

THE TRUMPET

February, March, April 2025

INSIDE:

Pastor's Column – page 1-3

Paint Creek News – page 4-5

Howarth News – page 6-7

Pastor's Column



From the Desk of Pastor Marvin Herman

Well, here we are at the turn of another year. One year ends, and another begins. As Christian churches, we have said goodbye to several of our beloved members who now reside in the loving arms of Jesus. Though we grieve, we also hold fast to the joy of God's presence in our hearts, continuing to move forward in the way they would have wanted us to. In 2025, both Howarth and Paint Creek United Methodist Churches will continue our mission as vital pillars in our community. We will remain committed to supporting and contributing to organizations that provide food, clothing, daily necessities, and financial aid—sharing God's love as He enables us.

Over the past year, we have been blessed with many wonderful Sunday services and meaningful celebrations of our Christian holidays. In 2025, I hope and pray we will also welcome new guests and members into our fellowship. Together, we can experience the joy of serving and growing in faith. I'm reminded of hymn number 98, which begins, "To God be the glory, great things He hath done," and I truly believe this is just the beginning of what God has in store for us in the year ahead. I invite you to continue joining us in all that we do and to invite others to come along as we journey into this new season of prayer and worship. Let us approach this year with open arms and hearts, seeking to encounter what God has planned for each of us.

As we step into the new year, we often find ourselves reflecting on the past and making resolutions for the future. Many of these resolutions focus on things we want to rid ourselves of: a few pounds gained over the holidays, extra debt from Christmas shopping, or even habits we hope to break. While it's important to consider what we might want to remove from our lives, the new year also offers an opportunity to **add** good habits—spiritual habits that can help us grow closer to God and more fully reflect His love in

our lives. I invite you to join me in making a resolution this year to read and meditate on the Scriptures presented in our Sunday bulletins. Take time to read them and apply them to your life. Pick up a daily devotion booklet to help you learn how God continues to work wonders in the lives of His people. Let us open our hearts and minds to the new insights God wants to reveal to us.

As we enter the season of Epiphany, which continues until the beginning of Lent on March 9, 2025, we are invited to deepen our understanding of God's revelation in Jesus Christ. The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "revelation"—a time when Christ made Himself known not only to the people of Israel but to all nations. During this season, we are called to reflect on how Christ is revealing Himself to us today. In this season of light, we are encouraged to:

- **Seek deeper understanding:** Just as the Magi followed the star to find Christ, we are invited to seek Him through prayer, Scripture, and worship.
- **Open our hearts to God's call:** God's revelation isn't just about understanding—it's about responding. Allowing Christ to transform our lives and actions, we can share His light with the world.

- **Be a light to others:**
Epiphany reminds us that Christ's light is for everyone. As we experience His light in our own lives, we are called to share it with others through acts of kindness, justice, and love.

Let us resolve to encourage one another as a church family and to remain open to all the opportunities God has in store for us. Make this year your **faith journey resolution** to seek God's Word, to discover His desires for you, and to be willing to embrace His call both as individuals and as a church. Let us pray, study, and expect God to move in powerful ways in 2025 at both Howarth and Paint Creek United Methodist Churches. Together, we will grow, serve, and share the love of Christ in ways we never imagined.

Happy New Year to each of you, from my family to yours. With blessings and hope, **Pastor Marv**

Top 10 Pastor Marv Predictions for 2025

1. The Bible will still have all the answers.
2. Prayer will still be the most powerful thing on Earth.
3. The Holy Spirit will still provide comfort.
4. God will still honor the praises of His people.
5. There will still be gospel preaching at Howarth and Paint Creek churches.
6. There will still be singing of praise to God.

7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.

8. There will still be room at the Cross this year at Easter.

9. Jesus will still love you.

10. Jesus will still save the lost who trust and obey Him.

Isn't It Great to Remember Who Is Really in Control, and that "the Word of the Lord endures forever." (1 Peter 1:25)

More Pastor Marv 2025 Predictions

1. The Year of the Perfect Church Potlucks and Coffee Hour

In 2025, there will be a miraculous multiplication of casseroles at any church potluck, where every dish will be perfectly seasoned, everyone will bring a dish to pass, and the line for the food will somehow never be long enough to test our patience.

