



**High School**

Join us for high school youth group every Sunday night downstairs in the youth area from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM. The program year will be kicking off on September 10!

**Middle School**

Join us for middle school youth group every Wednesday night downstairs in the youth area from 6:30 PM -8:00 PM. The year will be starting on Wednesday, September 13.

**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).

**SANDY'S DONUTS:** Our Sandy's Donuts hang out is back! Every Monday afternoon our high school youth group will be going to get some donuts! We will meet by the office doors at Kenowa, immediately after school and we will be at Sandy's from 3-4 PM. Feel free to hitch a ride from the high school with Greg, or meet us there!



Pictured above is our high school (left) and middle school (right) youth groups on their summer trips! God did incredible things all summer long and now we are excited to take that momentum into the youth group year! Hope you all are ready for another great year of youth ministry! See you at the Fall Kick Off!

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 ext. 227.





The entire Orchard Hill Church Community is invited to join us!

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

Following our Morning Service

**FALL KICKOFF**

**PICNIC**

**Lunch is provided.**

*We will head up to the Softball field area for some chili dogs, children's games and activities, yard games, kickball, and softball.*

There will be picnic table seating, but you may want to bring your own lawn chair or blanket. Those who need to, can feel free to drive their car up to the softball field area.



**NEW MESSAGE SERIES**  
STARTING SEPTEMBER 10



Every life is a story. Whether it is a story worth telling and talking about, though, is up to you! Most of us dream of changing the world and doing something amazing. However, without noticing it, we settle for an ordinary life. But once upon a time, God wrote you into the world. He created you to be a complex character with a special role to play in His story. Join us as we learn what it takes to live a story worth telling. Your story can be more than ordinary. Learn to live a better story!

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND**  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3



On this holiday weekend we will be taking our service outside onto the front lawn. Invite a friend to join you in this casual setting as we worship God in His creation. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on. Feel free to dress casually. Ice cream will be served afterwards. **INVITE A FRIEND!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Guatemala Fundraiser/ Blood Drive

On **August 29 from 2:00-7:00 PM**, Orchard Hill Church will host a blood drive in the lobby for Michigan Blood that will also serve as a fundraiser for the Guatemala Mission Team. If we reach our goal of 50 successful donors, **we could get up to \$10 for each person who attempts to donate!** Invite your friends and family to come out to OHC for this opportunity! Sign up in the Connection Corner, on the OHC community Facebook page, or by emailing [laurac@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurac@orchardhill.org). The mission team thanks you for your support!



## Outreach Opportunities

As the start of another school year approaches, now is a great time to prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to get involved in the outreach efforts at Orchard Hill Church. Consider serving with one or more of the following outreach areas this year. Our **Small Groups** are also serving on mission. Consider joining a small group's mission or serving with your own small group in an area that God has placed on your heart!



- \*Orphan's Heart International/ Intergenerational Mission Trip
- \*Words of Hope



- \*Kids' Hope/ Central Elementary
- \*Orchard Hill Christian Preschool and Child Care Center
- \*OHC Outreach Events
- \*America's Best Value Inn and Suites



- \*World Renew Disaster Relief/Adult Mission Trip
- \*Community Needs Fund
- \*Northwest Food Pantry

To sign up or get more information contact Pastor Laura Claus at [laurac@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurac@orchardhill.org)

## CHILDREN'S CORNER! HILLKIDS this fall!

- New curriculum (Bringing Bible stories to life with take home helps to support parental teaching) starts September 17!
- Arts Camp Remix (A once a month Saturday event for families to worship and play together Arts Camp Style. 2nd Saturday of each month from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM). Mark your calendars!



## Kid's Hope Corner

Amy Karel, Director

Happy "Back-to School" season everyone! It's almost here, and with that new season, Kids' Hope mentoring will also begin. As of this 2017-2018 school year, Orchard Hill Church will be beginning our 16<sup>th</sup> year serving the children of Kenowa Hills Central Elementary School. Praise God for His guidance of this the important ministry of Kids' Hope.

