

Report to the Congregation

FUMC Discernment Team
March 8, 2020

Why a DISCERNMENT Team?

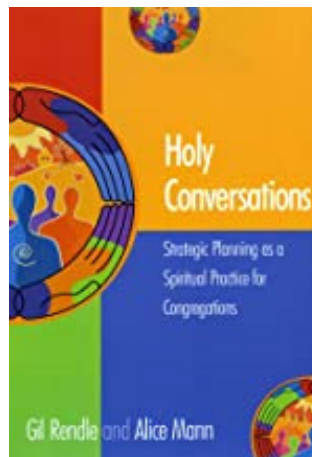
We are seeking God's will for our congregation



FUMC Discernment Team

- Norm Bryan – Co Chair
- Bill Stephens – Co-Chair
- Sonda Anderson
- Sam Cox
- Mike Ferrel
- Pat Hannon
- April Nichols
- Paul O’Rear
- Ian Riggle
- Bill Ward
- Pastor Lindsey Bell-Kerr
- Pastor Lori Sawdon

Resource Book – *Holy Conversations* Gil Rendle and Alice Mann

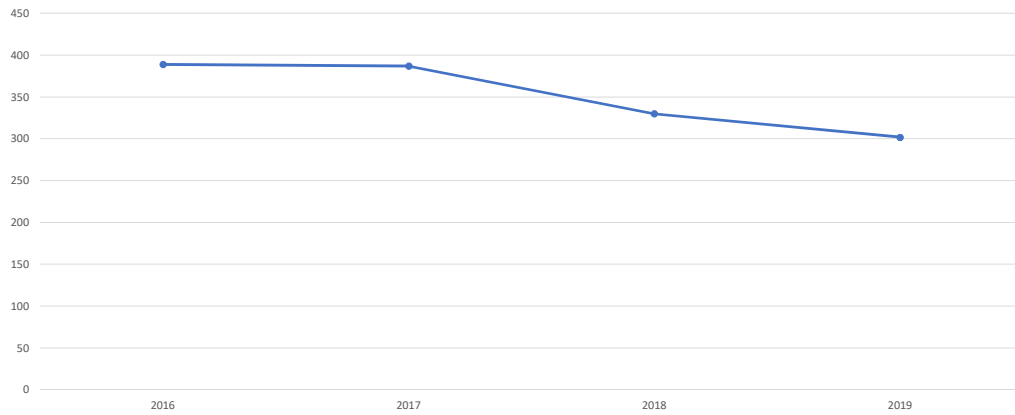


We are answering 3 questions:

- Who are we?
- Who is our neighbor?
- What is God calling us to do and be?

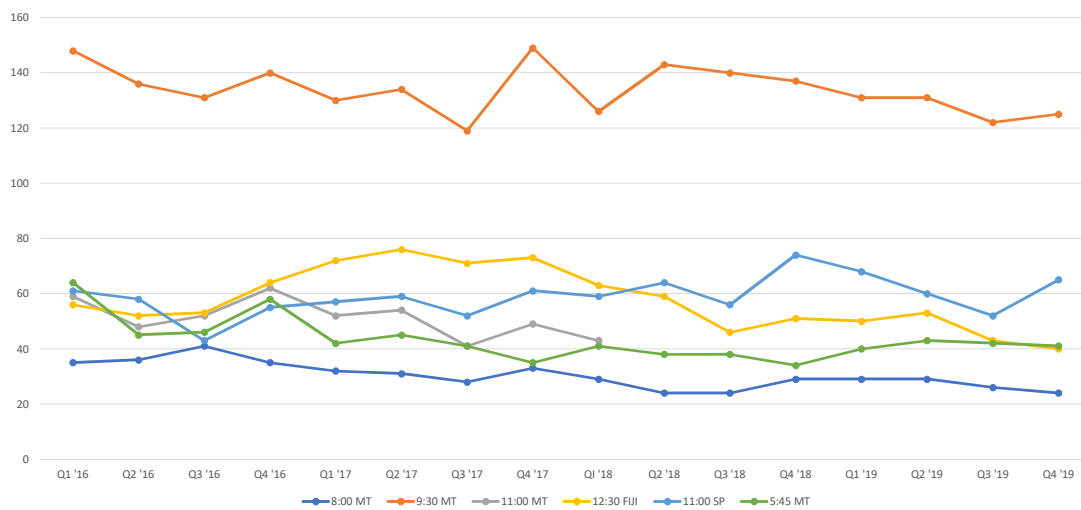
WHO ARE WE?

