

Church Information, History & Demographics

First Baptist Church, Madison WI
Janet W. Reinke, Transition Team
September 15, 2019

Gathering

- Find a seat
- With your tablemates, answer the multiple choice questions:



We'll start soon!

Agenda

9:00 Welcome and Overview

9:10 Discussion and Table Reports

9:35 Demographic Report

Who are we?

Who is our neighbor?

10:00 Dismissal

Some of you need to leave at 9:30 – we understand!

Welcome

Rev. Michael Newheart, Transitional Minister

Class Outline

September 15: Church information, history, and demographics

September 22: Congregational style, how others see us

September 29: What we believe, our vision for ministry

October 6: Church life, worship life, ministry priorities

We are going to build on the discernment process begun last fall.

Why talk about our history?

We need to clarify our identity: Who are we without Pastor Mark?

Basic information: Stories, beliefs, strengths, visions, and expectations

Where have we been? What have we learned? In what direction are we headed?

This will help supply basic information for writing our church profile.

Table Discussion: Our History

What are significant turning points in the life of our church? What in our history is important in shaping our vision of our future?

Choose a recorder for each table who will:

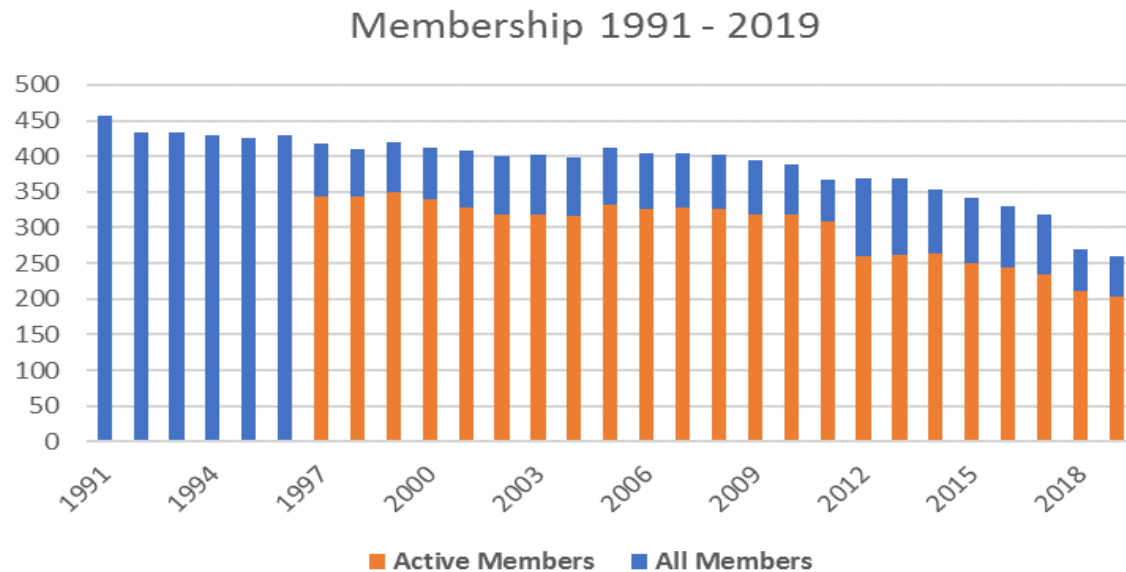
- Record the ideas
- Make sure everyone has a chance to talk
- Report out for the table

Demographic Information

1. First Baptist Membership
 - Thank you, Gene Dewey and Dennis Ray
2. Geographical Neighbors
 - Credit to the Community Profile Builder Guide, authors Andrew Whitehead and Jennifer McClure, and the Association of Religion Data Archives (www.theARDA.com)
3. Neighbors in Faith
 - Credit to the Association of Religion Data Archives (www.theARDA.com)

Discernment Process: We are worried about membership trends

Membership has been in decline for decades



1997: Active and non-resident members tracked separately.

2012: Active and inactive members tracked separately.

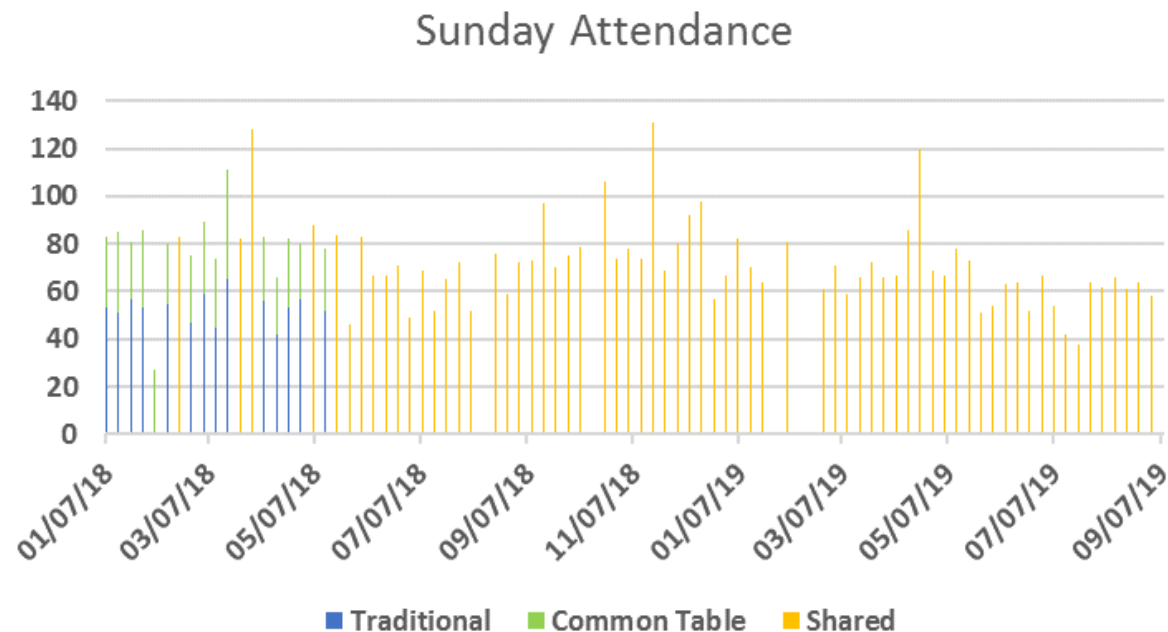
2018: Effort to reach inactive members – many dropped from roll.