2. The Wi-Fi Connection to Heaven

This year, the Howarth church Wi-Fi will reach such heavenly heights that Facebook will connect during our whole service, not just in time for the closing prayer and benediction. Let us always remember that the Holy Spirit can be stronger than even 5G!

3. The Choir's Heavenly Harmony

In 2025, the Paint Creek choir will reach new spiritual heights, with their voices so perfectly in tune that the angels themselves will be jealous. Any attempts to hit the high note will be followed by a divine, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

4. Miracle of the Church Bulletin and Newsletter

In 2025, the church bulletin will mysteriously print itself without errors. All announcements will appear exactly as intended—no more accidental 'Donut Sunday' when it was actually supposed to be 'Discipleship Sunday' as an example. When it comes to our Newsletters, everyone will submit an interesting article and have them to Becky early or on time.

5. The Blessing of the Overflowing Offering Plate

This year, the offering plates will have such a divine overflow that they will need to be emptied halfway through offertory before the plate makes it to the altar.

6. Church Business Meetings

This year, the Ad. Board church meetings will be so organized that everyone there will ask for an official vote to extend the meetings just a little longer. In 2025, maybe we can all agree on having our Ad. Board meetings once a week.

7. Sermon Title Blessing

In 2025, all sermon titles will be so spiritually rich and relevant that there will be no confusion about the topic. No more "Oops, wrong Scripture" moments, and no one in 2025 will fall asleep during the message.

8. The Year of Glorious Fellowship

This year, church fellowship will be so warm and joyful that no one will need to be reminded to greet one another with a simple handshake and smile.

9. The Liturgist Lottery

In 2025, every Sunday morning will be blessed with an abundance of those waiting to be a *perfect* liturgist—each one reading with such grace and clarity, that our

congregations will swear they've just witnessed the Apostle Paul himself! This will be the year when every liturgist *can't wait* to be chosen—so sign up now to claim your spot before someone else takes YOUR place!

Submitted by
Paster Marv

Dear Friends and Congregation
of Howarth and Paint Creek
United Methodist
Churches,

What an incredible privilege it is for me to serve as your pastor! Every day, I am reminded of the wonderful opportunity I have to know you, encourage you, and serve alongside you. Each week, I am also reminded of the tremendous responsibility it is to bring God's Word to you in ways that are relevant and meaningful. Both congregations are filled with generous and faithful people who truly understand the value of church, community, and their love for Jesus Christ.

This past Christmas, many of you blessed me and my family with Christmas cards, notes of encouragement, and generous gifts, including books, food, cookies, gift cards, and money. We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Serving as your pastor, I've seen so many of you faithfully dedicate yourselves to prayer, attend church regularly, support mission projects, and serve those in need at the Baldwin

Warming Center. I've witnessed the ways you volunteer on committees, maintain the church buildings, and care for the grounds of both Howarth and Paint Creek. Thanks to your hard work, our churches are clean, welcoming, and warm places for all who enter to worship.

Deb and I truly feel appreciated by your generosity. While we are deeply grateful for your gifts, I must also thank you for something even more important: for walking faithfully with Jesus. As we enter into 2025 together, let's continue to build each other up, reach out to those who don't yet know Christ, and invite them to join us. Let's prepare ourselves for the new miracles God will bring into our midst this year.

Thank you once again for your generosity, your faith, and your love.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Marv & Deb

NOTABLE QUOTES:

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and

absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense.

This new day is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

.....

Praise Loudly

Blame Softly

Submitted by
Cheryl McKay

"I think if we chased Jesus as hard as we chased the things we think we want, we would end up with more than we ever need."

Charlie Brown

"When the excitement of these days passes away, and when some of the visions begin to grow a little dim; when it becomes impossible to put into words the prayer you want to speak, then we must be able to lift our heads up, and say with all faith as Peter did, 'Lord, you know that I love you.'"

Charles Schulz

"Wanna be happy for an hour,
eat a steak.
Wanna be happy for a day,
play golf.
Wanna be happy for a week,
go on a cruise.
Wanna be happy for a
lifetime, put your faith in
Jesus Christ."