Average Weekly Attendance All Services - FUMC Santa Rosa



Attendance Trends – FUMC Santa Rosa

FUMC Santa Rosa Average Weekly Attendance



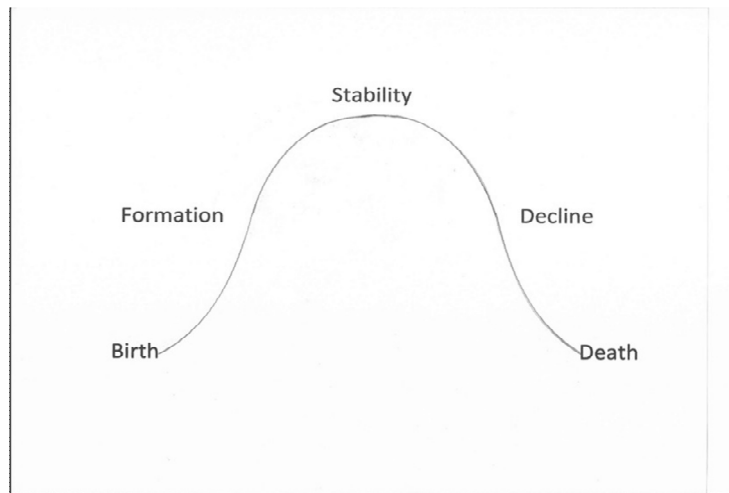
Age profile, Confirmed Members FUMC Santa Rosa

<u>Age range</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Percent</u>
13-17	11	4%
18-24	9	3%
25-34	5	2%
35-44	12	5%
45-54	15	6%
55-64	41	16%
65-74	53	20%
75+	<u>113</u>	<u>44%</u>
TOTAL	259	100%

FUMC Giving History

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Pledging Units</u>	<u>Average</u>
2013	\$785,514	219	\$3,587
2014	778,606	211	3,690
2015	784,086	192	4,083
2016	755,155	185	4,082
2017	752,471	178	4,227
2018	732,250	170	4,307
2019	672,991	154	4,370
2020	670,340	154	4,352

Life Cycle of a Church



Signature Ministries of FUMC Santa Rosa

- Children – k – 5th grade
- Fijian Language Ministry
- F.I.S.H. Collections & volunteer workers
- FUMC Preschool
- Music
- Reconciling Ministries
- Safe Parking
- Spirit Café
- United Methodist Women
- Volunteers in Mission
- Worship – 5 services
- Youth – 6th – 12th grade

Draft FUMC Core Values Reflect UMC Membership Vows¹

- Prayers
 - **Prayer is essential to our worship experience. Our private prayers connect us to God and our shared prayers connect us to one another.**
- Presence
 - **We offer our presence to all, no matter their circumstance. We share God's loving grace through our compassionate action.**

1. Based on Discernment Team work and input from the congregation.

- Gifts
 - **We value generosity and recognize it is sometimes sacrificial. We give of ourselves to bring God's love to those around us.**
- Service
 - **Our church's service is evident by our care for each other, especially in times of need, and through help for those at the margins in the community.**
- Witness
 - **We are the hands and feet of Christ and we witness through our welcome, inclusivity, and works of justice and compassion.**

WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

A decline in population & church activity

- 4,700 people have moved out of Sonoma County in the past 2 years
- Family households with children declined 11% 2010 to 2019
- School enrollment expected to decline 15% in next 10 years
- Active in a religious congregation; 32.4% in 2012, 28.5% in 2017

An aging population

- More than 25% of the county's population is over 60 years old, up 45,000 people since 2010
- Retirement opportunities (65 & over) 23,342 in 2010, 31,060 in 2019
- Family households with children declined 11% 2010 to 2019

Racial & Ethnic Diversity (Census Bureau categories)

- 2.2% Black/African American
- 4.8% Pacific Islander/American Indian/Other
- 4.9% Asian
- 30.5% Hispanic or Latino
- 57.7% White

High cost of living

- Affordability of housing – rent and owning
- Availability of housing drives up cost
- Santa Rosa 11th most wealthy community in the U.S. – *USA Today* article on 24/7 Wall Street study

City of Santa Rosa priorities for 2020

- Financial stability
- Recovery and resilience
- Housing
- Homelessness – Santa Rosa 3rd largest homeless population in California
- Climate action

WHAT IS GOD CALLING US TO DO AND BE?

What is God calling us to do and be?

This is the challenge for the discernment team.

We ask that you pray for this work, and seek out members of the team
and share your thoughts.