

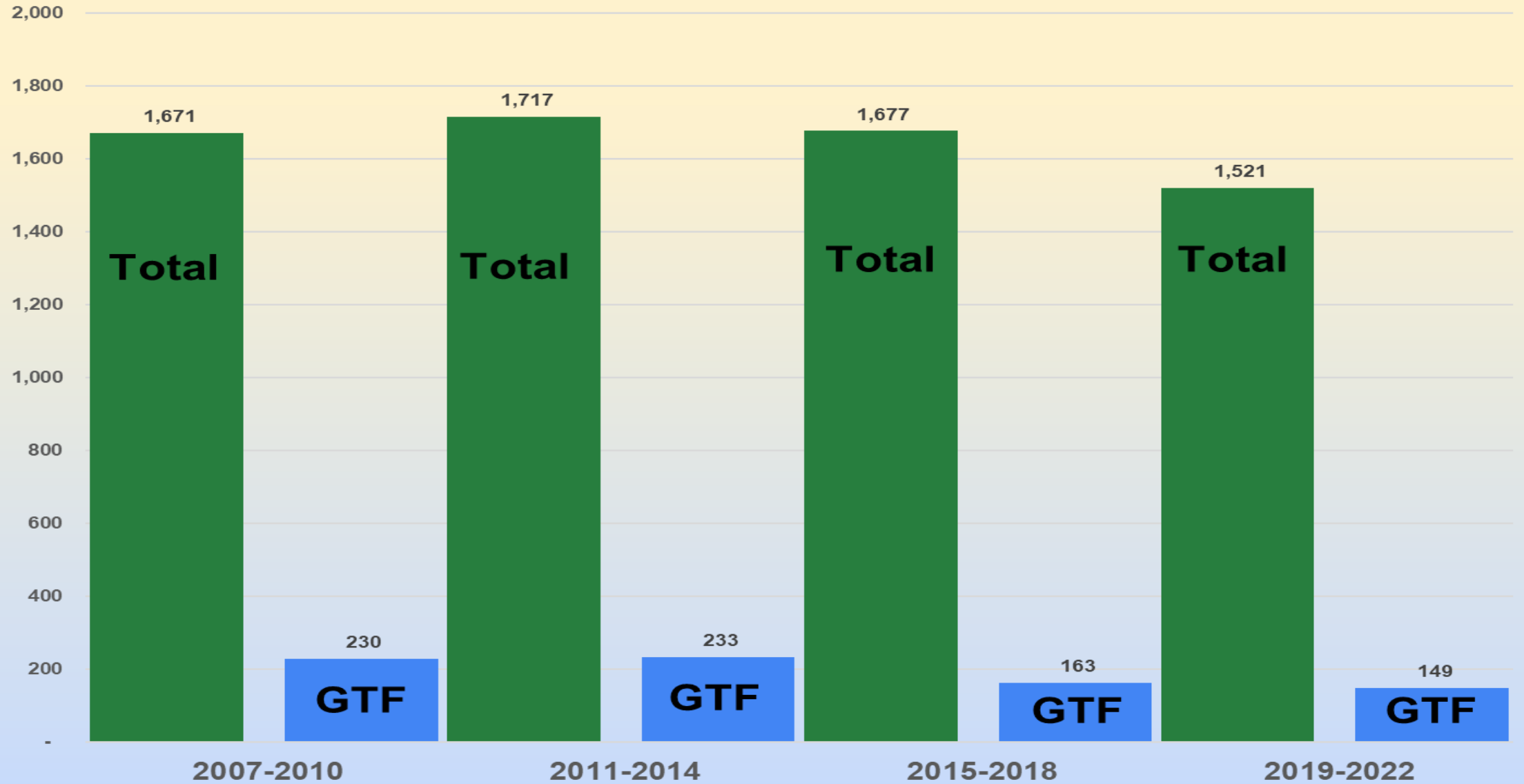


State of Our Church

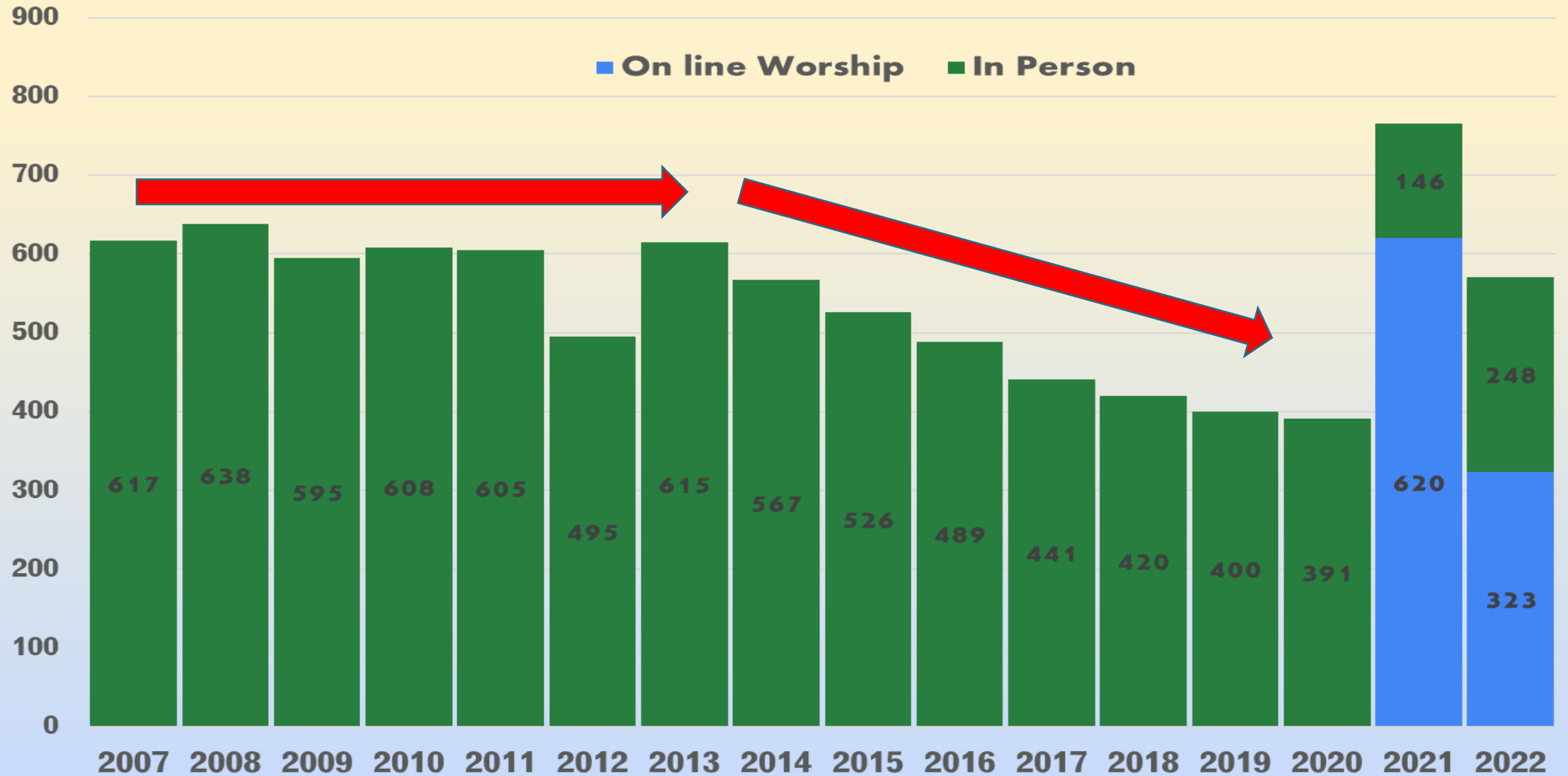
March 2023

Belmont 
United Methodist Church

Membership



Worship Attendance



Registered Visitors

Last Six Months



State of Our Church

Our Presence

- **Membership is slightly less than it has been.**
- **In person worship attendance is down, but slowing increasing**
- **Online worshiping is here to stay.**
- **Visitors are coming to check us out.**

