



## Route 55 Newsletter April 2026

Orchard Friends,

Spring is here! Our journey through Lent has been filled with faith, fellowship, friendship, and food for our bodies and our souls. Oh, and some fun too! We thank those of you who attended or helped host a Lenten Lunch by serving, cleaning up, or preparing soup or dessert. Many of you helped out in many ways for multiple weeks and **we thank you**. This year we **served 440 people in-person with the help of 50 people filling over 144 volunteer slots**. In addition, **85 items were delivered to 15 different households by 8 volunteers**. This is an amazing way to grow in faith and to serve our precious Savior. May our faith continue to grow as we observe Holy Week and celebrate the amazing and wonderful gift of salvation through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Wishing you Grace and Peace,

*Kim Manning*

### CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK AND EASTER WITH US!

See [OrchardHillChurch.org/easter#holyweek](https://OrchardHillChurch.org/easter#holyweek) for additional details about all of these offerings.



### Easter Services

Cedar Falls, Grundy County & Waverly

#### CEDAR FALLS

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

5:00 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

9:00 AM

10:30 AM

ADDRESS:  
3900 Orchard Hill Dr.  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613

#### Nursery & PreK:

- Saturday @ 5:00 PM:  
Nursery (0-2) available
- Sunday @ 9:00 & 10:30 AM:  
Nursery (0-2) & PreK available
- All Services:  
No Elementary Programming

#### GRUNDY COUNTY

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

9:00 AM

10:30 AM

ADDRESS:  
1800 G Ave.  
Grundy Center, IA 50638

#### Nursery & PreK:

- Sunday @ 9:00 & 10:30 AM:  
Nursery (0-2) available
- All Services:  
No PreK or Elementary Programming

#### WAVERLY

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

9:00 AM

10:30 AM

ADDRESS:  
195 20th St, NW Suite D  
Waverly, IA 50677

#### Nursery & PreK:

- Sunday @ 9:00 & 10:30 AM:  
Nursery (0-2) & PreK available
- All Services:  
No Elementary Programming

## RECENT EVENTS



All are invited to the Commons to enjoy some friendship and treats between Sunday services on the second Sunday of every month.



The 2026 Lenten Lunch series was a wonderful success as we prepared our hearts to celebrate Holy Week and Easter.



Laura Sohl-Cryer delivered an inspiring message on February 25.



On March 4, Reverend Karen Nelson taught us about the parable of the Good Samaritan.



Matt Reisetter taught about finding comfort in the Psalms on March 11.



Diane Oehler is a natural at the microphone, introducing her husband, Pat.



Pat Oehler provided a thoughtful message based on personal experiences on March 18.



Tim Walsten led us in musical worship almost every week.



Pastor Judy Marshall closes out the Lenten Lunch series with a message from Ecclesiastes about time.



Wes Poley, Kevin Zabel, Roger Gast, Stewart Fluent and Chris Iehl make short work of the dishes after the meal.

## FEATURED EVENTS



### Second Sunday Senior Social

**Sunday, April 12, 2026, 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.



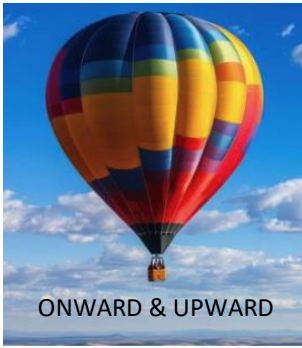
### Outdoor Clean-Up

**Tuesday, April 14, 2026, 12:30pm**

There are many ways to serve the Lord and helping with a little spring cleaning of His house is one! **Meet us at Door 2 by the Main Offices to help with some raking, cleaning, trimming, etc.**

Brenda Patterson will explain what needs to be done and we'll go from there. Bring your work gloves and a rake if you have them.

Please let us know you plan to help by signing up in the Route 55 binder or contacting Kim Manning at [kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto:kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org) or 319-231-1619 so we can share any weather-related announcements that may need to be made. Thank you!



