

THE

TRUMPET

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pastor's column



From the Pastor's Desk

“O, come let us sing to the Lord.”

I sang with the Grace Chorale, the Women's Choir at Second Grace United Methodist Church for almost fifteen years. We gathered gratefully and graciously once a week under the tutelage of our talented director to ready our voices for Sunday services. Over the years we sang anthems that became favorites for the congregation. We each had a personal favorite. Mine was and is “This Little Light of Mine.” I love the many arrangements of this hymn. It can be sung as a prayer of promise in anthem form or as a rousing spiritual that calls for clapping hands, swaying

bodies and stomping feet. If, like me, you learned it in church camp or Vacation Bible School, then you can relate.

No matter how it is sung it never fails to bring joy to my heart and soul. Sometimes it brings tears to my eyes as the simple words draw me closer to God. With each line sung I confirm my commitment to be the “light of the world” that Jesus exhorted the disciples to be in His Sermon on the Mount. (Matthew 5-7)

Often, music is my means of worship. On any given day I find myself humming or singing aloud a hymn. The words will come to me in moments of great joy or times of great challenge. I sing “Breath on Me Breath of God” when I feel overwhelmed by having so many things to accomplish and seemingly not enough time to do them in. I whisper “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” when circumstances beyond my control test my faith and I need grounding. At times when I feel far from the creator I close my eyes and lift the words of “Amazing

Grace”. It helps me remember that he promised he would never leave me or forsake me.

Psalm 95 exhorts us to “sing to the Lord” as we worship Him. We are told to “shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.” Shouting the words to “Thank You, Lord” is certainly a better way to diffuse my anger when a driver cuts me off in evening traffic! What hymn lifts you up in moments of daily distress? If you don't have one, try mine. I guarantee things will start to look much better when you start telling God how and when you're going to let your light shine.

Peace and Blessings!

Rev. Carolyn Jones



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**WSLETTER
ARTICLE DEADLINE:
April 23rd.**

HOPE WARMING SHELTER

We are scheduled for March 17th, 18th and 19th to serve meals at the Hope Warming Shelter. Also in the summer for July 15th & August 17th. Sign-up sheets are in the fellowship halls.

PERSON OF FAITH

Pastor Carolyn Jones

Pastor Carolyn Jones was born in Atlanta, Georgia. Her parents lived in College Park outside the city. Her father's father passed away when he was a teenager. He stayed on to work the small farm and care for his family. After leaving the farm, he delivered ice to the homes where they had ice boxes. When pastor was 2 1/2 years old, the family moved to Detroit for better job opportunities. Dad worked as a brick layer and then as a self-taught auto mechanic for twenty years. Pastor Carolyn's mother was a stay-at-home mom until her children were older. She then worked as a housekeeper. Prior to her retirement, her mother served as companion and housekeeper to an elderly lady. Pastor Carolyn is the oldest sibling having 2 younger brothers with one now deceased.

Pastor worked at a variety of jobs. She worked in the library at Wayne State University then as a bank teller, sales clerk at Hudson's, a stay-at-home mom, established her own business doing sewing and clothing repair, teaching sewing and other summer teaching programs.

After graduation from college in 1970, she married. Her husband worked for the federal government (Equal Opportunity Employment Commission). They were married 36 years before his passing in 2006. Pastor and her husband raised 2 daughters and a son. Obtaining an education was

stressed in the family, so the children went on to obtain advanced degrees. One daughter has a Master's degree with 2 earning Ph.D. degrees. The oldest daughter teaches music at a Michigan school while the second daughter is a research scientist at Baylor University in Houston, Texas. Her son lives in California where he works as a marketing manager. Pastor Carolyn enjoys visiting with each of her 5 grandchildren.

Pastor's parents also stressed the importance of an education. Pastor Carolyn is a graduate of Cass Technical High School in Detroit where she later taught for 8 years and Wayne State University earning a Bachelor's degree in Spanish and a minor in French. Her Master's degree is in education. Using her training, Pastor worked for the Detroit schools for sixteen years and in Southfield for ten years teaching 7th-12th graders.

As a second career Pastor Carolyn decided to become a minister in 2015. She had felt the calling most of her life. For forty-eight years, she attended Second Grace United Methodist Church in Detroit where she held many positions, often teaching, singing in the choir and a member of the U.M.W. Her minister and friends kept encouraging her to become a minister. For 4 years the message only got stronger. After attending a Lay Servant class, she prayed and talked with God. His question to her was: "What are you afraid of?" She realized God would guide her. Soon she was appointed to be a local pastor at a church in Sterling Heights. This past summer and fall she completed studies allowing her to perform local pastor duties. At this time she has signed up for 2 courses of study. This summer she will attend Garrett Seminary in

Chicago for 1 week. In preparation for her summer studies, she will be doing on-line work, reading and completing written assignments.