In recent years, deaths have exceeded baptisms



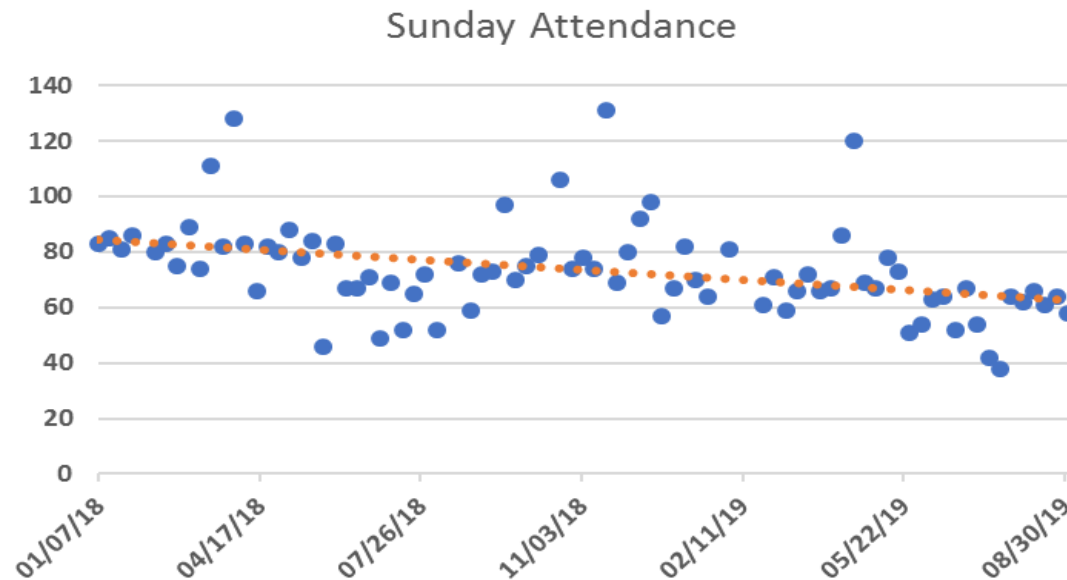
- Requests to join are close to requests to leave.
- Many members have been lost due to inactivity. This is most of the "other" category.

Sunday attendance is variable



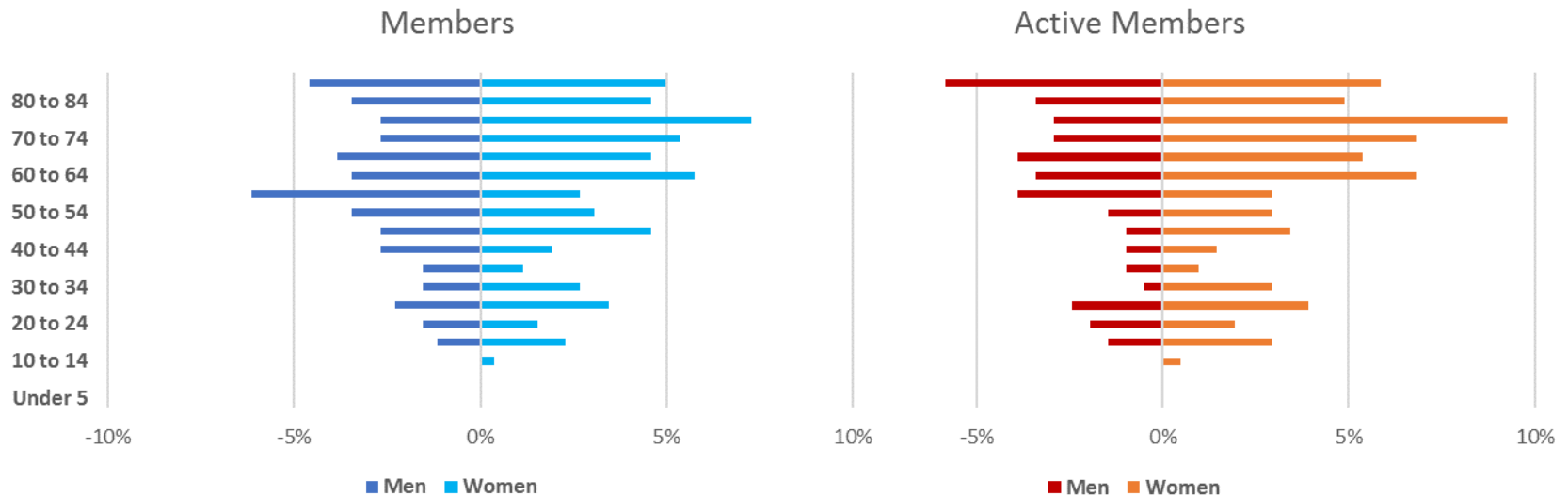
- Series begins Jan 2018.
- Common Table and Traditional Worship met separately through May 2018.
- Three peaks are Easters and Pastor Mark's last service.

Sunday attendance may have a downward trend.



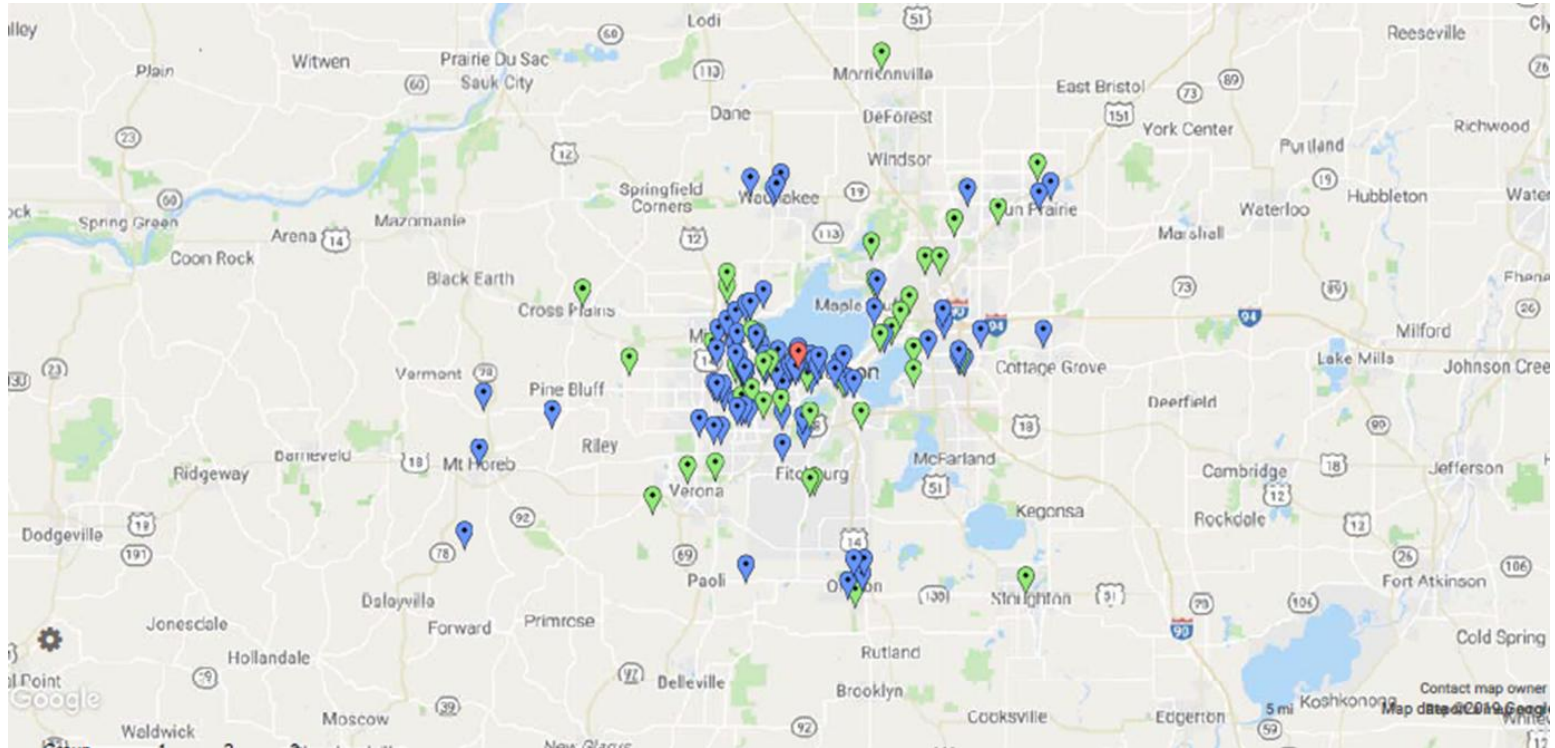
- Series begins Jan 2018.
- Three peaks are Easters and Pastor Mark's last service.
- The red dotted line is the straight-line trend.