## Shell Rock Spring Swing 2026 – Onward and Upward

**Saturday, April 18, dinner at 4:30pm, show at 7pm**

Dinner at Iowa Primehouse, 202 S Cherry St, Shell Rock

Show at Everson Auditorium, Boyd Building, 303 S. Cherry St, Shell Rock

Enjoy an early dinner at the Iowa Primehouse followed by the Shell Rock Music Association's Swing Show performance, now in its 61<sup>st</sup> year. The show will consist of music in a variety of genres, comedy skits, and more. **Tickets are \$10 each.** Please sign up in the Route 55 binder, email

[kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org](mailto:kmanning@orchardhillchurch.org) or call 319-231-1619 to **reserve your tickets by April 3.** Those wishing to car pool to Shell Rock are invited to meet at the church at 3:45pm.



## Bible Study Series

**Tuesdays, April 21, April 28, May 5 and May 12, 2026 1pm**

Fellowship and Refreshments from 1pm to 1:15pm

Bible Study from 1:15pm to 2pm

OHC Commons

Pat Oehler will lead us through a four-week study of the Book of John. This Bible study that will be designed to encourage personal reflection and group conversation.



## Hymn Sing

**Sunday, May 3, 2026, 2pm**

OHC Sanctuary and Commons

Sing some classic hymns with us, contemplate 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 a favorite hymn for us to consider. We could use some help with desserts, Scripture-reading and strong singing, too. Please sign up in the Route 55 binder or contact Sarah to help.

## 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, April 3, 2026, 6:30am**

OHC Commons

Come and 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 reminders.

### Grundy County Women's Coffee Crew

**Wednesday, April 8 and 22, 2026, 9:30am**

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. Come when you can and leave when you must.

### Habitat for Humanity Build

**Saturday, April 18, 2026, 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, April 21, 2026, 4:15pm**

Grundy Center Community Center, 705 F Avenue, Grundy Center

Volunteers from area churches help the Northeast Iowa Food Bank unload the truck, arrange food, assist with distribution, carry bags and boxes to vehicles and clean up. Additional details at [OrchardHillChurch.org](http://OrchardHillChurch.org).

### Community Meal

**Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 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).

### Cedar Falls Men's Breakfast

**Friday, April 24, 2026, 6:30am**

OHC Commons, Cedar Falls

~and~

Lobby and Coffee House, Grundy County

Men's Breakfast provides an opportunity for good food and connection with other guys. A brief message will be provided followed by discussion at the tables. A donation of \$3 is encouraged to cover the cost of food. Want monthly reminders? Text 319-553-6690.

These events were selected for promotion to our Route 55 audience. There's a lot more happening, so see [OrchardHillChurch.org](http://OrchardHillChurch.org) for additional news and events. You may also want to check out the [Community Groups](#) section and/or the [Serve the Community](#) section of our website.

Finally, our friends with Grace Reformed Church and The Proud Image Chorus invite you to attend their upcoming events. Details are below:

# ***Easter Song***

Experience a dramatic presentation of the death & resurrection of Jesus Christ told through acting, music, and dance!

**Good Friday, April 3 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Holy Saturday, April 4 @ 7:00 PM**

**Grace Reformed Church**  
**520 Maxwell Street**  
**Waterloo, Iowa**  
(2 blocks west of Ansborough,  
2 blocks north of Falls Avenue)  
[www.gracereformedchurch.com](http://www.gracereformedchurch.com)

**All Welcome! Free Admission.**  
**Nursery Provided. Bring a Friend!**  
**An Event for the Entire Family!**

*Donations will be received to support the drama ministry of Grace Reformed Church. The Lord's Supper will be shared as a part of the drama through individually packaged elements. Visit our web site or call the church at 319-233-4341, if you need more information.*

*The Proud Image Chorus and River City Chorus*  
present

# ***Life in America***

with guest quartet  
*Line 182*

**Saturday, April 11, 2026**  
**3:00 PM**  
(Doors open at 2:30 PM)

**West High School**  
**Kersenbrock Auditorium**  
425 E Ridgeway Ave  
Waterloo, IA 50702



For tickets:  
call (515) 979-9054  
Scan to hear us sing!

**Students \$5**  
**Adults \$15**  
(\$20 at the door)  
**Afterglow \$10**