2023 COMMP Summary & Statistics

JANUARY 24, 2024

2023 COMMP Summary Administrative/Stated Clerk Actions

- 7 Clergy & 3 CRE's resigned/retired from their positions
- 1 Clergy called & Installed
- 18 Churches entered into one or more Temporary Relationship/Pulpit Supply contracts (total of 19)
- 24 Moderators were appointed for Session and/or Congregational meetings
- Clergy transfers: 2 out and 2 in
- Validated ministry of Rev. Cassie Todd at Holy Spirit Lutheran in Grand Blanc.
- Technology grants approved: 1-$2500.00
- Minimum Terms of Call for 2024 of $48,600 and required Family Leave Time of 12 weeks to be added to the terms. Presented and approved at September Presbytery meeting.
- 12 weeks of Family Leave extended to all non-install pastoral positions, including Commissioned Ruling Elders, approved at the September Presbytery meeting.
- Emergency financial assistance, from the Emergency Assistance Fund, to be provided towards the cost of Pulpit Supply as needed and requested where pastoral leadership is on family leave recommended and approved at September Presbytery meeting.

2023 COMMP Summary
Commission on Preparation for Ministry

- 1 candidate moved to certified ready to call. Received a call in Detroit Presbytery.
- 1 Inquierer recommended move to Candidate status and approved at the June meeting.
- 1 Certified Ready to Call approved ready for ordination examination and approved at the December Presbytery meeting.
- CRE training program in development
- Grants awarded for ongoing tuition, evaluations etc.

2023 COMMP Summary
Transition & Interview Teams

6 interviews for those moving into new pastor or pulpit supply positions and exit interviews.

Facilitated discussions on church collaborations and partnerships:

- Flint Area Churches: explored potential for shared pastor position.
  - Outcome: TUPC & Kirkridge covenant to share a full-time pastor (50/50). Position is called & installed at TUPC and a Temporary Relationship contract at Kirkridge.
  - Outcome: TUPC, Kirkridge and Holly have verbally agreed to include each other in community mission, service and fellowship events.
- Tuscola County Churches: explored potential for sharing a full-time pastor across three churches.
  - Outcome: Financial circumstances make a full-time position unattainable.
  - Outcome: Caro and Fairgrove have entered into a verbal agreement and have jointly contracted two individuals to provide pulpit supply between their churches.
- Gratiot County Churches: explored potential sharing of pastor responsibilities between churches.
  - Outcome: unable to find common need and necessary finances for full-time shared position.

The following sessions/congregations approved changes to their ministry models as described.

- Flint Trinity United – congregation approved reducing called & installed position to 50%
- Kirkridge – congregation approved eliminating the full time called & installed position and replacing it with a 50% Temporary Relationship contract
- Twining Maple Ridge – session released Elder Jon Essex and will close church from December-April. Will assess future actions in April.
- Saginaw Countryside – Currently seeking to fill open position. Session has recommended moving from full-time called & installed to 50% called & installed. Congregation will vote in January.

