



# THE HARVESTER

APRIL  
2025

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAUL

Dear Friends,

April has arrived, and with it, the hope of spring! While we Michiganders know that a late snowfall is always possible, we also embrace the promise of renewal. As we near the end of the Lenten season, our hearts turn toward the joy of Easter.

So I invite you to celebrate this sacred season with us! Bring the children in your life to our **Palm Sunday Egg Hunt** on April 13 at 10 AM. Join us for meaningful worship during **Maundy Thursday at West Bloomfield UMC** (April 17 at 7 pm) and **Good Friday at First UMC of Farmington** (April 18 at 7 pm).

Then, on **Easter Sunday** (April 20), come rejoice in the power of resurrection! Worship with us at 9 am for our contemporary service or 11 am for our traditional service. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to experience the joy of new life, uplifting worship, and the warm hospitality of Orchard.

As we celebrate, I invite you to consider making a special **Easter offering to support our missional outreach, children and youth ministries, adult discipleship, ministry facilities, and worship services.** Your generosity helps us continue our mission to transform the world by growing in faith, serving others, and sharing the love of Jesus.

May this Easter season bring you renewed hope, deep joy, and the peace of Christ.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Paul

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER EVENTS

### APRIL 13 PALM SUNDAY

- 9 am & 11 am  
Worship Services
- 10 am Children's  
Easter Egg Hunt  
(Lower Level)

### APRIL 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY

- 7 pm Service at West  
Bloomfield UMC
- Pastor Paul will be  
co-preaching with  
Rev. John Pohl at this  
joint UMC service

### APRIL 18 Good Friday

- 7 pm Service at First  
UMC in downtown  
Farmington

### APRIL 20 EASTER SUNDAY

- 9 am & 11 am  
Worship Services

### APRIL 27 ROCKIN' THE RESURRECTION

- 9 am & 11 am Special  
Service - Orchard's  
Annual Praise Band-  
lead program (More  
details on Music &  
Worship page)

# Sundays in April

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## APRIL 6

- **Holy Communion** will be served in both services.
- **Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon** - The first Sunday in April is our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Everyone who has volunteered at Orchard in any way is invited to head down to the MAC at 12:15 pm to share a meal together with Orchard's staff.



## APRIL 13

- **Palm Sunday** - At 10:00 am between services on Palm Sunday, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt in the MAC. Kids will collect a certain number of eggs and then trade for a goody bag.



## APRIL 20

- **Easter Sunday** - Services at 9 am and 11 am
- No Sunday School Classes at 10 am
- No Youth Group in the evening.



## APRIL 27

- **Rockin' The Resurrection** - For our annual "Rockin' the Resurrection" during both services on Sunday, April 27th, the Praise Band and Singers will share a powerful program of varied music that will get your toes tapping and touch your heart, celebrating the Resurrection of Christ and the power of new life.



## LENTEN SERMON SERIES

- The messages on Sundays in April continue our church-wide study based on the book *Sacred Self-Care: Daily Practices for Nurturing Our Whole Selves* by Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes.
- You do not need to read the book to be able to follow along this the sermon series!
- Prior messages in this series are available to watch at any time on Orchard's YouTube page.

## APRIL SERMONS

**APRIL 6:**  
Sacred Self-Care:  
Mindfulness Matters

**APRIL 13:**  
Sacred Self-Care:  
Sabbath as Resistance

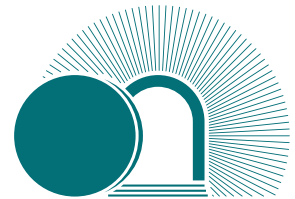
**APRIL 20:**  
Easter Sunday:  
Resurrection As Process

# Music & Worship

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## “UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE!”

April is here, and Easter is just around the corner! We have plenty of musical celebrations planned for worship during this season.



April 13 is Palm Sunday, complete with singing "Hosanna!" and waving our palms, as well as enjoying a musical presentation from our Jump for Joy class. April 20th is Easter Sunday, with lots of uplifting music led by our Band and Singers at 9am, and our Chancel Choir, Chamber Orchestra, and Chancel Ringers at 11am. (Of course, Dr. Tom and Minjung will be on hand to lend their musical gifts as well.)

April 27th is our annual "**Rockin' the Resurrection**" led by the Praise Band and Singers. We have a whole setlist of great songs to celebrate that Jesus is alive, and to celebrate the power of Resurrection in our own lives. There's something for everyone—high energy songs with a beat, and soulful, lyrical ballads to warm your heart.

