

Congregational Survey

Welcome to the 2008 EUUC Congregational Survey. The Ministerial Search Committee needs to know about you, your involvement with EUUC and your personal views so that we may more effectively represent the Congregation as we go through the process of inviting and screening candidates for the position of Minister at EUUC.

Please read each question carefully, and follow the *instructions in italics*.

A. Your involvement with the congregation

2. Why did you FIRST ATTEND this congregation? (*Please check no more than five reasons from the list below that were important to you then*)

Community/fellowship

Unitarian Universalist beliefs/values

Children's religious education

Intellectual stimulation

Sunday services

Adult education/programs

Choir/music

Minister

Social action/service activities

Youth or young adult groups

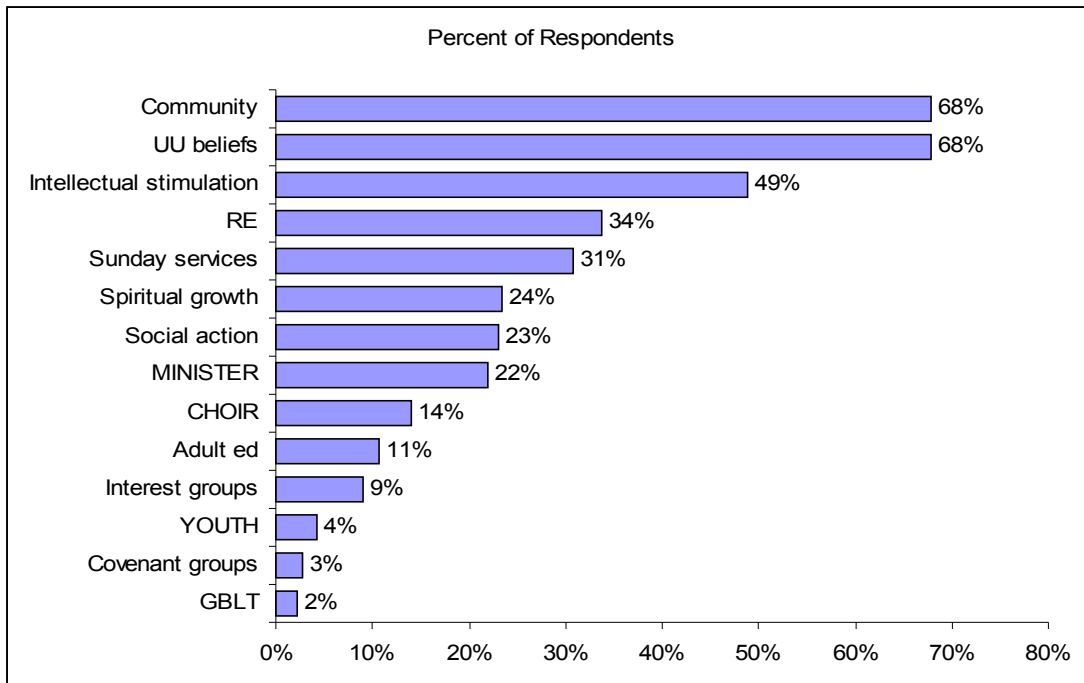
Interest groups

Covenant groups

Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgender support/interest groups

Spiritual growth

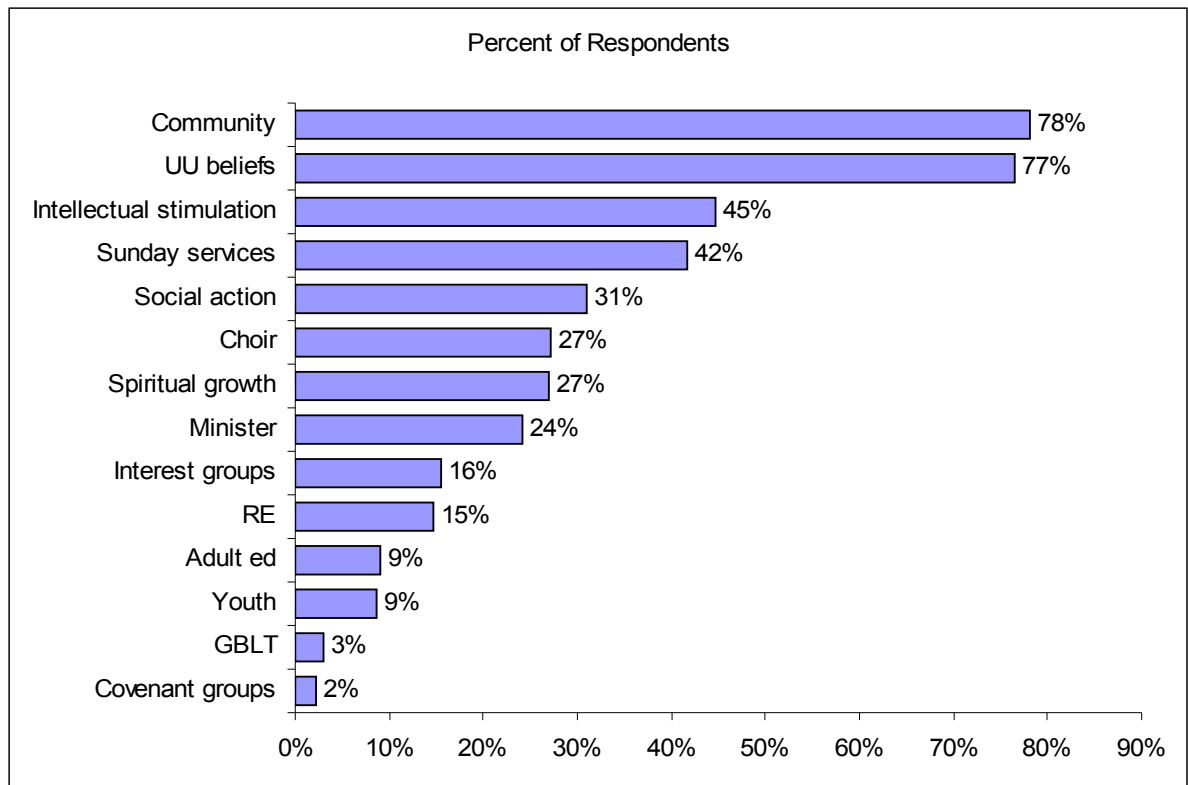
Other: _____



3. Why do you CONTINUE TO ATTEND? (Please check no more than five reasons from the list below that are important to you now)

