

# ORCHARD HILL CHURCH

March, 2022

# Ministry Highlights

1465 3 Mile Road NW • Grand Rapids • [orchardhill.org](http://orchardhill.org) • 616.784.4060

## WORSHIP CHOIR

If you love to sing, join the Worship Choir on Sunday, March 20, rehearsing on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00 PM.

[wendyh@orchardhill.org](mailto:wendyh@orchardhill.org)

## GUITAR SESSIONS

An informal gathering of guitarists of all kinds (acoustic, electric, bass) and skill levels, to learn guitar with others. We meet the third Sunday of the month in the sanctuary at 11:30. Our next session is Sunday, March 20.

[wendyh@orchardhill.org](mailto:wendyh@orchardhill.org)

## MARCH MADNESS CHURCH PARTY

Sunday, March 27, following the worship service, we will have an all church March Madness Party! Come for the food and stay for the games. We're giving you time to work on your shooting skills and prepare for a spectacular dunk against Pastor Bob. Is Basketball BINGO more your style? We'll have that too! Sign up on the connection card or at the Sign Up Post to let us know you're coming and to volunteer. Put it on your calendar now to save the date.

[casie.msu@gmail.com](mailto:casie.msu@gmail.com)

## SENIOR GATHERING

Join our wonderful group of OHC Seniors for a time of devotions & singing hymns, prayer, refreshments and meaningful fellowship on Tuesday, March 15 at 10:30 AM in the coffee area of the lobby.

[wendyh@orchardhill.org](mailto:wendyh@orchardhill.org)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP-10:00 AM

*Breaking Barriers:* This series will start us on our path towards Easter as we look at several characters from the book of John. Our prayer is that those who don't yet believe in Jesus would trust him for the first time and that believers would re-learn what it means to believe in him.

## PROPERTY PRAYERS

Please continue to use the Prayer Guide bulletin insert on a weekly basis as we seek God's wisdom on how to best steward our church property. Orchard Hill Church sits on 45 acres of property and we believe that the 22 acres of the back half could be sold or retained for some type of ministry/partnership development. How is God stirring your mind and heart during this time of discernment? We are planning to pray together as a community on Sunday, March 13 following worship.

## EASTER OUTREACH: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Save the date and join us on the Jelly Bean trail at Orchard Hill on Saturday, April 16, from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM! We will be inviting our OHC families as well as families from our local neighborhoods and mission partners to experience this new and exciting way to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! Would you be willing to volunteer to help us make this interactive indoor Easter trail happen, as we have fun, share the gospel, and host our community? Sign up on the connection card or the Sign Up Post.

[laurad@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurad@orchardhill.org)

## LENT AT ORCHARD HILL

Lent is the 40 day season in the church calendar used as time of preparation for Easter and as an opportunity to go deeper with God. Here are some ways you can prepare:

- **Attend Worship Weekly**— We will be starting a new series called *Breaking Barriers*. *Breaking Barriers* is a seven-week Lenten series that will focus on several individuals from the book of John who faced barriers that kept them from following Jesus. As we explore the barriers that prevented them from following, we will be equipped and encouraged to break through these same barriers in our day so that we can follow Jesus with full devotion.
- **Learn the Apostles' Creed**— The Apostles' Creed is a summary of the Christian faith. We will be reciting this Creed in worship each week to help our church family memorize this important statement of belief. Pick up a printed copy of The Apostles' Creed in the lobby and start memorizing!
- **Grow Deeper with the "Creed" Reflection Guide**— "Creed" is a seven-week reflection guide that will take you through the elements of the Apostles' Creed. Gain a deeper insight into these powerful words.
- **March Outreach**— As we get ready to celebrate Easter, we first walk through seven weeks of lent- the season in which we remember Jesus' life of service and sacrificial love. Scripture tells us that, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Our hope for the month of March is for the entire congregation of Orchard Hill to pick up a service calendar from the Ministry Highlights table and use it to weekly center our hearts on Jesus' heart of service and love. Read the provided scripture and follow the outreach prompt that week as, together, we focus on the servant heart of Christ, grow our love for Him, and serve those around us in His name!

[laurad@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurad@orchardhill.org)

## OHC & RCA

As Orchard Hill considers leaving the Reformed Church of America over issues of Biblical authority and missional alignment, we have a team of six Orchard Hill leaders that are meeting together on a bi-weekly basis to explore (theologically, missionally, and practically) and recommend to the Governing Board a potential new landing spot for OHC. If the Governing Board supports this recommendation, then they would bring the recommendation before our entire church family for an official vote and decision. At least 75% of our professing members present at a meeting would have to vote in favor of the recommendation to set in motion the move to leave the RCA. The Governing Board meets on March 8 and sometime after that meeting, we will be hosting another congregational forum around this matter. Please pray for our team and their discernment and that God would bring OHC into a place where we can flourish.