Pastor Carolyn has many interests and hobbies. They include: photography, making beaded jewelry, gardening (loves flowers), sewing, reading spiritual books about the Bible, characters of the Bible and about artists. A favorite author is Paulo Coelho. Often she visits the Detroit Institute of Arts to view exhibits. Travel is a special interest as she has been to Spain, many Caribbean islands and areas of the U.S.A.

Her favorite part of the ministry is teaching stories about the Bible. An important part of her life has been prayer.

What has Pastor Carolyn enjoyed about the 2 churches. Having the opportunity to meet and talk one-on-one with the memberships and helping people establish a personal relationship with God. She also wants to remain humble in her role as pastor.

Howarth and Paint Creek churches wish Pastor Carolyn much success in her ministry classes and future years in her second profession.

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"Life is short, and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And may the blessings of the One who made us, the One who loves us, and the One who travels with us, be with you and those you love this day and always."

Henri-Frederic Amiel, (1821-1881) Swiss poet and philosopher.

submitted by Cal Devitt

Christian Education

This spring we have several classes offered to deepen your spiritual experience and strengthen your faith. Each class is open to everyone at any time, no matter your preparation or when you begin to attend.

DEVOTIONAL GROUP STUDY – Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. at Paint Creek

Come gather with other spiritual family members to share a longer devotional time (about one hour). Did you know that *The Upper Room* was originally developed as a small group study? Share the daily Wednesday devotional together with prayer, scripture, probing questions, and reflection.

DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS -Begins Sunday, 2/19, 2:00 p.m. -4:30 p.m.

(Participants determine future dates if not 2/26, 3/5, and 3/12 2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.) In this class, individuals are encouraged to discover God’s call to ministry and to recognize then embrace their spiritual gifts.

Four ministry categories are identified (receive, relate, equip, and send) through scripture and activities leading to practical ways to use our gifts in ministry, in our congregation, and in our community.

ACTS – On Sundays after church services (currently 1pm at Paint Creek)

All are welcome to join the established class. We meet on Sunday after morning service. We alternate between Paint Creek and Howarth because members from both congregations are participating. Currently we are meeting at 1:00 pm at Paint Creek. The study follows Luke’s account of the establishment of the church as recorded in the book of Acts. Before he ascended into heaven Jesus commanded the disciples to go into the world to make disciples of all men. Doing so meant that they faced endless struggles and persecution. The church today stands as a testament to their commitment, struggles, and perseverance.

PAINT CREEK NEWS:

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

February

Lalit Herbert	Feb 3
Linda Pasternak	Feb 7
Colleen Barkham	Feb 15
Edward Barkham	Feb 15
Judy Mair	Feb 19
John Mars	Feb 24
Michael Middler-Morris	Feb 26
Anniversaries	(none)

March

Dick Bourez	Mar 9
Anthony Moggio	Mar 15
Diana Ostrand	Mar 17
Clarke Bonten	Mar 20
David Middler-Morris	Mar 27
Clara Linton	Mar 29
Anniversaries	
David & Michael Middler-Morris	Mar 13
John & Judy Mars	Mar 30

April

Anna Jacklin	Apr 1
Chris Lutz	Apr 3
Violet Moggio	Apr 7
Trevor Barkham	Apr 10
Andy Knaack	Apr 11
Robert LaFountain	Apr 20
Spencer Powell	Apr 24
Cal Devitt	Apr 25
Pia Tucker	Apr 27
Anniversaries	(none)



A big thank you to all who contribute in some way to assisting with Sunday worship service. That’s what makes our church service a success- the willingness of the membership to participate.

Suzy Kelly and crew, Nancy Powell, Jeff Meiorow and Gail Stoner, for seeing that food is hot and ready for fellowship each Sunday. The membership appreciates all the planning and

tasty dishes provided by the various volunteers. Don’t forget that the first Sunday in the month is pot luck. Bring your favorite dish to share with fellow members.

A note of appreciation from Cal Devitt.

Thank you Paint Creek friends for the terrific retirement gift-my new front walk and landscaping. Special thanks to those who contributed to “the fund”, to Colleen and her brother Robert and his crew, and to the hard-working PCUMC diggers, rakers, aplanter, and tree trimmer. The front of my house has really been enhanced. Finishing touches will take place in the spring.