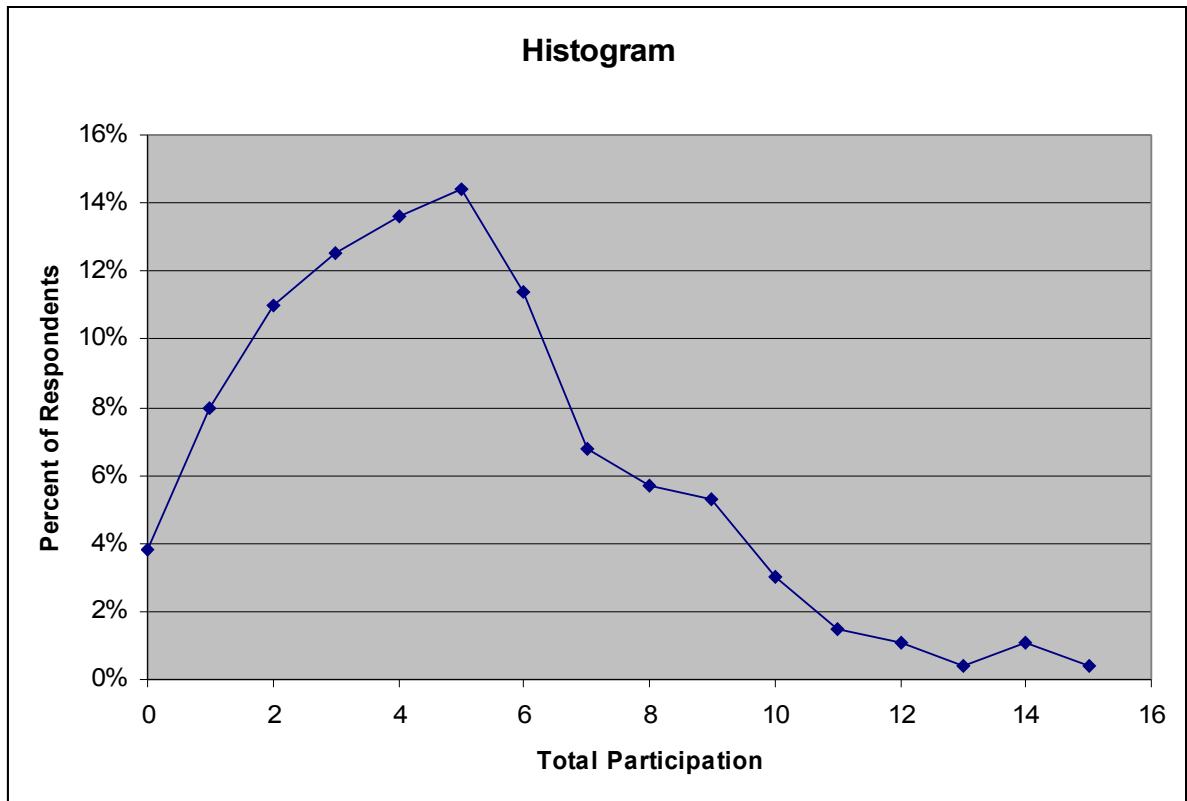
- Community/fellowship
- Unitarian Universalist beliefs/values
- Children’s religious education
- Intellectual stimulation
- Sunday services
- Adult education/programs
- Choir/music
- Minister
- Social action/service activities
- Youth or young adult groups
- Interest groups
- Covenant groups
- Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgender support/interest groups
- Spiritual growth
- Other: _____

