

Mystery Guest Worship Card

Date of Visit: Dec 4, 2011

Church Name: Mt Carmel UMC Norcross GA

Pastor's Name: Cyndi McDonald

Visitor's Worship Style Preference: Traditional

WEB PRESENCE

Active, clear, accurate, updated?

YES!!!! Worship times and current activities all on the front page. The web presence is very engaging and makes me want to be a part of the church

EXTERIOR ISSUES

Parking Lot?

Grounds? Sidewalks? Landscaping?

Nice lot and very well marked. Visitor spots in front.

The grounds near the church look good and well maintained. The playground makes it appear that children are cared for by the church.

Entrance Walk up

Sanctuary not marked , but it was clear where it was.

Overall Rating: (1-needs much work; 10-good shape)

7

BUILDING INTERIOR:

Entry? Narthex?

Narthex is an odd holding space. The quality of the greeters made up for this space that could make people uncomfortable.

Inside Signage?

Excellent! Easy to find all the areas of the church I was interested in.

Halls and Walls?

The new parts of building are lovely, but if I just came for services I might miss the rest of the space. All of the building looks cared for.

Bathroom?

Well marked.

Nursery

I did not find the nursery for worship, but the Sunday school rooms looked great.

Sanctuary?

Looks good, I would like to see it when it is not prepared for the children program, but the missing furniture told me how much this church values its children.

Overall Rating:

9

HUMAN INTERACTIONS:

Neil Odum greeted me at the door. He asked if I was a first time visitor and gave me more information and escorted me inside to the ushers. He also came and checked on me during the passing of peace. I was greeted by the pastor, by my pew mate Judy Bagwell. Dorothy and Judy also introduced themselves to me. Everyone made me feel welcome and comfortable without making feel like they had never seen a visitor. It was clear that this church had a plan for welcoming visitors.

Age Aura of Congregation?

This worship service seemed older (I wonder if the contemporary service is younger, since I saw evidence of children everywhere)

Congregation Demeanor

warm and happy

Food/Coffee?

Found the coffee and doughnuts in the fellowship hall

Overall Rating:

8—This is the BEST first time visitor experience I have ever had.

Worship for First Time Visitors

Beginning Time: 10:55am

Exact Opening Words: Welcome, so glad to be with you this morning

How do you feel 10 minutes into service? Impressed with all that is going on

Prelude started at 11:10am

Energy level of service: medium to high

Focus is centered on: worship

Congregation is sensitive to: welcoming all that were a part of worship

Moments of Visitor Confusion: My confusion seemed to be anticipated and avoided by the whole congregation. The greeter returned to check on me during the passing of peace. My pew mate made sure I knew what do for the communion. I was even reassured after the service that they did not usually go past an hour.

Moments of 'very cool':.

Organist was awesome. Loved the bulletin cover by one of children of the church.

Ending Time:

12:15pm

Response to 'Standing & Lost':

Greeted and asked if they could help me. (all over the church)

Overall Rating:

8

AFTERGLOW REFLECTIONS:

Overall feeling of worship service

I have warm feelings about my experience. I felt myself wanting to be part of this church family. It was truly a wonderful experience.

Overall feeling of total visit:

Most memorable takeaway

The way I was greeted and cared for during the service made a real impression on me.

Strengths

The printed materials look great. My good impression from the service continued to the material I was given.

The congregation seems ready for and expecting visitors.

Things to consider:

Attendance pads could be updated

No one asked me for any information

North Georgia Office of Connectional Ministries
The United Methodist Church