

THE

# TRUMPET

Nov. Dec. 2019, Jan 2020

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## Pastor's Column



There was a man and his wife who were getting their home ready for their annual Christmas party. Since it was getting colder that night, the wife decided that she needed to bring inside some of the potted plants from the back porch. However, she didn't realize that there was a garden snake that had curled up inside one of the pots. While she was doing this, the husband decided that he needed to go clean up. While he was in the shower, he hears his wife scream, "Help!" He thinks an intruder has come inside their home and is attacking his wife. So, he jumps out of the shower, wraps himself with a towel, goes downstairs and finds his wife. She says, "It's a snake, it's a snake, it's underneath the coffee table!" So, there he was, bending over, feverishly looking for the snake, their household dog comes up and with his cold nose touches the

husband's exposed back-side.

The man immediately thinks that it is the snake and he completely blacks out. His wife thinks he has had a heart attack and calls 911. The medics arrive while he is still a little groggy the paramedics immediately place the husband on the stretcher. As luck would have it, the snake suddenly reappears from under the towel. This startles the attendants causing them to accidentally tip the stretcher. Unfortunately, the husband falls off the stretcher and breaks his arm. A day later after the husband was released from the hospital, the wife asks, "What in the world are we going to tell everyone?"

Life can be interesting to say the least. Storms hit, trials come, tragedy strikes and snakes appear. Often, we get overwhelmed and maybe even pass out. When the trial lasts for a long season of time we can become overwhelmed. Darkness seems to overwhelm us. It becomes the winter of our soul. And that is when hopelessness seems to creep in. But it is in the midst of our darkness that Christ wants to bring you hope. The prophet Isaiah predicted the coming Messiah who will bring light to our darkness. *"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."* (Isaiah 9:2)

Because Jesus has come, we can find hope even in the midst of darkness. We can find shelter in the times of storm. We can find help in the midst of a tragedy and we can know that every snake in our life is under His feet (Romans 16:20). But hope only happens as we look to Christ and trust in Christ rather than focusing on the darkness.

There are many promises in the Word that can give us hope during our times of darkness. One of my favorites is Romans 8:28, *"We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."* It is hard to believe that God can take ALL THINGS and work them together for GOOD. All things mean all things. Remember too that our loving God doesn't cause bad things to happen, but God can sovereignly shape and use all things for good. God is great enough and powerful enough to take ALL THINGS and work them together for our GOOD. What kind of things can God turn into good? God can take any sinful and self-induced problems and he has the power to use them for good.

Yes, God can turn evil into good. That is the amazing power of God. But there is a condition to this

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*From the Pastor's Desk cont.*

promise of hope. Look again at the verse Romans 8:28. We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, especially for those who love God can and trust in his Word. All of us whose hearts are focused on Jesus Christ and put out full trust in God, know God is working to turn every storm and trial around for our good.

So, as we begin to prepare for the upcoming holidays of the late fall and winter, it's a perfect time to praise God. Let us be joyful as we gather for Thanksgiving, for our Advent and Christmas church activities, the parties and family gatherings. Even though this time of year can be very busy, let us always put our hope in Christ. Also, as we enter the Christmas season, let us focus on the real reason for it, Jesus. Then, as the new year rolls around, make it your one resolution to love and trust Christ first. And if you do, no matter what snakes appear or storms hit your life, you will find hope. You will find Hope in the midst of darkness. God is doing amazing things in our churches too. You do not want to miss a Sunday and the activities planned throughout the Advent and Christmas season at both Howarth and Paint Creek churches.

May God bless you and all of us abundantly,  
Pastor Marv

Re-formed into Glory  
***“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”***

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Each fall season, the leaves turn to a new beauty all over Michigan. At this special time, we observe autumn festivals in various communities and praise God for the abundance of crops during the harvest season leading up to Thanksgiving Day. This time of year, is a special time to remember what God provides for us each and every day.