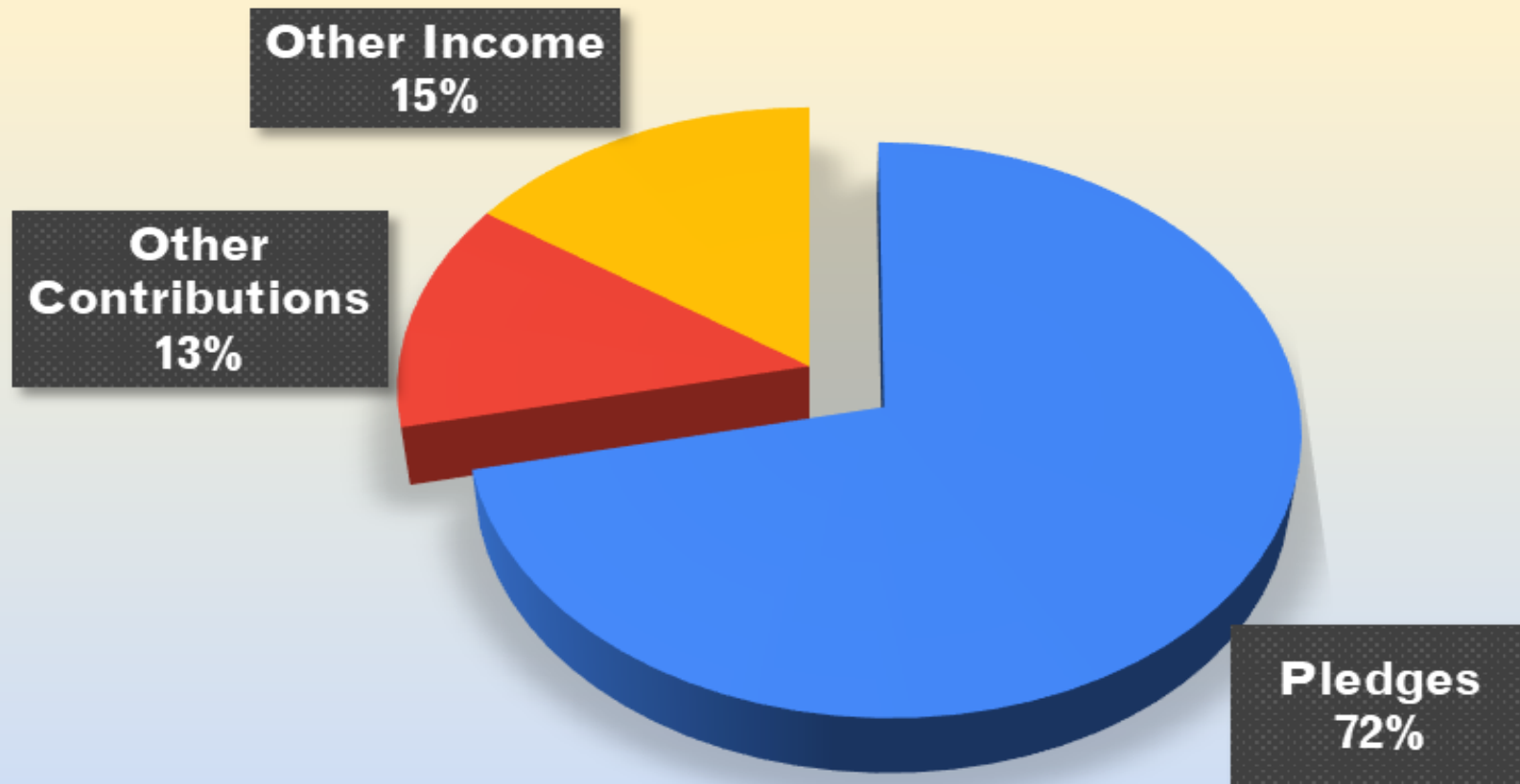
Our presence is evolving. Life is different.



