



## Route 55 Newsletter | October 2025

Orchard Friends,

We are excited to share that a very special evening is being planned for the women of Orchard Hill Church. Ladies of ALL ages are invited to connect with one another over a nice meal at tables that will be individually decorated for the coming Christmas Season. The theme of our event is **A Night at the Table – the King is near!** Anticipate a relaxing atmosphere where you will feel pampered and be prepared to enter into the business of the Holidays in a grounded and faith-filled frame of mind. We are seeking volunteers to help decorate tables, and cook and serve the meal. Details and registration can be found at [OrchardHillChurch.org/events](https://OrchardHillChurch.org/events).



**Our friends at the Royal Legacy Christian Academy in Waterloo are seeking volunteers to help students learn a craft or lead an art project.** Learning to knit, crochet or paint are examples of potential projects. Ideally, volunteers would commit to a one-hour period between 1pm and 3pm, for about a six-week timeframe. Classes consist of approximately 16 students so a team(s) of three would be best. What a wonderful opportunity to share God's love and make some new little friends! Please contact me at 319-231-1619 in this is of interest to you.

*Kim Manning*

## RECENT EVENTS



Selah Hess (AKA Dorothy) and a proud Grandma Maggie and dad, Sam, enjoy a post-performance hug.



Many from our group gathered for an early dinner at El Patron after the show.



Sarah Hess (AKA the wicked witch) poses with her spell-bound, adoring fans. A great and memorable time was had by all!





Our hikers braved a little rain while walking the Pine Lake trails.



Route 55 ladies had a great lunch at Bigfoot Betty's.



Nora Janssen, Kathrine Krukow, Jennifer Van Gent, Bonnie Poley, and Susan McGlaughlin attend an appreciation meal for Connect & Care Volunteers.



Meanwhile, the guys enjoyed one another's company at another nearby table during the Route 55 Monthly Lunch.



Greta Magee, Donna Poley, Kay Clements, Esther Jungling, Verla Ubben and Deb McCalley are also, hopefully, feeling appreciated at the C&C lunch.



Thomas shares his musical talent at the C&C event as well.





We missed getting photos of all the foursomes, but organizer Kenny Foss assures us that he saw enough to predict that the next Ryder Cup team could actually come from Orchard Hill Church!

## FEATURED EVENTS



### Healthiest State Annual Walk

**Wednesday, October 1, 1:30pm**

Pfeiffer Park

Our regular Wednesday Walking group will partner with Ann Barry as she leads an annual Iowa Healthiest State Walk. We'll meet at Pfeiffer Park and walk the trails for about an hour, followed by some water and a free healthy gift. Contact Ann Barry,

319-266-5612 or Jean Gedlnkse, 319-486-1340 with any questions.



### Hymn Sing

**Sunday, October 5, 2pm**

OHC Commons

Sing some classic hymns with us, hear a few specially selected Scripture readings, and celebrate Communion. We'll end our time together with fellowship and desserts. All are welcome! Invite your friends and neighbors!

Please contact Sarah Hess, [shess@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto:shess@orchardhillchurch.org) if you have an idea for a hymn to sing or would like to help lead the choir, read Scripture or bring a dessert.



**RIVERVIEW  
MINISTRIES**

### Sounds of Inspiration Concert

**Tuesday, October 7, 7pm**

Fellowship Hall, Riverview Conference Center, 439, N Division Street

Sounds of Inspiration is an Iowa favorite from the Newton area. This Southern Gospel group consists of a singing quartet and piano player. They frequently share their music at churches, Cowboy church, and various gatherings. They have shared their gifts of music and the gospel for many years. **We will simply gather at the concert and try to sit together. No tickets required. Love offering will be received for the artists. Reservations are optional.**



### Route 55 Hiking Club

Wednesday, October 8 or 15, 9am

### Backbone State Park

1347 129<sup>th</sup> Street, Dundee (1 hour from OHC)

The date will depend on when the leaves are turned.

Join us for our last hike of the season. Bring sunscreen, a hat, water bottle, and a sack lunch unless otherwise noted below. You will also want to bring money for ice cream and \$5 to help with gas. **Contact Deb Mc Calley at 515-707-5939 or [dmccalley58@gmail.com](mailto:dmccalley58@gmail.com) for the date (it will depend on the leaves) and to let us know you are coming.**



### Route 55 Monthly Lunch

Wednesday, October 8, 11:30am

### LongHorn Steakhouse

1425 San Marnan Dr., Waterloo

We gather for lunch every month on the second Wednesday. All are welcome. Please reserve your place by signing up in the Route 55 binder,

or email [kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto:kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org), or call 319-231-1619. This will allow us to report an accurate number so the restaurant can prepare.



