

# THE TRUMPET

May, June, July 2025

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## Pastor's Column



### *From the Desk of Pastor Marvin Herman*

#### **As summer begins, the church will enter into the Season of Renewal**

As we move beyond the Easter season and celebrate Pentecost, the church will transition into a new season—the Season after Pentecost, often referred to as Ordinary Time. But there's nothing “ordinary” about it. It is a sacred time of *renewal*, represented by the color green that adorns our sanctuary. Green symbolizes growth, life, and hope—things we all long for, especially during the slower, more reflective pace of summer. In the coming months, I encourage you to embrace this season as a time to set aside daily

worries—the things we carry that weigh down our minds and hearts. Let it be a time of spiritual realignment, where we remind ourselves that no matter what the world throws at us, **God is in control.**

#### **Do Not Worry – A Word of Encouragement**

“Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear... Look at the birds of the air... Are you not of more value than they?... Consider the lilies of the field... If God so clothes the grass of the field, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?” (*Matthew 6:25–30*)

We all know how life can feel overwhelming. Problems pile up, nights get long, and assurances from friends—even the best-intended ones—can feel empty when you're walking through a hard season. I remember one such time vividly. It was the summer of 2005. I was on a mission trip with our youth group in the hills of West Virginia. We encountered poverty in ways I had never seen—families living in an old school bus, repurposed as a home for ten or more people.

The need was overwhelming, and our work, while meaningful, felt like a drop in the bucket.

One day, after five long days of serving, the weight of it all hit me. A fellow youth leader from Ohio pulled me aside and asked, “Why are you so down?” That was all the invitation I needed. I shared my burdens—not just about the trip, but everything else going on in my life at the time.

After listening patiently, he said something I'll never forget:

“Let's rate these problems. If something is like needing gas in your car, it's a 1. But if it's about life and death, that's a 10.” One by one, we walked through my list. And you know what? Most of what I was stressed about barely ranked above a 2. That day, I was reminded how easily we can turn molehills into mountains when we lose perspective.

#### **Navigating Life's Forks in the Road**

A few weeks ago, I read a devotion that stuck with me. It said: “*Every day offers us forks in the road—choices that shift the direction of our lives.*” It got me thinking: how often do a few wrong turns—small but significant—lead us far from where we intended to go? Add to that life's unavoidable challenges, illness, financial strain, relational

pain, or cultural turmoil—and we can quickly find ourselves feeling lost in the dark.

But here's the good news: **We are not alone.**

Jesus closes the Gospel of Matthew with this powerful promise:

"And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."  
(Matthew 28:20)

Let that truth carry you through. Whether the problems are big or small, known or unknown, Jesus is present. We may not always feel it in the moment, but His love is constant, and His care is unshakable.

### **Sing in the Darkness—Hope is Coming**

The gospel reminds us: *"Look at the birds of the air... your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"*  
(Matthew 6:26)

Yes, consider the birds. They don't worry. They trust their Creator. And so can we. Even in your darkest nights, dare to sing—because dawn is coming. Christ is our light, and the darkness will not last. Let your faith rise, and remember: *God is with us. Christ is providing. And we are never alone.*

### **A Final Word**

As you go about your summer—whether traveling, gardening, spending time with family, or simply soaking in the slower rhythm of the season—may you carry these truths in your heart. Don't let daily burdens cloud your joy. Breathe. Rest. Trust.

Grace and peace,  
**Pastor Marv Herman**

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### **John "Jack" Louis Dalton The Man, The Myth, The Legend**

John "Jack" Louis Dalton, devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and lifelong public servant, passed away peacefully on April 3, 2025. Born on July 2, 1941, in Detroit, Michigan, Jack's life was defined by unwavering faith, deep love for family, and steadfast service to his community and country.

Jack proudly served in the U.S. Coast Guard for four years, rising to the rank of ET2. His service took him from Belle Isle and nearby lighthouses to Rhodes Greece, where he was stationed during the assassination of President Kennedy in 1963. After his military career, Jack embarked on a distinguished journey in law enforcement - first with Oak Park Public Safety, where he became Chief of Detectives, and later as Police Chief of Auburn Hills. He concluded his career at the Oakland County Sheriff's Department before retiring.

A passionate community leader, Jack served on the Rochester Hills City Council and spent more than 20 years as President of the Older Persons Commission (OPC). A master woodworker, he found joy in OPC's woodshop, creating gifts for loved ones and sharing his skills with others. He also tended the OPC garden, growing vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers, and basil. His love for service extended to the Auburn Hills Boys and Girls Club, where he mentored local youth with humility and heart.

Jack's devotion to community was also reflected in his long-standing membership with the Masons, where he held the honored title of

Worshipful Master, and his active participation with the Shriners supporting charitable causes across the region.