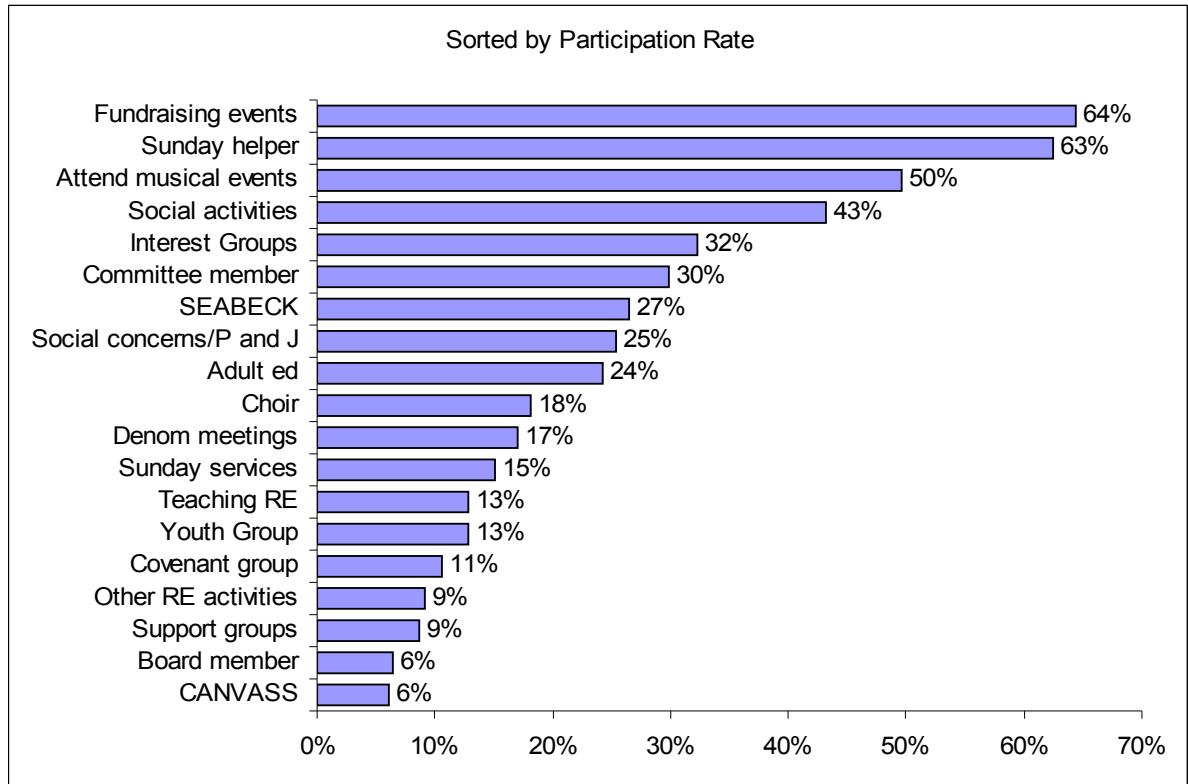
Sorted by Popularity



4. In which of the following church activities have you participated during the last 2 years?
(Please check all that apply)

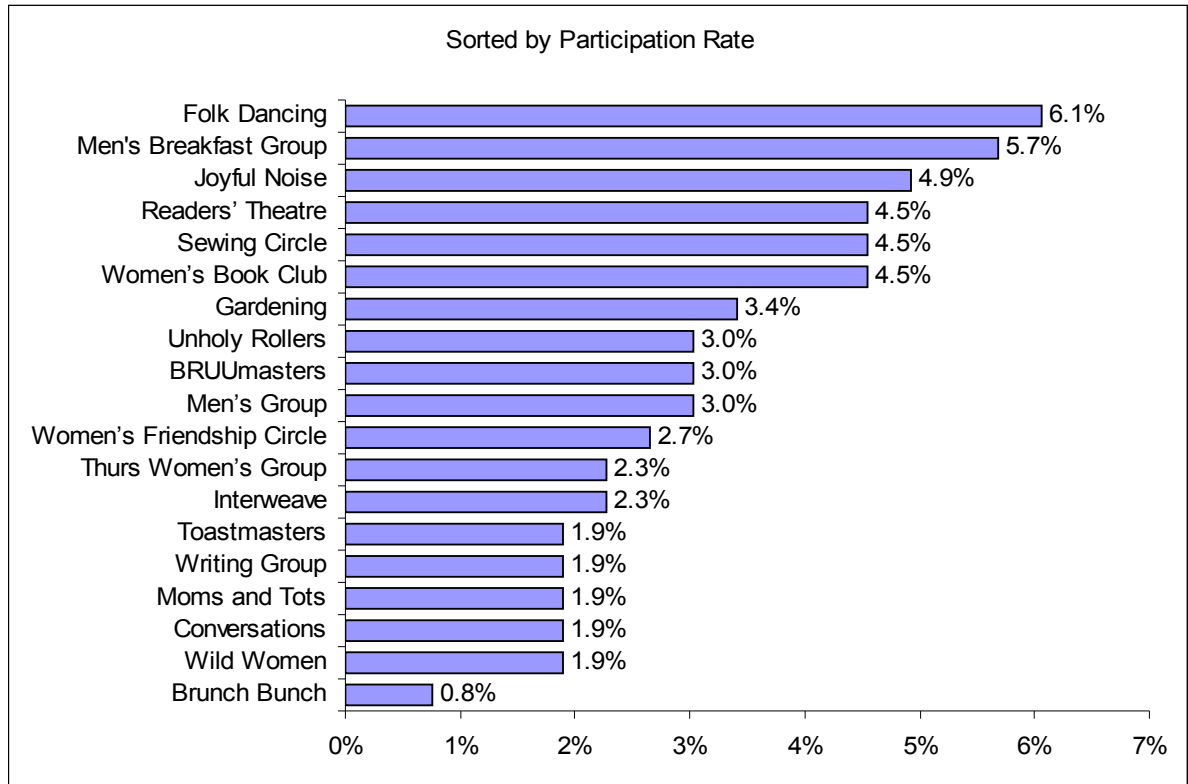
- Member Board of Trustees
- Member/Chair of Committee or Task Force
- Annual Operating Canvas
- Fundraising events (Art Show, Auction, Rummage Sale, etc.)
- Interest Groups
- Sunday services (as leader/speaker)
- Choir/other music performance
- Attending musical events
- Sunday morning helper (greeter, usher, coffee maker, etc.)
- Teaching children’s religious education activities
- Other children’s RE activities (carnival, mentor)
- Youth Group activities
- Adult education programs
- Covenant group
- Social concerns/justice activities
- Social activities (bridge, dinners, etc.)
- Support groups (for men, women, etc.)
- Seabeck retreat(s) / Memorial Day campout
- Denominational meetings or workshops
- Other (Please specify) _____





