

THE TRUMPET

Vol. 4, No. 2

April/May 2010

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Calendar – pick yours up at the church or
visit www.howarthumc.net



WINTER OUTER WEAR NEEDED!!

God's Country Parish of the U.P. is in desperate need of winter jackets, boots, snow pants, hats, gloves and scarves.

Katie Peterson has asked for these items only at this time.

Hazel Spencer will be meeting up with Katie sometime in April. The sooner the better to get your donations together and brought to the church. Please contact Hazel with any questions or when she can pick up the donations.

The members that we help keep warm are so grateful for our donations. We will post the next wish list for God's Country Parish as soon as Katie passes it along to Hazel.

We give our utmost thanks to Hazel for taking on this mission and meeting with Katie every few months with our donations!!



p a s t o r ' s c o l u m n



We all feel forgotten sometimes. Saddest line in the Bible is when Christ asks God why

He forsook Him. I think Jesus was forgotten, so that we would be remembered. However, the empty tomb tells us that He was remembered too.

Going through the season of Lent reminds us that we never know what direction life will take. We never know everything there is to know. Only solution is doing your best and trust God for the rest.

Going through Lent helps us to understand all the years of God-work that go into making one's life a thing of beauty. A lot of shaping, a lot of smoothing, a lot of finishing. And if we rush the process, the flaws will surely show.

Going through the season of Lent allows for tasting tears other than our own. That's when somebody's crying but someone else is tasting tears.

Going through the season of Lent allows us time to do some soul tending. Soul tending is like your flower garden. We're a cut-flower world. We sever things from their

life source and expect them to flourish. And we cut ourselves off from God and are dismayed when our lives wilt and fade. We spend so much time chasing after the baubles of the world, we're bankrupt when it comes to the treasures of the Holy. We want joy and beauty, but we want them without having to stay connected to the One who gives them. So we look for them in the world but come up empty-handed and empty hearted.

Going through Lent is a matter of persevering, of not discouraging, of organizing our life to increase
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our chances of finding Easter. Going through Lent is taking misery and turning it into joy. That's what trusting God can do for us. We can be surrounded by outward gloom but overflow with inward joy on Easter Sunday. Going through Lent allows us to take inventory. Time to appreciate what we have and savor what Christ summons us to be. Going through Lent reminds us that God has sustained us through all the years of failure and neglect because the world is hungry, and the Word is food. And Christ is Easter Sunday. The Easter Season, also known as The Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. It's the most joyous and celebrative season of the Christian Year. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the giving's of the Holy Spirit on the First Easter and the Day of Pentecost. Happy Easter! Happy Christ! Happy Spring! In His Service, in your service, Pastor Tom
(With gratitude and thanks to Philip Gulley & "Grace Talks"; and Lawrence Wood's "One Hundred Tons Of Ice")

PAINT CREEK NEWS:

MISSION REPORT

submitted by Jan McCall

The congregation is to be congratulated for their generosity on donating money for relief efforts in Haiti after the devastating earthquake. Membership donated \$400 to pay for health kits (46). These will be or have already been forwarded to the Haiti people.

Cash was collected for UMCOR to be used for Haiti projects. The congregation donated \$1,106 for UMCOR's use in Haiti, 100% of this money will be used on Haiti projects.

According to a charity watch dog Organization, UMCOR is rated A+ in the usage of funds. All money is used for projects and not for Administrative costs or solicitation of funds. Very few charities are rated this highly.

Neighborhood House Food pantry membership are asked to continue bringing in canned and dry food items for the food pantry. The need continues to be great.

Paint Creek's 2009 "Local Church Report to the Annual Conference" was completed and submitted by Colleen Barkham. Thank you, Colleen, for a big job well done!!

DON'T FORGET THE CROP WALK-MAY 2nd: IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PLEDGE SHEETS OR WANT TO PLEDGE, SEE ELIZABETH REITZ!!

"WE WALK BECAUSE THEY WALK"

BIRTHDAY'S & ANNIVERSARIES:

APRIL:

6th: Carrie Barkham & Jessie Kinney

10th: Trevor Barkham & Helen Shabinaw

15th: Richard Poplawski

20th: Robert LaFountain

25th: Cal Devitt

28th: Alyssa Keast & Nancy Mikesch

MAY:

2nd: Betty Wilbur

4th: JoAnn Bourez

5th: Peter Taylor

9th: Floris Stoner

13th: Amy Devitt & Dottie Spitsbergen

14th: Shirley Pennington

19th: Caryl Chamberlin

21st: Zane Bouvier

22nd: Lenna Vay Devitt

25th Dick & JoAnn Bourez

Thank you...