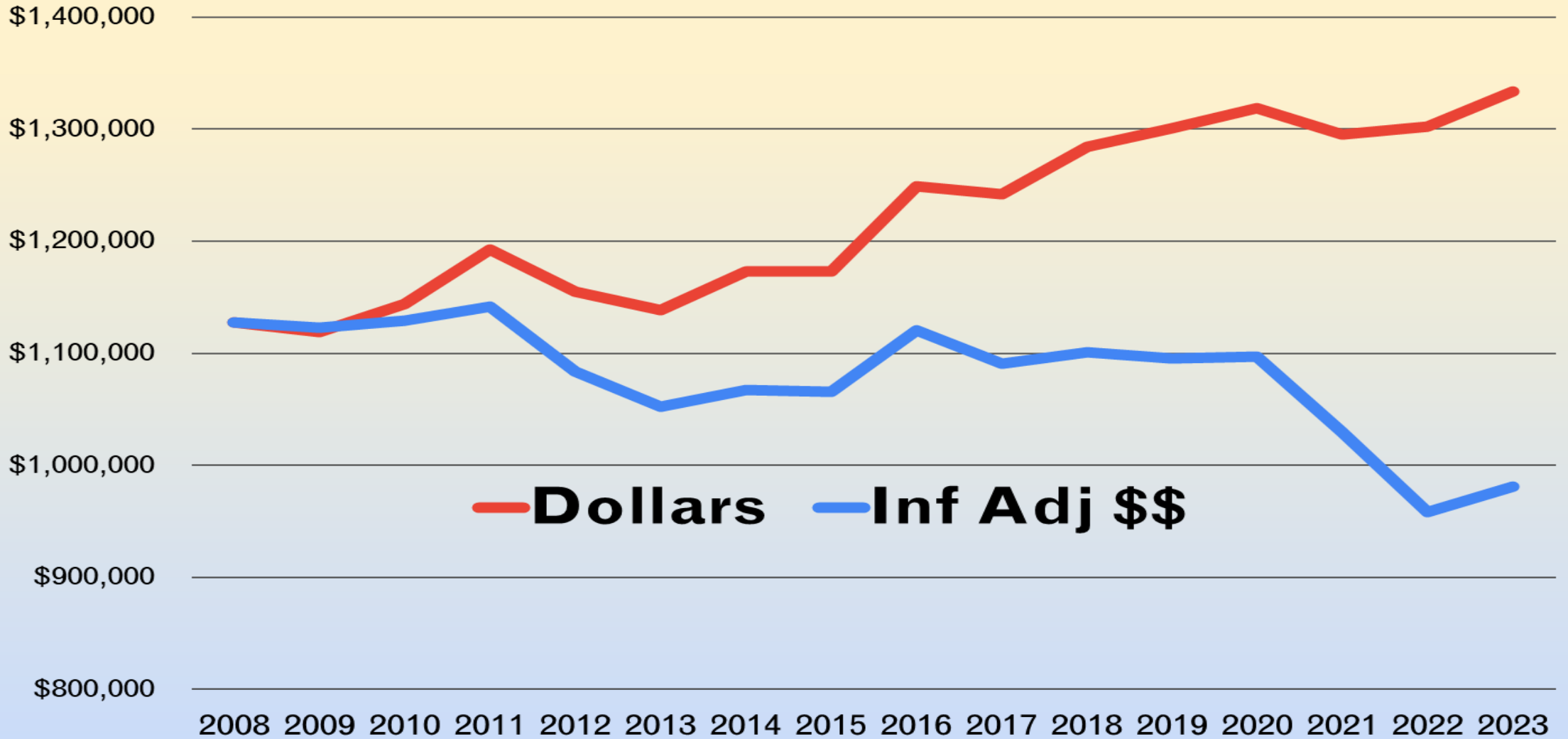
State of Our Church

Our Gifts

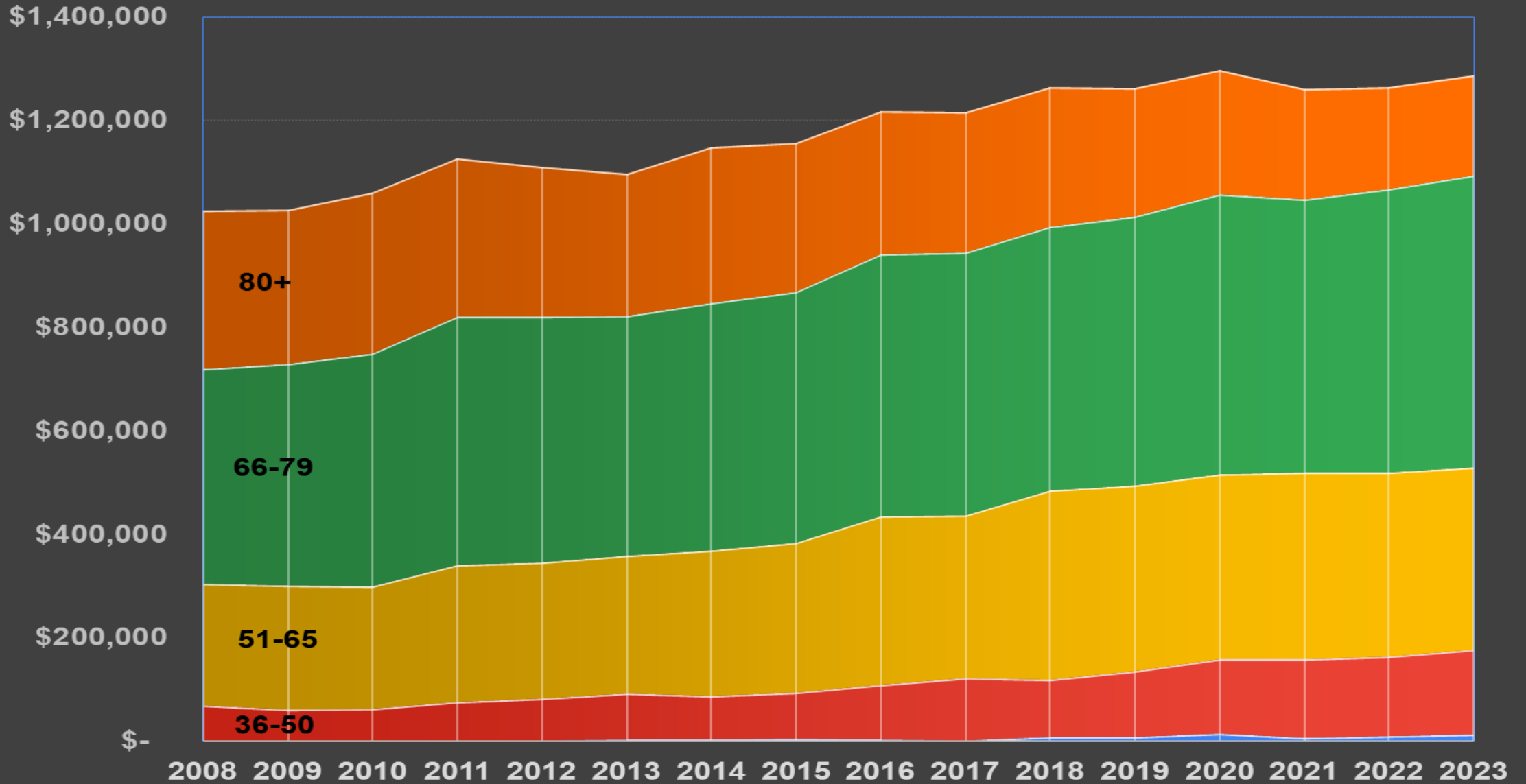
2022 Income



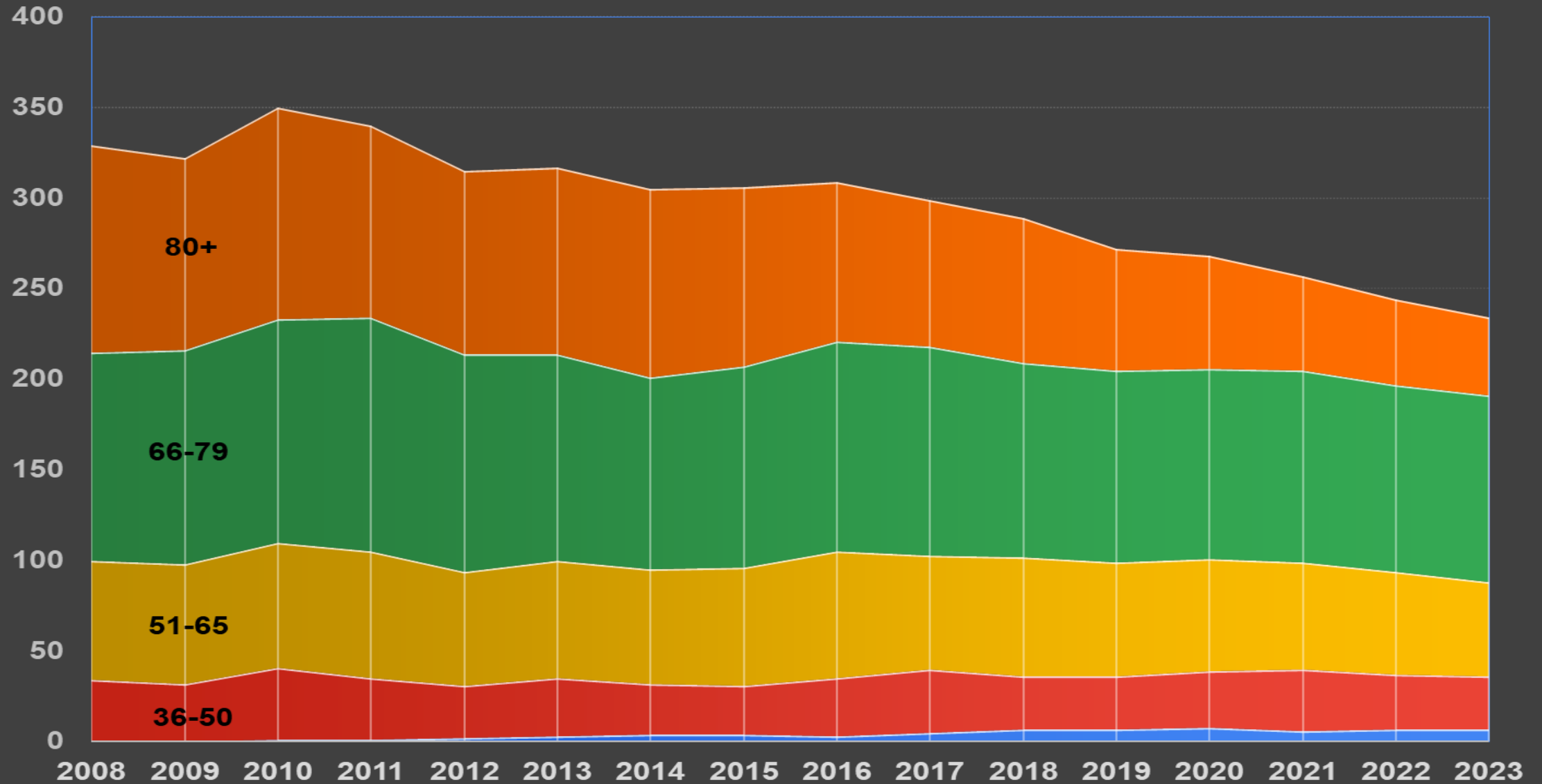
Pledges



Pledge \$\$ by Age Group



Pledges by Age Group



Our Gifts

- **Our younger giving population is growing.**
- **Our giving per unit is strong.**
- **The number of pledges is steadily declining.**
- **We are still very dependent on older givers.**
- **We are not keeping up with current inflation.**
- **We must increase the number of pledges or seek alternative sources of revenue.**

2023 Challenges

- **Dependence on older givers.**
- **Impact of the U.S. economy.**
- **The cost of maintaining our buildings.**
- **Creating new long term revenue options.**
- **Improving the culture of giving, especially younger adults.**



**State of
Our Church**

Our Service

Ministry Council Background

2019 Ministry Council

- 30+ Ministry Leaders
- No regular meeting cadence
- No process for making decisions as a group
- No structure to support collaboration

Summer 2020

- Ad-hoc committee established
- Goal: identify opportunities for strengthening BUMC Ministry Council

Fall/Winter 2020

- Evaluate current structure
- Conduct interviews with Ministry Leaders
- Compile interview findings