Member age distribution is heaviest at older ages



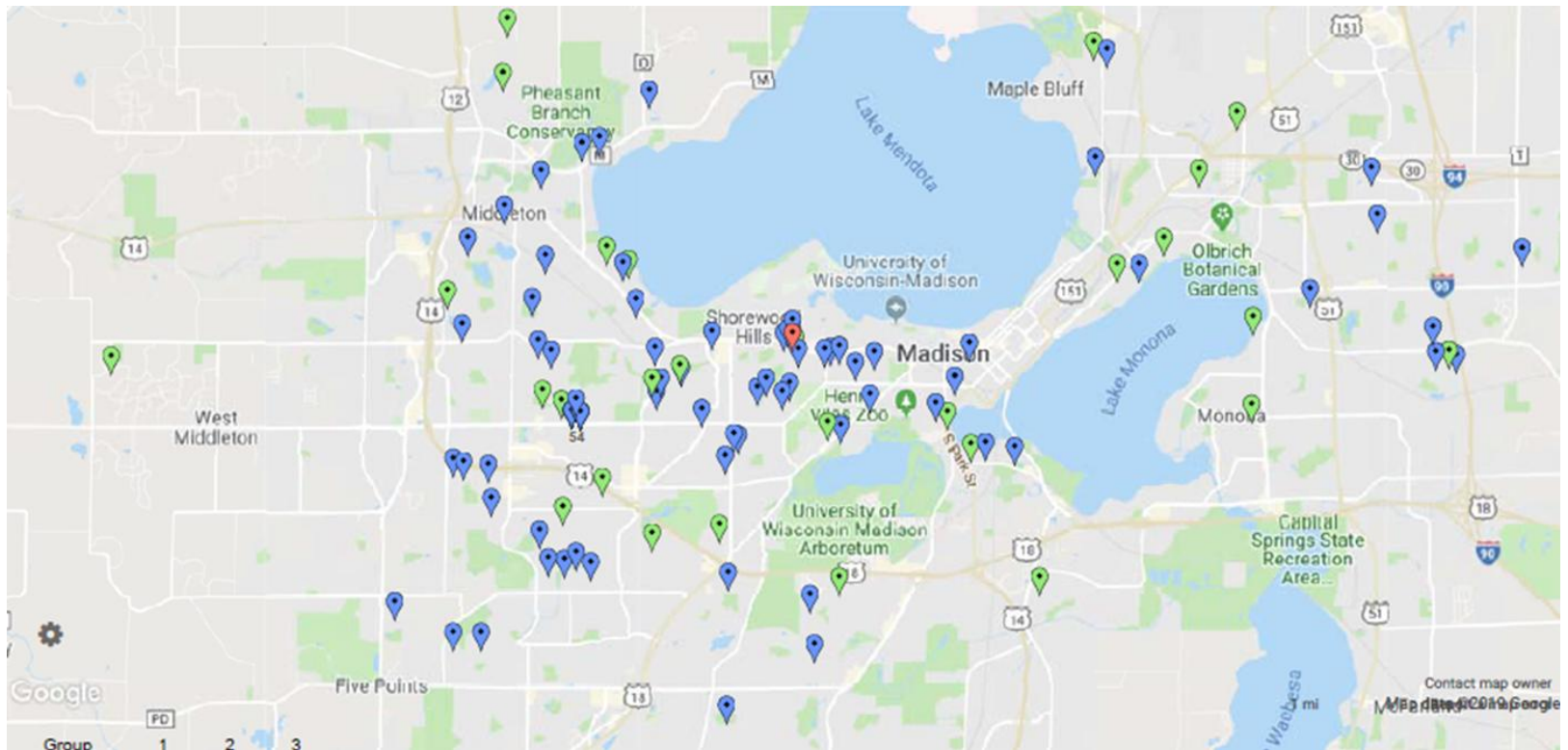
- Only members are included, so no young children.
- More women than men.

Membership is clustered in Madison



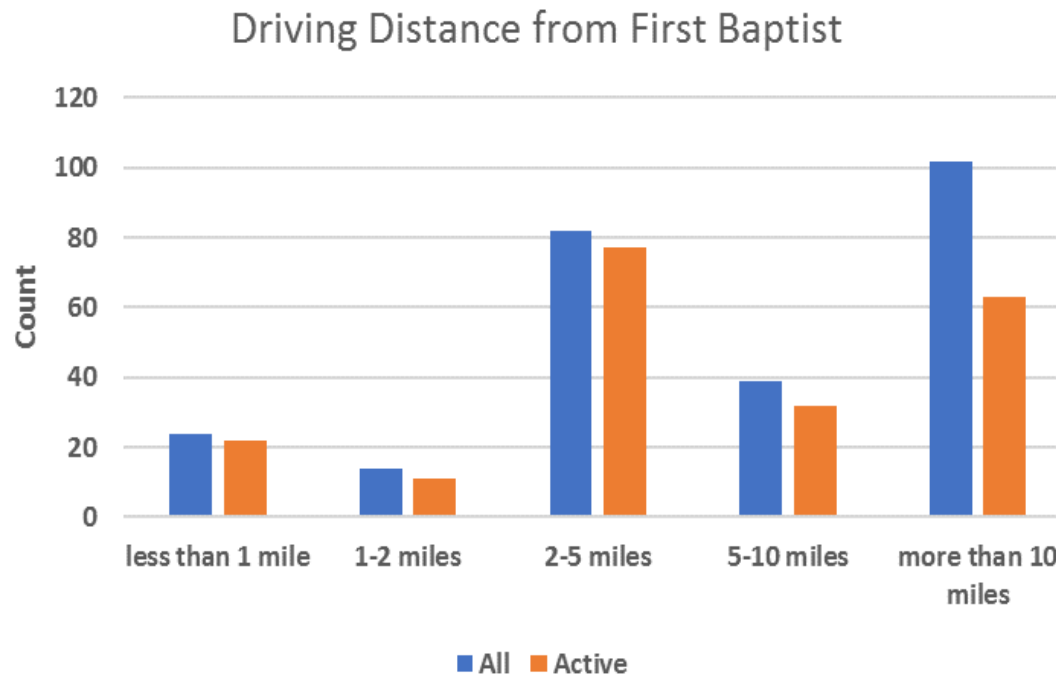
Red pin is First Baptist's building.

After zooming in: Membership is clustered on the west side of Madison



Red pin is First Baptist's building.