Cal Devitt, Heidi Paterson and Nancy Mikesch for reading scripture on Sunday.

Hilda Taylor for assisting Pastor Tom with communion.

Colleen Barkham, Caryl Chamberlin and Stan Sumoncis for doing announcements and leading the congregation in prayer.

Hilda Taylor, Betty Poplawski, Lois Sayers, Betty Wilbur, Reva and Bob LaFountain for providing refreshments for coffee hours.

Heidi Paterson for organizing the new visitor's packets, updating the church website and handling all the newspaper publicity. Heidi has done an outstanding job as there has been an increase in the attendance 4 new people.

Don Paterson for putting on his plumber's hat and installing the new hot water heater.

Sharon Rowden for all the shopping she did to obtain materials for the Haiti Health kits. She was able to lower the price of each kit, so that more kits could be made. Sharon is quite a shopper with her coupons, watching for sales and obtaining donation of products for kits. Between Howarth and Paint Creek 96 kits were made up.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
MAY 9th!!!

PERSON OF FAITH

Becky Barkham Weger Plunkett

Becky is the 2nd of the 5 Barkham siblings who all grew up on Silverbell Road in Oakland Township. She presently lives in rural Addison Township. She has also lived in Texas and Oklahoma.

Becky received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Oakland University, majoring in math. Later she took enrichment classes in accounting at Oakland Community College, because she was helping with the family business by doing the books.

There are three children in Becky's family - 2 boys and 1 girl - Kurtis, Brian, and Kelly (married to Jamie). Brian lives in North Carolina and works as a clerk in a gas station. Kelly lives in Saline and works as an architect. She hopes to design her mother's next home! Becky married Tony Plunkett in 2008.

Becky works out of her home, running a health care company. In the past she has taught school, taught horseback riding in Oklahoma, and run a craft and antiques shop. Since 1979 she has worked at the family business, Willow Creek Driving Range and Miniature Golf Course, on M-24, south of Lake Orion. She ran the Rochester Cider Mill on Rochester Road for three years.

Becky has ridden horses since she was a child, in 4-H programs. Presently she is a horse owner and has been back to riding horses for the last 14 years. She plays golf, enjoys gardening, baking, reading, and decorating home and church for Christmas.

Activities in her life include working locally and in South Carolina for Habitat for Humanity (building homes). She also went with a Presbyterian group to New Orleans to work on a home.

Becky has been a huge help with the many ways she is involved in Paint Creek Church. She has audited the treasurer's books, worked at the Baldwin Warming

Center, is in charge of the Christmas decorations, helps with coffee hours, bakes for Goodison Good Tymes Day, works on rummage sales, changes the altar cloths and altar flowers for the seasons, worked at the Palace on a fund-raiser for Paint Creek Church, participated in Bible Study, is a member of the Outreach Committee, bakes Christmas cookies for our big Cookie Sale each year, attended a regional church development meeting, and always helps where needed.

Becky is a 5th generation descendant of Mr. Toms, who was responsible for moving our church building by horses and wagon to its present location on Collins Road. Mr. Toms functioned as the first pastor of Paint Creek Church until a Pastor was appointed. As a child she attended Sunday School at Paint Creek UMC. When she moved back to our area she began attending again.

Becky mentioned the following thoughts when asked what she likes about Paint Creek UMC: 1) likes where the church is located in Paint Creek valley, 2) likes being involved in a small church environment, 3) because it's small one can know your fellow parishioners, and 4) truly enjoys Pastor Tom's ministry.

Interview by Jan McCall, edited by Jo Ann Bourez

WE ARE CURRENTLY in the process of updating our church directories. If you have any changes or additions please contact the church office. If you would like your email address included in the directory-contact the office at 248-373-2360

Our Giving:

Methodism's founder John Wesley said, "I look upon all the world as my parish." Wesley reminded us that we are called to step out of our little corner of the world to spread the good news, transform hopelessness into hope and help God's children wherever they may be.

"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

--Matthew 25:35-36, NRSV

While it would be wonderful if we could reach out personally to everyone who needs our help, we know that is impossible. So we gather regularly with our congregation and put money into the offering plate, and through a carefully crafted system of United Methodist mission and ministry our gifts stretch around the world.

Your contributions to your local church not only benefit your local congregation, but also have regional, national and international impact through our connectional giving system. Most of the money you give is used to support the ministries of your local church. A small portion funds regional ministries.