5. Which interest groups do you participate in? (Check each group that you are active with)

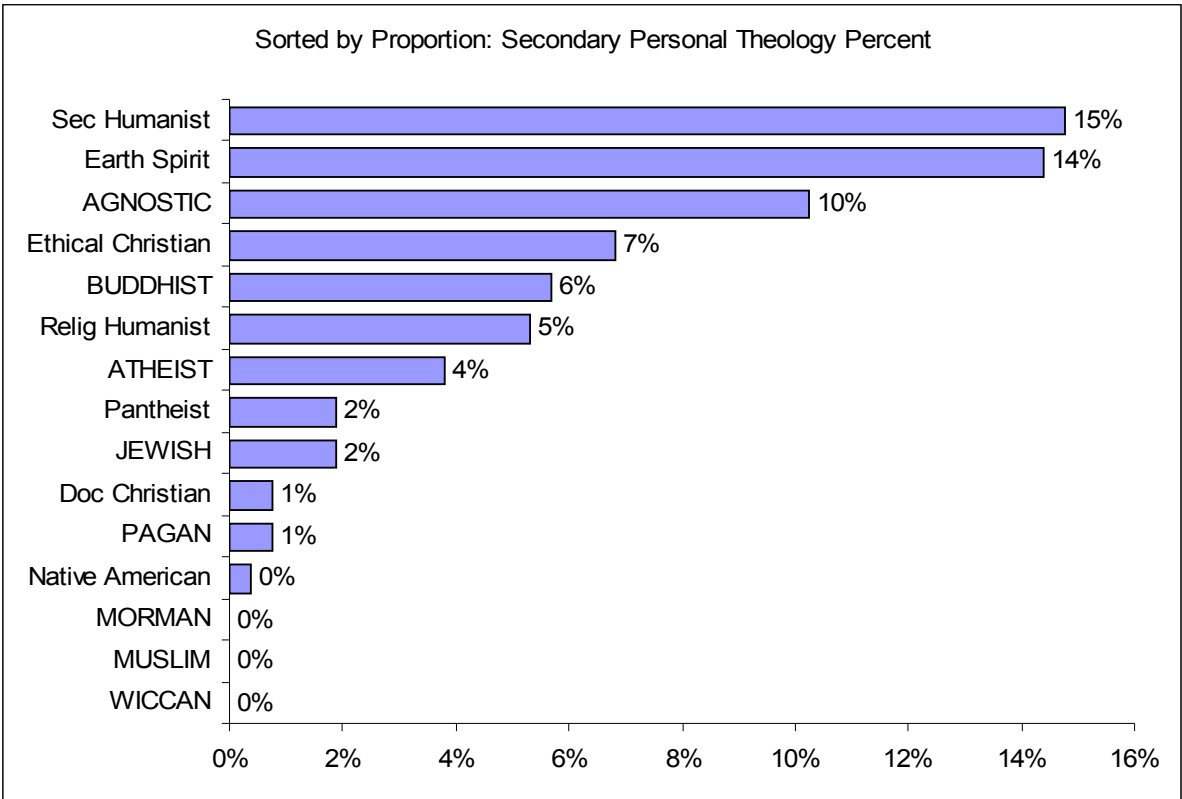
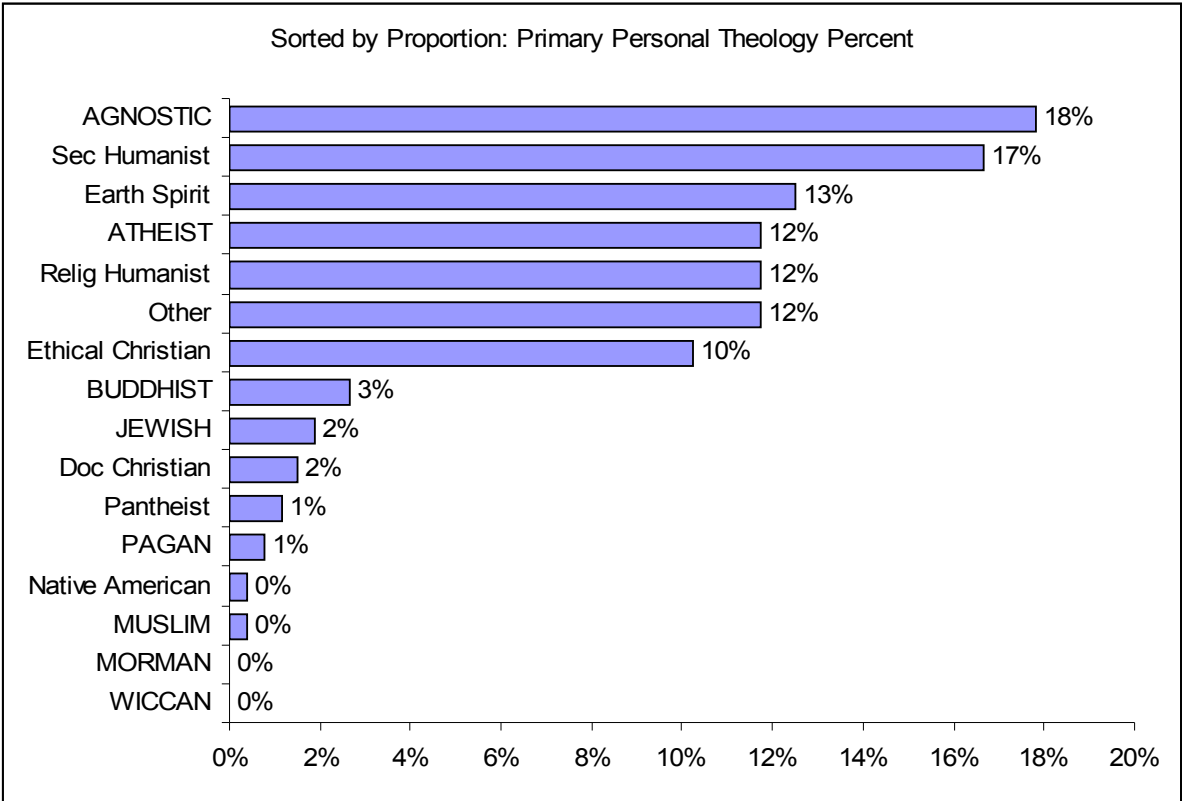
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BRUUMasters | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brunch Bunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Breakfast Group (Jolly Boys) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee and Politics | <input type="checkbox"/> Moms and Tots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conversations | <input type="checkbox"/> Quilting Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covenant Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Readers' Theatre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Out | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing Circle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Folk Dancing | <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Women's Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friday Night at the Movies | <input type="checkbox"/> Toastmasters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Unholy Rollers (RV group) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Women (50+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humanist Voice | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Book Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interweave | <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Friendship Circle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joyful Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | |



B. Your Personal Theology

6. In addition to our common UU beliefs, how else would you identify your beliefs when asked by a person you trust? *(Please check only one from the list below as your primary identity and zero or one as your secondary identity)*

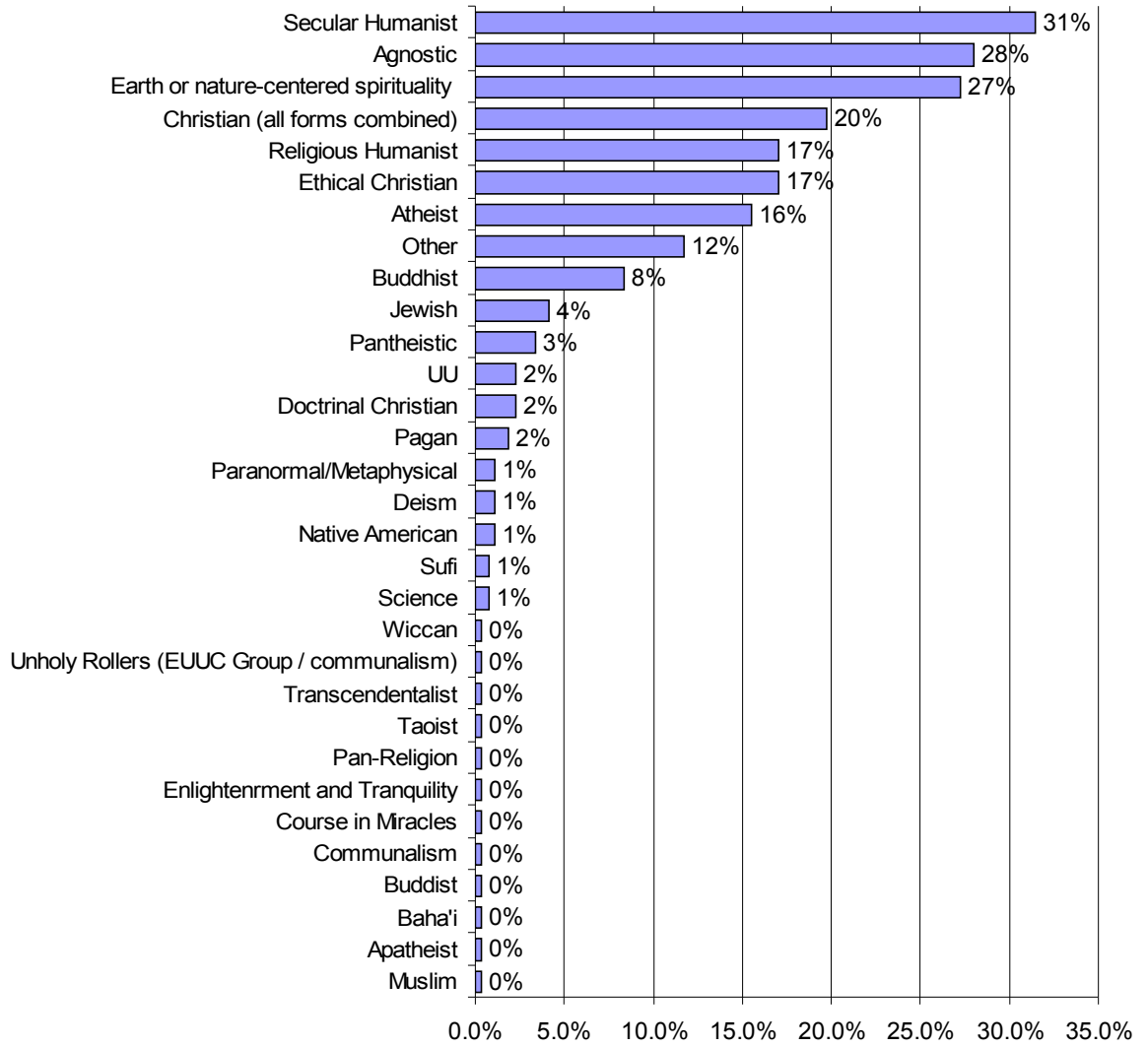
	<u>Primary Identity</u>	<u>Secondary Identity</u>
Agnostic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atheist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doctrinal Christian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ethical Christian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earth or nature-centered spirituality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religious Humanist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secular Humanist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mormon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Muslim	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native American	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pagan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pantheist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wiccan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other established religious tradition _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other self-identification _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Coding of "Other"

