



Route 55 Newsletter March 2026

Orchard Friends,

We are well into the Lenten Season and have been observing it by gathering weekly on Wednesdays for lunch, fellowship and a devotion. If you haven't joined us yet, we warmly invite you. It's a great way to connect with old friends, meet some new ones, enjoy a simple, yet delicious lunch, and spend some time reflecting on the significance of the season and Christ's teachings, his love for each and every one of us and his incredible sacrifice.

Many have helped make these lunch events possible by preparing soups, desserts, providing hospitality and helping wash dishes, wipe tables, etc. Bless you all! You bring life to these gatherings, making them fun and meaningful. If you haven't joined the team yet, it's a great way to serve the Lord and to connect with others. Please consider baking a pan of bars or helping with hospitality or clean-up. Your involvement, even just once, enables us to continue to offer these experiences to our church family and other guests. Contact me or sign up in the Route 55 binder located at the Welcome Center on Sunday's.

Finally, our Missions and Communications teams have created a new mailing list that will provide updates about local volunteer opportunities. Text community to 319-553-6690 to receive these periodic updates, or log onto www.orchardhillchurch.org/serve to learn about current opportunities within our church and community.

Grace and Peace,

Kim Manning

SAVE THE DATE
Women's Spring Conference
April 25, 2026
Christian Reformed Church
897 Grant Street
Parkersburg
Additional details will be available soon.

RECENT EVENTS



Second Sunday Socials continue to provide fun and fellowship among Orchard friends.



Join us for the next Second Sunday on March 8 in the Commons between services.



Comedy Club was a hit! Fun times were had by all who came to enjoy comedy performed by John Branyan and Brian Kiley. So much laughter!



Lenten Lunch attendees gather for a devotion after the meal.



Rochelle and Rory Dolan helped prepare a delicious Lenten Lunch!



Picking a piece of pie was the hardest decision of the day!



Justin Dahlager shared an inspiring message to begin the Lenten Season.

FEATURED EVENTS



Second Sunday Senior Social

Sunday, March 8, 2026, between worship services

OHC Commons

Join us for coffee, conversation and pastries every 'Second Sunday'. In addition to providing important fellowship, we hope to create awareness of Route 55 and Connect & Care opportunities to members of the church who have not yet participated. **We will**

appreciate your help spreading the word by inviting friends. No reservations are necessary, although we are seeking volunteers to bring fruit or pastries.



Orchard Hill
**JOIN US FOR
Lenten
Lunch**

Lenten Lunch Series

Wednesdays for six weeks until March 25, 2026

11:30am-12:20pm meal - \$5 suggested donation

OHC Commons

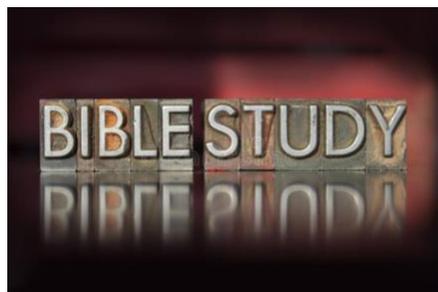
12:20pm-1pm Devotion

OHC Sanctuary

No need to sign up for the meal. Simply join us for soup, bread and dessert followed by a special Lenten devotion provided by a variety of guest speakers. The schedule is as follows:

March 4	Reverend Karen Nelson
March 11	Laura Sohl-Cryer, author, <i>Sonnet In My Soul</i>
March 18	Pat Oehler
March 25	Pastor Judy Marshall, Harvest Vineyard Church

Enrich the experience by joining in to help make desserts and/or helping with hospitality and clean-up. If you can volunteer, please sign-up in the Route 55 binder or contact Kim at 319-231-1619, kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org. Thank you!



Bible Study Series

TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR

Tuesdays, April 21, April 28, May 5 and May 12, 2026 1pm

OHC Commons

Pat Oehler will lead us through a weekly Bible study that will be designed to encourage reflection and conversation.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES and OPPORTUNITIES

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY WALKS RESUME!

Weekly on Wednesdays, 1:30pm

Pfeiffer Park

Jean is back and ready to lead these outings again! We are so very grateful to her for her faithful leadership of this group, so plan to get outside with friends and walk the trails! Contact Jean Gedlinske, gedlinskejean@gmail.com, 319-486-1340, for weather-related announcements or questions.

Quilting Ministry

Weekly on Thursdays, 9am-11am

Orchard Hill Church Room 111

Contact Kim Manning at kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org or 319-231-1619.

Zoom Social Hour

Weekly on Thursdays, 11am-Noon

Virtual

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

MONTHLY

Women's Breakfast

Friday, March 6, 6:30am

OHC Commons

Come and connect with God, scripture, and one another no matter their season of life. A light breakfast will be served followed by a brief message and table discussion. A \$3 donation is encouraged, but not required. Text MORNING to 319-553-6690 to register or to receive reminders.

Grundy County Women's Coffee Crew

Wednesday, March 11 and 25, 2026, 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. Come when you can and leave when you must.

Community Meal

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 5:30pm to 6:15pm

OHC Commons

Bring your family, friends and neighbors for a great meal. Free will donations will be accepted. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ben Fienup at bfienup@orchardhillchurch.org.

Cedar Falls Men's Breakfast

Friday, March 27, 2026, 6:30am

OHC Commons, Cedar Falls

~and~

Lobby and Coffee House, Grundy County

Men's Breakfast provides an opportunity for good food and connection with other guys. A brief message will be provided followed by discussion at the tables. A donation of \$3 is encouraged to cover the cost of food. Want monthly reminders? Text 319-553-6690.

These events were selected for promotion to our Route 55 audience. There's a lot more happening, so see OrchardHillChurch.org for additional news and events. You may also want to check out the [Community Groups](#) section and/or the [Serve the Community](#) section of our website.