ALSO, looking ahead to May, we have a special concert with the **Detroit Handbell Ensemble** ([ringdetroit.org](http://ringdetroit.org)) in our very own sanctuary. On Tuesday, May 6th, the DHE will present "Voyages," a musical exploration that will take you on a journey through the landscape of life – where each path is uniquely your own yet intertwined with the universal quest for understanding, connection, and self-discovery.

Music selections include "Journey," an original composition by artistic director Kyle Webber; "Bring Him Home" from Les Miserables; "Siyahamba," a south-African folk song; "The Skye Boat Song," a Scottish folk song; "Bound for South Australia," a traditional sea shanty; "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey; and more. Whether you are changing course or sailing steadily along, Voyages is a celebration of the resilience and spirit that drives us all.

There are lots of things to look forward to! Hope to see you there!

Jantz Black  
Director of Music  
[jantzblack@orchardumc.org](mailto:jantzblack@orchardumc.org)  
248-626-3620 ext. 106



# Weekdays in April

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## MEN'S MALL WALKERS

**Days:** Monday-Wednesday-Friday  
**Time:** 9:00 am  
**Location:** Twelve Oaks Mall, Novi

## EVE'S GIRLS

**Dates:** Monday, April 7, 14 & 21  
**Time:** 7:15 pm  
**Location:** Parlor  
**Contact:** DyAnn St. Clair (dyannstclair@aol.com)

## MOMCO @ ORCHARD

Orchard's MomCo group meets on Thursdays (1st & 3rd of the month) at 9:15-11:30 am and Mondays (2nd and 4th of the month) at 6:30-8:30 pm. All moms are welcome!

### Meeting Dates:

- Thu AM 4/3 - Kelly Sheckell on Parenting
- Mon PM 4/7 - Mom's Night In: Movie Night @ Orchard
- Thu AM 4/17 - Group Discussion: "Restoring Your Body Image"
- MON 4/28 - "Never Unfriended" Book study wrap up meeting

**Contact:** Hannah Hearn (hannahhearn@orchardumc.org)

## TUESDAY DISCUSSION GROUP

Pastor Paul's weekly discussion group is part of our church-wide book study: *Sacred Self-Care: Daily Practices for Nurturing Our Whole Selves* by Dr. Chanequa Walker-Barnes. No need to sign up; just show up!

**Day & Time:** Tuesdays 10-11 am  
**Location:** Rooms 200-202

**Contact:** Pastor Paul Hahm (paulhahm@orchardumc.org)

## HOT DOG GUYS / LUNCH BUNCH

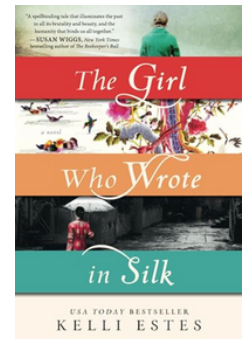
**Day & Time:** Tuesdays @ 11:30 am  
**Location:** Great Lakes Coney Island, Farmington  
**Contact:** Dan Harmon (djh9566@ameritech.net)

## BOOKS OVER LUNCH

Pack your lunch and beverage and join us for our April Books Over Lunch gathering. Come find out what this group is all about. New book enthusiasts are always welcome. If there isn't time to finish, or even start, the book please come anyway.

**Date:** Wednesday, April 9  
**Book:** *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes  
**Time:** 12:00 for brown bag lunch and conversation; 12:30 for book discussion  
**Location:** Parlor

**Contact:** Nancy Howland (nph712@hotmail.com)



## KNIT & CROCHET

This group meets the first Thursday of each month. All skill levels are welcome.

**Date:** Thursday, April 3  
**Time:** 1:30 pm  
**Location:** Parlor  
**Contact:** Ellen Cogsdill (248-935-8018)

## PUB THEOLOGY

**Day & Time:** 1st & 3rd Thursdays @ 8:00 pm  
**Dates:** April 3 & 17  
**Location:** The Library Pub, West Bloomfield Twp.  
**Contact:** Mike Stafiej (stafiej@gmail.com)

## YOUTH GROUPS

### MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sundays 5:15-6:15pm

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sundays 6:30-8pm

### Exceptions:

- April 6th - Middle School will meet at 6:30-7:30pm. High School remains the same.
- No youth group on Easter Sunday.

**Contact:** Kelly Sheckell (kellysheckell@orchardumc.org)

# Service & Community

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## APRIL MISSION BOX

Saturday, May 3rd is “Hands with Detroit” Mission Day at Cass Community Social Services in Detroit.

“Hands with Detroit Mission Day” is open to adults and children ages 10 and older.