Lou Holz

"Duct tape may patch a lot of
things, but three nails fixed
everything!"

Author Unknown

.....

"A Riddle"

Four cars come to a four-
way stop, all coming from a
different direction. They
can't decide who got there
first, so they all go
forward at the same time.
They do not crash into
each other, but all four
cars go. How is this
possible?

You can find the answer on
page 7

GRANDPA & GRANDMA "GRAND GRINS"

How do Pastors like their
orange juice?

- With pulp-it

Groundhog Day



How does Punxsutawney
Phil greet his parents?

- With hogs and kisses



What did the pickle say to
the other pickle on
Valentine's Day?

- You mean a great dill
to me



What kind of spells do
leprechauns use?

- Lucky Charms



What kind of a story does
the Easter Bunny like?

- One with a hoppy
ending

PAINT CREEK NEWS:



From Your Financial Secretary Cal Devitt

By now you will have your
2024 Statement of Giving,
prepared by Sharon. Thank you
to all for your faithful and
generous giving, all year. For
those who pay by check,
remember it is 2025 :-)

POSTAGE STAMPS

Soon I'll have an assortment of
postage stamps on the table at
the end of the Fellowship Hall
for you to look over. It will be
a mishmash of many kinds and
values. They are valid postage,
but will need gluing because of
their age, etc.

It would take some time to use
them but would save you some
postage money. I'm suggesting
you donate about 25% of the
value. The proceeds will go to
Missions.

Thank you,
Cal

FREE

A fairly large assortment of United Nations First Day Covers. These are UN stamps, not US postage applied to envelopes, as regular First Day Covers are.

See Cal Devitt or email at calsam33@aol.com

Baldwin Center News

Paint Creek and Howarth are both helping once a month at the Baldwin Center in Pontiac. All our volunteers help with the packing of at least 90+ hot lunches, to be served that day. Other activities include repackaging large quantities of food, chopping and prepping food, or packing snack bags. Although our job focus is food, we are also making new friends and sharing stories of our church families. If you have volunteered, you have met Chantel, Orsen, Lynn, and Rick who are always there committed to the Baldwin Center's needs. We look forward to seeing them and I think they reciprocate that feeling of friendship!

We also collected items for Christmas in July and the Christmas Store in December. There continues to be a great need in the community for basic things and of course food. We noticed in late 2024, the Center is struggling to get enough food donations for a daily prep. Things appear much

better now as the administration decided to go public with their request for donations. You may have seen one of these interviews on TV in December. Baldwin Center has supported their corner of Pontiac for over 40 years, and we are blessed that we are a part of that support!

Colleen Barkham
PC Mission Chairperson

Missions Update

Thank you to June Murray for collecting winter coats for our mission in Newberry. She and her gals also made some lovely hats, scarves and mittens!



Six+ bags of winter items were delivered in October! Colleen Barkham took them as far as Cheboygan United Methodist Church and Pastor Jackie comes across the bridge to pick them up at her convenience.

Thank you to Karen and David Osterkamp for cleaning out the annex gutters and washing all the mildew off the front of the annex entrance!! It is sparkling clean! Perhaps not seen in years! We caught Dave on the ladder, so we know who did this much needed project!

Colleen

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Jan
Paul
Marlene
Penny C.
Bette
Ann
David



Birthdays and Anniversaries



February

Birthdays

Deb Vanderlinde	Feb 4
Colleen Barkham	Feb 15
Edward Barkham	Feb 15
Judy Mair	Feb 19

Anniversaries
(none)

March

Birthdays

Scot Cleveland	Mar 14
Diana Ostrand	Mar 17
Dave Osterkamp	Mar 25
Clara Linton	Mar 29

Anniversaries
(none)

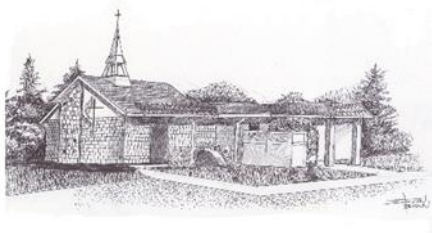
April

Birthdays

Violet Moggio	Apr 7
Trevor Barkham	Apr 10
Andy Knaack	Apr 11
Robert LaFountain	Apr 20
Cal Devitt	Apr 25

Anniversaries
(none)

HOWARTH NEWS:



Howarth Missions

Hi Everyone,

Scott and I would like to update everyone on our mission projects.

