Tauna

Those Serving Next Sunday (Mar 16th)

Leader: Beth Goehring
Reader: Lois Sprague
Acolyte: Vivian Rinaman
Ushers: Terry Snaidy & Jerry Patsiga
Altar: Janice and Beth
Counters: Tauna Pernovich and Zelda Smith
Audio/Video: Julie

2024 Year to Date Operations Report

(Year end 2024)
Income: \$147,342
Expenses: \$ 137,375
Income over Expenses \$9,967