So, this October let us praise God and remember the vital and central transformation Jesus did for us with his sacrifice which brought us into eternal life. The re-forming that Paul is talking about in 2 Corinthians – that recreating in the likeness and image of Jesus – continues on as God keeps doing his through out the seasons of our lives. Never forget that our Lord, Jesus Christ continues to transform us, re-form us by his Word and Spirit, in freedom. He gives us, as Paul says, ***“ever-increasing glory.”***

The transforming Michigan leaves are among the wondrous moments of God's glory, shared with us in his created and formed world. As we celebrate them, let's rejoice even more as our God in heaven re-forms us into a far greater glory, that of the likeness and image of our Savior Jesus Christ.

God Loves You and So Do I.  
Pastor Marv

*To my Howarth and Paint Creek Families,*

Celebrating the birth of Christ is so much more meaningful when it's shared with people like you. Peace, love, and joy are what the **Christmas** season brings. Our job is to keep it alive all year long.

Merry **Christmas**  
and Happy New Year.

Love all of you, Sharon



## **PAINT CREEK NEWS:**



### **Birthdays & Anniversaries:**

#### **November**

Wyatt Cleaveland	Nov 1
Betty Poplawski	Nov 6
John Taylor (younger)	Nov 9
Maria Jacklin	Nov 10
Alice Bonten	Nov 11

#### **Anniversaries**

Don & Heidi Paterson Nov 20

#### **December**

Laura Moggio	Dec 8
Pat Wise	Dec 14
Sandy Knaack	Dec 17
Mike King	Dec 21
<b>JESUS</b>	<b>Dec 25</b>

#### **Anniversaries**

Trevor & Emily Barkham	Dec. 18
Shaila & Lalit Herbert	Dec 21

#### **January**

Nancy Nawrocki	Jan 1
Stacey Taylor	Jan 5
Virginia Ferguson	Jan 14
John Taylor	Jan 21
William Smith Moggio	Jan 21
Elizabeth Reitz	Jan 22
Jeff Meiorow	Jan 30

#### **Anniversaries**

Robert & Reva LaFountain Jan 4



A TIME OF SPECIAL THANKS

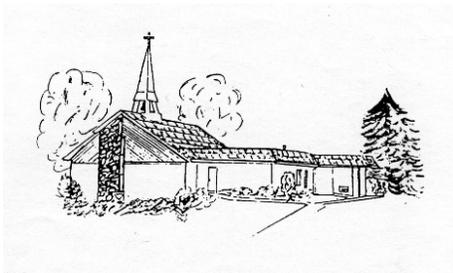
It won't be long where many of us will be raking piles of leaves but I want to give a shout out and a SPECIAL Pile of "Thank You's!!!!" which are well overdue.

For all the many treats, cards and breakfast gathers for my birthday. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. It was greatly appreciated.

To all our wonderful volunteers and trustees and their on-going great job – not to mention others who work to keep the exterior and interior of the Howarth and Paint Creek churches looking sharp and welcoming. I hope you've noticed our lovely flowers that surround and grace the front our churches. Thank you for their wonderful green thumbs.

Thanks to the many wonderful folks over the summer who made things happen like the church annual picnics– for Sharon and Rick Rowden sharing their lake cottage and Sandy and Andy Knaack for opening their home for our end of summer parties. You all are a blessing! To all who buy the food and supplies for Paint Creek's weekly potlucks and Howarth's monthly community dinners and to our special cooks and clean up crew who have helped out at dinners, potlucks, coffee hours and meals.

Pastor Marv



HOWARTH NEWS: Birthdays & Anniversaries:



November

- Jason Everhart Nov 1
Jared Waite Nov 2
Kaye Hamman Nov 3
Jill Guth Nov 11
Shelly Martin Nov 30

Anniversaries (none)

December

- Pamala Waite Dec 4
Shirley Reeves Dec 12
Tim Getz Dec 15

JESUS Dec 25

Anniversaries (none)

January

- Dennis Waite Jan 12
Eric Everhart Jan 12
Bette Wattles Jan 12
Steve Ferrell Jan 16
Bob Hostler Jan 18
Elizabeth Reitz Jan 22
Kim McGill Jan 29
Jim Staley Jan 31

Anniversaries (none)



HOWARTH SCHOOL DEDICATION AND RECOGNITION



On October 7, 2019, the Historical Society of Orion Township gathered at the Orion Township Library to dedicate and to recognize the donated Howarth M.E. Church sign. They also unveiled plans to move ahead in renovating the Howarth one room schoolhouse which was moved from Silverbell Road in Lake Orion to its current location in Friendship Park north of Clarkston and Baldwin Roads, in Orion, Michigan.

