

# Key Takeaways from Feedback Collected to Date

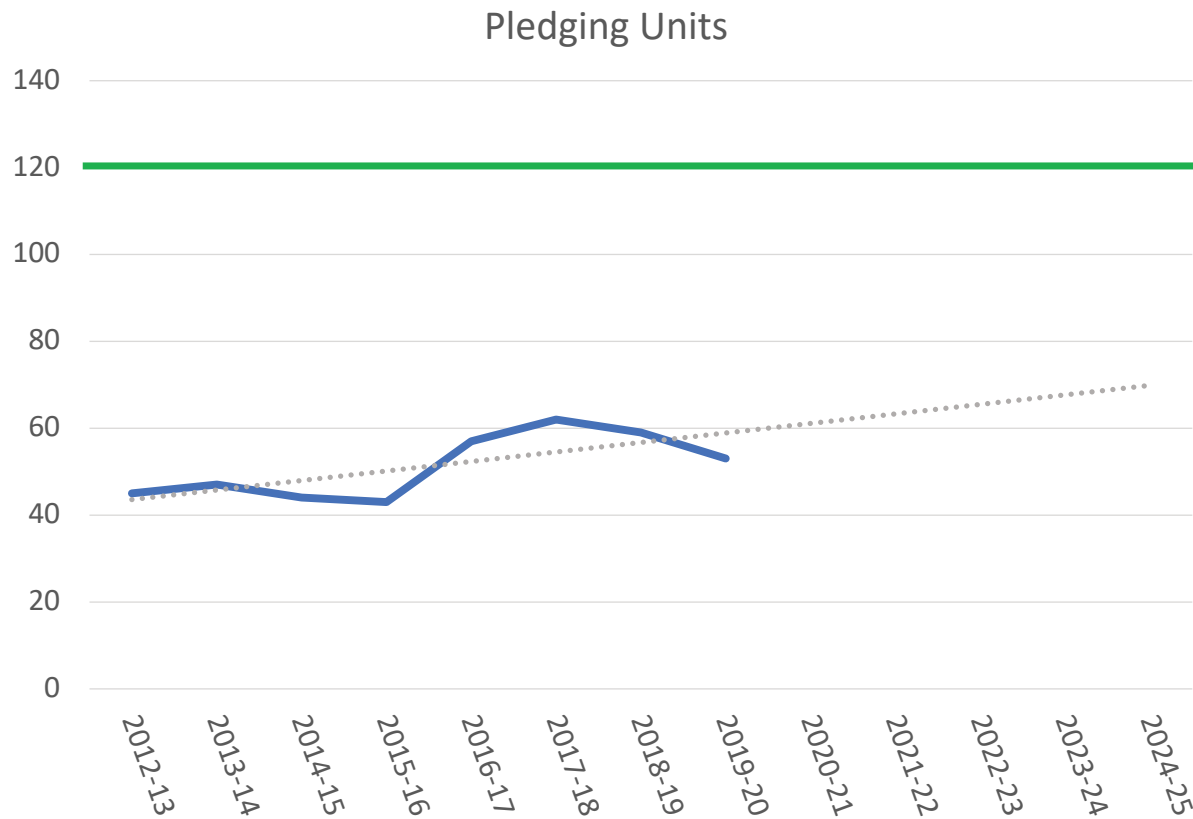
- Facilities are an important part of the congregation experience but do not override the community experience of the services.
- Inadequate meeting space for committees and other church activities is the biggest concern for the congregation.
- Many members believe that improved RE space and function (i.e. not in a separate building) is key to congregation growth.
- The natural aesthetics and intimate environment of the barn is a key aspect that the congregation feels is important to maintain.
- Consistent with our current facilities, many congregants believe that the space does not need to be a traditional church facility and they would be willing to make a non-traditional space our own if it could address the issues noted above.

- **THE FACILITY SHOULD NOT DOMINATE OUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS** as it will take away from current programs and the work of implementing our mission and values.