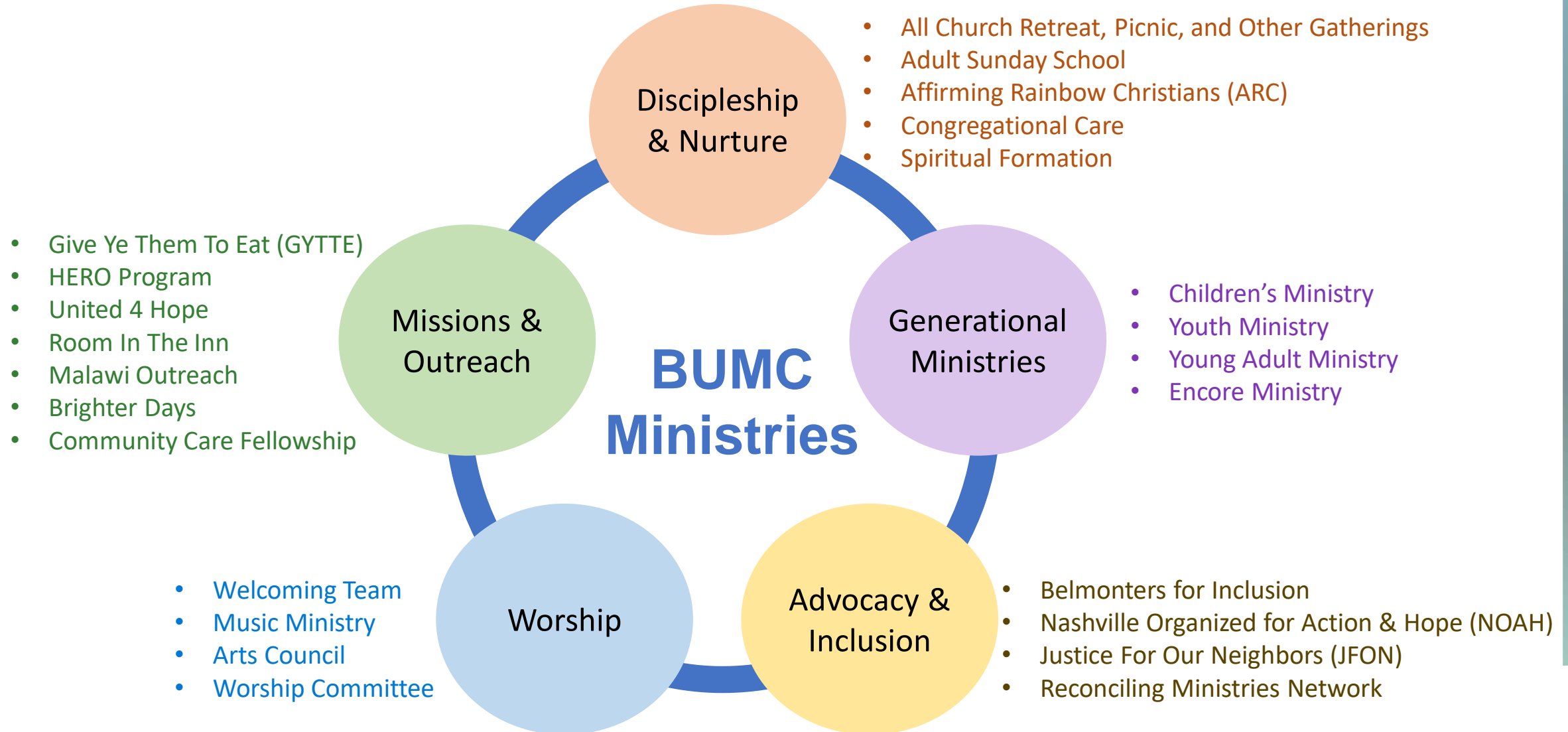
Spring 2021

- Create proposal for new Ministry Council structure
- Present proposal to Ministry Council for approval

