

THE

TRUMPET

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



From the Desk of Pastor Marvin Herman

Disciples Making Disciples

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:18-20 (NRSV)

My prayer is that we will be faithful to the mission Jesus has given us in Matthew 28:18-20. In this well-known passage, there is one command: make disciples. Yes, what comes next is equally important to understand on how we make

disciples. We make disciples by going out beyond the house of worship and bathing others in the love of Christ and inviting them to be in Christian fellowship.

Every disciple of Jesus is called to make disciples as we go. We are all going somewhere, whether it is to the grocery store, work, school, or our neighborhoods. Disciple making doesn't merely take place at the church building when ministers are present. Jesus gave us a multiplication model of ministry by which we are all called to make disciples as we go.

Additionally, we are called to baptize, which is closely connected with evangelize. We make disciples by sharing the gospel, seeing people come to faith in Christ, and leading them in baptism. My hope is that every person at Howarth and Paint Creek UMC will be willing to get equipped to share the gospel, and my prayer is that our church will continue to develop a culture of evangelism. By this, I mean that we are building intentional relationships with our neighbors; we are looking for opportunities to share the gospel, (at the store, at the

restaurant and even at the local rock concert establishments some of us frequent.) These are perfect places where we can invite people to church, where we can expose them to the gospel, and allow them to witness the power of prayer.

Finally, we make disciples by teaching. Our mission does not stop as soon as we or someone else are baptized! We are supposed to be equipping and getting equipped to grow up in Christ. One of the ways we get equipped is by placing ourselves under the Word of God. I hope you will make a renewed commitment this year to regularly hear the preaching of God's Word on Sunday mornings. Notice we are not merely supposed to hear the Word, but we are called to observe all that Christ has commanded. The purpose of hearing God's Word is that we will grow as disciples. Let's be faithful to the mission we have been given. Let's be a church full of disciples who make disciples.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Marv

Easter is Coming and it will be here before we know it!!!!

A common saying usually heard around at Christmas time is “Remember the Reason for the Season.” It’s a great reminder that Jesus, Our Savior, was born on Christmas day to come into the world as a baby to die as a man on a cross and resurrect three days later on Easter. So at Easter season, why don’t we say:

“Remember the Reason for the Easter Season”? I don’t recall ever hearing that slogan used at Easter. Do you? It’s not on flags, banners, buttons we wear, or even Easter cards or mentioned in Easter sermons. I wonder why not?

The “Easter season” has similar distractions as Christmas that can take our focus off Jesus and His sacrifice for you and for me. Easter commemorates the foundation of our Christian faith. **Without Easter, there would be no hope.** Easter is the reason we have forgiveness for our sins and the assurance of eternal life. As the apostle Paul reminded us:

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15: 1-5

As Christians, we need to remember the extreme sacrifice God and Jesus endured: God gave

his One and only Son who became the last sacrificial lamb dying in atonement for our sins. Jesus died a painful and horrific death on a cross for you and for me. At Easter, we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection three days later, and he lives today at the right hand of God—preparing a place for his followers who will someday join him in eternity. And he lives within the hearts of believers.

During the Easter Season, our focus can turn to church services, performances, new clothes, brunch, family gatherings, special dinners, decorating, egg hunts, Easter baskets . . . all good things. But before we know it . . . one of the most meaningful days of the year is over. We probably went to church, said a prayer before meals, maybe even read some Bible passages about the Last Supper, Gethsemane, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection. But did we take time to solemnly remember and praise God for . . . the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus . . . For our sins he endured 39 lashes, a crown of thorns, hands and feet nailed to a cross, he shed blood and as the Bible tells us, Jesus look to the heavens and gave his final cry, “It is finished!”

Please be aware that both Howarth UMC and Paint Creek UMC will be observing and taking part in various events this year during the Lenten Season through to Easter morning. Please keep these dates in mind and please plan to participate with us this year.



Lent begins Sunday, March 3, 2019. **Ash Wednesday** will be a combined service March 6, 2019 (which includes communion) at Paint Creek UMC starting at 7:00 pm. **Good Friday**, April 19, 2019, will be held at Howarth

UMC at 12 noon, and both church will celebrate Christ resurrection on Sunday April 21, 2019, **Easter** morning at their own churches at their regular worship times. I pray that this upcoming Easter season will find you finding ways to refresh and renew your relationship in Christ. Pastor Marv Herman.