UPDATE ON HOPE HOSPITALITY WARMING SHELTER:

March 26th-28th

Submitted by Paul Sandstrom

First and foremost I want to thank everyone who has helped out in one way or another this past weekend at the warming shelter. This is a combined effort of all the people from Howarth and Paint Creek, whether it is making salads, cutting pie, serving food, doing the dishes, preparing the food or purchasing a dinner at our fund raisers or donating money. This

is the first year, since we have been involved, that we **did not** have to ask people from different churches to help at the shelter for the weekend. This proves that **2 little churches** can make a big difference in the life of people we are called to serve. Throughout the Bible we are reminded that we are to serve as Jesus served. This year was one of the biggest groups of people we had to serve in a very long time; 47 on Friday, 55 on Saturday and 65 on Sunday. This was all made possible by the kindness and love that the children of God from Paint Creek and Howarth have for the people of our community. This love doesn't stop here on this one weekend a year, this love continues all year round. When I read and see all that our **2 little churches** do for the community, state, country and world it makes me proud to say that I am a member of Howarth and associated with Paint Creek. May the Love of God continue to live in each and every one of us as we face a world of uncertainty and know that our Heavenly Father is only a prayer a way!

Amen

(Special thanks to Paul & Kathy for doing the shopping & preparing the food for the 3 nights!)

NEWS LETTER DEADLINE: MAY 9th!!!

HOWARTH NEWS:

UMW NEWS:

At the March 6th meeting the 2010 DINNER schedule was set!
 Wednesday, June 30th: Pork
 Wednesday, July 28th: Swiss Steak
 Wednesday, August 25th: Pork Sat.
 September 25th: Swiss Steak
 Wednesday, October 27th: Pork

Saturday, November 13th: Turkey
 ALL DINNERS WILL BE
 BUFFET/Family style will be
 made available upon request.
 Carry outs also available for all
 dinners.

“COOKIE WALK”

Let us bake your Christmas
 cookies for you:

Saturday, December 11th
 9am-2pm

MISSION REPORT:

March pasty sale was a success
 with the profit of \$507 being split
 between Sunday School and
 Missions. Part of the mission
 money was used to purchase socks
 and men's underwear for the
 Warming Shelter.

Haiti Health kits were a success
 also with the congregation
 purchasing 50 kits and also
 donating \$140 to UMCOR.

LONC residents enjoyed
 fellowship and worship with Pastor
 Tom, Lois, Paul Sandstrom,
 Sharon & Rick Rowden and music
 by Alex Wolf.

A Heifer Project with the Sunday
 School children is being discussed
 so be watching the bulletins for
 more information.

The spaghetti dinner was a HUGE
 success for FISH: We collected
 enough to pack Paul & Kathy's
 Durango from the front seats, to
 the tailgate and to the roof with
 food and toiletries. Also collected
 \$120 to purchase much needed
 items for FISH!!

IT IS BASEBALL SEASON
 AGAIN!! TIME TO GO TO THE
 BALLPARK-is this a mission I
 say “yes” as it is fellowship with
 our Church families and friends!!
 Watch the bulletin for the selected
 game.

CROP WALK TIME:
SUNDAY, MAY 2ND : IF YOU
NEED PLEDGE ENVELOPES
OR WANT TO PLEDGE SEE
ELIZABETH REITZ!
“WE WALK BECAUSE THEY
WALK”

HOWARTH'S **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Current Offerings YTD:

\$6,357.00

Average Monthly: \$3,178.00

Needed Monthly: \$4,444.00

Monthly Average:
 (\$1,265.00) short

Jubilee Missions that are paid in
 full are: Oakland Jail
 Bishop Craig's Children
 Baldwin Church Center

ANNOUNCEMENTS & **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Hazel Spencer's oldest son Tom
 Spencer had his appendix burst
 March 14th. He is recovering at
 home; keep him in your prayers.

Keep Sharon Rowden in your
 prayers as she seeks answers.

Paul Sandstrom as he waits for
 his scheduled knee surgery.

Congratulations to Cheryl &
 Eric Everhart on the
 announcement of their
 upcoming addition to their
 family!! Casie will have a
 brother or sister sometime in
 November.

Congratulations to Kathy
 Sandstrom on completing her
 Certified Lay Speaker
 Certification.

Welcome back Treva so nice to see you in church!!

Hazel Spencer shared wonderful news. Her Grandson, Scott is going to Ft. Jackson, South Carolina for training to be a recruiter and therefore he does not have to do another tour in Afghanistan.

Howarth has two cherished members who have gone home to be with their Heavenly Father: On Feb. 19, at the age of 93, Jennie Griest was called home. She was a long time member and very special friend to Stella Andrews, keep her family and friends in your prayers.