COMMP 2023 Summary
General Business

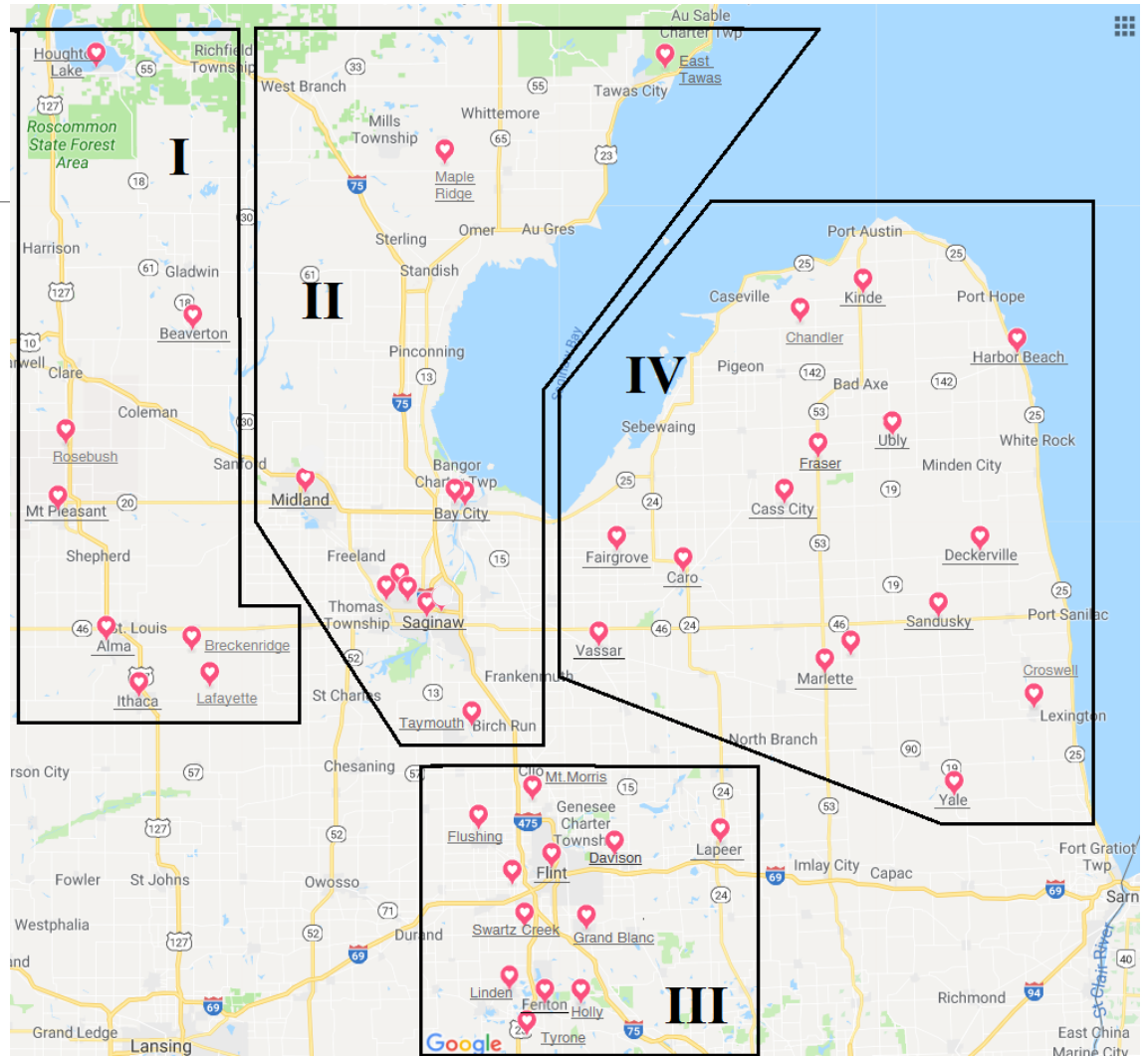
- COMMP supported communion and moderator training for elders and non-PCUSA clergy by the Stated Clerk. COMMP subsequently approved X elders to lead communion at their home church. The approval is for one year. All trained as moderators may be called upon by COMMP to moderate session and congregational meetings (not their home church).
- Pulpit supply:
  - Modified compensation guidelines to cover last minute cancellations due to weather, etc.
  - Approved background check renewed every 5 years for those on list.
- The role of church liaisons continues to be discussed. Several proposals were reviewed. Various models are under consideration.

Lake Huron Presbytery
at a glance

2023 STATISTICS

Where We Serve

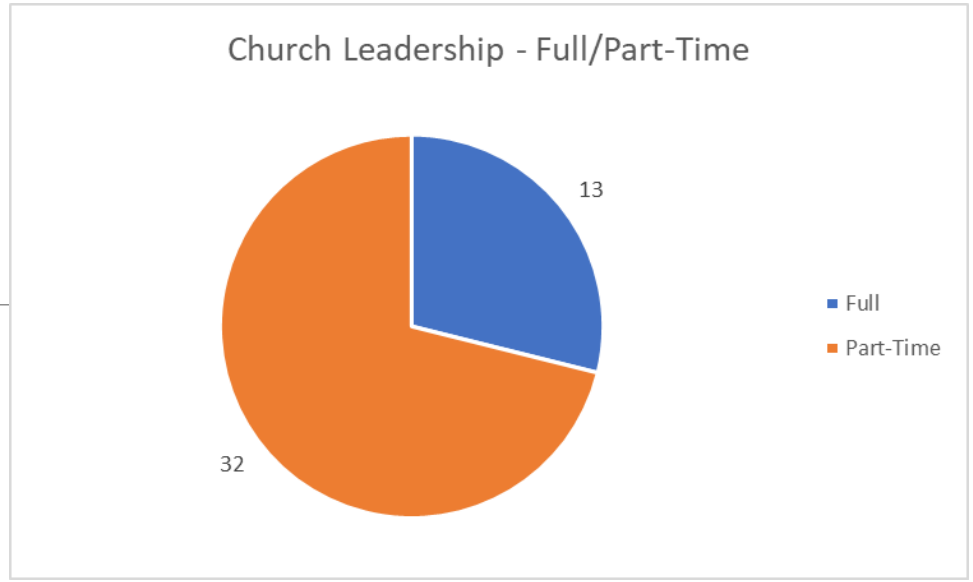
- 17 Counties
- Size:
  - North to South – 145 mi
  - East to West – 110 mi