Thank You

To my congregation and friends at the Howarth and Paint Creek United Methodist Churches. Let me tell you what an incredible privilege it is for me to be your pastor!! Each day, I am reminded what a wonderful opportunity it is for me to know you, serve you, and encourage you. Each week, I’m reminded what an incredible responsibility it is for me to bring God’s Word to you in a relevant and informative way. Indeed, both congregations have wonderful and generous people who understand the value of church, community and their love of Jesus Christ.

This last Christmas, I was completely surprised (as was my family) when I received from many of you, Christmas cards filled with notes and words of encouragement, generous gifts of books, food, cookies, gift cards and money. My family and I can not thank you enough for your generosity.

As your pastor over the past 6 months, I have witnessed many of you who faithfully devoted yourself to prayer, attending church regularly, raising money for mission projects, feeding those in need at the warming center. Let us not forget all of you who volunteer to serve on committees, work on maintaining the churches and the individual church grounds. Both Howarth and Paint Creek are clean, warm and inviting churches. Deb and I feel so appreciated and I

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THANK YOU cont.
 thank you again for your gifts, but I need to thank all of you even more for simply walking with Jesus. So, as we begin 2019 together, let's continue to build each other up. Let's reach out to the lost who don't know Jesus, and invite them to join us. Let's us all get ready for the new miracles God will do in our midst this year. Thank you again.
 Grace and Peace, Pastor Marv, Deb, Meredith and Rachel.

Thank you to Howarth and Paint Creek for the gifts of money at Christmas. I appreciate your generosity and kindness.
 Love, Sharon

HOPE WARMING CENTER

Howarth and Paint Creek will be serving a meal each evening at the Center on April 12, 13, and 14th. Please let Paul or Sharon know if you are willing to help cook and or serve.



PAINT CREEK NEWS:



Birthdays & Anniversaries:

February
 Deborah Vanderline Feb 2

Lalit Herbert Feb 3
 Colleen Barkham Feb 15
 Edward Barkham Feb 15
 Judy Mair Feb 19
Anniversaries (none)

March

Dick Bourez Mar 9
 Scot Cleaveland Mar 14
 Diana Ostrand Mar 17
 Clarke Bonten Mar 20
 Clara Linton Mar 29

Anniversaries

April

Anna Jacklin Apr 2
 Violet Moggio Apr 7
 Trevor Barkham Apr 10
 Andy Knaack Apr 11
 Robert LaFountain Apr 20
 Cal Devitt Apr 25

Anniversaries (none)



Paint Creek would like to thank all of the musicians that participated in our Advent season. All of you did a tremendous job that made our celebration a very special time.

I would like to thank the anonymous donor for their generous gift. It was totally unexpected and greatly appreciated. Consider yourself enveloped in a huge hug!
 God Bless you, Steffani.

The Paint Creek Choir has been doing a wonderful job this year. And the Christmas Eve anthem was the star on the top of the tree. I am truly fortunate to have the opportunity to work with a great and talented group of Christians. And our accompanist is beyond compare, Thank you all for making this past year one I am very proud of.

Blessings to you all, Steffani

MISSIONS:
 The 2018 final mission-outreach report has been posted on the annex bulletin board for review by the congregation.

Why We Apportion

Paint Creek UMC and all United Methodist churches include "Apportionments" in their annual budgets.

Apportionments are our first mile of giving. They are the framework of our connectional ministry and mission. When we give generously through our local church, our congregation can pay its apportionments. Through those apportionments, we support many causes.

(Quoted from the UM publication "The Interpreter".)

We at PC have been successful in paying 100% of our apportionments for many years thanks to the generous and faithful giving of our congregation.
 Cal Devitt, Financial Secretary

PERSON OF FAITH

Clarke Bonten

Clarke Bonten was born in Danville, Kentucky. Her family moved to Lexington, Kentucky when she was young. Her father was a wood worker at a horse farm while her mother taught math. Clarke has 2 brothers and 1 sister with Clarke being the second oldest.