Rummage Sale

PC is planning a rummage sale the week of March 13th. The dates for the sale will be Friday, March 17th and Saturday, March 18th. You can bring items to PC Monday thru Thursday of that week.

Mission Report for 2016

Paint Creek had another successful mission year qualifying us for Spotlight church honors. We collected a total of \$9,713.72. This does not include the groceries collected for the food pantry at the Congregational church. Included in this mission amount is the monies collected through the Outreach program totaling \$2,812.00. This is due to the work of Gail Stoner, Outreach chairperson. Congratulations to our membership for their generosity last year.

CALLING ALL WALKERS

THE Crop Walk is fast approaching. This year it is Sunday, May 7th. The walk starts at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church on Waldon Rd, Lake Orion. Hope to see all walkers

participate. There will be more information closer to the date. Any questions, see Gail Stoner.

The kitchen remodeling project is moving forward at Paint Creek. We are currently securing electrician quotes to not only update kitchen electrical, but tie into and bring up to code the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall at the same time. Grettie Drader has drawn up a kitchen plan (available for viewing on storyboard in Fellowship Hall), and the Paint Creek Board has approved the purchase of major appliances needed. Phase I is expected to happen the first half of 2017. There is a Phase II & III that will be a total renovation of the Fellowship Hall and its entryway.

Paint Creek is definitely getting a face-lift inside and out, including recent extensive foundation work, total painting of exterior of building including the refinishing and painting of original doors. Ongoing is beautiful nature-friendly landscaping along creek at rear of property. And, let's not forget the Tapner shed that was rebuilt from the ground up!

It's great to see the pride of place to not only maintain our Historic Paint Creek Church, but to keep it preserved for future generations.

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

HOWARTH NEWS:
Birthdays & Anniversaries:
February
Anniversaries
Steve & Ruth Ferrell Feb 14

March

Pat Pollitt Mar 14
Kevin LaCourse Mar 19
Erin Spencer Mar 21
Jennifer Howden Mar 25
Anniversaries (none)

April

Brianna Howden Apr 3
John Pollitt Apr 4
Robert (RJ) Key Apr 6
Ashley Howden Apr 13
Stephanie Lamas Apr 18
Nickoli Nelson Apr 24
Barb Hill Apr 26
Ruth Lambert Apr 26
Hunter Lamas Apr 28

Anniversaries

Ray & Rita Sauls Apr 15
Scott & Jennifer Howden Apr 24

By Paul Sandstrom

Sitting in my office on a cold wintery day, with a five year old barking in my ear, I wonder what the future has in store for us. Four years ago my wife Kathy was diagnosed with cancer. The next eight months were very hard on Kathy and the whole family as we watched her health fail rapidly. I prayed that she and all affected would be healed by a miracle from heaven and all of the problems would be solved. Sadly it didn't happen then and probably won't in the near future. 6 months after Kathy was diagnosed, I was given a gift from God, a child under two years old to care for along with a sick wife.

As things began to settle down as best as they could, I received a call that my father had taken a turn for the worse. Then Kathy got worse and my dad was failing fast. Also at the same time DHS was calling me. To make a long story short my dad and Kathy passed away, and DHS decided they must do a home visit while we were dealing with the deaths (before the funerals).

We got through all this and things were beginning to calm down. Then the call came that no parent ever wants to hear, we need you to come to the hospital there has been a tragedy. I had to go and identify my daughter, Ashley, and sign papers. We struggled through the shock of a daughter, (sister, niece and cousin) dying from a disease that is killing approximately 129 people a day in this country.

This is a story of how mine and my family's life has been for the past 4 years. Where is he going with this some people are thinking about right now. It brings me to a Bible verse that I always told Ashley when we talked, Psalm 23:4 "Though I walk through the valley of darkness I will fear no evil for the Lord is with me ..." how true this verse is. Psalm 23 is of great importance to me but verse 4 was the one that I felt she needed to hear.

No matter what you are going through the Lord is right there by your side and he will carry you if need be. All too often when life throws us a curve ball we want to handle it by ourselves. Well people I can testify we **can't**. My story is not much different than many people in this world, we don't look for pity, we look for ways to make our lives and those around us more bearable as we move on to another day.

