



I'm sure you are aware by now that we've sent what are called "membership letters" to those listed in our membership at Salem. Those who attended 2 times or less in the past year received a letter. There are several things I would like you to know about these letters:

- They were sent as a response to the Book of Discipline's section on Church Membership.



- We have received various responses to the sending of the letters.
- Some mistakes were made in choosing who would receive the letters. I take full responsibility for the letters and I sincerely apologize to those who were offended.
- We have received positive information as a result. We have found out that several people have already joined other churches,



- that several want to recommit to their membership here at Salem and have asked for a pastor visit, we have found several people who wish to transfer their membership and some who would like to not retain their membership here.
- Years ago our apportionments, that is our giving to the general church and now called M and M's, were based on membership.



- Therefore, every year a concerted effort was made by most churches to make sure the membership lists really were current. The UMC no longer bases our M and M's on membership, instead it is based on each church's giving records for the past year.



- If you would like to talk with me concerning the letters, I am available in my office Monday through Thursday mornings, 9:00-12:00 and would love to talk with you.

Serving Jesus together,
Pastor Nancy