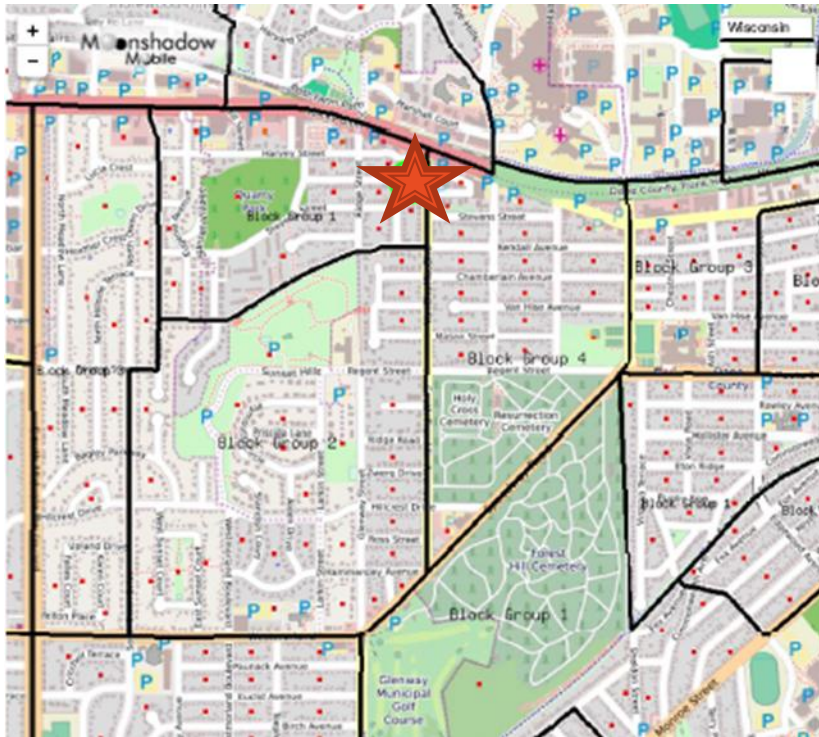
Inactive members are more likely to live far from church



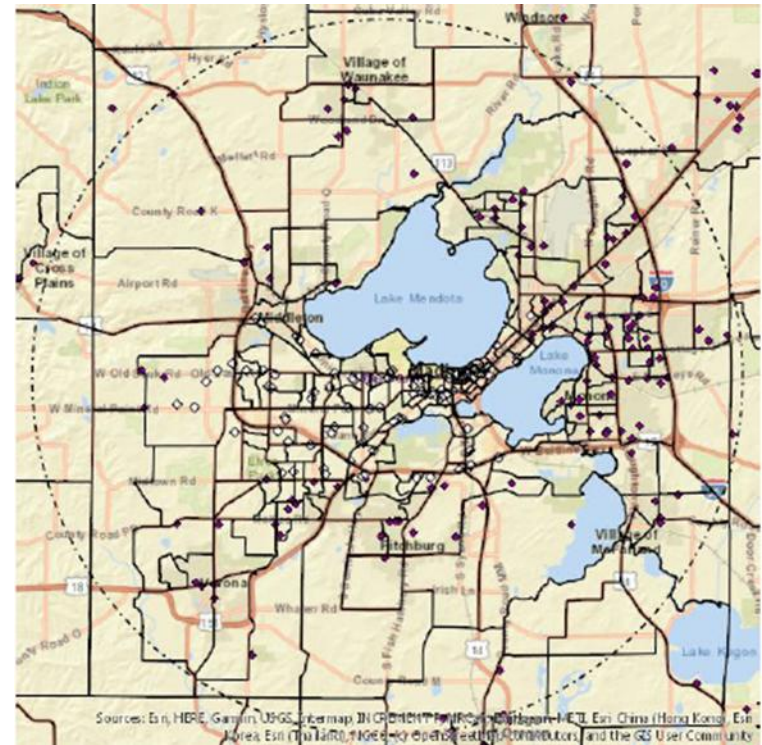
Inactive members include non-residents and adult children.

Neighbors according to Census Block Groups:

Nearby



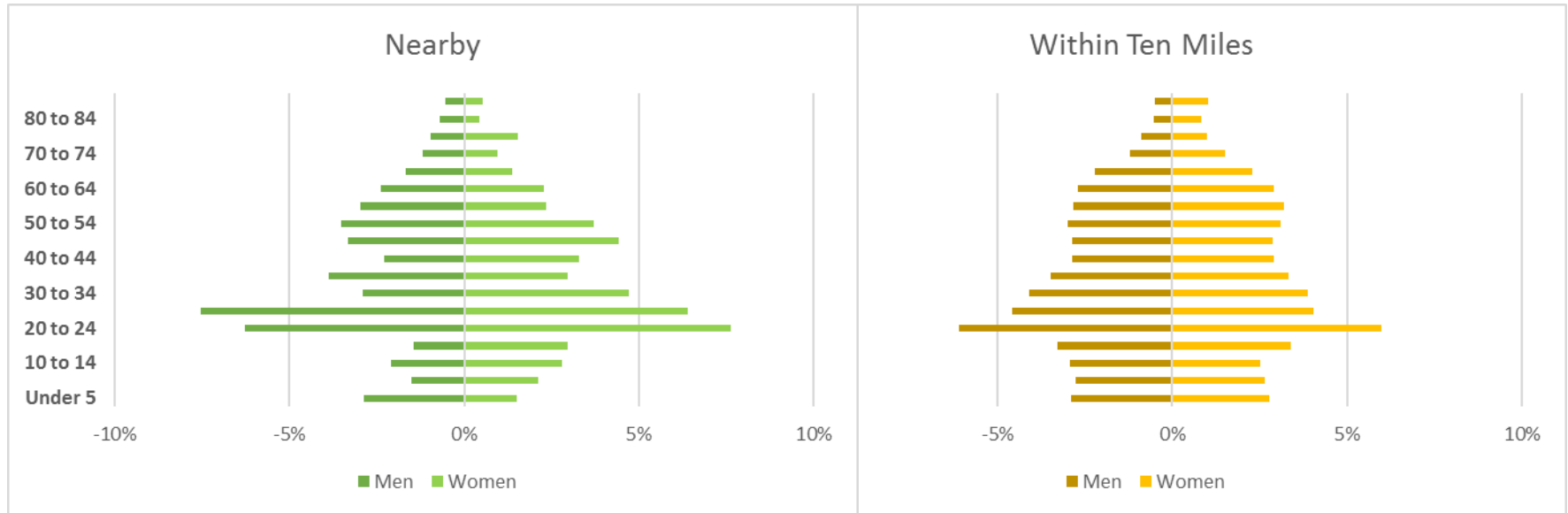
Within Ten Miles



Nearby: Area bounded by University Avenue, Allen Street, Speedway Road, Mineral Point Road, and Owen Drive