Kenowa Hills Central Elementary is one of three elementary schools in the Kenowa Hills Public School District, and is located near the intersection of Three Mile Rd. and Wilson. Central is the largest of the three elementary buildings and has almost 700 students. Currently, we have been providing Mentors for only about 20 of those students each year. Also, approximately 45% of the student population qualifies for free or reduced lunch. There is a great need at Central for more Mentors! Central will give us the names and parent permission for as many children as we have Mentors for—**WE NEED YOU!**

The ministry of Kids' Hope matches screened, trained, loving church members (or regular attenders) with at-risk children at the school to meet together one hour, once per week during the school year. We are not there to evangelize to the student, but rather to show the love of Christ through our actions as we help meet the academic, emotional, and social needs of the student. The one hour per week may consist of helping them with homework, playing games together, talking about what happened in the past week—just being a friend to a child who needs you! Please consider and pray about serving in this important ministry. You will be thoroughly trained so that you will have confidence in how to best mentor your child!

Each Mentor-child pair is also covered in prayer by a caring Prayer Partner who lifts them up in prayer throughout the school year. If you feel God calling you to commit to praying for a Mentor-child pair, please let me know so that we can get you matched.

In addition to considering serving as a Kids' Hope Mentor or Prayer Partner, another practical way you can support Kids' Hope is by providing snacks for our Mentoring sessions. Each week we go through at least 20 snacks and drinks, so we can always use individual, pre-packaged snacks and drink pouches. Good ideas are: granola bars, cracker packs, fruit snacks, cereal bars, etc, as well as boxes of drink pouches. Please place them in the marked bin by the front door of church.

Thank you in advance for supporting this important outreach of Orchard Hill Church and giving the children of our surrounding community HOPE! Have a blessed fall season!

*"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward." Matthew 10:42*

To Orchard Hill Reformed Church,  
Thank you for the cards and prayers when I had my surgery.  
Thank you,  
Barb Lewis

I would like to thank all my friends for the cards and prayers during my surgery. Also to Kathy Bartels and Bev Buikema for their visits and prayers, and to Jewel Borgeld for all her help and always being there for me.  
Cathy vanMarkenstein

Thank you for all the cards, prayers, and acts of kindness shown to us in the passing of Chuck Walker. He was a wonderful husband and father and will be dearly missed.  
Carol Walker and family

## THANK YOU!

## UPDATE!

Amaryllis Buurstra  
Yorkshire Stronebridge Manors  
3511 Leonard St NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49534

Nancy Ringelberg and Don Swanson  
2082 Fairlane Ct  
Ostego, MI 49078

Mel and Lou Veenboer  
First and Main of Metro Health Village  
5812 Village Drive SW  
Room 315  
Wyoming, MU 49519  
Phone: 616-531-1015

**Party Popper Sunday  
October 22**

Thinking of making a profession of faith in Jesus Christ or transferring your membership to Orchard Hill or having your child baptized?

**October 22 is the next Party Popper Sunday!**

For Baptism: Contact Pastor Kathy at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org)  
 Membership class: October 3 from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
 Shepherding Team meeting: Monday October 9 at 7:00 PM to hear requests  
 For questions contact Pastor Kathy at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org)

# OH Summer Interns

**Lilly Feldt** • 10th grade at West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science • Enjoys playing drums, fishing, being outside, being up north, singing, song writing, basketball, hunting, and music

"This year's internship experience that heavily impacted me, was digging more into God's word. Each week, we had Bible study, and just uncovering the raw and powerful message when studying a new story, was truly amazing and has exposed so much. This internship has also showed me ways and opportunities to be a leader, and to show others how to be leaders as well. We were able to have the privilege of going to York Creek every Wednesday and teaching them about the word of God, and also just loving on them, and spending time with them. There were many kids there whom you could tell needed that love, and needed to hear that good news of God, and seeing the smiles and looks of joy shining through their eyes was truly amazing. Overall, the internship has taught me to be selfless within my actions, and has filled me with great wisdom and strength. Being a part of the staff and getting to know them was an absolute blast! I am EXTREMELY grateful for being a part of such a life-changing community.