Schooling for Clarke has included attending a Montessori school through 5th grade, middle grades at a Catholic school and then graduating from Lexington High School. After graduation, she attended Kalamazoo College for 1

year and then Michigan State University where she majored in

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Person of faith cont.

music education. Her primary instrument was the violin but she also learned how to play the viola and cello. When she finished her studies, she worked in the Walled Lake school district for 5 years teaching strings. Summers, for the last twenty years, she has taught strings at the Blue Lake Fine Arts camp in Twin Lakes, Michigan. Clarke is now self-employed as a Suzuki string method teacher to seventeen students ranging in age from 2 to adult.

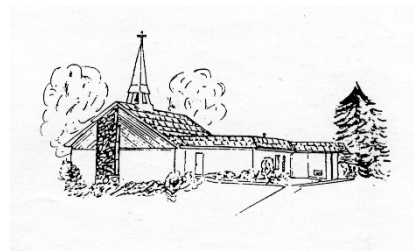
In 2001, she married Dave Bonten who she met while in college. They have been married eighteen years. Dave and Clarke enjoy their 3 children, Charlie -14, Isabelle (Izzy)-11 and Alice-9. Mom and children enjoy playing their violins together. Izzy and Alice are still taught violin by their mother.

Clarke has many interests. They include enjoying nature, hiking, skiing, animals, they have 2 dogs and 12 chickens, reading both fiction and non-fiction books along with child development books, and enjoying Lake Orion where they have a cottage and spend summers. Travel has mostly been to see family in North Carolina, Colorado, Savannah, Georgia and a recent vacation cruise to Mexico with extended family.

The Bontens only live a 2 minute walk from church. Clarke enjoys living in a small community (Goodison) with the church so close to home. When they started at Paint Creek they found the membership warm and receptive teaching old time family values which Clarke grew up with. The family has been involved in

providing special musical numbers as part of church services. Their most recent musical event was playing for the Christmas Eve service. Mom and the children did an amazing job playing their violins in unison to 2 Christmas carols.

We are blessed to have the Bonten family as members of our congregation. It has been enjoyable watching the children grow up these past years and perform on their violins. This is definitely a delightful family and we are pleased they found our church.



HOWARTH NEWS:



Birthdays & Anniversaries:

February

Deborah Vanderline Feb 2
Cheryl McKay Feb 19

Anniversaries

Steve & Ruth Ferrell Feb 14

March

Barb Henson Mar 7
Pat Pollitt Mar 14
Jennifer Howden Mar 25

Anniversaries

(none)

April

Brianna Howden Apr 3
John Pollitt Apr 4
Robert (RJ) Key Apr 6
MacKenna Greene Apr 10
Ashley Traynor Apr 13
Stephanie Lamas Apr 18

Hunter Lamas Apr 28

Anniversaries

Bob & Tena Hostler April 4

Ray & Rita Sauls Apr 15

Scott & Jennifer Howden Apr 24



For everyone who helped decorate and take down the Christmas decorations. The church was beautiful once again this year. Thanks to Steve and Rick who had to purchase another tree for the sanctuary (the 12' one Sharon purchased was waaaaay to big!).

To everyone who purchased poinsettias for the Sanctuary. What a wonderful way to honor Christ's birthday.

Special thanks to Tim Northrup for constructing the huge lighted tree for outside at the front of the church. It was magnificent!

To Jim and Pat Staley for acquiring paint to redo the Sunday School room and the nursery. With their helpers, Steve and Ruth and Bob and even Pastor Marv, the rooms are completed. Jim would like to get a painting crew together to do the narthex and the fellowship hall soon. Please let Jim or Pat know if you would be willing to help paint, or tape or clean up or move furniture.

Thank you to the UMW Ladies for your generous Christmas Gift. It's greatly appreciated.

Rita Sauls

Howarth Congregation: Thank you for the Christmas card and gift. It was nice to be remembered at Christmas time!

Laura Moggio

Thank you from Shirley Reeves and family to everyone who attended Shirley's 100th birthday

party. Shirley was delighted to see so many people attend. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who helped at the warming shelter in December and the Baldwin Center on Christmas Day. Such a blessing to be able to help out those less fortunate.