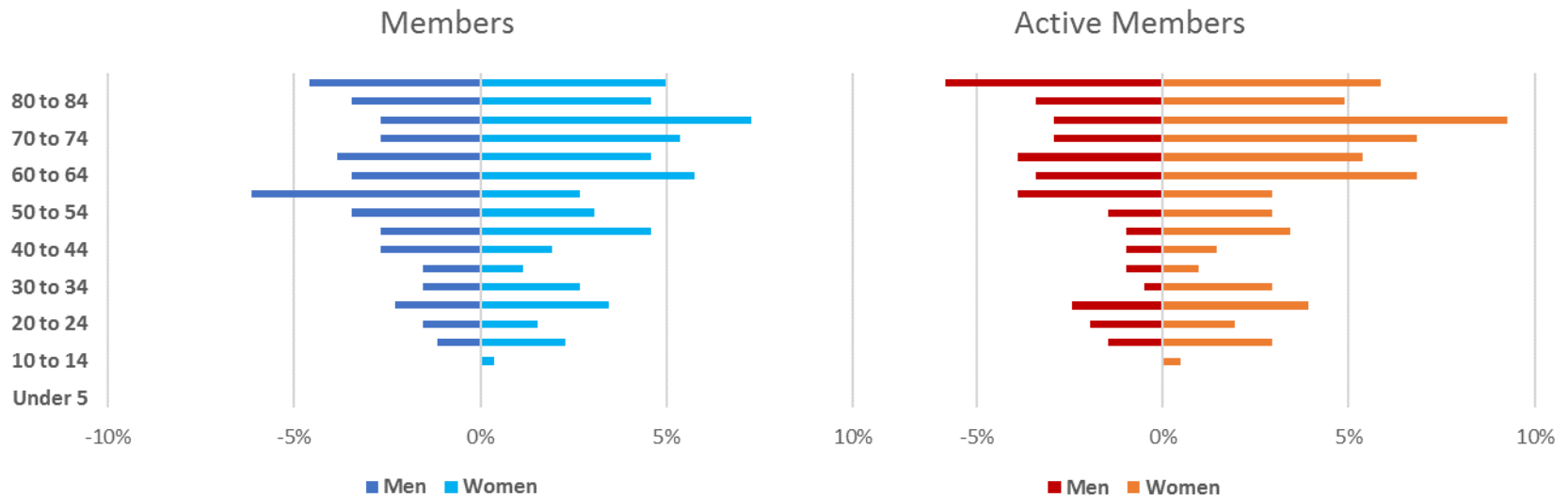
Within ten miles: Census block groups counted if any part is within ten miles of the church

Neighbors' age distribution is heaviest at younger ages

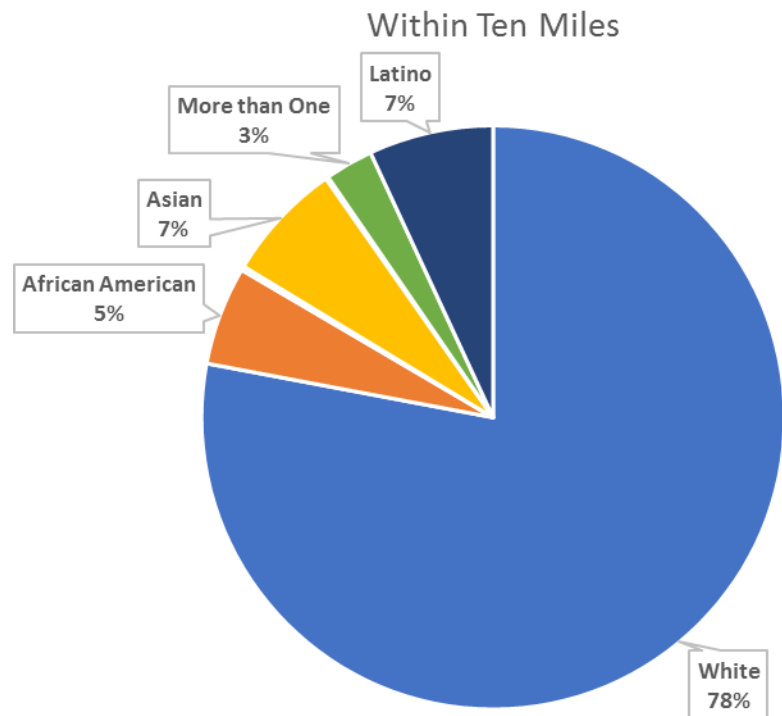
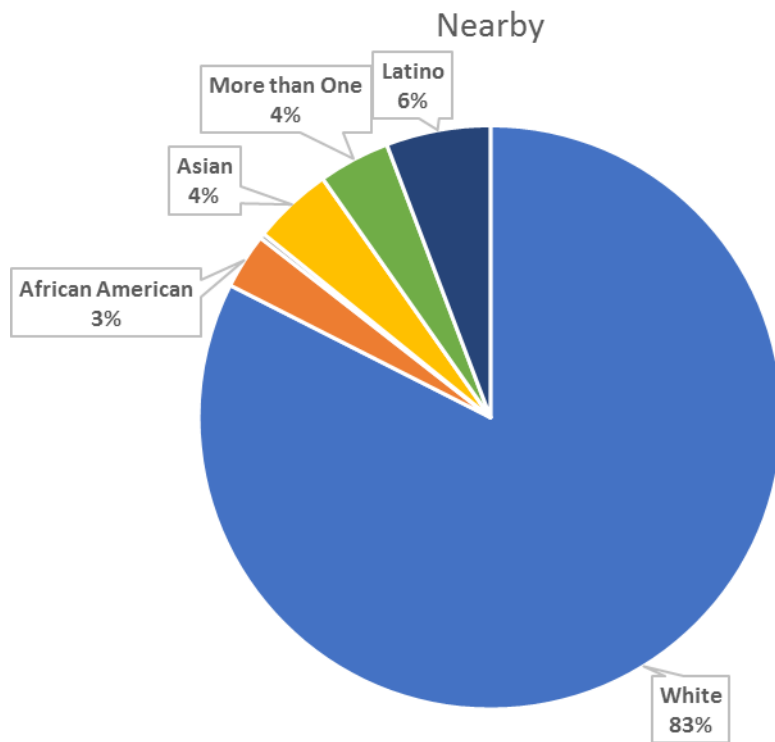


UW-Madison may have something to do with this

Remember the age distribution of First Baptist members?

