



Route 55 Newsletter | August 2024

Orchard Friends,

It's been a fabulous summer so far and there's more to come! July found us **on** the water, cruising the mighty Mississippi, and in August we'll be **under** the water (well, kind of) as we celebrate our annual Route 55 Birthday Bash with a splashy under the sea theme! We hope you'll join us for a photo booth, games and dinner. All are welcome so bring your friends and neighbors. Throw on some beach attire for extra fun! In the OHC spirit, we're going to give gifts in addition to receiving them. Details are included in the events section of this newsletter.

Looking ahead, you'll want to **save the evening of Sunday, September 15** as we will gather for a special worship service that will feature classic hymns, a contemplative communion experience, and a dessert bar at the conclusion of the service. Save the date!

Grace and Peace,

Kim Manning

RECENT EVENTS



The Route 55 Hiking Club explored Cedar Bend Park in Waverly.



Deb Mc Calley enjoys tea with Ida Frey during a Connect & Care visit.



Kathrine and Elizabeth Krukow and Dawn Grainger enjoy Ladies Lunch Bunch at Mike's Diner.



As do Joyce Trosh, Connie Collingwood, Bonnie Mitchell and Laurie Watje.



Michael Krukow, Larry Nanke, Gene Richardson and William Krukow man the men's table at Mike's Diner.



Bonnie Poley, Rochelle Dolan, Lois Nanke and Esther Eiklenborg enjoy fellowship and a great lunch.



Rory and Rochelle Dolan, Jan Pratt, and Ken and Nancy Foss enjoy lunch on the Celebration Belle.



Barb Dennler, Kevin Zabel, Helen Ackerman, Jack Ackerman and Kim Zabel enjoy conversation on the top deck of the boat.



Sharon Bonjour and Elaine Eggers pose for a fun photo after enjoying coffee and pastries.



Kathy Dawson and Kay Clements are happy to be aboard as well.



Diane Peterson was a good sport and brought fun to all as she danced to the Oldies music provided during the cruise. 33 55ers sailed with us!



Rhonda Wolthoff enjoys a lower deck after a wonderful lunch.



Even in retirement, Jean Gedlinske continues to lead a weekly Wednesday walk for OHC members and other friends and shared this story. The friendships have been a real blessing to many but for one member of the group, the outings are truly a lifeline. At just 57 years old, Debbie has been living with Alzheimer's for nearly 10 years and currently lives in a senior care facility with others who are mostly in their 80's and 90's. Although she has an incredibly gracious attitude, she is grateful to experience nature and spend time outside with people her own age. Debbie has difficulty focusing on objects in the distance, but on this day, with the help of a friend, she was able to get close enough to see this deer on the trail. Very cool! Thank you, God! And thank you, Jean and friends!

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

Welcome to Haley Feinup, our new Director of Hospitality! Haley's bringing some fun new ideas to the table, including providing baked treats for the volunteers serving on the hospitality team as greeters, coffeehouse servers, etc. She's looking for some volunteers willing to take turns providing baked goods now and then to accomplish this. Interested? If so, please contact Haley at hfeinup@orchardhillchurch.org or 319-266-9796.

FEATURED EVENTS



Route 55 Hiking Club

You don't have to be a mountain-climber or Olympian to participate. All are truly welcome and no one is ever left behind. All of our remaining excursions are full day trips so bring sunscreen, a hat, water bottle and a sack lunch. We'll meet in the OHC parking lot near Door 2 and generally try to be back by 4pm. Please bring \$5 to help with gas and money for a treat on the way home – usually ice cream!

Please contact Deb Mc Calley at 515-707-5939 or dmccalley58@gmail.com to let us know you are coming. You can also sign up in the Route 55 binder.

Here is what we have planned for the rest of the summer:

Thursday, August 8, 9am

Wapsi River Nature Trail

4729 Horseshoe Falls Drive, Central City (1 hour)

Thursday, September 12, 9am

Rock Run Creek

101 E Rocksylvania Ave, Iowa Falls (1 hour)

Thursday, October 10, 8am – this date is tentative, depending on when the leaves are in full color

Pike's Peak State Park

32264 Pikes Peak Road, McGregor (2 hours)

We hope to enjoy the colors of autumn, so depending on when peak leaf-looking time unfolds, this date may change.



Global Leadership Summit

Thursday and Friday, August 8 and 9, 7:30am

Prairie Lakes Church

1907 Viking Road, Cedar Falls

You are invited to gather with thousands of leaders across North America for annual Global Leadership Summit.

Registration and additional information are at Orchard Central.