Thanks to Sharon for doing the church supply shopping.

From Marilyn Foster,

Thank you to Bette & Pat Pollitt for taking me to and from church while I heal from my eye surgery.

I am grateful for my family that has driven me to my doctor appointments & grocery shopping. I thank God for these people. I don't know what I would do without them.

Thank you for the gifts I received. (Keep Marilyn in your prayers as she may need additional eye surgery!)

UMW:

Watch the bulletin for a meeting date to set up the dinner schedule for 2019.

I wish you all a joyous 2019!

A LITTLE HUMOR

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

"Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner."

And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

NEEDED:

Coffee Hour Hostesses
Sunday school teachers
Liturgist for Sunday service
Please consider volunteering for one or more of these needs.



THE LAST SUPPER PAINTING

The Last Supper was painted by Leonardo Da Vinci, a noted Italian artist; and the time engaged for its completion was seven years. The figures representing the twelve Apostles and Christ himself were painted from living persons. The life-model for the painting of the figure of Jesus was chosen first.

When it was decided that Da Vinci would paint this great picture, hundreds and hundreds of young men were carefully viewed, in an endeavor to find a face and personality exhibiting innocence and beauty, free from the scars and signs of dissipation caused by sin.

Finally, after weeks of laborious searching, a young man nineteen years of age, was selected as a

model for the portrayal of Christ. For six months, Da Vinci worked on the reproduction of this leading character in his famous painting. During the next six years, Da Vinci continued his labors on this sublime work of art. One by one, fitting persons were chosen to represent each of the eleven Apostles; space being left for the painting of the figure representing Judas Iscariot, as the final task of this masterpiece. This was the Apostle, you remember, who betrayed his Lord for thirty pieces of silver, worth \$16.96 in our present day currency.

For weeks, Da Vinci searched for a man with a hard callous face, with a countenance marked by scars of avarice, deceit, hypocrisy, and crime; a face that would delineate a character, who would betray his best friend.

After many discouraging experiences, in searching for the type of person required to represent Judas, word came to Da Vinci that a man, whose appearance fully met his requirements, had been found in a dungeon in Rome, sentenced to die for a life of crime and murder.

Da Vinci made the trip to Rome at once, and this man was brought out from his imprisonment in the dungeon and led out into the light of the sun. There Da Vinci saw before him a dark, swarthy man; his long, shaggy and unkempt hair sprawled over his face, which betrayed a character of viciousness and complete ruin. At last, the famous painter had found the person he wanted to represent the character of Judas in his painting.

By special permission from the king, this prisoner was carried to Milan where the picture was being painted; and for months he sat before Da Vinci at appointed hours each day, as the gifted artist

diligently continued his task of transmitting to his painting this
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base character in the picture representing the traitor and betrayer of our savior. As he finished his last stroke, he turned to the guards and said, "I have finished. You may take the prisoner away."

As the guards were leading their prisoner away, he suddenly broke loose from their control and rushed up to Da Vinci, crying as he did so, "Oh, Da Vinci, look at me! Do you not know who I am?"

Da Vinci, with the trained eyes of a great character student, carefully scrutinized the man, upon whose face he had constantly gazed for six months and replied, "No, I had never seen you in my life, until you were brought before me out of the dungeon in Rome."

Then, lifting his eyes toward heaven, the prisoner said, "Oh, God, have I fallen so low?" Then turning toward the painter he cried, "Leonardo Da Vinci! Look at me again, for I am the same man you painted just seven years ago as the figure of Christ."

Many lessons can be learned from this true story of the painting of The Last Supper. This is a story of how we often perceive others - how easily we overlook the Christ within the people we meet, and judge by outward appearances. This also strongly teaches the lesson of the effects of right or wrong thinking, on the life of an individual.

Here was a young man whose character was so pure and unspoiled by the sins of the world, that he presented a countenance of innocence and beauty fit to be used for the painting of a representation of Christ. But within seven years, following the thoughts of sin and a life of crime, he was changed into a perfect picture of the most traitorous character ever known in the history of the world.

Author Unknown

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