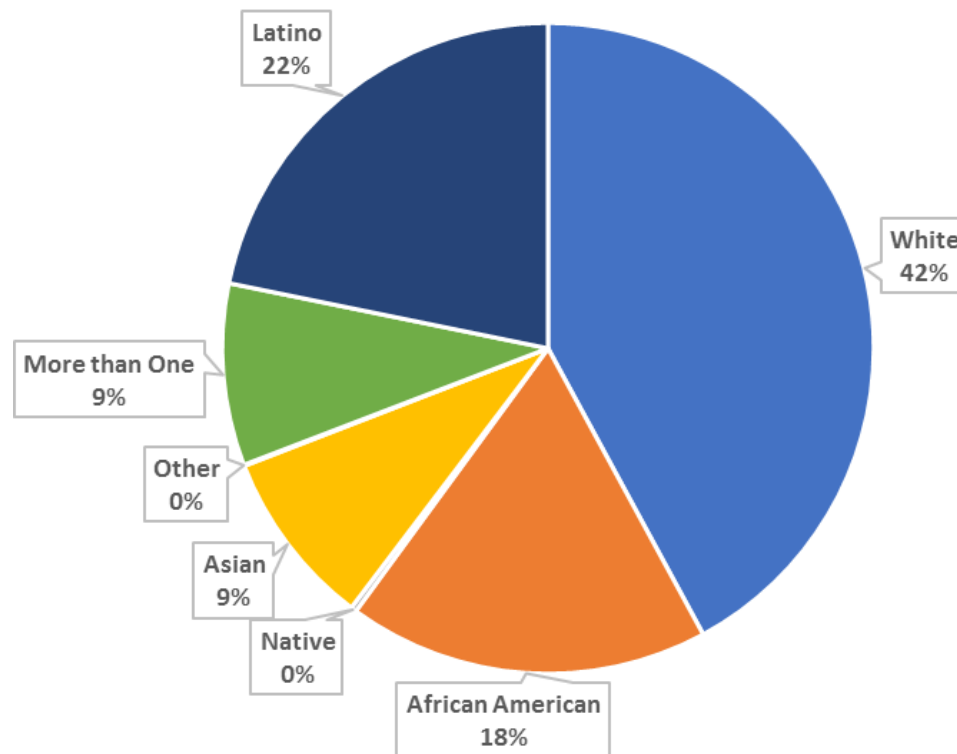


Neighbors' racial / ethnic mix is heavily white



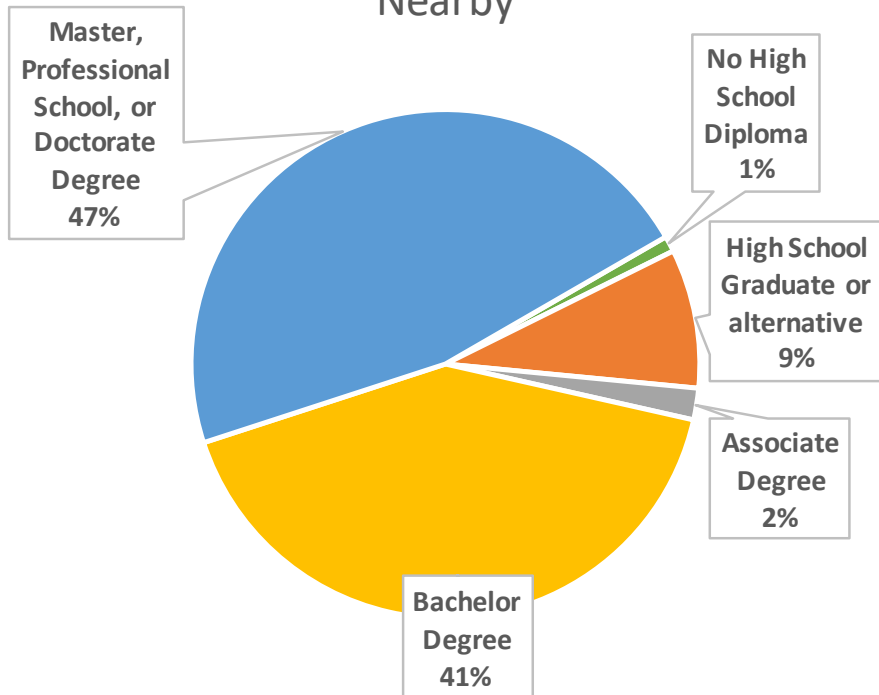
Madison Public Schools are more racially / ethnically diverse

2018 Enrollment in Madison Public Schools

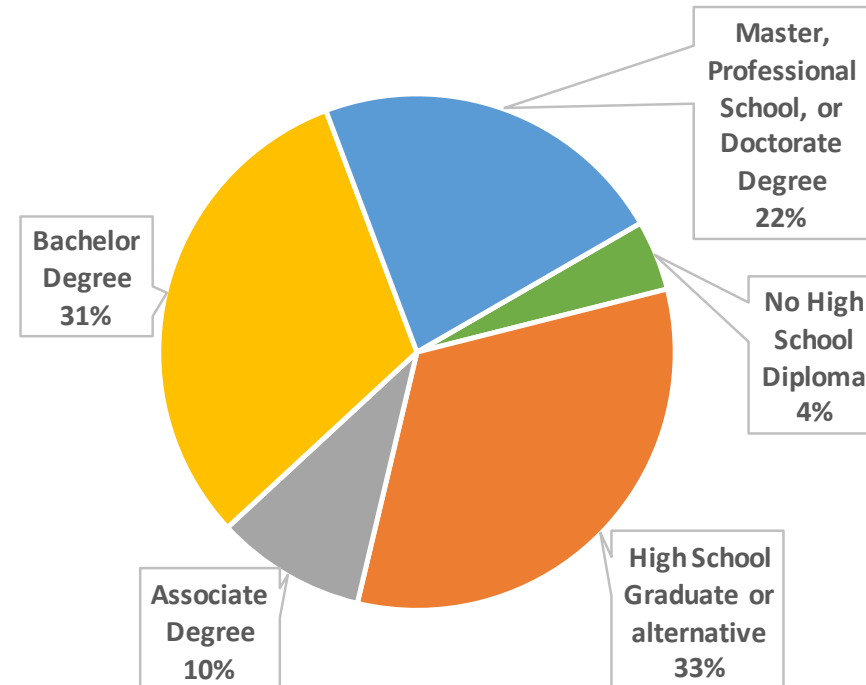


Our neighbors are highly educated

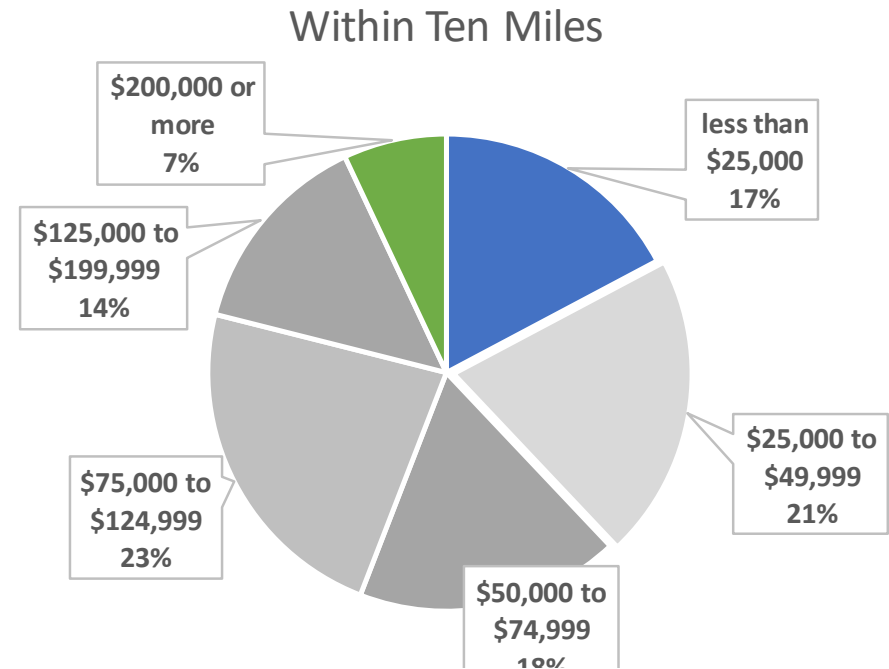
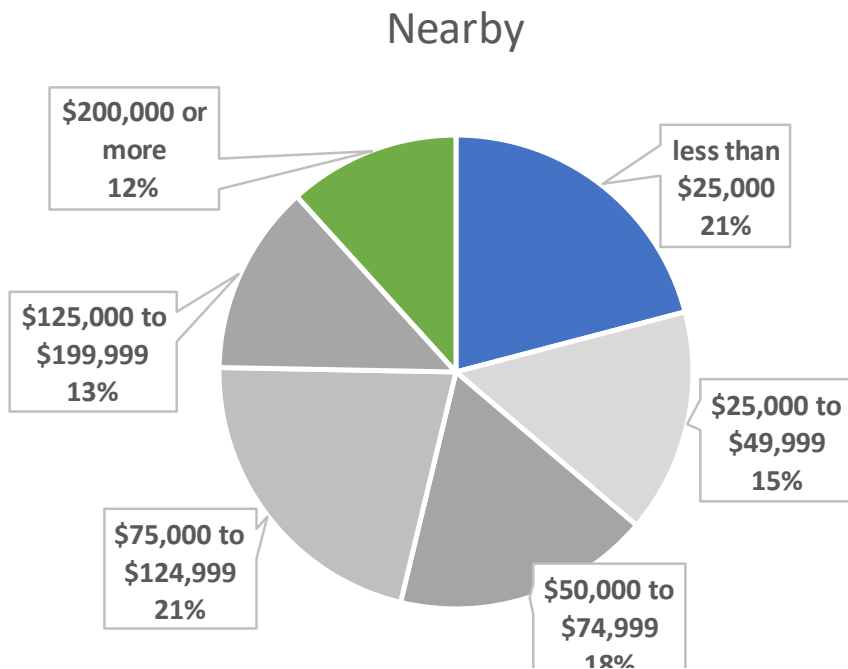
Nearby