The society researched and compiled a detailed historical report of the Howarth family, all the family members who were instrumental in donating the land for the school in the late 1800s as well as facts about the cost of the school and what it cost to operate the school. The Orion Historical Society plans to seek grants and donations to renovate and refurbish the school to its original historical condition to represent what the original school was like in the 1890s. When renovation is completed, their goal is to allow the school to be used for educational field trips and meetings.

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*Howarth Dedication cont.*

The Howarth M.E. Church 1998 sign will also be restored and repainted and placed inside the school when the renovations are completed in the summer of 2021.

The Trumpet is published 4 times a year by the Howarth/Paint Creek UMC. Editor: Sharon Rowden 550 E. Silverbell Rd. Lake Orion, MI 48360. Phone: 248-373-2360 Fax: 248-373-8138 email: [howarthumc@att.net](mailto:howarthumc@att.net)

**Howarth United Methodist Women**

Our dinner season is now over (after the turkey dinner). We made it through another year! Thank you to all the kitchen staff, waitresses, set-up, clean-up shoppers, ticket sellers, pie bakers, pie cutters, carry-out help and to our faithful customers who come year after year. Hope I haven't forgotten anyone, if so, you know we all appreciate your work. Have a great Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas!

At the recent Council meeting it was voted that we will begin our dinners at 4:30 and end at 7pm for the 2020 season.

Marilyn Foster



To all the outdoor gardeners for making the outside of the church look so beautiful.

For Tareena for stepping up to take over Paul's spot as liturgist. We certainly enjoy your messages.

To Pastor Marv for all the things that you do for both churches that are above and beyond your normal "duties". (Because we all know you only work one day a week!) 😊



Happy Thanksgiving Nov. 28th

**Table Grace**

Dear heavenly Father, we thank You for Your bountiful love, which finds expression in innumerable ways. Help us to sense it in what we see and hear and fee; in the warmth of family and in the fellowship of friends; in daily bread to sustain our bodies and in Christ, the bread of life. In His name we offer our thanks. Amen

From "The Upper Room"  
Sept. – Oct. 1969



Howarth 6:30 pm  
Paint Creek 8 pm

**Practice Makes Perfect**

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to

time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again.

Finally, she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "Yes, sweet heart." He answered, "God made me a long time ago." "Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" "Yes indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, she observed. "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"



Last Christmas

Written the Christmas after the 911 attacks.

**Last Christmas we were** thinking about all the things we didn't have; **this Christmas we are** thinking about all the things we do have.

**Last Christmas we were** counting our money; **this Christmas we are** counting our blessings.

**Last Christmas we were** trying not to let annoying relatives get the best of us; **this Christmas we are** trying to give the best of ourselves to them.

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*Last Christmas cont.*

**Last Christmas** we were thinking about the madness of the holidays; **this Christmas** we are thinking about the meaning of them. **Last Christmas** we were giving thanks for gifts from stores; **this Christmas** we are giving thanks for gifts from God. **Last Christmas** we were wondering how to give our children all the things that money can buy;

**this Christmas** we are wondering how to give them all the things money can't buy (peace, security, love). **Last Christmas** we thought angels were only in heaven; **this Christmas** we know they are right here on earth. **Last Christmas** we believe in the power of the pocketbook; **this Christmas** we believe in the power of prayer. **Last Christmas** we thought a man who could rush down a football field was a hero;

**this Christmas** we know a man who rushes into a burning building is the real one. **Last Christmas** we valued things that were costly; **this Christmas** we value things that are holy. **Last Christmas** the people that we idolized wore sports uniforms; **this Christmas** the people we idolize wear police, firefighter and military uniforms. **Last Christmas** peace on earth is something we prayed for on Sunday morning; now it's something we pray for every day.

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