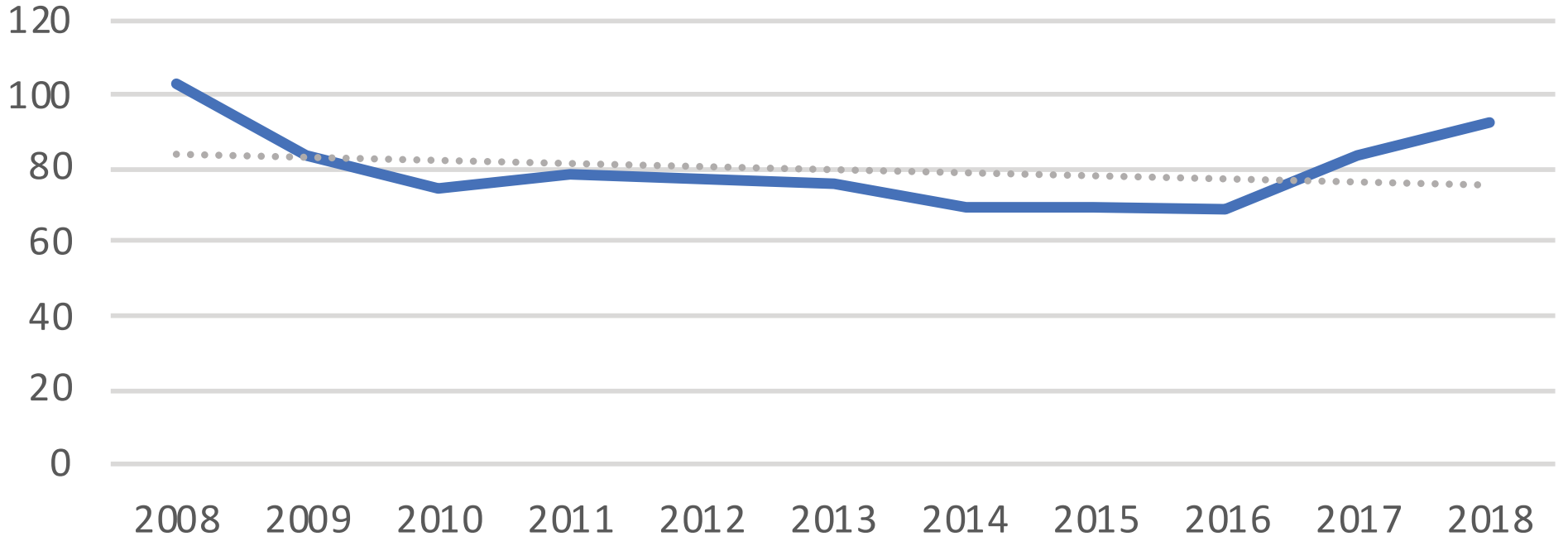
# Building Options

## NEW CONSTRUCTION

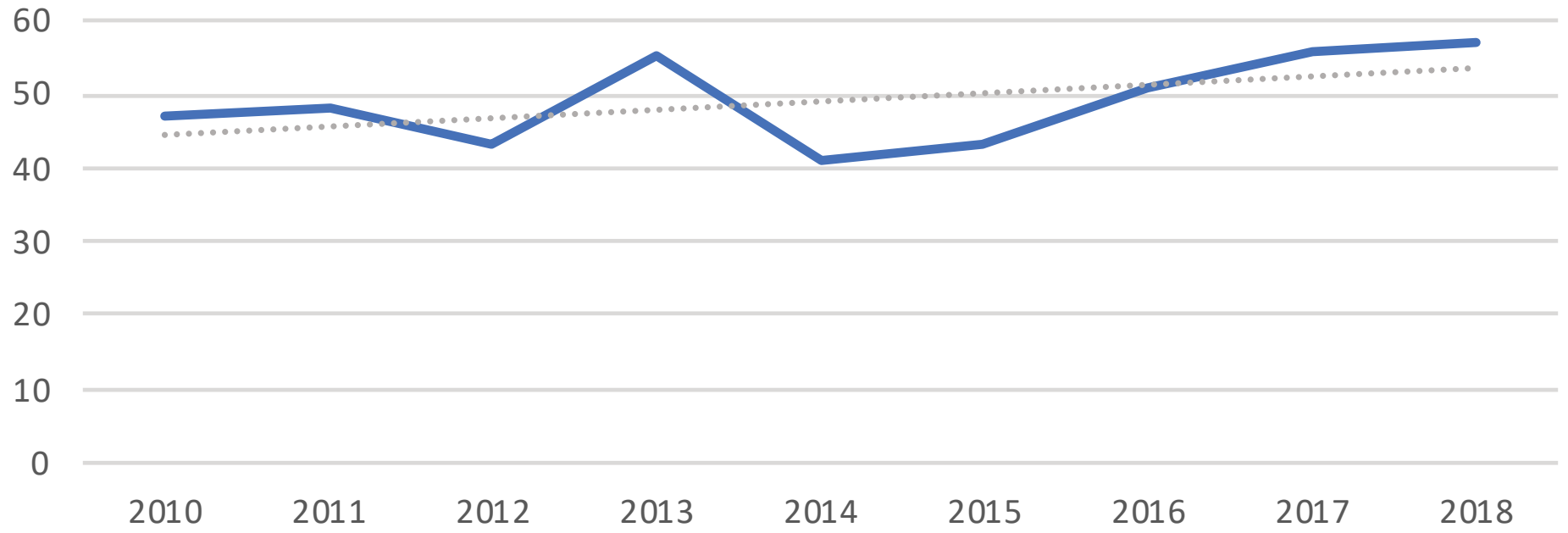
- Pledging unit vs. member.
- To build a building built from scratch, UUA advises that a congregation needs 120 pledging units.
- We currently have 53 pledging units, and that level has not increased much over time.



