



Tecumseh United Methodist Church

Christ's compassionate community in Tecumseh;
Loving and serving prayerfully and unconditionally

Wednesday 23 September 2020

2020 Charge Conference - Done!

This year's Charge Conference took place Monday 22 September via Zoom. SPRC and the District Superintendent met first followed by the charge conference meeting. At that meeting we approved the nominations list of who is doing what, a list that our Ad Council is authorized to alter as needed. We also voted on Pastor Mark's compensation for 2021, professional expenses (covering the trip to Annual Conference and continuing education), and the

home furnishings allowance he can declare on his taxes. Membership numbers were reported and have not changed. And we were able to report a healthy 62% payment of our Ministry Shares obligation so far this year. That was all. Unlike other years, there were no devotions, music, or preaching/coaching/cajoling by the D.S. Being a virtual meeting, the agenda was stripped down to the necessities.

Tecumseh Service Club Items for October

Although there is a variety of goods the Tecumseh Service Club gives away to people in need, we are focused on the following item during October:

Shampoo, Conditioner, and Dish washing soap

Please bring your donation to worship the 2nd Sunday of October (10/11).

Thank you!

Women of Faith

The Women of Faith will meet **Monday, Sept. 28, 7:00pm**, in the Fellowship Hall. We will be assembling **School Kits**. Please wear a mask to the meeting.

Sometimes It Just Won't Fly

Like the plethora of early experimental aircraft from the earliest days of flying, the Wednesday evening **Midweek Online Gathering** has failed to get off the ground. Consequently, the event has been grounded and the Midweek Online Gathering canceled.



Blessing of the Animals



Even if you don't have a wolf, camel, puffin, or sheep to be blessed, bring your beloved animal, pet, or furry (or scaly) friend to the Blessing of the Animals.

When: Saturday 3 October, 10:00am

Where: First Presbyterian Church of Tecumseh (on the boulevard across from Martin's Home Center)

Pastor Mark will be joining the pastors of 1st Presbyterian and Gloria Dei to offer God's blessing.

Coronavirus Confusion - Deciphering the 10-Person Rule

If the rule on indoor and outdoor gatherings were computer code, it might look like this:

```

if (location == "out") then
  if (nPerson <= 100) then
    commence_event
  else
    too_many!
    penalty
  endif
else
  ! assume location is "in"
  if (nPerson <= 10) then
    commence_event
  else
    if (church) then
      if (worship) then
        commence_worship
      else
        too_many!
        penalty
      endif
    else
      too_many!
      penalty
    endif
  endif
endif
endif

```

The current rule per executive order from the governor's office is that outdoor gatherings cannot exceed 100 persons and indoor gatherings cannot exceed 10 persons. *However*, churches and other houses of worship have an exemption from penalty when conducting a *worship* service. This applies only to worship. Any other event, such as a community dinner, concert, Kiwanis or Rotary meeting, or quilting bee, is restricted to 10 persons. I believe this applies to church meetings, study groups, and classes as well.

So, how do we do a meeting or class that involves more than 10 persons?

Good question. . . We could split a large class into a couple smaller classes. The disadvantage of this is the need for another person to lead the other class.

Another option, and the one we will most likely try first, is to set up equipment in the classroom (fellowship hall or wherever) to allow a Zoom session by which people can remotely join the class. If it works, we can use this setup to provide a way for people to attend the class who cannot come to the church.

A New Member of the Church Eternal

Gerald McKeever has left this world to join the Church eternal on 18 September 2020. We offer our condolences and prayers to his family, including his daughter Kendra Renner.

A visitation will take place at Purse Funeral Home in Tecumseh on Friday, 25 September, at 12:00pm followed by a memorial service at 1:00pm. Pastor Mark will officiate the memorial and committal.