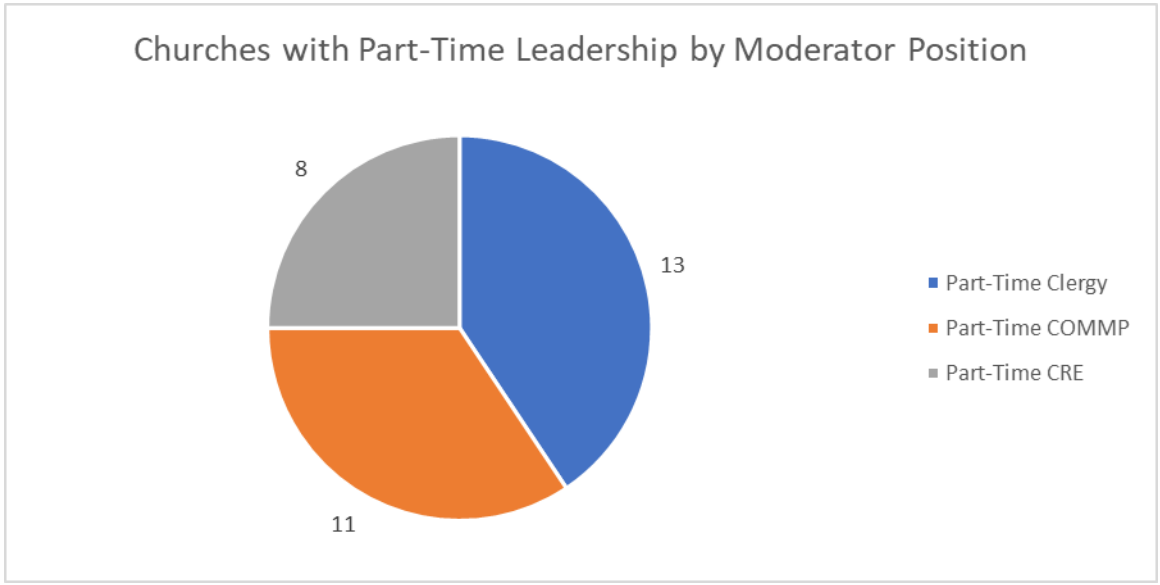


Who We Serve (year end 2023)

45 Churches

- 13 Full-time churches with pastoral leadership
- 32 Part-time churches
  - 14 Clergy – PCUSA, RCA, UCC, UMC, ELCA
    - 6 Temporary Relationships
    - 6 Called & Installed
  - 9 CRE
  - 9 Pulpit Supply/COMMP moderators
  - 2 TBD/COMMP Moderator





Our Congregations (year end 2022)