## SPRING PICNIC & AUCTION

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 15, immediately following the service, for our Spring Picnic and Auction. Our youth groups will be hosting this event to raise money for their summer mission trips. We need your help in order to make this fundraiser a success! Below are a few ways that you can help us do that:

- **Donate an item to be auctioned off**- Tickets to events, vacation packages, cottage rentals, new electronics, themed gift baskets, special services, or even gift cards make great items to auction off. Feel free to use your imagination! Please inform Greg Salmon of your donations ASAP.
- **Donate a financial gift towards our trip**- If you are unable to provide an item to be auctioned off and still want to support the mission trip, you can give a financial gift of any amount.
- **The students would love to see you**- Join us for a tasty lunch and auction!

[gregs@orchardhill.org](mailto:gregs@orchardhill.org)

## OHC FAMILY MOVIE SHOWING

All Orchard Hill families are invited to a showing of *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* in the sanctuary on March 12 at 2:00 PM. Bring pillows and blankets to make your family comfortable! We will provide snacks.

[mirandah@orchardhill.org](mailto:mirandah@orchardhill.org)

## BLOOD DRIVE

Help save local lives and love your neighbor as yourself by donating blood at the next Walker Community Blood Drive on Tuesday, March 15, 1:30 PM-6:30 PM in the Orchard Hill lobby. Sign up at: [https://donate.michiganversiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/138069](https://donate.michiganversiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/138069).

[laurad@orchardhill.org](mailto:laurad@orchardhill.org)

## OHC WOMENS RETREAT

All OHC women, ages 18+ are invited to join our retreat at CranHill Ranch Retreat Center, April 29-May 1. We will hear inspirational teachings from guest speakers focused on our theme: *Together, Encouraged, Equipped*. Cost for the weekend is \$100 and includes lodging, all meals, and activities.

Our time together will include group sessions, free time with activities like nature hikes, horseback riding, photo scavenger hunts, axe throwing, and crafting, as well as fun and fellowship with each other!

Sign up on the connection card or the Sign Up Post. Invite a friend or family member to join you and get ready for a refreshing, fun-filled weekend away, in the Lord!

[kbenchich@cochranesupply.com](mailto:kbenchich@cochranesupply.com)

## ARTS CAMP ON THE HILL 2022!

Mark your calendars for in-person Arts Camp June 20-24. (Masks will be optional) Registration will open April 1<sup>st</sup>. Limited space will be available so mark your calendars and sign up early! **Volunteer sign-ups** are on the Sign Up Post or you may email us/inquire about specific positions for serving at [artscamp@orchardhill.org](mailto:artscamp@orchardhill.org). Looking forward to another great summer of Jesus sharing fun on the Hill!

[wendyh@orchardhill.org](mailto:wendyh@orchardhill.org)

## OHCPCC NEWS

Encouraging Empathy- Children, especially young ones, are naturally curious, so when they see someone with a disability, their first instinct is to ask about what they see. This is why we helped the children understand Miss Brittany's challenges by blindfolding them and providing an opportunity to use her white cane. The kids had fun developing empathy for those who are blind and how special tools, like a white cane, can help navigate their world.

## SPECIAL GIVING PROJECTS

**OHC Parking Lots**- The parking lots are past the season where they can be repaired, and they need to be taken up and replaced. We would like to be able to replace one of them over the next three years. The cost to replace one parking lot is around \$100,000 and this need is presently outside of the budget. We have begun a fund to meet this need.

**OHC Sign**- The electronic sign on 3 Mile is of the age where the technology is no longer supported. We are facing limitations in how it functions as well as issues when it fails to work. The sign needs to be replaced. The cost for a new full color electronic message center (the screen portion) is \$15,000.

**Prayer Path**- One of our visions is to establish a Prayer Path adjacent to the Labyrinth near the East Parking lot. This path would offer a silent retreat through the wooded area featuring several reflection points along the way, a small amphitheater for prayer events and Bible study, and a small stage area to feature things like a living nativity. The installation of this edged path through the woods consisting of maintenance free dolomite is about \$20,000. Signage would be about \$7,000. \$10,000 has already been given in support of this project.

If you feel moved to give to any of these projects please note on your check or in your electronic giving.