

Parsonage informational meeting. 10.18.2026

The East and West church councils have been working on options for what to do with the church parsonage and property. This conversation started with the idea of reducing the operating costs of the churches by removing or selling the parsonage. The parsonage has been underutilized for a long time, and the maintenance cost continues to increase. By eliminating the parsonage, we can take the income from the Ag land rent and split it between the churches to help with general operating costs. The joint council has already agreed to move the Pastor's and secretary's offices to the East church building and that will happen regardless of the outcome of the vote. The joint council has come up with three options that we would like the congregation to vote on:

1. Remove the parsonage and create a "green space" or park area for the congregations to use. This option eliminates the maintenance expense but keeps the property for future uses such as outdoor events for the churches or Heritage association. The most cost-effective way to remove the building would be to have an excavator tear it down and haul the debris away. The cost for the Asbestos abatement, demolition, backfill and reseeding would be about \$31,000, we currently have about \$19,000 in the parsonage account that would go towards this. With spring rent and some donations from church members it sounds like we can get the cost covered.
2. Sell the parsonage site and the wooded acres on the open market. We had a Realtor come in and look at the Parsonage and garage. She felt the property would be listed somewhere in the \$325,000 range depending on the final acres. With this option we give each church the largest financial benefit. This option would possibly limit options for the Heritage Association depending on how the land split would look and we would obviously lose control of who our neighbor would be at some point. We have spoken with TCPA regarding the split, it can be accomplished for a fee and we would have some survey expense as well.
3. The final option is to do nothing. We would drain the boiler system and shut off the heat and water to the building. This eliminates the bulk of our cost but we may still need to carry insurance on the structure.