**Emily Bauer** • 11th grade at Northview High School • Enjoys swimming in her pool, going to the beach, hanging out with friends, and shopping

"Being an inter was a great experience. It taught me how to be a leader and share ideas with others. They actually let interns sit in on staff meetings too! As a person I grew more spiritually and in my walk with Christ. I enjoyed working at Arts Camp with all the kids and doing some of the behind the scenes work with set up and clean up. This was definitely one of the more tiring weeks for us interns for sure! Another highlight was working with the kids at York Creek on Wednesdays. We taught the kids about God through drama, songs, and crafts. We also had the opportunity to do some outreach each week. We went to the Kids Food Basket and helped a family with their home. My favorite thing about being an intern was the weekly Bible study with Greg. As a group we grew closer as we learned from the book of Genesis. I really enjoyed working at Orchard Hill Church this summer! Thank you for this opportunity."

**Jenna VanZomeren** • 12th grade at Northview High School • Enjoys hockey and reading

"I really enjoyed working in the church alongside the staff and a few of my fellow students. Being part of the church as a part of my everyday life has drastically changed and molded my faith. Seeing the inner workings of the church and taking part in it, as well as being able to study the Bible and serve in the community, gave me an experience that showed the many sides of having a relationship with God."

*Shane Bennett was also a summer intern.*

**Historical Figures**

Fiscal year 2017 is history, and for the sixteenth year in a row the Orchard Hill Church General Fund wound up in the black; we had more income than we did expenses. While it is our goal each year to be in the black we do not want to accumulate a lot of money in the General Fund because we want to use your tithes and offerings to further the ministries of Orchard Hill with a constant focus on reaching the lost for Christ. We were in the black \$215, and some of the ministries we supported through the General Fund were the Youth Ministry, \$16,365, Children's Ministry, \$10,713, Orchard Hill Outreach Events, \$9,737, the Guardians of Christmas presentation, \$6,171, Adult Education and Small Groups, \$4,484, and of course, we had to cover the mundane expenses like utilities, \$86,200, insurance, \$14,570, and we paid \$33,442 in Classis Assessments. Your tithes and offerings are what support these ministries and help us meet all the obligations necessary to maintain our property and facility and keep it functioning as a place we can worship and find God. In addition to the General Fund, we also maintain a separate account that holds funds designated for specific purposes.

- Children & Worship Mission \$137**
- Christian Aid Fund \$5,137**
- Cross Repair Acct \$20**
- Labyrinth \$1,560**
- LC Working Capital \$23,970**
- Learning Center Fund \$1,874**
- Memorial Fund \$237**
- Prime Time Acct \$7**

- Recreation \$415**
- Repair Accrual \$9,710**
- Rick Buikema AC Scholarship Fund \$1,230**
- Women's Circle Ministry \$125**
- Working Capital \$12,712**
- Youth Mission Scholarships \$1,970**
- Youth Mission Trips \$14,470**

At the end of June this account had a balance of \$73,907. The LC Working Capital and Working Capital accounts are savings accounts we have established for the Childcare Center and the Church. The Youth Mission Trip account represents funds students have earned that will be applied to their mission trip costs. Obviously, by the end of the summer this account will be depleted and the students will begin building it up again with fundraisers throughout the year.

We also paid \$281,500 towards principal reduction of our building loan, bringing the balance down to \$998,500 and were able to set aside \$94,000 for maintenance and capital improvements as set forth in the INVEST Campaign. Finally, our retained earnings, (the value of assets compared to our liabilities), increased \$337,088 in fiscal year 2017 to \$2,084,320.

All of these are historical numbers now that we are in fiscal year 2018. Hopefully, though, this history gives you confidence that your tithes and offerings, contributions to the building fund, and other donations are being used prudently, and with a constant eye toward maximizing all contributions for the ministries of Orchard Hill and our mission of reaching the lost. - Frank Harper, Church Administrator



*New to Orchard Hill?  
Come and meet the staff  
Meet the Staff Brunch*

Sunday, September 24  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Families expected!

