



Tecumseh United Methodist Church

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

Wednesday 2 December 2020

If You Have a Phone, You Can Listen to Worship

Beginning this week, the previous Sunday's worship podcast will be available through the telephone. We have subscribed to a service that provides a phone number and a place to upload the audio of a worship service, sermon, or whatever. To listen, dial the number and the audio is played back through the phone.

This will now allow us to reach everyone in the congregation as long as they have phone service.

Phone Number: **517-208-0087** 11/29 Worship Podcast

If you know someone who does not have access to the internet, please let them know about this opportunity.

Tecumseh Fresh Food Initiative (TFFI) Returns to Tecumseh UMC

TFFI is under new management--us. Our community partners (Tecumseh First Presbyterian Church, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Newsong Community Church, Tecumseh Kiwanis) have parted company with us in order to branch out and do something else under the auspices of the Lenawee Community Foundation. Although this leaves us on our own, we should be able to continue the ministry even though we will miss the collaboration by others in the community.

Many thanks to all who have made this work, from our dedicated community

partners (listed above) to our own hard-working leaders and volunteers from our church (Jan J., Dick N., Brad P., Carol P., Sharon M.).

We will continue to help feed people and families in need in our area.

Our next food distribution is this Saturday, 12/5 beginning at 12:00pm.

P.S. – as with many separations, feelings are running high because everyone involved is more than a bit passionate about feeding people in need. I offer my apology for any hurt that has been suffered during this transition.

Adult Sunday School Is Doing an Advent Study

The Adult Sunday School class is taking a break from their study of racial justice issues to spend a few weeks doing a Bible study for Advent. We are looking at some of the ancient (i.e. Old Testament) hopes and expectations for deliverance and salvation that provide the context for understanding the birth of Jesus as the early church did.

Last Sunday we began with some background and history. The class notes can be found on our website at <http://www.tecumsehunc.org/> under the heading of Basic Faith.

This coming Sunday, we're looking at **Isaiah 7:10-16** and **Isaiah 9:2. 6-7**. Class notes will be available on our website.

The class meets online through Zoom **Sunday at 10:30am** for about 45-50 minutes. Zoom access:

<https://zoom.us/j/91539090835?pwd=ekZ4eVV0M0RybW5UNGhsSkY4QW1SUT09>
Meeting ID: 915 3909 0835 Passcode: 774066 Phone Access: 312 626 6799

Need Help With Zoom?
Don't fight with it or walk away from it. Let Pastor Mark know and he can help.

Sunday Online Coffee Hour

We aren't meeting for worship but we can get together (virtually) for Coffee Hour.

When: Sunday at 11:30am.

Where: Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/91448031058?pwd=NINJclpubGIITnBOT0F1Z09STFJ4UT09>
Meeting ID: 914 4803 1058 Passcode: 683423 Phone Access: 312 626 6799

December Collection for the Tecumseh Service Club

The Tecumseh Service Club distributes a variety of assistance to people and families in need in Northeast Lenawee County. Each month we focus on one item or group of items, collect donations on the 2nd Sunday of each month and send them to the T.S.C.

This month (December), we are collecting **blankets**. Bring them to the church. You can leave your donation in a bin near the north door.

A Report from the Treasurers:

God has blessed this church. God has blessed the generosity of the congregation throughout the duration of the coronavirus pandemic. So, here's a big thanks to all of you for your offerings, prayers, and support during this challenging time.

Yes we have paid all of our bills and salaries. Basically, God has given us only what we needed and very little more. Our ministry shares (apportionments) for the year

were \$21,972 and we have managed to pay half, \$10,333.80, about twice the amount paid last year. Of course we could do better by paying more of the ministry shares.

Our expenses were less during the pandemic due to two factors; the first was due to our church secretary, Mary Ann not working due to her illness and volunteers taking over some of her responsibilities, the second was due to the church being closed salaries were less for much of the last 8 months.

As we go forward, may God continue to protect you from the coronavirus and may you continue to support TUMC through your generous offerings, prayers and attendance.

Duane Koppelman - Chairperson of Finance Committee

Designing Christmas Eve

by Pastor Mark

Without being able to gather, Christmas Eve presents a new problem this year. I am planning on a worship service based on the traditional “lessons and carols” format. In other words, Bible readings and music.

We have a couple options how we produce this:

1. Audio podcast (which is what I’ve been doing all along). Piece-of-cake—I do this now.
2. Recorded video, which would involve readings and music being recorded and then stitched together. This would take a series of recording sessions in our sanctuary to capture readings and music. I can mix, master, and provide access from our website and Facebook.
3. Live streamed video . . . uh, No

My preference is NOT #3. I plan on figuring out how to do #2 this week so we can have it as a viable option.

So far, I have 6 Bible readings, 2 that I’d like to do (leaving 4 for a lay reader – Kelli G?) and slots for at least 7 pieces of music.

The readings (other than the ones I’d like to do) are:

- Luke 1:26-38 – Mary learns about her miracle pregnancy w/out a pregnancy test kit
- Luke 1:46-55 – Mary provides material for the libretto of Handel’s “Messiah” (“My soul doth magnify the Lord . . .”)
- Luke 2:1-7 – Mary & Joseph, should have booked a room in in Bethlehem with Airbnb. Instead, they couldn’t find a room in Bethlehem and had to camp out in a barn to give birth to Jesus.
- Luke 2:8-14 – Shepherds minding their own business outside Bethlehem are dragged into the most important event in the universe (up to that time) by being the 1st to learn of Jesus’ birth.
- Luke 2:15-20 – The same shepherds drop everything, hire a babysitter to hang out with their sheep and then head into town to find the newborn Jesus.

Well . . . this is what I have so far. If you can help with any of it, let me know.