

Outreach Ideas: May 2020

Hello Orchard Hill family!

Below you will find some ideas for how to reach out in the name of Jesus during this global pandemic. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but simply a few examples of how you might use this time faithfully for the Lord. It would be so easy for us to fill this time only doing things like watching Netflix, cleaning our homes, overeating, and puzzling (my personal favorite). While these things in and of themselves are not bad, if that is all we do, we have missed a HUGE window of opportunity to share God's hope and good news in a time when people are so desperately scared and looking for the light. Let your love for the Lord and the grace He has given you drive your steps in faith to reach out in the name of Jesus this month! Let me know if you have any questions, testimonies, or other outreach suggestions to share. We are in this together, family of God, as we always have been and forever will be!

In Christ,

Pastor Laura Dilley

Developing a heart for outreach:

- Pray for:
 - God to put a passion for reaching the lost in your heart
 - Boldness and opportunities to share the good news with others
 - Lost people to come to know Christ
 - God to work against any barriers to others hearing about Jesus
- Read:
 - Matthew 28
 - Acts 1:1-11
 - Acts 2
 - Acts 8:26-40

Ways to serve and reach out during this crisis:

- **Meal Assistance Volunteers:** Sign up to help pack, pass out, or unload meals for families in the Kenowa Hills school district (our Kids' Hope partnership school district and families).
 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a45aaaa2ea1f58-khvolunteer>
- **Letter Writing:** Send a note in the mail encouraging those in your life who may not know the hope of Jesus. This is a great way to let them know you care and to share our hope in Christ!
- **Yard Signs and Door Hangers:** Let your neighbors know you are there for them in the name of Jesus! Put a sign in your yard with your contact info for anyone in need of help or prayer, or pass out door hangers to the homes on your street with the same info. Don't want to make your own? You can order those here:
 - <https://www.outreach.com/Products/Church-Products/Sunrise-Glow-Neighbor-Outreach-Kit-60004.aspx?N=41>
- **Social Media:** People are flocking to social media right now for connectedness and hope in the face of this crisis. Use your social media pages as platforms to offer assistance, prayer, and encouragement in Christ! Post the link to the OHC Sunday Services and invite your friends to join you virtually!

- <https://www.facebook.com/ohcgr>
- **Zoom calls, phone calls, facetime hangouts:** Use these gifts of social-distancing approved communication to foster community.
 - Host a Bible study or weekly prayer group.
 - Host a game night for those feeling lonely.
 - Challenge someone you want to share the gospel with to read through the word with you and connect to talk about it using one of these avenues.

Donating/Giving:

People around the world are in crisis from this pandemic's far-reaching consequences. Consider giving or donating generously in the following ways:

- **Local Hunger:** Many in our own city are in need of food support during this pandemic. Donate food items today!
 - Matthew's House Ministries (located at 766 7th St NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504)
 - The Northwest Food Pantry (located at 1224 Davis Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504)
- **India:** Many people in India are unable to work due to the pandemic and are not able to get their families the daily bread and basic hygiene items needed. Donate toward relief today!
 - <https://missionindia.org/relief/>