Psalm 23 is a blessing to all people; The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my

enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever. KJV

The Lord is giving us everything we need, comfort, joy, hope, and love. We just have to go to him and ask for it, he gives us the strength to get through the curve balls life throws at us. He gives us the green pastures to lie down on and relax. He has given many streams of water to us to go and relax by (what is more calming than a stream of water a fishing pole and some worms). There is nothing in life we have to face alone if we choose, God has given us all many friends and family to surround us and love us, and most important he gave us himself and his son. Verse 4 "I will fear no evil for you are with me your rod and staff comfort me", how soothing is it to know that when we need a loving hand he is there to provide us one, it may be a neighbor, a friend, a family member or a total stranger. He is there we just have to open our eyes and our hearts to a LOVING GOD.



Ray, Rick and Rita for installing the big television and DVD player on the wall in the fellowship hall! Movie afternoons coming soon.

Pat Pollitt for putting the letters on the sign by the road. It gets harder to do the colder it gets!

MISSIONS:

Howarth is still collecting, used postage stamps, Campbell's Labels, fronts of greeting cards and eyeglasses/and cases.

Also, don't forget to bring in your quarters for the Love, INC.

Laundry Mission. (If you need a container to collect your quarters in, see Sharon).

Money in the "gas can" collected at coffee hour goes to Love, INC. to purchase gas cards.

AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

March 26th: 4 pm at Howarth Movie to be announced at a later date. Free will offering. Free popcorn. Beverages for sale.

Monies raised from these afternoons will be used for Sunday School programs, trips and for summer camps.

EVERYONE INVITED

HOWARTH UMW NEWS:

Marilyn Foster

Our dinner schedule has been set for 2017.

May 24th: Turkey

April 28th: Roast Beef

May 26th: Swiss Steak

June 28th: Roast Beef

July 26th: Swiss Steak

Aug. 23rd: Roast Beef

Sept. 27th: Swiss Steak

Oct. 25th: Pork

Nov. 11th: Turkey

The price of the dinners has changed to **\$13** for adults, children's price will remain the same \$5.

As usual, all hand will be needed to have successful dinners. If you don't have an assignment, contact me or Pat Pollitt, we will help you find a volunteer opportunity that will work for you.

Attention pie makers: We truly need to know how many pies you will be bringing for the dinners. The kind of pie would be great to know also.

Thank you in advance for everyone's hard work and dedication to our dinners.

We want to get a cleaning crew together to do a church wide cleaning. Looking to do it on a Friday and Saturday, perhaps March 31st and February 1st. Please let me know if that works for you.

Movie Afternoons at Howarth will be sponsored in part by the UMW. Proceeds from these afternoons will be used to fund the Sunday School programs.

FORREST GUMP 😊

The day arrives: Forrest Gump dies and goes to heaven. He is met at the Pearly Gates by St. Peter himself. The gates are closed, however, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper.

St. Peter says, "Well Forrest, it's certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must inform you that the place is filling up fast, and we've been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The tests are fairly short, but you need to pass before you can get into Heaven."

Forrest responds, "It shore is good to be here St. Peter. I was looking forward to this. Nobody ever told me about any entrance exam. Sure hope the test ain't too hard; life was a big enough test as it was."

St. Peter goes on, "Yes, I know Forrest but the test I have for you is only three questions. Here is the first: What days of the week begin with the letter T? Second: How many seconds are there in a year? Third: What is God's first name?"

Forrest goes away to think the questions over. He returns the next day and goes up to St. Peter to try to answer the exam questions. St. Peter waves him up and says, "Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers."

Forrest says, "Well, the first one how many days of the week begin with the letter 'T'? "Shucks, that one's easy. That'd be Today and Tomorrow."

The Saint's eyes open wide and he exclaims, "Forrest! That's not what I was thinking, but you do have a point though, and I guess I didn't specify, so I will give you credit for that answer."

"How about the next one?" asks St. Peter. "How many seconds in a year?"

"Now that one's harder," says Forrest, "but I think and think about that and I guess the only answer can be twelve."

Astounded St. Peter says, "Twelve! Twelve! Forrest! How in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?"

Forrest says, "Shucks, there's gotta be twelve: January second, February second, March second, April second, May second"

"Hold it," interrupts St. Peter, "I see where you're going with this. And I guess I see your point, though that wasn't quite what I had in mind, but I'll give you credit for that one too. Let's go on with the next and final question. Can you tell me God's first name?"

Without hesitation Forrest replied, "Andy."

"OK, OK," said a frustrated St. Peter, "I guess I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name 'Andy' as the first name of God?"

"That was the easiest one of all," Forrest replied. "I learned it from the hymn "ANDY WALKS WITH ME, ANDY TALKS WITH ME, ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN....."

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