On February 14th, Reuben Bennett went home to his heavenly father.

Looking for someone willing to take care of the bulletin boards-change them for seasons, etc. Please contact Sharon if you would like to take on this task!!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

APRIL:

1st: Molly Kaye Damitio
3rd: Brianna Howden
4th: John Pollitt & Barbara Shubert
6th: Robert (RJ) Key
7th: Tim Spencer & Matthew Landon Spencer
13th: Ashley Howden
15th: Ashley Sandstrom
18th: Stephanie Lamas
26th: Barb Hill
28th: Hunter Lamas

10th: Randy & Stephanie Lamas

MAY:

1st: Al Reeves & Dawn (Pollitt)
Key
7th: Angela LaCourse & Linda Duddles
8th: Erika LaCourse
14th: Thomas Spencer
15th: PJ Sandstrom
19th: Paul Hamman
29th: Lindsay Waite
30th: Rick Rowden & Carl Paulson
2nd: Paul & Kathy Sandstrom
2nd: Michael & Lisa Damitio
9th: John & Pat Pollitt

Thank you...

Pastor Tom & Lois for the flowers on Valentine's Day! Very thoughtful!

Paul & Kathy Sandstrom for delivering the donated items to FISH.

Sharon Rowden for taking on the tasks of the Haiti Health Kits!!

Scott & Ashley Howden for putting new tile on the entry way floor-Looks beautiful!!

Everyone who signs up for Coffee time, the goodies are enjoyed by all.

Pat Pollitt for making the wonderful Pineapple upside down cakes for the Warming Shelter. You know we enjoy them just as much as the clientele we serve!!

Cannot say thank you enough to everyone from the fundraiser to purchase the food for the shelter, to those actually working at the shelter, without all of you this would not be possible!! Howarth & Paint Creek ROCK!!!

Pastor Tom for the awesome Bible study-3 Simple Rules to Christian Living-Do No Harm-Do Good &

Love God with All our Hearts!!
Can't wait for the next one!

Rick for those wonderful Sunday morning welcome hugs😊

We received thank yous from the McInerney Navy guys we bought Christmas gifts for; your generosity truly helped them through the holiday season.

Posted in the Narthex is a personal thank you from FISH for the donations from our Spaghetti Dinner.

Still in need of liturgist and coffee hour hostesses. Sign up sheets are in the fellowship hall.



There will be a special offering envelope in your bulletin on Easter Sunday. This offering is for our mission work and missionaries. Please give generously.

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The church around the world
...from United Methodist News Service – <http://umns.umc.org>

Texas surgeon conducts 50 surgeries in Haiti

SUGAR LAND, Texas — United Methodist orthopedic surgeon Dr. Michael Kent, 35, was part of a four-person surgical team that spent five days in Jimini, a Dominican Republic town bordering Haiti. He conducted 50 surgeries before returning to his home in Sugar Land, Texas.

UMCom offers communication ministry webinars on Tuesdays

NASHVILLE — Each week, United Methodist Communications provides a free 30-minute webinar at 10 a.m. CST on Tuesdays to share up-to-date and relevant information, resources and tools that will enhance your church's communications ministry. Visit umcom.org for more information.

Red Bird Mission School may close

BEVERLY, Ky.—Red Bird Mission School may close its doors at the end of the school year. “We’ve been struggling for a couple of years,” said Tonya Asher, school secretary. “We’re praying and hoping things will work out.” A Save Our Schools Committee and others are trying raise the money to keep the 89-year-old school in the Appalachian mountains in southeastern Kentucky afloat.

African Church in war zone grows by 588 percent in five years

KORHOGO, [Côte d'Ivoire](#) — There is every reason for a church to fail in this rebel-held area in the mountainous north central region of this African nation. It has been the scene of many armed conflicts between government and rebel forces. Nevertheless, the United Methodist Church in the district increased from 300 members in 2005 to 2,065 members today.

Haitians pause to mourn losses from quake

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The people of Haiti took three days of remembrance, Feb. 12 to 14, to mourn their losses from the Jan. 12 earthquake. People dressed in white and spent from 6 a.m. until early afternoon at church singing and praying.

United Methodist honored for protecting immigrants

SEATTLE (UMNS) — Llewelyn Pritchard was dismayed by what he considered to be Gestapo-like tactics used on immigrants to the United States. Armed with a \$1 million grant from the Ford Foundation, the Seattle attorney chaired a committee on immigration law reform for the American Bar Association. In February, the association honored Pritchard for his social justice work.

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