You can choose from 2 shifts:

- Morning Shift - 9 am to Noon
- Afternoon Shift - 1 pm to 4 pm

Or, if you wish to make it a full day of service, bring a bag lunch and enjoy some fellowship during the lunch hour!

If you are unable to physically participate on May 3rd, please consider helping in another way. We will be collecting **donations of twin sheets, kids’ pillowcases, blankets, bath towels and magazines** in the BIG Mission Box in the Narthex. Collected items will be delivered to Cass on May 3rd.

If you prefer to send them directly, just order from Amazon and have them shipped to CCSS, at 3901 Cass Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48201.

Rev. Faith Fowler is working hard to provide a place to sleep for everyone, but there are still hundreds left to sleep on the streets every night. Learn more about Cass Community Services at [casscommunity.org](http://casscommunity.org).

Hands with Detroit continues to prove the power of change when many gather in the name of God—and in the name of good. Join us as we serve one another humbly in love, making a positive impact in our community. Let’s come together, serve together, and make a difference together!

Use this [link](#) or the adjacent QR code to register and see what projects are planned for May 3rd.



-DyAnn St. Clair



## MARCH MISSION BOX REPORT

Thank you to all who provided Easter candy in March. Your sweet contributions will be enjoyed by many children.

# Children & Youth

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

Did you know Orchard UMC offers scholarship opportunities for those pursuing a post high school education through a Michigan school, Michigan certification/certificate school, and/or Michigan program?

If you are looking for ways to afford it, consider applying for the Orchard United Methodist Scholarship Program. Use this link to learn more about the program and apply. (\*Past recipients may still reapply with a condensed version and proof of good standing in your program.)

**The deadline is May 4th.**

Please see Kelly Sheckell  
(kellysheckell@orchardumc.org)  
with any questions.



## VBS 2025

Register now for Orchard UMC's Vacation Bible CAMP! Invite your friends, family and neighbors! Children in grades K-5 are welcome. Best of all, its FREE!

This year Orchard's VBS will be August 4-8 from 9:15 am-12:15 pm. There will be games, crafts, music, stories, snacks and more!

Similar to last summer, we will be learning a musical. This year's is "The Rockslinger and His Greatest Hit." The VBS kids will present it on Sunday, August 10th at 10 am.

Also like last year, there will be an afternoon option for upper elementary children to stay and practice more for the musical. More info to come!

## SUMMER CAMP AT LAKE LOUISE

Come experience camp at Lake Louise! More than just a summer camp, each themed week encourages campers to connect with God, reconnect with themselves, and build community with bonds that will last a lifetime.

Lake Louise Christian Camp offers overnight summer camp for elementary students, middle schoolers, high schoolers, and families. The camp has swimming, kayaking, hiking in the woods around Thumb Lake, campfires, and more fun activities.

Read a description of the 12 camps offered this summer [here](#) or via this QR code.



**Don't wait!  
Register Now!**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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## CROP WALK 2025

“May the Fourth be with you” as you walk in this year’s CROP Hunger Walk on **Sunday, May 4th!** This will be Orchard’s 40th year of walking, to raise awareness and funds for Church World Service, whose work focuses on hunger, disaster relief and displacements.

To participate in this important Walk, go to Orchard’s team page [here](#).

Then you may choose to JOIN THE TEAM or DONATE to the team. Scroll down to sponsor a particular walker from our team. Everyone can do one or the other, and that is how Team Orchard UMC has become the #1 fundraising team in the nation! Once registered, you can begin soliciting funds online and via Facebook. Checks are also accepted and should be made out to CWS/CROP.

The Walk starts at Farmington First UMC on Grand River in downtown Farmington. We will begin gathering at 1 p.m. for a team photo, and then go into the Sanctuary for some words of appreciation, instruction, prayer and a special send-off before the Walk commences at 1:30 pm.

In addition to getting some fresh air and exercise on the 1 mile or 3.55 mile routes, you will receive a FREE t-shirt, and some ice cream when you finish. And you can leave, knowing you have made a difference in our world and local community (where 25% of the funds raised are divided by 6 local food pantries). So, grab a friend, take a walk together and catch up!