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**WEDNESDAY NIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

**September 13 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

Despicable people doing deplorable things. Even the heroes are involved in these violent and abusive accounts. Why would the Bible even contain such trashy tales about dysfunctional characters? Who could love people who mistreat each other, sabotage their own lives and refuse the hope that is offered? Only God could care about people such as these! We will learn of the great depth of God's love and mercy as it is continually offered to people who do not deserve it or appreciate it.

DELIGHTING  
IN **DELIVERANCE THE BOOK OF JUDGES**

### Preschool and Child Care Center News

At the end of each program year we have the opportunity to learn from our families about how they felt the year went. Each May, we survey these families to assist in future planning and evaluation of our programs. Below are just a few of the comments made by our families during this process that we wanted to share:



- Everyone worked well with the students and worked hard and building a great rapport with them. Collaboration with the parents helped to build a great program!
- My child is ready to attend kindergarten and her speech has really improved. She recognizes her letters more since the first of the school year.
- I greatly appreciate the inclusion of letter recognition and proper formation of letters. You have provided a loving and fun environment in which to learn.
- We are so blessed to have the experience we had this year. Right away I could see the love the staff had for the children and it was a great transition for my child.
- I love when siblings in different classes pass each other in the hall they are encouraged to give a quick hug.
- We loved the prayers and verses learned.
- I love that there is Christian teaching.

Our teaching staff is passionate about what they are doing each day with the children. It is so rewarding for them to receive acknowledgement and appreciation through this evaluation process.

On September 11, the center will embark on its 36<sup>th</sup> year of preschool. With six classrooms and over 125 children in the facility at any one time it is sure to be a busy and fulfilling school year. My staff and I appreciate your prayers as the new school year begins and we strive to show each child God's love every day!

Jennifer Gray, Center Director



**NURERY NANNY NEEDED!** Orchard Hill Church is looking for a nursery nanny. This person would need to be available on Sunday mornings to greet and care for all babies coming into the nursery as well as organizing all volunteers during the morning worship services. This is a paid position. For more details and a job description please contact Pastor Kathy Bartels at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org) or at 616.784.4060 ext. 225.

## Power Hour 2017/2018

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>September 21 - Pot Luck Lunch</b>                           | <b>December 21 - Christmas Event</b> |
| 10:30 AM "Growing older in spirituality and faith"             | 10:30 AM Christmas Program           |
| 11:30 AM Pot luck lunch (Main dish and table service provided) | 11:30 AM Catered lunch               |

**Power Hour is for the Senior members of Orchard Hill. Due to the lack of participation our meeting times have been scaled back to 3 times per year. We will meet in September, December, and again in May. Each meeting will consist of a more traditional style of worship, a teaching or program, prayer time, and food.**

### From your Stephen Ministry Team

#### Caring tip

#### Caring for People...Caring for Self Tools of the Trade

Christian care giving is a unique type of caring that has been lost to the world around us. It's the only type of caring that I have come across that touches a person's soul and helps the soul to connect with the soul maker. Isn't that where healing needs to take place? Christian care giving uses the tools of prayer and scripture to connect one's soul to the soul maker.

In my reading I came across this, "One Wednesday, a local chaplain was invited to speak to our group of clinical psychologists, psychiatrists, interns, and counselors. During the course of his presentation, he was asked by one of the therapists what unique elements he brought to the healing endeavor. The chaplain answered that he offered long-term types of counseling. When someone asked the chaplain whether he used prayer, scripture, and other Christian resources, the chaplain responded, "Well that's really not my bag." The members of the group were outraged and full of pity. Why would he not use or offer helps that he alone as a Christian could offer?"

Yes, this chaplain misses the mark he had been called to but this example tells us something else as well; **the world expects Christians to care and use "Christian" elements in their caring.** So, the next time your friend is pouring out their heart to you, don't be afraid to ask to pray with them or you won't need to be embarrassed to point them to scripture, as the world expects Christians to use their Christian tools in care giving. Besides, our job is to just point them in the right direction, the soul maker heals the soul.