Jack shared 62 beautiful years of marriage with his high school sweetheart, Patricia Ann Nasser. Together they raised two daughters, Diana Lynn (Tim) Atkins, and Teresa Ann (Chris) Papadelis. He was a loving brother to his late sister Joyce Ann Varga, and late brother, Jerry Burgess Dalton. He took immense pride in his grandchildren - Megan (Atkins) Perkaj, Hailey (Atkins) Grady, Zachary Cecil Atkins (fiancée Ciara Sramek), Cross Dalton Papadelis, Cashton Cruz Papadelis, and Saylor Rayne Papadelis. Jack cherished his role as "Papa" to his great-grandsons, Frankie and Johnny Perkaj.

Jack found peace and joy at Chateau ODI, the family's cottage in Gladwin, where he built an addition, a garage, and a second unit across the road to host treasured family gatherings. His creativity and craftsmanship left a lasting mark—just like the love he poured into every project and relationship every day.

A dedicated blood donor, generous volunteer, and tireless example of integrity, Jack's life was rich with purpose and kindness. He was a mentor, a role model to his sons-in-law, and a friend to all who knew him.

Jack was so much more than these words can articulate. He lived by example and lived life to the fullest! Jack will be remembered not only for what he accomplished—but for how deeply he loved and served.

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43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lake Orion/Oxford  
CROP WALK

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD

2025

CROP HUNGER WALKS

ENDING HUNGER  
ONE STEP AT A TIME

It is time for the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lake Orion/Oxford CROP Walk. For those of you that do not know, the Walk is a fundraiser for Church World Services. CWS, an inter-denominational faith-based organization that transforms communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster. Just a few of the things they supply are food to impoverished countries; chickens for families in Kenya; pigs for families in Tanzania; household latrines for families in Cambodia; rainwater harvesting systems; just to name a few. 25% of all money raised stays in our community. It goes to LOVE, INC and FISH (food pantry) in Lake Orion/Oxford.

At the information meeting for the annual CROP WALK, our representative from Paint Creek UMC, Gail Stoner, found out that we had won the "Wooden Shoe" award. Our church won the "Wooden Shoe" award for outstanding walker participation in 2022 and 2024. In 2023, Paint Creek, one of the twelve participating churches, won the

Golden Shoe award, which is for the 10-year best funds that the church has raised. We have won awards for three consecutive years! The "Wooden Shoe" award is displayed in our church sanctuary.

Congratulations, Paint Creek!

Submitted by Judy Mair

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NOTABLE QUOTES:

"With change, there's a lot of fear that can creep in. Fear is not the problem, it's how we handle the fear. Instead of letting fear define us and cripple us from going after our dreams and making decisions, we have to be able to handle that fear. The way to overcome that is with faith."

Tim Tebow

former NFL Quarterback

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"Your biggest failure is the thing you dreamed of contributing but didn't find the guts to do"

Seth Godin

American Author

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"Being a person of faith means that all of the phenomena of the world are seen through a lens of gratitude to something bigger than you."

Mayim Bialik

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"Just thinking about a friend makes you want to do a happy dance, because a friend is someone who loves you in spite of your faults."

Charles Schulz

.....

"A Riddle"

"A horse was tied to a rope 5 meters long and the horse's food was 15 meters away from the horse. How did the horse reach the food?"

(Answer on page 6)

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GRANDPA & GRANDMA  
"GRAND GRINS"

Why are teddy bears never hungry?

- Because they're stuffed!

What type of dogs do scientists have?

- Lab-oratory retrievers

What is the favorite drink of trees?

- Root beer

What do you call unhappy berries?

- Blueberries

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## PAINT CREEK NEWS:



### **Paint Creek UMC Schedule for 2025 Missions**

- **Jan-Human Relations Sunday**
- **Mar-UMCOR**
- **Apr-Grace Children's Hospital, Haiti**
- **May-Native American Sunday**
- **Jun-Bishop Craig's Children's Village, Liberia**
- **July-Blue Water Free Store**
- **Aug-God's Country Coop, Port Huron**
- **September-Red Bird Christian Schools**
- **October- World Communion Sunday**
- **November-The Baldwin Center**

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### **PRAYERS AND CONCERNS**

*Jan, Paul, Marlene,  
Penny C., Ann,  
David, Bill M.,  
Adam Z., June M.*



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## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**



### May

#### **Birthdays**

Betty Wilber	May 2
Emily Barkham	May 5
Floris Stoner	May 9
Ethan Gomez	May 12
Allan Watson	May 14
Frederick Barkham	May 18
Pamela Bowman	May 18
Deb Alrutz	May 21

#### **Anniversaries**

Scot & Stacy Cleaveland May 26

### June

#### **Birthdays**

Karen Osterkamp	June 8
Vera Rhine	June 10
Reva LaFountain	June 14
Richard Smith	June 19
June Murray	June 19

#### **Anniversaries**

(none)

### July

#### **Birthdays**

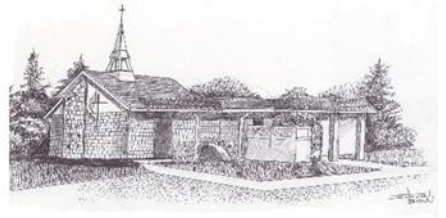
Shaila Herbert	July 1
Heidi Paterson	July 13
Gerald Schultz	July 25
Gretchen Drader	July 27

#### **Anniversaries**

Don & Joy Hardman	July 5
Pastor Marv & Deb	July 26

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## HOWARTH NEWS:



### **Howarth Missions**

To Our Howarth Family,

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of Fish. Unfortunately, their donations of food and monetary donations are down like so many other organizations. Food insecurity is not going away any time soon and will probably get worse. Once school gets out for summer, some area children will not have access to any free lunch programs. If you see a store that is having a pretty good deal on cereal, please pass that info along. Thank you!

