

# youth MINISTRY

**High School**  
Sundays 6:00-8:00 PM

We will be resuming our Youth Group year beginning on Sunday, Jan. 8.

**Middle School**  
Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 PM

We will be resuming our Youth Group year beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 11.

**House Church** – Every other Monday night our high school youth group will be gathering at the Buck's home for a time of worship and Bible Study. We aren't going to be satisfied just knowing who Jesus is; we are going to push one another to live like Jesus did! For the Buck's address and dates of our meetings, please email Greg at [gregs@orchardhill.org](mailto:gregs@orchardhill.org).

## WINTER RETREAT

### High School Winter Retreat

Join us Feb. 3-5 as our group heads up to Cran Hill Ranch for our 2017 Winter Retreat! Cost is \$100. We will be enjoying outdoor activities such as tubing, skiing, ice wall climbing, broomball, snowshoeing, as well as worshipping and eating some great food! .

### Middle School Winter Retreat

Join us Jan. 27-29 out at Camp Geneva for our middle school retreat! Cost is \$100. There will be plenty of fun activities such as sledding, broomball, rock climbing as well as worshipping and growing closer as a group!



To receive more info about anything happening with the 6th-12th graders please contact Greg Salmon at [gregs@orchardhill.org](mailto:gregs@orchardhill.org) ~ 616.784.4060 ext227.



*Orchard Hill Church*

January 2017

Dear friends at Orchard Hill,  
Happy new year, and greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! It is customary during the holiday season for people to send letters to their loved ones, updating one another on what has taken place in their life over the last year. So, I thought this would be a good time to note some of the good things God did in and through our OHC family this past year.



First and foremost, OHC exists to reach and serve others to lead them into a relationship with Jesus Christ. So the most important question we can ask is, "Are we connecting others into a relationship with Christ?" The good news is that in 2016 we have seen 12 people step across the line of faith! All praise to God! We also have made a tremendous effort connecting with thousands of people in our neighborhood through a number of outreach events. In addition, we have stepped up to our call to serve hundreds of others as the hands and feet of Christ here in our community, country, and across the world by helping meet a host of needs. We must continue to keep this mission in the center of all we do here at OHC.

I have also been able to witness great spiritual growth in many of you, and I praise God for this! Almost every week across the full spectrum of ages, I hear stories of those who are stepping into faith in a deeper way. Evidence of this growth is found in broken addictions, restored marriages, deeper community, and many other signs throughout our church family. My prayer is that we will all continue to take another step in the direction of a "God First" life in the next year.

I'd like to also mention that our giving has been good in 2016, and for this we are very thankful. Once again, our church looks like we will be meeting our ministry goals and meeting our budget. On top of that we have been able to meet our Building Fund needs through your faithful support of the "Invest Campaign." We are on track to see our building debt eliminated in the next 8 years! In a time when many churches are struggling financially, OHC has been very generous with faithful and sacrificial giving.

There are so many other things to mention, but I am out of space! Sigh!

I want you to know that it is an honor to serve as your pastor. The trust you extend to me to lead Orchard Hill Church is a precious thing, and something I do not take lightly. Please keep me in your prayers, that I may be a good shepherd to you. Please know my door is always open to you. :) May God be glorified in our lives, our homes, and our church in 2017 as we follow Jesus Christ.

- Pastor Bob Karel





## UPCOMING EVENTS

This year's **GREAT COMMISSIONING CELEBRATION** service will be Sunday, January 8! This service stands to remind God's people of the call the Jesus Christ placed on our lives as He returned to the Father— a call to go out and make disciples! As we celebrate this blessed call, we will have the privilege of hearing Rev. Dr. Howard Hooper preach (Director of International Childcare at *Orphan's Heart International*— our ministry partners in Guatemala)! Invite your friends and family for this inspirational service!

THE  
GREAT  
COMMISSION



**SERVE DAY!** Mark your calendars for our next quarterly day of service in our community, for Saturday, January 21 at 9:00 AM! Sign up on the connection card or email [laurac@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurac@orchardhill.org) for more information. Let's serve God and the community together!



### Adult Mission Trip

**WHAT:** Disaster relief/building trip with World Renew  
**CHECK OUT:** <http://worldrenew.net/>

**WHEN:** March 5-11, 2017 (Many College Spring Breaks)

**WHO:** Anyone 18 years old and older.

**WHERE:** West Virginia to aid in rebuilding after devastating floods.

Spend a week serving the Lord and getting to know new friends! Email Pastor Laura at [laurac@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurac@orchardhill.org) for more info or to sign up! Don't have any building skills? No problem— come with an open heart, a willingness to learn, and ready to work hard!

## UPDATES & THANK YOUS



This year's collection for the Other Way Ministries' Christmas Store was a huge success! Thanks to God's faithfulness and your generous giving, we were able to collect over 200 gifts for children on the West side! Praise the Lord and thank you for giving the gift of dignity to parents in need this Christmas.

THANK YOU to all who helped make our Christmas musical/outreach possible— we could not have done it without the love and support of this community! God blessed us to be able to share the good news of Jesus Christ with almost 1,000 people at this event! Praise the Lord for the talents of our cast, directors, producers, and behind the scenes volunteers!

