

INDIANA UNITED METHODIST HERITAGE CHURCH AWARD

The Commission on Archives and History of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church has established the Heritage Church Award and recognition as the highest award a United Methodist church can earn regarding its historical work. Churches that receive the Heritage Church Award will be premier examples of churches which are using their history to inform and inspire their present ministries.

To be considered, a church must meet the following requirements:

STANDARDS AND PREREQUISITES:

- 1) The local church must have a listed Church Historian on their Charge Conference report.
- 2) The local church must have an active History Committee in place with the membership listed with the Conf. Commission on Archives and History.
- 3) The Church Historian must be a trained historian either through the Indiana Local Church Historian's School, a Commission workshop, a program of mentoring by a local church with an active archives and history program, or be trained by the Archivist or staff from the DePauw University Archives or an acceptable equivalent.
- 4) The church must show they have consulted with the Indiana Methodist Archives and its Archivist or staff to learn about their local church's heritage and for the preservation of local church artifacts.
- 5) The church must have the church historical information, records and documents (such as meeting minutes or information about special events) filed in an organized manner and be available for viewing and research.
- 6) The church must have a permanent area within the building for presentation and display of pictures and photos, of artifacts and other meaningful objects that are special and unique to that church.
- 7) The church shall have demonstrated a regular track record of learning from and celebrating their history, heritage and legacy. Possible examples:
 - a. Historical articles included in newsletters, emails, and bulletin boards which bring the history of the local church into connection with current ministries of the church today.
 - b. Events or opportunities to present information by the Historian (and/or the church History Committee) bringing local church history to the attention of the entire congregation.
 - c. Participation in Heritage Sunday during Sunday worship when a presentation from the front could be made by the Historian or committee recognizing our great U.M heritage.
 - d. Holding an Anniversary Sunday recognizing the date of the local church's founding (or other such special days in the history of the local church).
 - e. The church historian may consult with the pastor and church council leaders to gather historical information which can help current leaders understand their past and make decisions about present & future ministries.

OVER . . .

PROCESS OF APPLICATION:

Any church may apply for the Heritage Church Recognition by using the fillable .pdf application document accessible on the IN UMC Conference website under *Ministries/Connectional/Commission on Archives & History/Resources*.

Save the application form to your desktop and fill it out electronically and/or print it and fill it in by hand.

Then mail the completed application form along with all relevant information/documentation to:

The Commission on Archives and History
Care of the Assistant to the Director of Connectional Ministries
301 Pennsylvania Parkway, Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46280

Upon receiving application, the Indiana UMC Commission on Archives and History will evaluate the application and determine if a church has adequately met the requirements to be recognized as a Heritage Church.

The award will consist of an engraved plaque or a framed citation of merit from the Indiana Conference Commission on Archives and History.