On another note, Crop Walk is coming once again on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Twenty five percent of the money raised stays in our local community and the rest is spread to other communities and overseas as well. Locally the money raised here goes to Fish and Love, Inc. Scott and I and other members of our church will be walking and would really like your support. No donation is too small.

Thanks again!  
Scott and Cheryl

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## Thank You!

Sharon and Rick Rowden would like to thank you all for your prayers, cards, phone calls and well-wishes. They appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness and will let us know once Rick's surgery is scheduled.

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### Communion Preparers

Rhonda	<b>May 4</b>
Pat S.	<b>June 1</b>
Tena H.	<b>July 6</b>

**Thank you so very much for  
your assistance with  
Communion!**

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### Meet Rhonda Geldhof – Friend in Faith

(and perhaps  
Revolutionary at Heart)

Howarth United Methodist Church is blessed to officially welcome Rhonda Geldhof as a member—although many of us feel like she's been part of the family for much longer. Rhonda has been attending services here for the past two years, and she's also been a familiar face at various events for both Paint Creek and Howarth. Her warm smile, easy laughter, and kind spirit are now official fixtures in our congregation.

Born in Warren, Michigan, Rhonda's journey through life has taken her through a delightful tour of southeast Michigan—including St. Clair Shores, Sterling Heights, Troy, and Rochester—before settling

in Lake Orion. At one point, her adventures even led her to historic Boston, Massachusetts.

Rumor has it that during her time in Boston, Rhonda reportedly joined the Daughters of Liberty, where she provided strategic snacks and support to our Minutemen, and played a "crucial" role in Paul Revere's midnight ride, reminding Paul Revere to wear a coat (it was chilly that night). Her involvement in the American Revolution on April 18, 1775, shall not be forgotten—or taken too seriously! Thank you for your service, Rhonda.

In reality, Rhonda is a proud graduate of Central Michigan University, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 2007. She then embarked on a career in the tech world, working for an IT company that sold imaging equipment. These days, she enjoys the slower pace of retirement—though she stays active working part-time at a local boutique, Just Girls, sharing smiles and conversation with all who walk through the door.

When she's not working or sharing her time with church friends, you can find Rhonda savoring a peaceful Sunday with a cup of tea, the company of her beloved Golden Retriever, Stella, and a good book (her favorite is *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah). If the mood strikes just right, a nap or two might find its way into the day as well.

Rhonda has a heart for humor and a deep appreciation for life's simple joys—especially dogs and babies, particularly when they belong to other people. Her goal in life is refreshingly simple: to always do the right thing. She now spends her leisure time reading and crafting heartfelt greeting cards, which she loves to share with others.

Above all, Rhonda treasures her friendships and her church family, where she continues to find spiritual healing, connection, and love. We are so glad to have you with us, Rhonda—and we're still waiting to see you wearing your tricorne hat!

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries



### May

#### Birthdays

Rick Rowden	May 30
Ray Sauls	May 30

#### Anniversaries

Jim & Pat Staley	May 14
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### June

#### Birthdays

Cheryl Everhart	June 19
Pat Staley	June 25
Marilyn Foster	June 28
Joe Harman	June 30



## Anniversaries

Rick & Sharon Rowden June 10  
Jon & Abey Boughner June 20  
Scott & Cheryl McKay June 23

## July

### Birthdays

Jack Dalton July 2  
Jon Boughner July 16  
Clara Howden July 26  
Forrest Taylor July 31

### Anniversaries

Pastor Marv & Deb July 26

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## PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

*Dennis, Kathy, Jeff,  
Marilyn, Tim, Cal T.,  
Jim S., Terry S.,  
Cheryl B., Sandy W.,  
Ruth T., Storm G.,  
Kristin S., Rita, Kevin, Sharon,  
Rick, Chris N., Mattheas B.*



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## Liturgist needed!

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

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## The answer to "A Riddle" (on page 3)

The other end of the rope  
wasn't tied to anything.

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UMC. 550 E. Silverbell Rd.  
Lake Orion, MI 48360.  
Phone: 248-373-2360  
Fax: 248-373-8138  
email: [howarthumc@gmail.com](mailto:howarthumc@gmail.com)



Howarth  
UM.C.  
550 E. Silverbell Rd.  
Lake Orion, MI 48360 USA  
[www.howarthumc.net](http://www.howarthumc.net)

Paint Creek U.M.C.  
4420 Collins Rd.  
Rochester, MI 48306  
USA  
[paintcreekumc.org](http://paintcreekumc.org)