



Tecumseh United Methodist Church

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

Wednesday 14 October 2020

Fall Color Comes to Tecumseh UMC

The fall colors are coming on and they are gorgeous this year, and you don't need to drive half-way across the state to see them.



“God’s paintbrush” (as one parishioner recently call the fall color) has been busy all around town. There are beautiful yellows, oranges, and reds all around town.

Want a scenic stroll? Try Brookside Cemetery where the trees are showing off now.

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Keeping the Church Free From Trouble with the IRS

It seems that if we're not preoccupied with the Coronavirus pandemic then we are consumed with the politics of the upcoming general election. Interest and opinion are intense, and so are people's feelings. Thus, this is an appropriate moment for a reminder of how we as a church avoid the trouble of losing our tax-exempt status due to straying into political activism.

As a church, this is what we can say:

Vote!

Beyond that we **shall not**

- directly or indirectly participate in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for elective public office or intervene in opposition to any candidate's campaign. The church will not choose sides, voice a preference, or display campaign signs on the lawn (including the lawn of the parsonage).
- contribute funds to any political campaign.
- host voter education activities or forums with an expressed bias for a particular political candidate or party. This includes providing voter registration information in a way that favors one candidate over another.

We can engage in voter education and get-out-the-vote drives as long as they are strictly non-partisan.

Again, the position and message of Tecumseh UMC with regard to this year's election is that we encourage all who are qualified to **participate in the vote**.

In case you're curious, pastors are allowed their free speech with regard to their views on political matters as long as they avoid doing so while speaking for the church or at official church functions.

When Pastor Mark was asked his view of the presidential candidates, he replied, "Oh, those guys. Between work and watching old movies on TCM I haven't had time to think about it."

For more information on the IRS requirements, take a look at IRS publication 1828 at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1828.pdf>.

Something New in the Kitchen

Cabinets! They're functional and they look it. Check it out:



School Kits . . . Lots of School Kits!

The Women of Faith met on Monday 28 September and assembled 160 school kits for children in Nicaragua. Many thanks to Barb Wheeler for sewing the tote bags.

With the congregation's help, they collected and packed

- 480 8/5x11" notebooks
- 160 scissors
- 160 boxes of crayons
- 960 pencils
- 160 pencil sharpeners
- 160 erasers
- 160 foot-long rulers

It's good work! Thank you!

Walk to End Alzheimer's during the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Alzheimer's walk we in which we have participated over the last several years is adapting to the pandemic. There is no walk in Adrian this year but our walking group, the TUMC Faith Walkers are participating in a virtual walk.

Please consider supporting the effort by [clicking on this link](#). From there, you can make a donation by credit card or PayPal.

Tecumseh Fresh Food Initiative

This coming Saturday – 17 October, beginning at 12:00pm.

If you or someone you know needs help stocking your pantry, come and receive a box of food, prepackaged and delivered to your vehicle.

Coming Soon - All Saints Sunday

All Saints Sunday is 1 November 2020 this year. This is the day that we remember the saints who have gone ahead of us into God's eternal presence and joy.

We will take a moment during worship to voice the names of the saints.

If you have a loved one you wish remembered in this way during worship, please give that name to Pastor Mark or call the church office.

Godspeed Barb, We'll Miss You

On 24 September, Barbara Records joined the Church eternal. We offer our condolences and prayer to her family, especially her daughter, Sally Ceresko.

Get Involved With Worship

We have three opportunities to be involved with leading and facilitating Sunday worship:

Handbell Choir

Our world famous Bell Choir is returning and begins rehearsals on Thursday, 5 November at 6:30pm. If you have been performing with the Bells, come. If you have wanted to try bell ringing, come. If you have any questions, call the church office, contact Pastor Mark, or get in touch with Rich Randolph. It's not just musical (and it is!) but a lot of fun!

Serve as a Liturgist

If you can read and talk (at the same time), you can be a liturgist. Although we've used the term "lay reader," the proper term is "liturgist"--one who participates in "liturgy," literally "the work of the people."

We need at least one, if not two, liturgists to help lead worship each

week. It's a great way to participate in worship.

Pastor Mark is planning a Liturgy Workshop that will take place sometime within the next month.

If you are interested, contact Pastor Mark.

Video Display Operators Needed

For the foreseeable future we will not be using printed bulletins and we will be getting a lot of use out of our new display screens. So . . . we need people who can operate the computer program that drives the screens. In other words, we need someone who can push a button (yes—it's nearly that easy).

If you are willing to help with this task during worship, contact Pastor Mark.