

Presbytery of Carlisle

2008 Presbytery Statistics:

Number of Churches	Membership	Median Church Size
52	14,544 We are 51 st out of 172 presbyteries.	177

History:

The heritage of the Presbytery of Carlisle goes back to the old Donegal Presbytery, which the Synod of Philadelphia formed in 1732. After the Old Side/New Side controversy was settled in 1758, the Presbytery of Donegal was dissolved. All the churches on the west side of the Susquehanna River were placed into the new Presbytery of Carlisle on May 22, 1765.

Since then our presbytery has had its borders redefined several times. Presently, the presbyteries in Pennsylvania are defined by county lines. Carlisle includes Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Juniata, Lebanon, and Perry counties. We are one of the sixteen presbyteries in the Synod of the Trinity.

Our first Executive Presbyter, the Rev. George Evans, was called in January 1964. He served until 1990, and was named Executive Presbyter Emeritus. Called in July 2005, the Rev. Dr. Mark Englund-Krieger now serves in this capacity.

Mission and social justice have been central to the mission and ministry of our presbytery. Over the years we have supported youth camping programs. Presently we own and operate Camp Krislund, in partnership with Huntingdon and Northumberland Presbyteries. Supporting pastors after retirement was an important focus. Presbyterian Homes, Inc. was started in our presbytery and several of their facilities are within our bounds, including Greenridge Village and the new, Carroll Village. In the 1970s, out of a call to serve Vietnamese refugees, the International Service Center was born. It is still located in our Market Square Presbyterian Church. Also in Harrisburg, our Downtown Daily Bread continues to serve the homeless and poor as part of our Pine Street Presbyterian Church. In response to the need for disaster recovery in 2005, Lend A Hand was created as a ministry of the Presbytery and has helped in these efforts in New York, Iowa, Mississippi, and locally.

Developing new faith communities within our presbytery has been important. The St. James Presbyterian Church is the our most recent new church. Presently the Presbytery is working with the Derry Presbyterian Church to create a new Presbyterian faith community near Hershey. Although we are always called to new expressions of mission and ministry, we celebrate that many congregations in our Presbytery have a faithful heritage going back to the colonial days of America.

Mission Support

With a strong commitment to Presbyterian mission work, the Presbytery of Carlisle's support of basic mission and special offerings has earned us recognition as one of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Top Ten Presbyteries in 2007 and 2008:

Basic mission support by average per member:	#1 at \$19.38/member
Basic mission support by total dollar amount:	#5 at \$283,810
Total giving by average per member:	#7 at \$33.08/member