We collect cereal year round for Fish. Thank you to all who have been donating cereal!

Scott and I go down to the Baldwin Center the third Monday of the month. If you could join us, it's just three hours of your time and it does your heart good.

Winter wear is now being collected for both Love MC's clothes closet and also the clothes closet that the Baldwin Center has.

We also collect eyeglasses for the Lions Club. They are in need of all types of eyeglasses.

The cancelled stamps we collect are mailed out to "Stamps for the Wounded". The stamps are then dispersed to any veteran interested in stamp collecting. All the items needed for this hobby are given out freely to the vets. There is no charge...for anything.

Finally, Gail Stoner from Paint Creek volunteers at the Rochester Neighborhood House. She takes our greeting card covers to Maxine, another volunteer. Maxine then sends them to a home in the middle of the state that is for challenged children. The kids cut them out and then make placemats or frame them. They then sell their items so they have a little extra money to go to the movies or the zoo. Maxine says thank you very much!

If you have anything you need a home for, just check with Scott or me. We have taken items to the Crossroads Pregnancy Center, The Furniture Bank of Southeastern Michigan...etc.

Thank you for your giving. Let's continue to keep those less fortunate than ourselves in our hearts and prayers.

Thank you!
Scott and Cheryl

Thank You Note from Sharon

Thank you to:

Everyone who works so hard to keep our beautiful church staying beautiful and running smoothly.

Those who are liturgists, prepare the communion sacraments, ushers and video recorders.

Coffee hour hostesses.

Everyone who helped with the Christmas decorations. Every year I am amazed by the transformation.

Pastor Marv for his service and dedication to our congregations. He puts in numerous hours, which usually goes unseen by the majority of us.

Becky and Rita who work tirelessly for the benefit of all of us.

Lastly to the members of our congregation who care so deeply for each other. Watching out and connecting with each other. Makes a "village" of wonderful people.

God bless and love you all,
Sharon

Birthdays and Anniversaries



February

Birthdays

Deborah Vanderlinde	Feb 4
Cheryl McKay	Feb 19

Anniversaries

Steve & Ruth Ferrell	Feb 14
----------------------	--------

March

Birthdays

Abey Boughner Mar 2
Jennifer Howden Mar 25

Anniversaries (none)

April

Birthdays

Brianna Howden Apr 3
David Guth Apr 7
MacKenna Greene Apr 10

Anniversaries

Bob & Tena Hostler Apr 4
Ray & Rita Sauls Apr 15
Scott & Jennifer Howden Apr 24

The answer to "A Riddle" (on page 4)

They all made right-hand
turns.

Did you guess the answer??

The Trumpet is published 4 times a
year by the Howarth/Paint Creek
UMC. 550 E. Silverbell Rd.
Lake Orion, MI 48360.
Phone: 248-373-2360
Fax: 248-373-8138
email: howarthumc@gmail.com

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

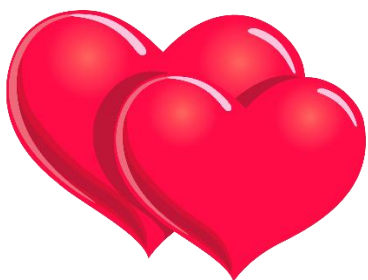
Dennis
Kathy
Jeff
Marilyn
Tim
Cal T.
Jim S.
Terry S.
Cheryl B.
Maggie
Keith
Ruth T.
Jack D.
Kristin S.
Rita

Sandy W.
Storm G.
Nora
Becky
Kevin



Liturgist needed!

Please be sure to sign up for
coffee hour. Signup sheet is on
bulletin board by kitchen.



Howarth U.M.C.
550 E. Silverbell Rd.
Lake Orion, MI 48360 USA
www.howarthumc.net

Paint Creek U.M.C.
4420 Collins Rd.
Rochester, MI 48306
USA
paintcreekumc.org