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Bronson United Methodist Church gives van to Living Hope Church



Pastor Mark Stiles (left) gives the keys and title to Pastor Chris Tucker.

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BRONSON – Helping another church to carry people across the highways and byways of life and through traffic, Bronson United Church on Ash Wednesday (March 1) gave a van to another church.



Pastor Chris Tucker (left) and Pastor Mark Stiles prepare to look into the van, which is in excellent condition,

Pastor Mark Stiles of Bronson United Methodist Church presented the keys to Pastor Chris Tucker of Living Hope Church of Bronson in a symbolic gesture. Of course, all of the proper title transfer action happened as well.

The presentation of the gift went relatively quickly as Pastor Stiles had just finished an Ash Wednesday service at the church in Bronson before going to perform a service at the other church where he serves Archer United Methodist Church.

The 1989 Ford Club Wagon XL had fewer than 50,000 miles on it. The tires looked like they had good tread and the interior was excellent. The 28-year-old van is in mint condition, except for perhaps the paint job on the body.

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As many people know, outward appearances are not as important as the inner workings.

Pastor Stiles said the United Methodist Church conference of Florida chose to ask churches to part with their 15-person vans about 10 years ago. Bronson United Methodist Church found a method to do this while helping others.

Living Hope Church has developed a need to have a van like this to help with its youth ministry.

“We are more than glad to do this,” Pastor Stiles said. “This is part of our reaching out to the community. Christian faith is all about cooperation between denominations, not separation by them.”

Pastor Tucker said he is thankful for the gracious gift presented to Living Hope Church by Bronson United Methodist Church.

“Churches hope to have a kingdom mentality,” Tucker said. “That is not to build ‘my church’ but instead to build His kingdom. It is things like this that allow that to happen.”