

Clerk's Report

First Pres was wonderfully served from January through June by Clerk of Session, Stuart Conrad, and we thank him so much for his service. Under Stuart's tenure, and with the help of Ataloa and Audrey in the church office, the church created a system for tracking all of our members and notifying Session when there are needs to be addressed.

2017 Membership Statistics

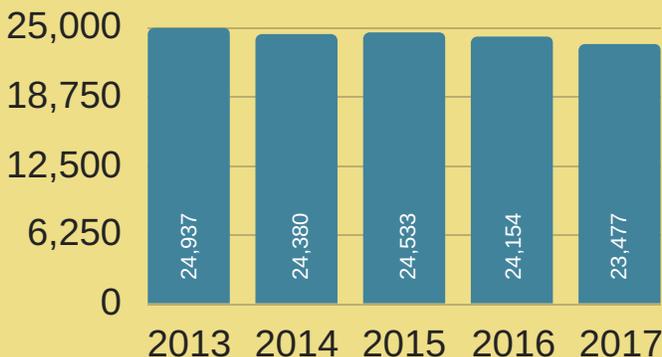
	Previous Membership	Additions	Deletions	Current Membership
As Of 12/31/2017	573	41	56	558
Inactive Membership	77	32	40	69

Members of Session and Deacons contacted church members personally as needs arose. Even as we have cleaned up our church roles by checking in with people who have moved or who are no longer participating, we have continued to see that the attendance at our worship services is similar to previous years. You can see evidence of this in the charts below.

In July, Carole DuPertuis and Daphne Saul became the new "Clerk of Session" team. Carole is the Ruling Elder and official Clerk, while Daphne serves as her assistant, typing the agendas and minutes for Session. The Ruling Elders determined that Session would have three priorities in all of their ministry work: Pre-emptive prayer, Testimonies, and Making Disciples. As you read the ministry team reports, you will find these priorities emphasized in much of the ministry that goes on at First Pres. In our own prayer and devotional times during Session meetings, we have also tried to focus on these priorities.

Carole and Daphne would both like to thank the congregation for the privilege of serving as Clerk of Session and Assistant Clerk of Session. We look forward excitedly to see what God has in store for First Pres in this new year.

Annual Sunday Worship Attendance



Leading The Congregation In Its Ministry Of Care And Compassion

One area that is especially important to the Deacons is our “In Touch” in ministry. The Deacons care for FPC members who have a hard time attending services regularly. The Deacons visit these members throughout the year and often visit with the family members as well. The Deacons may also request a pastoral visit or to have communion served to the “In Touch” members. The stories that come from these visits are shared during the monthly meetings and prayer requests from these members are honored at this time.

The Deacons regularly conclude their meeting with time for prayer requests from the “In Touch” visits as well as prayer requests from the congregation. It is the privilege of the Deacon team to pray regularly for these throughout the month. Chester Goodale has continued the wonderful work of Paul Marr under Prayer Ministries. He has recruited people to pray for the sermons, arranged for prayer teams to be present at the WednesdayNights@FPC Worship and Prayer Service and held a Prayer Team Breakfast in October.

The Deacons held their fourth annual retreat this year under the direction of Rev. Lana Roberts and Rev. Heidi Johnson from Danville Presbyterian Church. Walking through the two days of the retreat enabled each of us to understand the role of the Deacons in the Danville church and how we might look at the activities we perform in a different light. The two days were an inspiration to all of us.

Under the leadership of Rev. Lana Roberts, the Stephen’s Ministry is up and running. The Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation experiencing challenges in life, such as disability, job loss, grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization and many other life difficulties. Presently we have six active Stephen Ministers and two in training. We are giving one-to-one Christian Care to six people. We would like to thank Alan Knepper for facilitating the twice-monthly Supervision Group and to thank Debby and Mike Rader and Jim Swanson for their work as Stephen Ministry trainers.

The Deacons are also now teaming up with new members of the congregation for a year of partnership. We hope this partnership with the new members will assist them in getting to know our church in a more personal manner and feel more connected to the church and its mission.



Shelly Coburn

Deacon Moderator