Summer 2021

- Present proposal to Admin Board for approval
- Implement plans

Ministry Council 2023





**State of
Our Church**

Our Prayers

We are renewed by prayer to
embody our faith

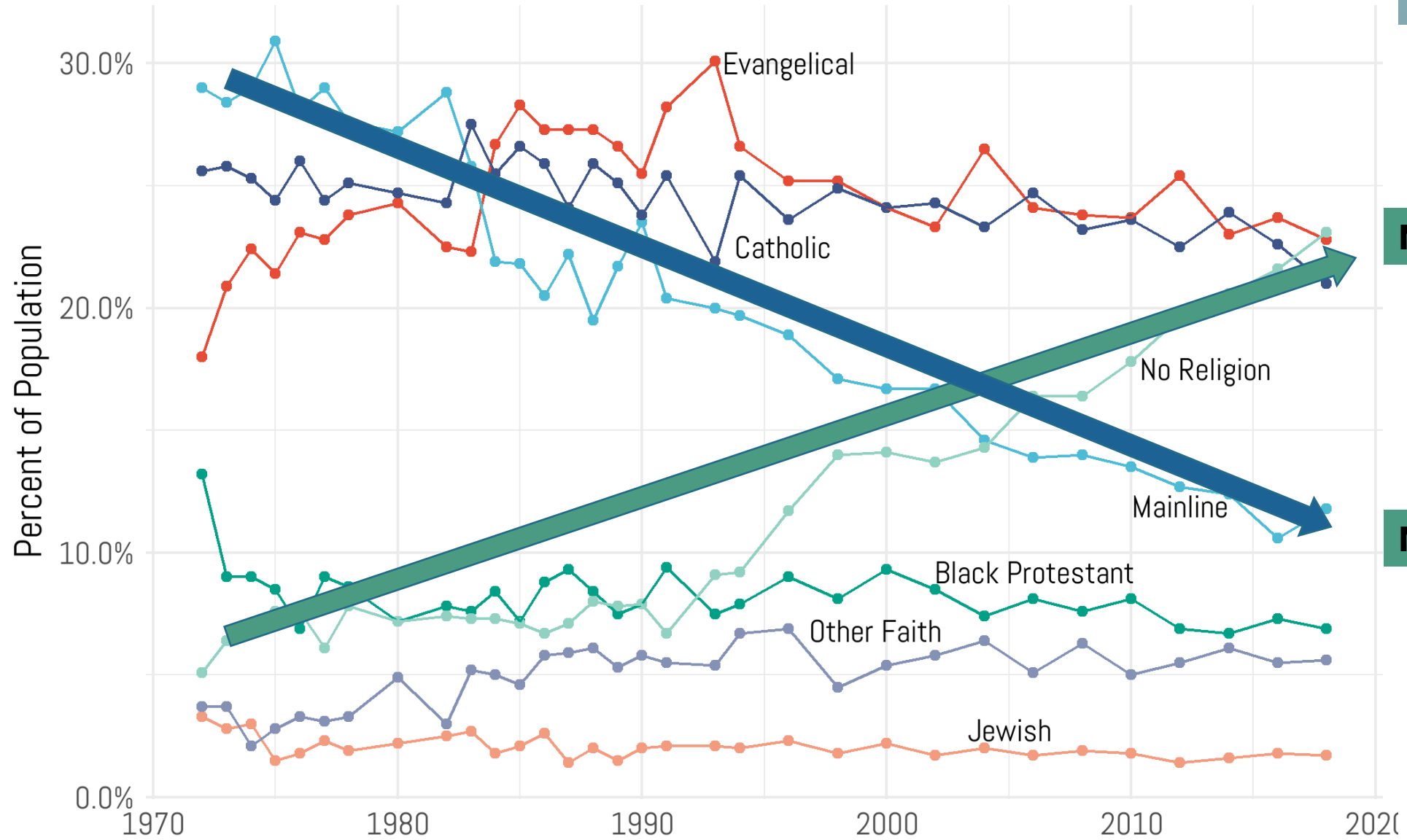
We are bearing witness-
we have reason to hope



**State of
Our Church**

Our Witness

America's Changing Religious Landscape



No Religion

Mainline

In 1978 half of all weekly white worship attenders were democrat, by 2018 that number had dropped to 25%. Burge asserts "what can be observed is clear and unmistakable, (American church) disaffiliation is directly related to political ideology."

Ryan Burge Assistant Professor of Political at Eastern Illinois University
Author of The Nones

66% of people within a 1.5-mile radius of Belmont were not involved in a church or religious community in 2017.

Mission Insite



Top Reasons People Attend or Would Attend Church

- 1. Warm and friendly encounters (very strong preference)**
- 2. The quality of sermons (strong preference)**
- 3. Seasonal worship/activities (moderate preference)**



VIGIL FOR COLORADO MASS SHOOTING VICTIMS

10:04
41°



Palm Sunday & Easter are great opportunities to encourage and invite people to come back to church.





Welcome!

The most significant reason someone commits to a church is a personal greeting and invitation!



State of Our Church

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Belmont
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