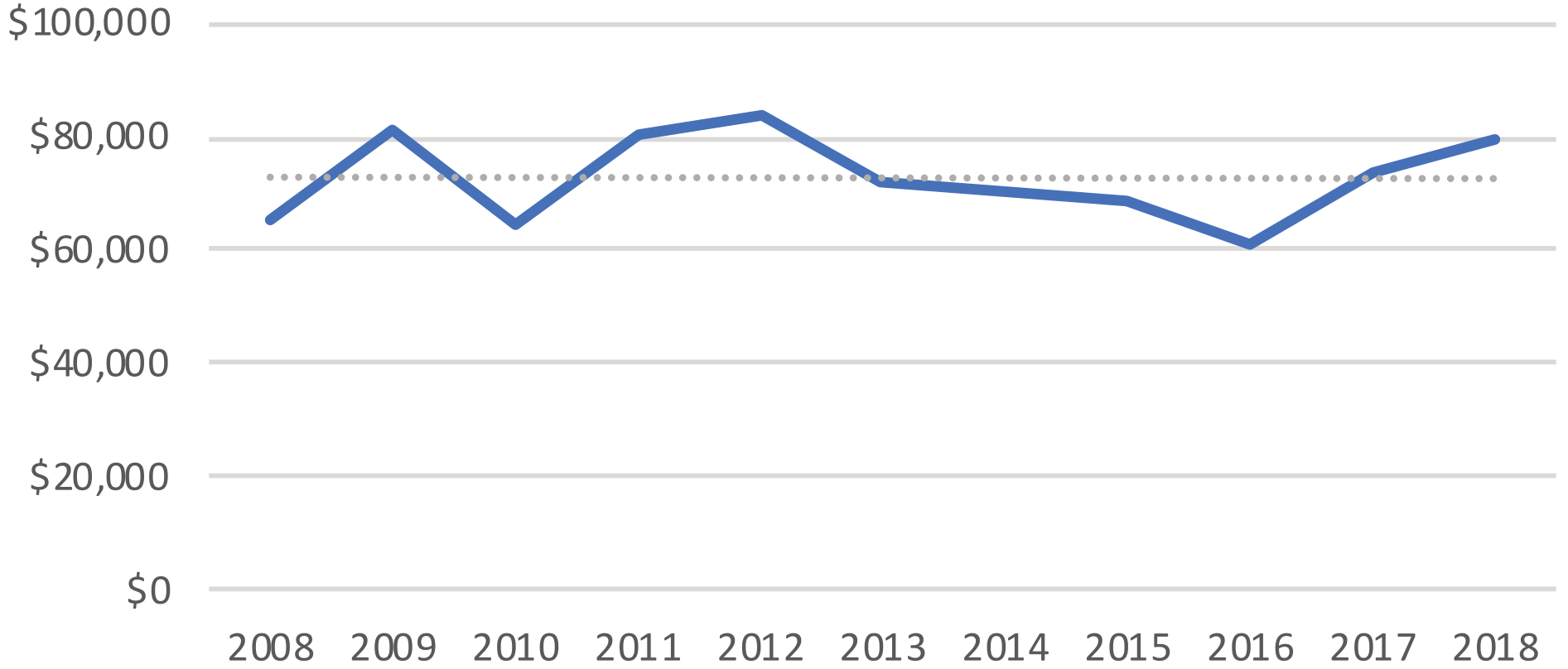
# No. of Members



# Sunday Attendance



# Pledge Dollars



# Growth Trends

- Our past growth patterns do not indicate that we would reach the required number of pledging units anytime soon.
- In order to reach the number of pledging units needed for a new building, we would need to conduct a membership drive, and then a capital campaign to fundraise for the building.

# Alternatives to Building a New Structure

## RENTING SPACE | BY THE NUMBERS

- Current space used inside the barn:

**2,108 SQUARE FEET**

(plus RE, storage, etc.)

- Current budget for renting the barn  
and charter school:

**\$18,000 PER YEAR**

- Current rents for Lake County properties:

**\$10-\$16 PER SQUARE FOOT**

- Estimated cost to rent a space of  
about 3,000 square feet:

**\$30,000 - \$48,000 PER YEAR**

or **\$12,000** to **\$30,000** more than our  
current budget for rent, plus initial expenses  
to make the space usable for our purposes.

- We would need to sustain roughly 10 to 20 more pledging units  
to make the option of renting a new space viable in today's real  
estate market at the current average pledge amount.

# Next Steps

- The board believes RE is the top priority to focus on at this point.
- Based on the facts, it is the board's position that building or renting are not short-term options and that the congregation should continue to address congregational growth, building-related finances, and building logistics needs as best we can.
- The board is looking at options to creatively address operational issues identified by the building committee's work for the near term.