Within Ten Miles



Our neighbors have a wide range of household incomes



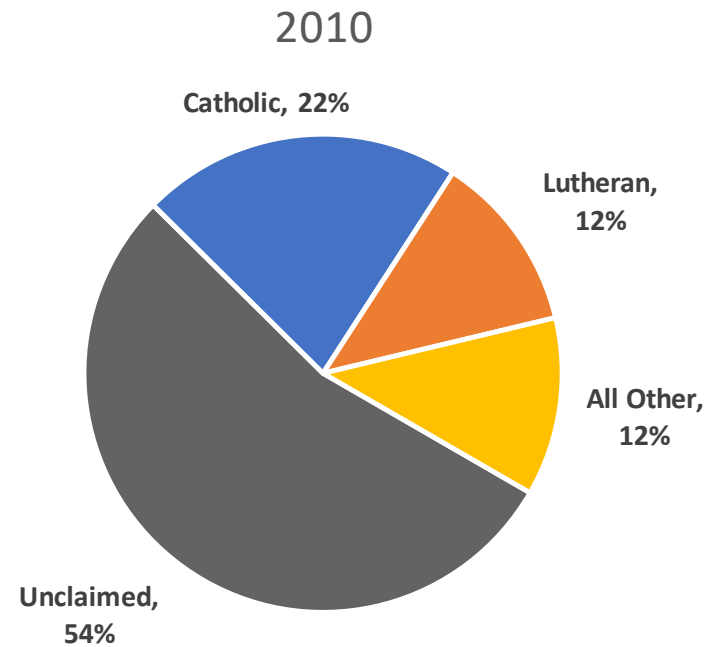
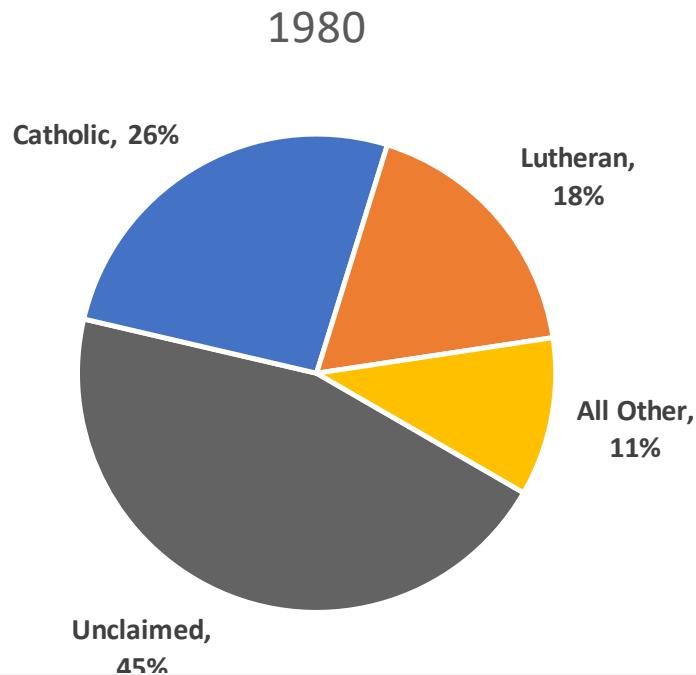
Nationwide, about 8% of households have annual income greater than \$200,000

Religious Affiliation in Dane County

Definitions for this analysis:

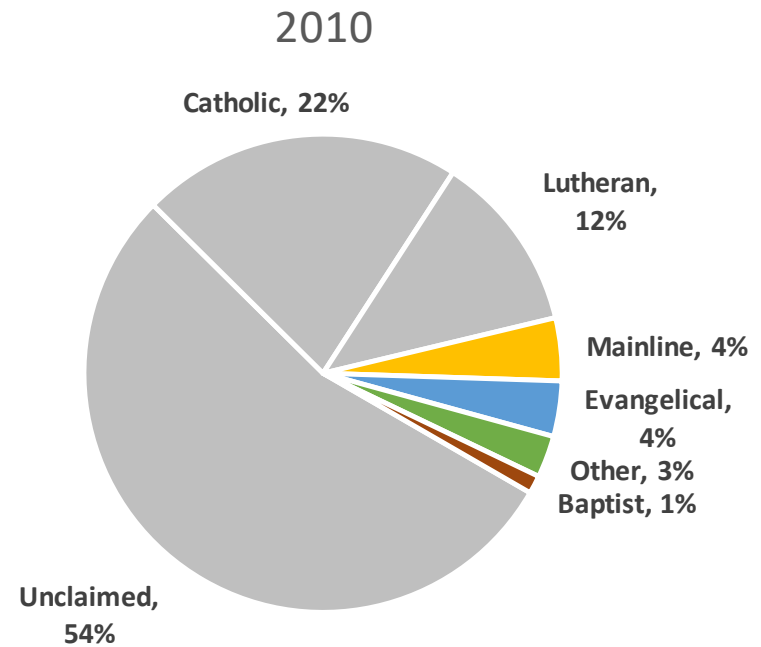
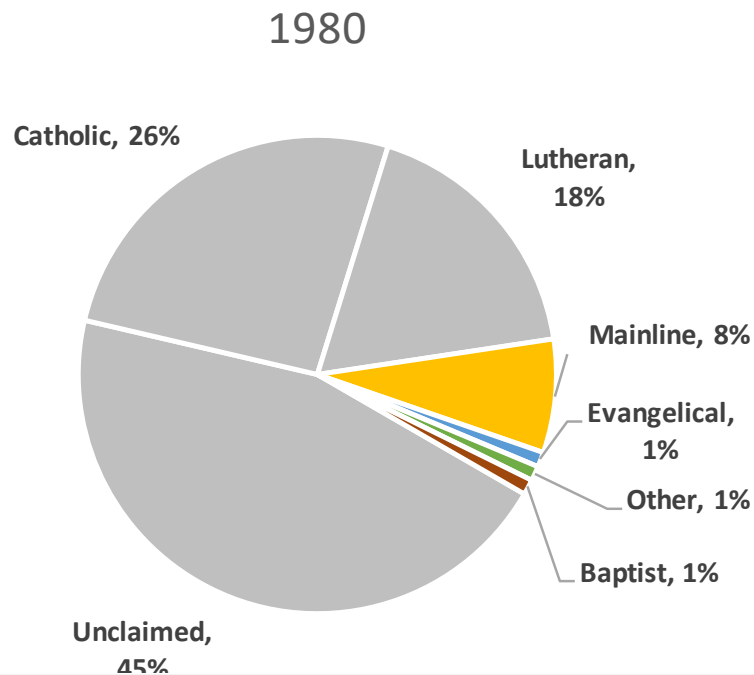
- “Unclaimed” is the total population minus those claimed by religious groups.
- “Lutherans” includes all Lutheran Synods. ELCA is generally classified by the ARDA as mainline and the others are classified as evangelical (which might surprise them!).
- “Baptists” includes all Baptist denominations. ABC is generally classified by the ARDA as mainline and the others as evangelical.
- “Mainline” and “Evangelical” exclude Lutherans and Baptists.
- “Other” includes Orthodox Christians, Unitarian/Universalists, and non-Christian religions such as Judaism, Buddhism, and Hinduism.