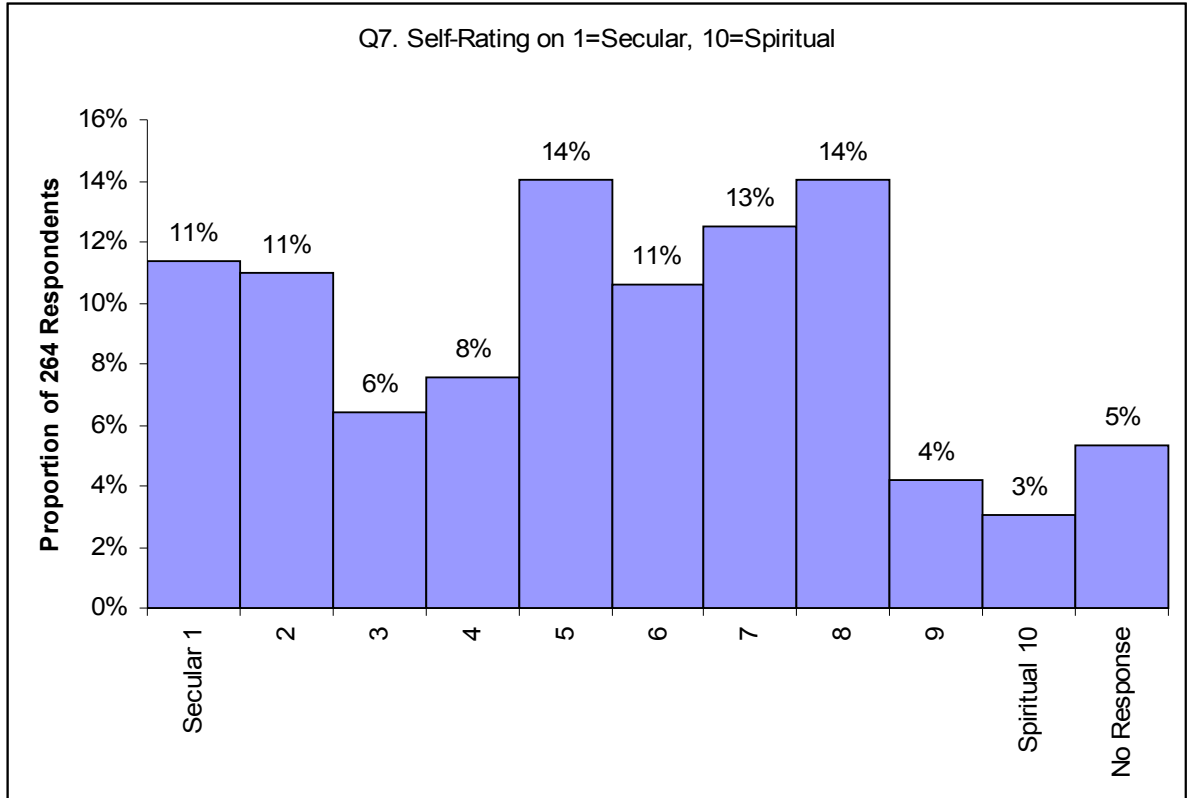
"Other" Response	Count	Response Coded as:
UU	6	UU
Apatheist	1	Apatheist
Baha'i	1	Baha'i
Buddhist/Native American/nature centered	1	Buddist
Christian	1	Christian (all forms)
Spiritual growth / Communalism	1	Communalism
Course in Miracles	1	Course in Miracles
Deism	2	Deism
Panendeist (form of Deism)	1	Deism Earth or nature-centered
Nature-centered secularist	1	spirituality
Enlightenment and tranquility	1	Enlightenment and Tranquility
secular Jewish	1	Jewish
Pagan/Wiccan	1	Pagan
all religions	1	Pan-Religion
Pantheist/Sufi	1	Pantheist
Reincarnation, paranormal, etc.	1	Paranormal/Metaphysical
Paranormal experience (supernatural)	1	Paranormal/Metaphysical
metaphysical	1	Paranormal/Metaphysical
Science based (cosmological-physics orientation)	1	Science
neuroecological sprituality	1	Science
Sufi	2	Sufi
Taoist	1	Taoist
Transcendentalist	1	Transcendentalist Unholy Rollers (EUUC Group /
Unholy Roller	1	communalism)

Personal Theology (Primary, Secondary & Other)



7. Please place yourself on the continuum below between secular and spiritual.

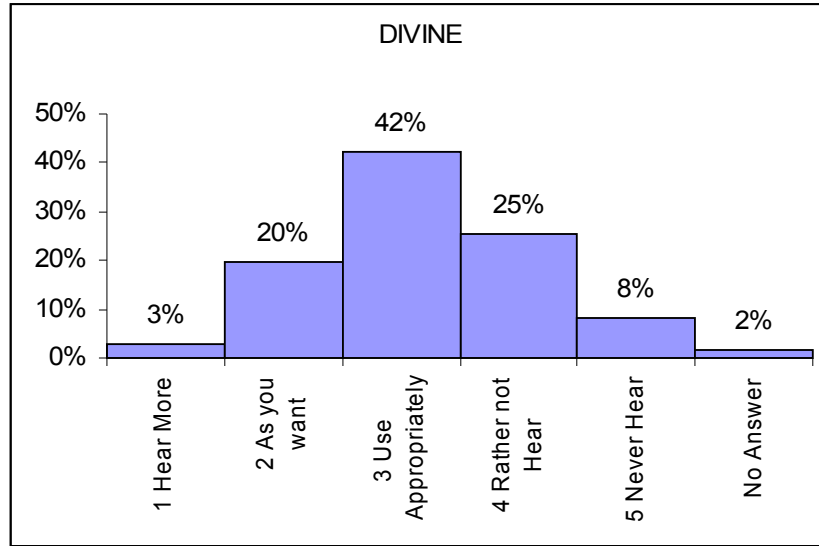
Secular 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Spiritual