5618 Members

Median congregation size = 57

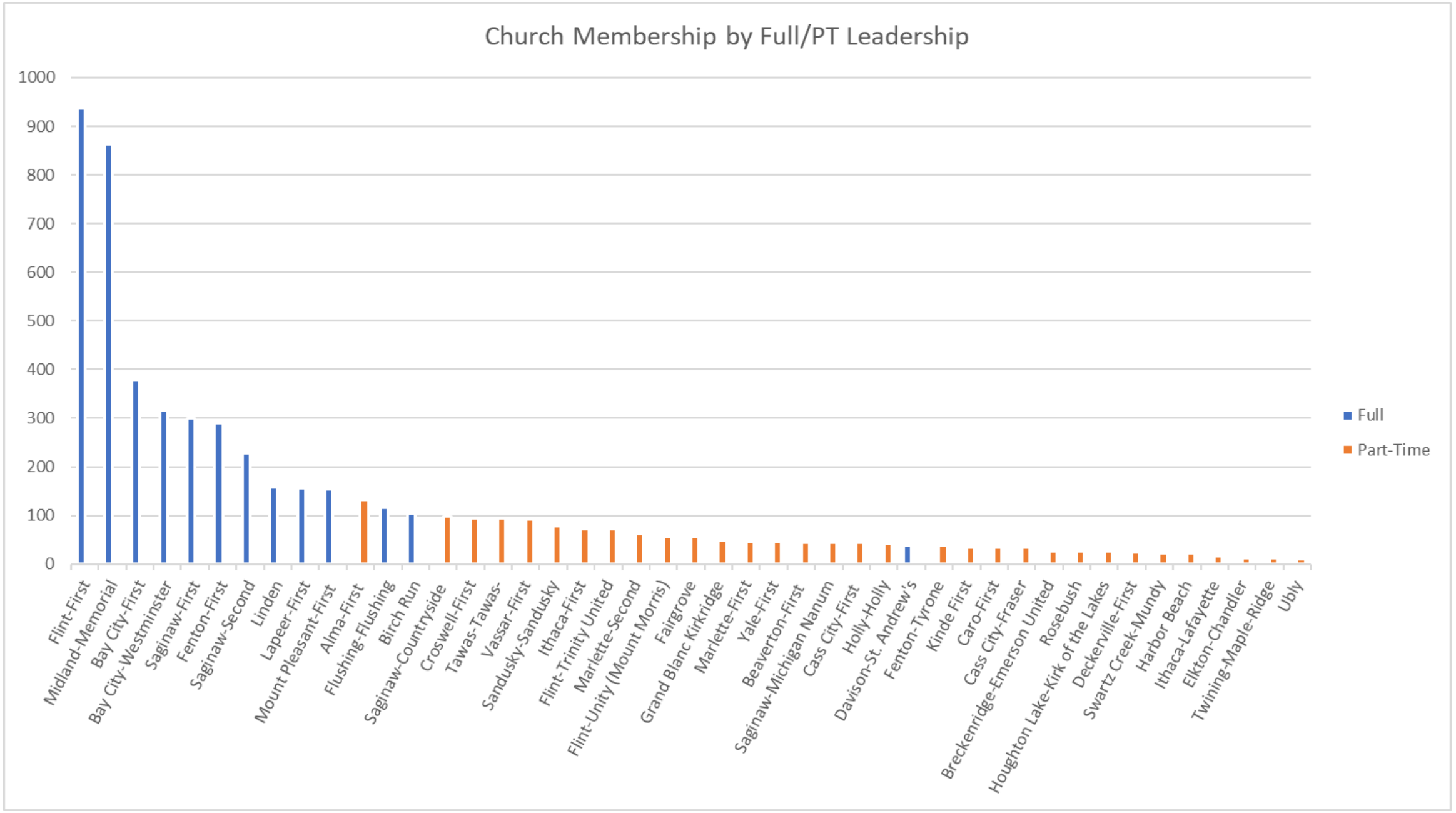
32% attend 2 very large churches (over 400)

- Flint First – 17%
- Midland Memorial – 15%

42% attend 11 large (150-400) and medium (100-150) churches

26% are spread across 32 small churches (under 100)

Note: size descriptions (large, medium etc) are specific to our presbytery only


Church Membership by Full/PT Leadership
1000
900
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Full
Part-Time
Flint-First
Midland-Memorial
Bay City-First
Bay City-Westminster
Saginaw-First
Fenton-First
Saginaw-Second
Linden
Lapeer-First
Mount Pleasant-First
Alma-First
Flushing-Flushing
Birch Run
Saginaw-Countryside
Croswell-First
Tawas-Tawas-
Vassar-First
Sandusky-Sandusky
Ithaca-First
Flint-Trinity United
Marlette-Second
Flint-Unity (Mount Morris)
Fairgrove
Grand Blanc Kirkridge
Marlette-First
Yale-First
Beaverton-First
Saginaw-Michigan Nanum
Cass City-First
Holly-Holly
Davison-St. Andrew's
Fenton-Tyrone
Kinde First
Caro-First
Cass City-Fraser
Breckenridge-Emerson United
Rosebush
Houghton Lake-Kirk of the Lakes
Deckerville-First
Swartz Creek-Mundy
Harbor Beach
Ithaca-Lafayette
Elkton-Chandler
Twining-Maple-Ridge
Ubly

Some questions to ponder....

What is the role of a Teaching Elder in our presbytery? A CRE? A Ruling Elder?

How do we define Healthy/Vibrant ministries?

What does it mean to belong to a church? To go to church?

What is the role of a church building?

Does the size of the congregation matter?

How can presbytery encourage and engage congregations of different sizes in Matthew 25 service?

Others……