Many Dane County residents are unclaimed by any religion. Those claimed are predominately Catholic and Lutheran.



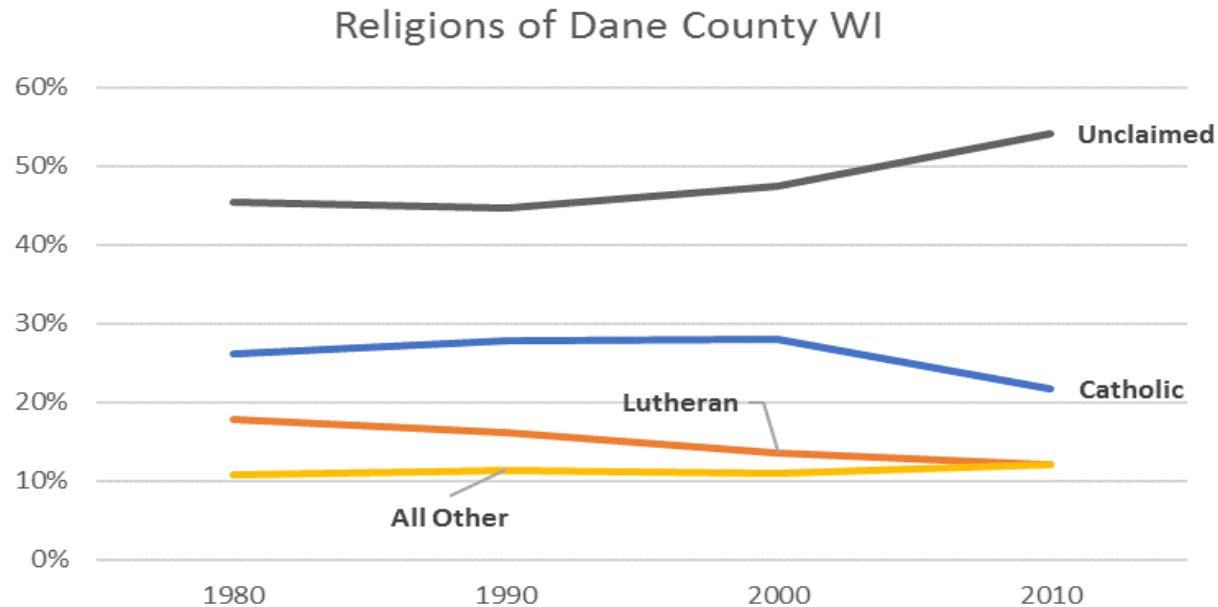
Since 1980, Catholics and Lutherans have been losing share to "Unclaimed." "All Other" is stable.

The “All Other” category includes mainline and evangelical churches, “Other” (including non-Christians) and Baptists.



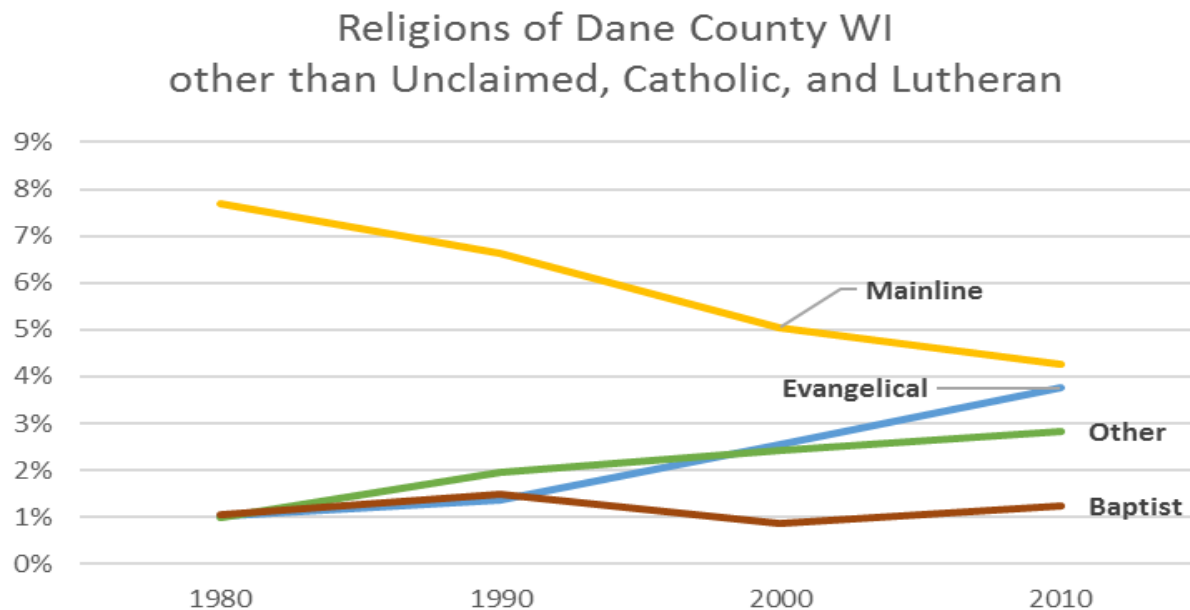
Since 1980, mainline churches are losing share to evangelicals and “Other.” Baptists are small but steady.

Another way of looking at the same data:



The Catholic share increased through 2000, then dropped.
"All Other" has been increasing slowly.

And finally, the detail for “All Other:”



- Watch out for the different scale!
- The Baptist share in total is fairly flat. Growth in ABC (Mt. Zion?) is offsetting decreases in evangelical Baptists.

Next Week:

- Congregational style
- How others see us

Linda Stamm, Transition Team

Dismissal

Rev. Michael Newheart, Transitional Minister