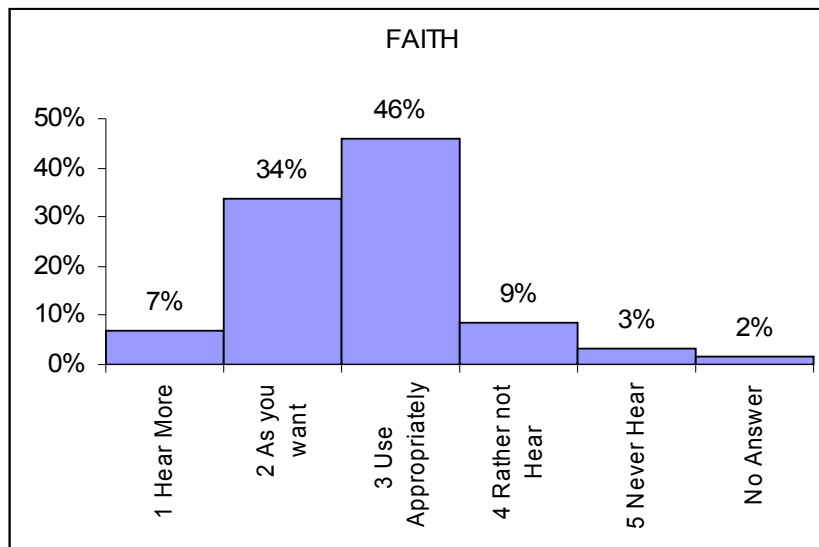
5% of respondents chose not to respond to question 7. This is the first question in the survey that respondents showed a choice to not answer. Q7 Answers were tri-modal: with modes at 1, 5, and 8. Average=5.1; N=250; SD=2.6.

8. What is your reaction when you hear the following words as part of a Sunday Service?
(Please check a column for each word)

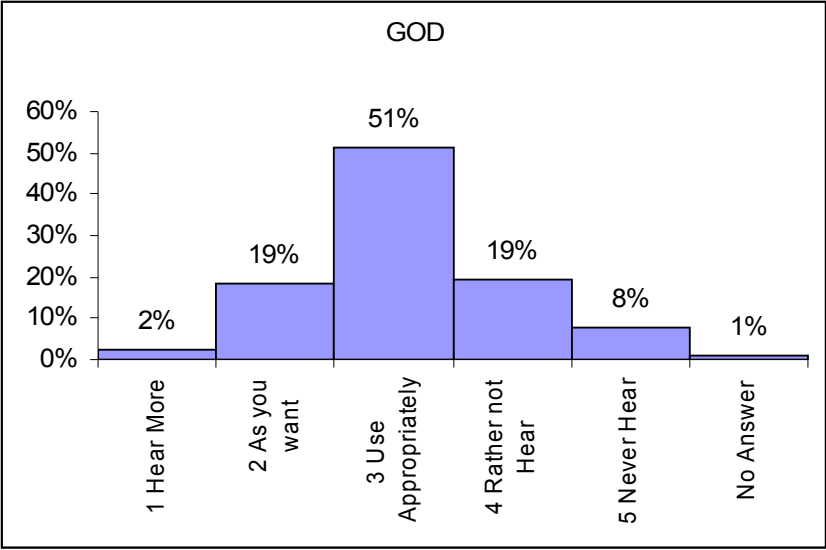
	I would like to hear it more often	Use it all you want	Use it as appropriate	I'd rather not hear it	I never want to hear it
Divine	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



