UMCOM Site Migration

Choosing a new website provider can be a daunting task.
Here are some questions to ask and some options and next steps.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1 Assess Your Current Site

- Who maintains it?
- How often do you make updates?
- How many pages do you have currently?
- Do you want to continue to use WordPress?
- What features do you wish you had?

The answers to these questions will help your discernment.

2 Is Tithe.ly Right for You?

UMCOM has partnered with Tithe.ly to help churches transition from their UMCOM hosted sites to a new platform.

- If you are looking for something other than WordPress, this is a whole new platform designed for churches with church features.
- The price point is comparable at $19/month.
- They also have upgraded packages that include many additional features.
- They will migrate up to 4 pages for you. (You will have to build additional pages on your own using their system.)

Tithe.ly

3 Would you like to explore other options?

There are countless website platforms from which to choose. If you want to continue to use WordPress there are a number of companies that will migrate your entire site for you.
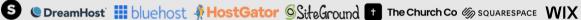
If you want a new platform but don't need all the 'extras' that Tithe.ly offers you may want to select a quick and easy content management system like Squarespace or Wix.

S · DreamHost · bluehost · HostGator · SiteGround · The Church Co · SQUARESPACE · WIX

4 Would a simple listing work best?

The UMC's 'Find a Church' page has listings for all UMC churches. You can update your photo, pastor's name, service times, and more there.

The VAUMC has a new Church Directory that also offers the opportunity to post a photo and basic information on your church page listing.

FIND A CHURCH

VAUMC Church Directory
Welcome to the new Online VAUMC Church Directory!

5 What's Next?

Using the information available to you, make the best selection for your church--one that considers the questions of how you use, update, and maintain your site as well as any dreams/desires for your continued and future presence on the internet.

If you have questions or need help, email **communications@vaumc.org** and we will do our best to assist you!

HOW CAN WE HELP?

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Assess Your Current Site

- Who maintains it?
- How often do you make updates?
- How many pages do you have currently?
- Do you want to continue to use WordPress?
- What features do you wish you had?
- What is your budget?

The answers to these questions will help your discernment.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU MAKE UPDATES?

Frequently

You should invest in a platform that has features you can take advantage of.

Monthly

You should look for a platform that is user-friendly.

Rarely

A simple page listing might be right for you.

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DO YOU WANT TO CONTINUE USING WORDPRESS?

No

Moving to Tithe.ly or another CMS could be a good option for you.

Yes

You will need to choose a company with a WordPress migration tool.

There are a number of web hosts like Siteground, Bluehost, Hostgator, Dreamhost, and more who will migrate an existing WordPress site over to their platform on your behalf or will assist you with the process.

HOW MANY PAGES DOES YOUR SITE HAVE?

If you want a new platform but don't need all the 'extras' that Tithe.ly offers, you may want to select a quick and easy content management system like Squarespace or Wix.

These options may or may not offer page building assistance.

1-4

Tithe.ly will build them for you on their platform.

5+

Tithe.ly will build the first 4 and you can either build the rest or pay extra for their assistance.

WHAT FEATURES DO YOU WISH YOU HAD?

If there are specific features you are interested in such as integrated online giving, sermon video/audio areas, event listings/calendar, registration forms, etc. you will want to be sure the platform you select has those. Different platforms have different price points and plan features/add-ons.

What's Next?

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