Ladies' Lunch Bunch & Men's Monthly Lunch

Wednesday, August 14, 11:30am

Cedar Falls Family Restaurant

2627 Center Street, Cedar Falls

Join us for lunch at a local restaurant on the second Wednesday of each month. Please reserve your place by signing up in the Route 55 binder, email kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org, or call

319-231-1619. This will allow us to report an accurate number so the restaurant can prepare for us.



Route 55 Birthday ~~Bash~~ Splash! Thursday, August 15, 5pm

OHC Commons

Celebrating **ALL** Route 55 birthdays, this annual event will include music, food, fellowship and undersea games, so bring your fishy friends and prepare for fun! Let us know you are coming by signing up in the binder or contacting Kim Manning.

Birthdays mean gifts, so as an added feature, we're going to turn the tables a bit and GIVE gifts! We're partnering with the OHC Missions Team to collect items for Haiti teacher gifts! These items include used medicine bottles (with the labels removed) that will be filled with buttons, straight pins, safety pins, embroidery floss, and black, white and colored thread spools. If you have any of these items you would like to 'gift' to a Haitian teacher, bring them to the party! We're also collecting small jars of peanut butter (not glass) and men's ties. In addition to collecting these items at the party, they can be dropped off outside the Route 55 and Connect & Care office between now and August 18th. Thank you!



Outdoor Church

Sunday, August 18, 10:30am

Parking Lot of Cedar Falls Campus

Join us for this all-church service. We'll sing some of our favorite songs, listen to a short teaching, and enjoy some time together in community. **Lyrics will be available on-line and in printed format.** Remember to bring a lawn chair!



Waverly BBQ Block Party

Sunday, August 25, 5-7pm

Waverly Campus Parking Lot

Celebrate the end of summer with food, fun and fellowship! Meat and drinks will be provided. Bring a side or dessert to share. Contact Megan Lorenzen, mlorenzen@orchardhillchurch.org.

LOOKING AHEAD



Hymn Sing

Sunday, September 15, 6pm

OHC Sanctuary

Save the date and worship with us, while enjoying some classic hymns. Communion will be offered during this special service and we'll end our time together with desserts. Contact Sarah Hess, shess@orchardhillchurch.org if you'd like to help lead in the choir, read Scripture, serve communion or bake a dessert.

OTHER ONGOING ACTIVITIES and OPPORTUNITIES

WEEKLY

Wednesday Walks

Weekly on Wednesdays, 9:30am

Pfeiffer Park

Get outside with friends and walk the trails. This friendly group makes an hour of exercise go by almost without notice! All abilities are welcome and no one is ever left behind. To learn more, contact Jean Gedlinske, gedlinskejean@gmail.com, 319-486-1340.

Quilting Ministry

Weekly on Thursdays, 9am-11am
Orchard Hill Church Room 111

Contact Barb Fluent, bs.fluent@cfu.net, 319-240-9066.

Zoom Social Hour

Weekly on Thursdays, 11am-Noon
Virtual

Contact Sarah Hess for a link at shess@orchardhillchurch.org, 319-596-6223.

Waverly Friday Men's Group

Every Friday, 6:30am - 8:30am

Meeting Room, Waverly Campus

All men are invited any time between 6:30am and 8:30am on Fridays for coffee donuts and conversation. No registration required. Contact Travis Duncan, travistoys@gmail.com with questions.

SEMIMONTHLY

Waverly Sunday Men's Group

Sunday, August 4 and 7, 6:30pm

Worship Center, Waverly Campus

This group will meet twice a month in the Worship Center. Contact Spencer for additional information at ssgann930@gmail.com.

Grundy County Women's Coffee Crew

Wednesday, August 14 & 28, 9:30am

Grundy County Campus Lobby

All women are invited for coffee and conversation. Bring your own snack and drink and enjoy a casual time of belonging in community and friendship that generally lasts for 1 ½ hours. Come when you can and leave when you must.

MONTHLY

Waverly Mobile Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 13, 4:30pm

Waverly Civic Center, 200 1st St. NE, Waverly

Volunteers from area churches help the Northeast Iowa Food Bank by unloading the truck, arranging the food, assisting with distribution, carrying bags and boxes to vehicles and cleaning up. Sign up at tinyurl.com/waverlyfoodpantry.

Habitat for Humanity Build

Saturday, August 17, 8:30am-3:30pm,

Half-day shifts are available as well

Waterloo

OHC hosts a Habitat build every third Saturday. Volunteers work alongside a Habitat employee and need absolutely no previous experience. Sign up at OrchardCentral.info.

Grundy County Mobile Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 20, 4:15pm

Grundy Center Community Center, 705 F Avenue, Grundy Center

Volunteers from area churches help the Northeast Iowa Food Bank by unloading the truck, arranging the food, assisting with distribution, carrying bags and boxes to vehicles and cleaning up. Contact Diane Adair at diane.jean51@gmail.com.

See Orchard Central for additional news and events.