### Second Sunday Senior Social

Sunday, October 12, 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.

## LOOKING AHEAD



### Welcome to the Table – the table is set, the King is near!

Tuesday, November 11, 6pm

OHC Commons

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Women of all ages are invited to gather before the crush of the holidays for a time of friendship, connection, devotion and even a little pampering. Tables will be uniquely and elegantly decorated by individual volunteers and a delicious meal will be served. Tickets are \$10

each. We are seeking volunteers to decorate a table, host a table, help decorate the event space, or help with the kitchen crew or serving team. See [OrchardHillChurch.org/events](https://OrchardHillChurch.org/events) for additional details and to register as an attendee and/or as a volunteer. Do join us! It promises to be a very special evening. Questions? Contact Kim Manning at [kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto:kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org) or 319-231-1619.

## OTHER OFFERINGS OF INTEREST

### Grundy County Route 55 Brunch After Church

**Sunday, October 5, 10:30am**

Sunshine Café, 1327 12<sup>th</sup> St., Eldora

Join the Grundy Route 55 group for brunch and connection! The group will attend the 9am service together and then carpool from the church at 10:15am, or you can meet directly at the café. It's a casual time of food, fellowship and fun!

### Grundy County Men's BBQ & Skeet Shoot

**Sunday, October 5, 4pm**

*Address will be made available upon registration*

This is a great opportunity to bring a friend and hang out with other great OHC men. There will be awesome food and an opportunity for shooting clay pigeons. Experience is not required; basic safety and shooting instruction will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and your own shotgun if you'd like. Free will donation will be collected for the meal. Register at [OrchardHillChurch.org/events](https://OrchardHillChurch.org/events).

### Grundy County Night of Prayer

**Sunday, October 19, 5:30pm**

*Grundy County Lobby*

All are invited to join in a Night of Prayer from 5:30pm to 8pm. The day will begin with an option to fast and have group and individual time for quiet prayer. The evening will be finished with a Soup Supper. Additional information can be found at [OrchardHillChurch.org](https://OrchardHillChurch.org).

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES and OPPORTUNITIES WEEKLY

### Wednesday Walks

**Weekly on Wednesdays, 1:30pm**

*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 including weather-related announcements, contact Jean Gedlinske, [gedlinskejean@gmail.com](mailto:gedlinskejean@gmail.com), 319-486-1340.

### Quilting Ministry

**Weekly on Thursdays, 9am-11am**

*Orchard Hill Church Room 111*

Contact Kim Manning at [kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto: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](mailto:shess@orchardhillchurch.org), 319-596-6223.

## MONTHLY

### Women's Breakfast

**Friday, October 3, 6:30am**

*OHC Commons*

Breakfast is a space for women to 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 monthly reminders.

Kindly consider volunteering to help with the cook team. You'll have made a lasting impact – and – then you can be on your way to a productive Friday! Contact [hferienup@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto:hferienup@orchardhillchurch.org).

### **Grundy County Women's Coffee Crew**

**Wednesday, October 8 and 22, 9:am**

*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.

### **Community Meal**

**Wednesday, October 8, 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](mailto:bfienup@orchardhillchurch.org).

### **Habitat for Humanity Build**

**Saturday, October 18, 8:30am-3:30pm**

*Waterloo*

OHC hosts a Habitat build every third Saturday. Volunteers work alongside a Habitat employee and need absolutely no previous experience. Additional information is at [OrchardHillChurch.org](http://OrchardHillChurch.org). Half-day shifts are also available.

### **Grundy County Mobile Food Pantry**

**Tuesday, October 21, 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. Additional details at [OrchardHillChurch.org](http://OrchardHillChurch.org).

### **Cedar Falls Men's Breakfast**

Friday, October 31, 6:30am

*OHC Commons*

~ AND ~

### **Grundy Men's Breakfast**

*Also Friday, October 31, 6:30am*

*Grundy County Lobby & Coffee House*

Most of us lead busy lives and it's tough to find time for anything outside of work and family obligations. Our monthly Men's Breakfast is the perfect opportunity to break away from our daily schedules for good food and connection with other guys. A brief message will be provided followed by discussion at the tables aimed at getting to know one another better. A donation of \$3 is encouraged to cover the cost of food. Want monthly reminders? Text 319-553-6690.

See [OrchardHillChurch.org](http://OrchardHillChurch.org) for additional news and events. You may also want to check out the [Community Groups](#) section as there are lots of fun offerings!