Questions? Contact Pastor Kathy at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org).

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM  
Lower Level Youth Area

All the men of Orchard Hill and their friends are invited to join with us on the 2nd Saturday morning of each month for a great breakfast, inspiring teaching, heart-felt worship, and deepening of our friendships with one another.

**FREE COUNSELING FOR THE ORCHARD HILL FAMILY**

Orchard Hill is part of the CAP's program offered by Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services. Are you struggling with PTSD, stress, college anxiety, single parenting, divorce, chronic pain, loneliness, financial issues, or a host of other of life's challenges? Check out CAP counseling. You can receive 3 free counseling sessions by calling 616.455.6210 and telling them you are part of the CAP's program through Orchard Hill. Don't let life lead you...you lead your life. For more information contact Pastor Kathy at [kathyb@orchardhill.org](mailto:kathyb@orchardhill.org) or see the Connection Corner.

**COUNSELING** MINISTRY  
GUIDANCE FOR LIFE'S CHALLENGES



### ARTS CAMP STAFF!

A huge thank you to all those who volunteered for Arts Camp this year!

We had people young and old, 1st time volunteers and seasoned veterans, high school and college students, past campers and even those willing to take off a week of vacation from work to build the kingdom of God and bless our community.

This was a beautiful picture of Orchard Hill at its very best!



|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>TOTAL REGISTERED CAMPERS</b>   | 352        |
| <b>VOLUNTEER STAFF</b>  | 103        |
| <b>BOOT CAMPERS (K-1ST)</b>   | 100        |
| <b>ELECTIVE CLASSES OFFERED</b>   | 21         |
| <b>MISSION PROJECT COLLECTED FOR KIDS IN SAMOLIA TO ATTEND THEIR OWN CAMP</b> | \$3,750.33 |
| <b>PIZZA SLICES SERVED ON FRIDAY</b>  | 870        |

### Favorite quote from the week-

“What I love about Arts Camp is EVERYTHING! It’s so fun. I love it. They make it so much fun to learn about Jesus and how he lived and the Bible. I love it here!” -Brooklyn Diaz



### ARTS CAMP ON THE HILL 2017! By Wendy Huizinga

Its hard to believe that we just finished year 10 of Arts Camp on the Hill here at Orchard Hill Church! We had an incredible week with 339 kids and a staff of 103.

Each day started in the sanctuary with **energetic praise**. We sang at the top of our lungs, were wowed with dramatic sketches of our Bible stories, watched some funny videos and had a series of powerful teachings on God's plan for salvation.

One of the **creative things** we did was experience the transformation of a blank canvas by a local artist. We watched the canvas change each day as the Bible story was reenacted and soon learned that our lives are much like that canvas and that God's story from His Word is ultimately our story of redemption and grace.

One of the **highlights in worship** was on Wednesday when we heard the story of the crucifixion. Our canvas was stained red to remind us of the blood Jesus shed for us. Following that story, we sang “What a Beautiful Name” with all of the kids voices beautifully praising the name of Jesus. It was one of the sweetest moments of the week and something I will never forget. The kids also shared that song on Friday with their parents at our closing program and it was a powerful testimony of the week we shared.

After worship the kids headed to **small groups** and two **art classes** of their choice and our little ones headed to less structured art stations at **boot camp**.

Our **last day** was packed with beautiful projects that the kids had worked on all week and our performing arts classes did an amazing job showing off their gifts in the sanctuary at our Friday program.

On **Friday afternoon**, the church had emptied out, all was quiet again and I couldn't help but miss the joy that those kids brought to this place each morning. What a blessing it is to see a child grow in their love for God right before your very eyes. How can that happen in one week? It's God. Our amazing GOD. Only He can do the impossible and without a doubt, He did!

We as a church have much to be thankful for. God has been faithful in building and blessing this program for 10 years! Because of that history much of our staff are former arts camp students who have said time and time again that Arts Camp has always been “the best week of my summer”. Praise the Lord!!