

400 Center Drive
Tecumseh, Michigan
August 14, 1954

Dear Brethren:

I am writing you in the interest of the church here in Tecumseh. The church was started December 1, 1952 in the home of Brother L. S. Rucker, my son-in-law, with whom I am living, with 12 members. Twenty three were in attendance. May 1, 1953 we rented a hall on the second floor of the Sage building at a rental of \$35.00 per month. We met there until August 1, 1954 when we purchased the Catholic church building at Chicago Boulevard and Oneida Street.

We now have 23 members, with an attendance of from 30 to 50 at the Morning services.

We purchased the building for \$12,600, with a down payment of \$2,000, and \$50.00 per month plus interest at 5%; Making a monthly payment of about \$100, plus light, heat, and general expenses.

While the church was free of indebtedness we had no money on hand with which to make the down payment, three of our members were able to borrow the \$2000 temporarily until such time as we can raise it through donations from our brethren. The congregation can take care of the monthly payments and running expenses, but it is very urgent that we raise at least the \$2000 at the earliest date possible.

Brother Rucker is preaching for us without remuneration, and has promised to do so until the congregation is strong enough to employ a preacher. He has his home here as most of our members, and is employed at the Tecumseh Products Company, where he has worked for the last 8 years.

Tecumseh is a city of about 5000 people, and is one of the fastest growing cities in Michigan. The Tecumseh Products is known as the largest independent manufacturer of refrigeration units in the world, and now holds 85% of the world's air conditioning business. They employ about 4500 in Tecumseh alone at their peak, and every year shows a remarkable growth. They also have plants in Marion, Ohio; Danville, Illinois; and Los Angeles, California. Three new subdivisions are being developed now; and employees are given a very attractive inducement to buy their homes and move here by the Tecumseh Products Company.

I am enclosing a picture of the church building we have bought. It is built of rough, unhewn stone blocks set in cement; and has an attractive appearance inside and outside. This makes it possible to reach this city with the Truth in a dignified manner and grow with the city.

In the eight years that Brother Rucker has worked in Tecumseh he has been mainly instrumental in establishing three congregations in this vicinity, namely, Adrian, Monroe, and Tecumseh. The first two now have full time preachers. And now Tecumseh seems to have even brighter prospects.

Brother A. W. Hastings, minister of the Whitney Hills congregation in Toledo has seen our building and knows some of the members writes as follows: "The property secured by the church in Tecumseh, Michigan on East Chicago Boulevard is ideally located on the main street, is well constructed, and suitable for the work of the church for many years. They are securing this stone church building for a fraction of what it would cost today to build. Churches everywhere should seek to fellowship these brethren in paying for the building as soon as possible, so that they may be permitted to increase their efforts to Evangelize this rapidly growing city.

A. W. Hastings."

Likewise Brother Greer E. Hendon, minister of the Western Avenue congregation in Toledo, writes: "It gives me great pleasure to know of the great opportunities that are open for the church in Tecumseh, Michigan. They have recently purchased a building that is a credit to any community and at a real bargain price. They are few in number and are worthy of any help that could be given to help them over the down payment on this building. We at Western Avenue think enough of it that we have done what we could to encourage them.

Sincerely,
Greer E. Hendon."

I have now passed my 90th birthday and have given most of my life to preaching. Establishing and encouraging New Testament congregations in Michigan and I pray God that I may live to see this little congregation well established in their own building. Their prospects seem to be very bright; and your contribution, whether large or small, will be greatly appreciated, and will help greatly in the spread of His Kingdom.

Mail all contributions to Church of Christ, G. B. Doyle, Treasurer, Box 452, Tecumseh, Michigan.

In His Name,

C. B. Clifton

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