

## REPORT TO CHURCH COUNCIL of The Membership Committee

### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SANTA ROSA, CA

(May 2019)

#### **Name of Commission/Committee/Group: Membership Committee**

**Meetings are held** in the Library on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00pm.

**Purpose of the Commission/Committee/Group:** To keep track of our members so we know who's attending and who hasn't been with us for a while so we can contact them inviting them back.

**How does the purpose help fulfill the mission of FUMC?** We want to be a loving, supporting community of faith. In order to do that we need to keep track of our members and how they are doing.

#### **What are your activities/ programs/ ministries/ accomplishments for the last year?**

- Encouraged everyone to sign the pew pads each week.
- Office volunteers updated membership attendance into Power Church from the pew pads for the past several months (this had not been done for a while) and continue to record them weekly.
- Using Power Church, we have consolidated & reviewed absentee membership lists for the past 3 quarters. These reports are done with Power Church based on who signs the pew pads each Sunday and contained about 300 names. We discovered that many active members don't sign the pew pads so we spent a lot of time reviewing and removing names of people we know to be active. If a person is involved in any sector of church life, they are considered to be active (i.e. VIM, Angel's Attic, UMW, Youth programs, etc.)
- In January we had a calling campaign to those who we haven't seen in a while, inviting them back or leaving messages saying we missed them.
- We categorized the names based on responses.
- If we have not seen someone since 2017 we have placed their name in the inactive category. We will send out letters to them inviting them to return. If we are unable to locate someone by phone we will still mail them the letter to see if it comes back with an updated address.
- If someone has moved out of the area or is known to be attending another church, letters will be sent inviting them to transfer their membership or giving them the option

to withdraw their membership but also letting them know they can still stay on our membership roll if they wish. If there is no response they will remain on our inactive rolls.

- If they are listed as a shut-in (someone who cannot get out to attend regularly,) we will refer their name to the new Senior Ministries Staff person or to the hospitality committee for special attention and visitation.
- We have many new names of absentees since calls were made in January. We will call them and repeat the process with them.

### **What are your goals and plans for the next year?**

We will continue to run Absentee lists each quarter, hoping to contact those who we are not seeing in worship.

### **What goals or benchmarks have you set to measure success/effectiveness?**

- Greater worship attendance
- Shorter absentee lists
- Less members feeling like they are not important or their voices not being heard.

Respectfully submitted,

Membership Committee:

- Linda Morrisey
- Diane Jackson
- Diane Wikse
- Carmen Rapp
- Nancy Messinger
- Linda Dunbar
- Carolyn Durr
- Pat Sanborn