GUARDIANS  
OF  
CHRISTMAS

For more information contact Laura Claus at [laurac@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurac@orchardhill.org)

# GUARDIANS OF CHRISTMAS

A galaxy sized THANK YOU to all who took part in sharing the Good News to 1,000 people at our Guardians of Christmas event!



### New Stephen Ministry Class Starting January 26, 2017

#### Learning to Care for Each Other

Stephen Ministry is a training program to help lay people learn to care for one another effectively. It has been around for many years. If you are one of the many people who would love to help others but just don't know what to say or do, Stephens Ministries may be just for you. Stephen Ministries is a 50-Hour training program that will help you to know what to do and say in many difficult situations. Are funeral home visits hard for you, want to help out someone who is sick but afraid you'll say the wrong thing, or are you just not sure how to be of help to someone? Stephens Ministries training will help. We will start our fifth training session January 26 from 6:30-8:30 PM. God is calling some of you to this ministry- don't be afraid to answer that call. The blessings you receive will be greater then you give. Have more questions about the program contact Terri Blanch or Pastor Kathy at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org) or 784.4060 ext. 225.



### THANK YOU!

We would like to thank everyone for their loving support and many cards during Bob's mom recent passing. We are so appreciative of our Orchard Hill Family.  
-Bob and Jewel Borgeld



If you like to knit, Orchard Hill could use some more prayer shawls! We are running low! When your shawl is complete, please give it to Pastor Kathy.



Join us for

# entrusted

A Study of 2 Timothy by BETH MOORE

Wednesdays starting January 11 at  
6:30 PM

The cost is \$15 for the book.  
For more information contact Pastor  
Kathy at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org)

New to Orchard Hill?  
Looking to find out more  
about us?

Join us for Brunch on  
January 29

(following the morning worship)

Meet the staff!

And get to know what we are all about!

Families expected

## MEN'S MINISTRY

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH  
8:00 AM—9:30 AM  
LOWER LEVEL YOUTH AREA

JOIN US!  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14



A TIME FOR ALL GUYS  
AS WE ENJOY SOME  
GOOD FOOD, MAKE  
SOME NEW FRIENDS,  
AND WE ARE  
CHALLENGED TO  
GROW IN OUR FAITH.



"Dare to Be" is a single evening event designed for women of all ages. Natalie Grant and Charlotte Gambill prayerfully sculpt the night around worship, and two full Bible teaching sessions. At "Dare to Be" you're able to experience the fullness of a multi-day women's conference, but wonderfully jam-packed into an affordable, three hour, one-night event at Kentwood Community Church.

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 2 at 7:00 PM (doors open at 6:15 PM)

**WHERE:** Kentwood Community Church (1200 60th Street SE, Kentwood, MI 49508)

**TICKETS:** \$20/general admission. Pastor Kathy has 20 tickets, see her for more information and to pick up your ticket. Don't miss out!

Women's Night Out  
January 27

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Fun, food and shopping

(what more could a women want?)



### Orchard Hill Christian Preschool and Child Care Center News

The month of December was a whirlwind of activity with Christmas celebrations and concerts. The families thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas program and our celebrations of Jesus' birth. Looking ahead into the new year we are excited about the opening of our additional 3-year old classroom along the Youth Wing. That classroom became licensed for our use in December and programming will begin on January 3 with a full class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. My staff and I are so thankful for the opportunity to minister to these little ones.

Our school-age classroom recently embarked on a Pilot Quality Rating System. We are so excited to announce that after our self-assessment and validation visit the program was able to achieve the highest level possible. The program was given a 5 Star Rating for its environment, interactions with the children, and planning. We are so proud of this school-age staff and their outstanding work with these children. They have proven that hard work and perseverance does pay off and we are so thankful for their many God-given gifts and talents. Congratulations!

Jennifer Gray, Center Director



The preschoolers performing a handful of Christmas songs for their parents and family members for their annual Christmas program.



**Men's Bible Study** takes place on Wednesday nights at 6:45 PM and Thursday mornings at 6:45 AM in the Man Cave. We will resume January 18 & 19. We'll begin the new year by engaging another volume in the **Authentic Manhood 33 Series: A Man and His Traps**. We've looked at God's clear design for manhood, a biblical perspective of our own stories, and now we'll look at the things that may be trapping us and keeping us from living as effective Christ Followers. Join us! Looking forward to seeing you there. Questions? Ask Mark Huizinga at [mrhuizinga@live.com](mailto:mrhuizinga@live.com).



Thinking about becoming a member here at Orchard Hill?  
Join us February 9 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM



Looking for baptism for your child or yourself? Mark your calendar for  
February 19, 2017  
Contact Pastor Kathy for more info.



Does your marriage need some work or are you looking just to reconnect with your spouse? Re/engage maybe just what you are looking for. Come to the first meeting on January 16 at 7:00 PM to find out more about the class and see if it might be a fit for you. No commitment until you check it out. All marriages can benefit; everything from marriage in trouble, to empty nesters looking to reconnect. It's fun engaging and worth every moment!