Please direct any questions to DyAnn St.Clair at [dyannstclair@aol.com](mailto:dyannstclair@aol.com)



## MAYFAIR MOM 2 MOM SALE

*Mom 2 Mom Sale*

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MAYFAIR CO-OP PRESCHOOL  
MAY 3RD, 2025

VENDOR  
REGISTRATION:  
**\$20 PER SPOT**

**9AM - 12PM**

ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST  
30450 FARMINGTON RD  
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334

**\*OUTDOORS WEATHER PERMITTING\***

QUESTIONS? EMAIL:  
[MAYFAIRFUNDRAISING@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MAYFAIRFUNDRAISING@GMAIL.COM)



## SPRING FLOWER SALE!



Order your hanging baskets, patio pots, flats, or vegetable plants here! Flowers are great Mother's Day gifts. Proceeds will help fund special youth and children's programs at Orchard. Order via this (linked) QR code or at the Welcome Desk. **Orders are due by April 16.**



## FROM THE WELCOME DESK...

The Welcome Desk isn't just a place for guests new to Orchard. People already active at Orchard should come visit the Welcome Desk to sign up for activities and find ways to be involved in the life of the church.

There are signup sheets currently at the Welcome Desk for people to bring goodies on Sunday mornings for coffee fellowship, to be a Communion server and to order Easter flowers.

Information is available for Sunday morning activities that are ongoing between services for children and adults.

Please be sure to wear your name tag on Sundays. We know our name and our friends know our name, but name tags help our guests be able to put names with faces. Name tags are located in the Narthex near the Welcome Desk. If you don't have a permanent name tag, or have misplaced yours and need a replacement, please add your name to the list at the Welcome Desk.

Face masks, cough drops and offering envelopes are in a basket at the Welcome Desk. All of these items are FREE for the taking!

Please stop by the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings. You'll be greeted warmly by the volunteer there who can help get you connected and answer any questions you might have. You are welcome at the Welcome Desk!

-Nancy Howland, Welcome Desk Coordinator



## WELCOME BABY RAMONA

Deacon Laura is a grandmother! Ramona Lee Speiran was born in the early hours of Saturday, March 22nd. She unexpectedly arrived a week early at home, but she measured 8 lbs. 5 oz. and 19 1/2 in long. Everyone is doing well.

## HARVESTER NOTICE

Starting in June, the Harvester will be incorporated into Orchard's weekly emails. Pastor Paul's monthly article will be included in the first email of each month and will be posted on Orchard's website.



# April Birthdays

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FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	DATE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	DATE
Lauren	Mann	04/01	Courtney	Wright	04/22
Allison	Mann	04/01	Jerry	Chilson	04/22
Molly	Goudeseune	04/01	Alma	Tatem	04/22
Cooper	Drossos	04/01	Jamie	Bodenhafer	04/23
Lauren	Meekmann	04/01	Diane	Holden	04/23
Josh	Schmidt	04/02	Mike	Tesauro	04/23
Doris	Edwards	04/03	Jessica	Pellegrino	04/23
Doug	Grimes	04/03	Gary	Van Haren	04/24
Mattison	Mason	04/04	Shauna	Murphy	04/24
Virginia	Van Cott	04/04	Jay	Kirby	04/25
Shaylin	Matthews	04/04	Adalynn	Mason	04/25
Marion	Wood	04/05	Conrad	Schug	04/25
Reese	Salley	04/05	Brandon	Dutton	04/26
Samantha	Dutton	04/05	Tim	Aben	04/26
Jan	Rigterink	04/06	Fred	Porter	04/27
Angela	Huston	04/06	Drew	Sawmiller	04/27
Brandon	Jackson	04/06	Hugo	Chipot	04/28
Katrina	Carson	04/07	Miles	Busch	04/28
Jennifer	TabEEK	04/07	Nicole	Sonnenberg	04/29
Rebekah	Kim	04/07	Melissa	Harrison	04/30
Kenzie	Snyder	04/08	Melissa	O'Neil	04/30
Samantha	Price	04/09	Dexter	Frick	04/30
Chris	Spencer	04/09			
Sam	Heffelbower	04/10			
Norm	Schmidt	04/11			
Wayne	Paddock	04/11			
Christian	Karres	04/11			
Eric	Blankinship	04/12			
Patti	TabEEK	04/13			
Brooklyn	Gibney	04/13			
Barbara	Kulkis	04/14			
Laura	Chapman	04/14			
Madison	Smith	04/15			
Jacob	Cairo	04/16			
Jennifer	Bussone	04/18			
Derik	Gretzinger	04/18			
Kay	Raymond	04/18			
Bev	Stacy	04/18			
Julie	Larson	04/19			
Ginny	Hogg	04/19			
Jessica	MacDougall	04/19			
Michael	Gibney	04/20			
Sophia	Sarti	04/21			
Barb	Joiner	04/21			
James	Johnson	04/21			
Todd	Van Haren	04/21			

HAPPY!  
Birthday  
TO YOU