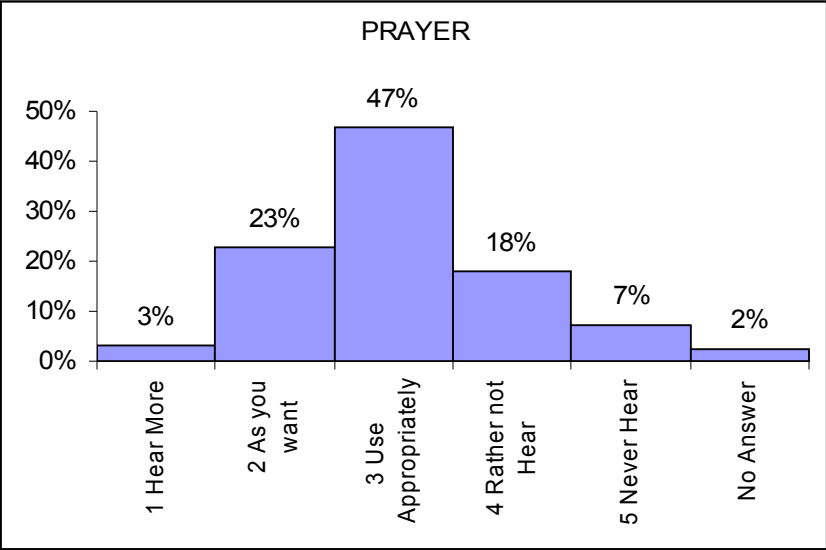
Faith



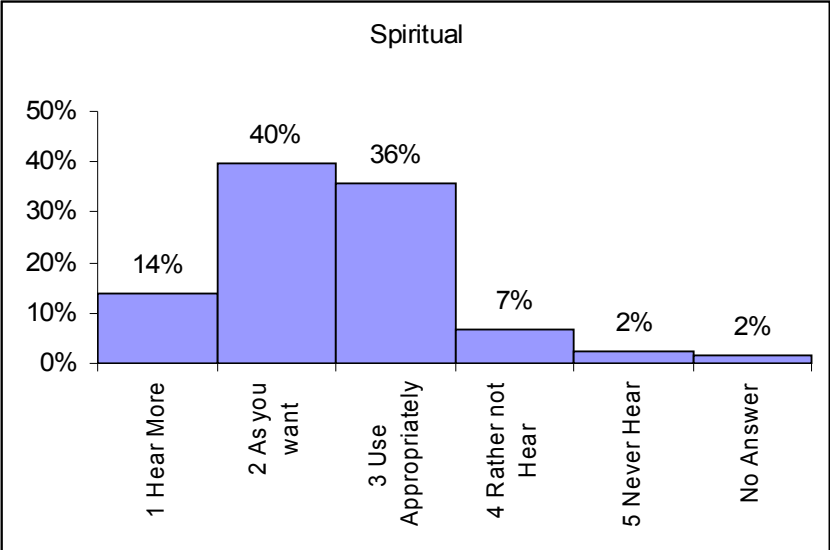
God



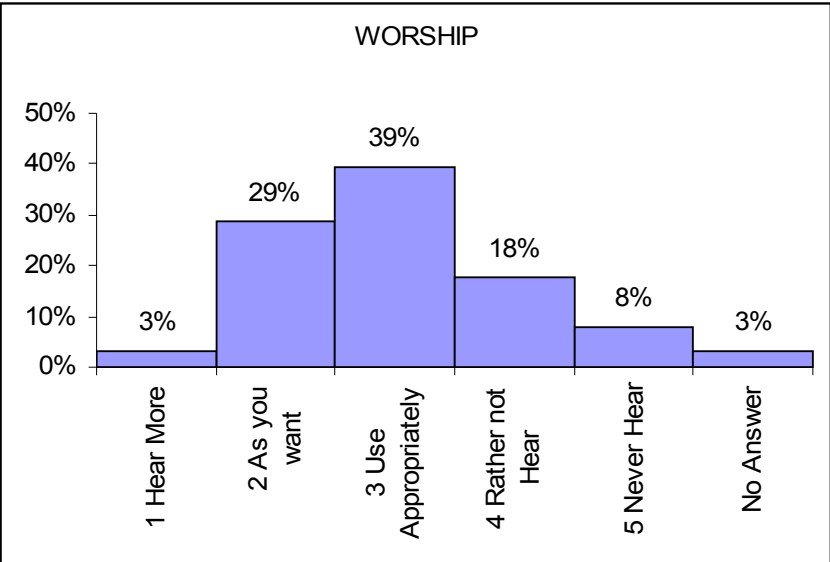
Prayer

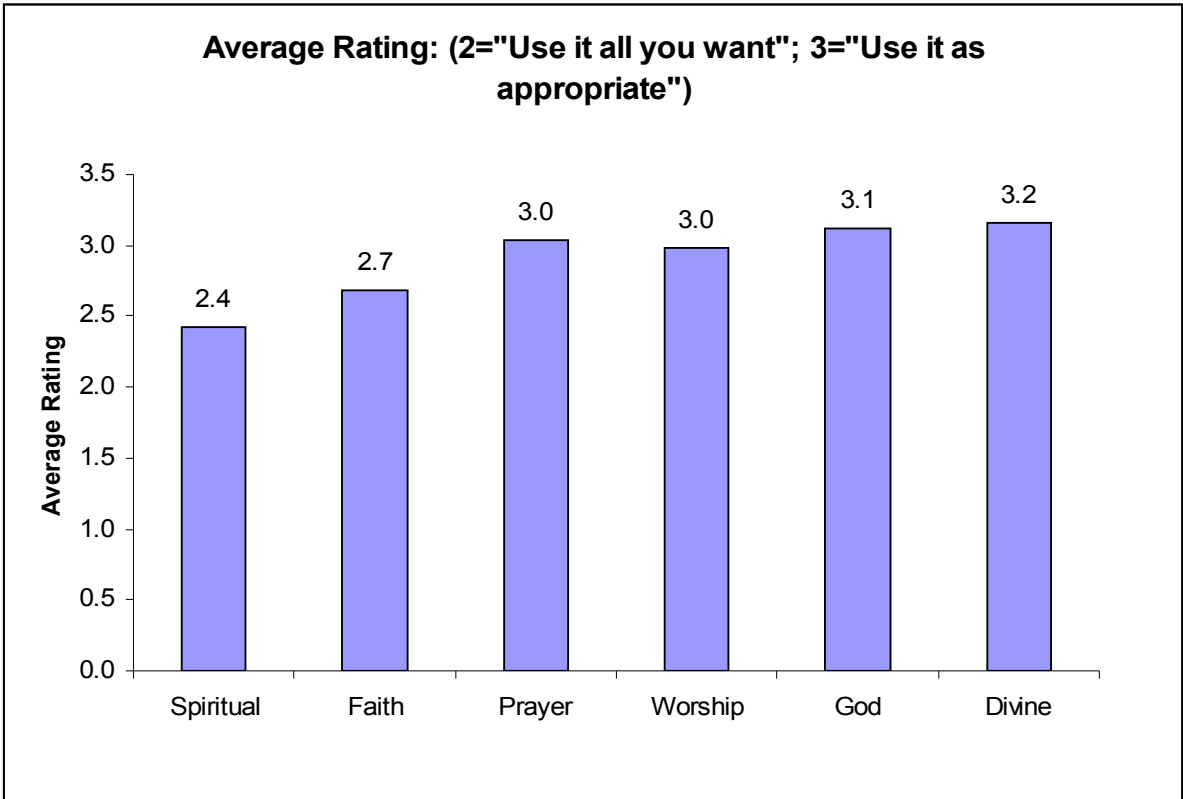
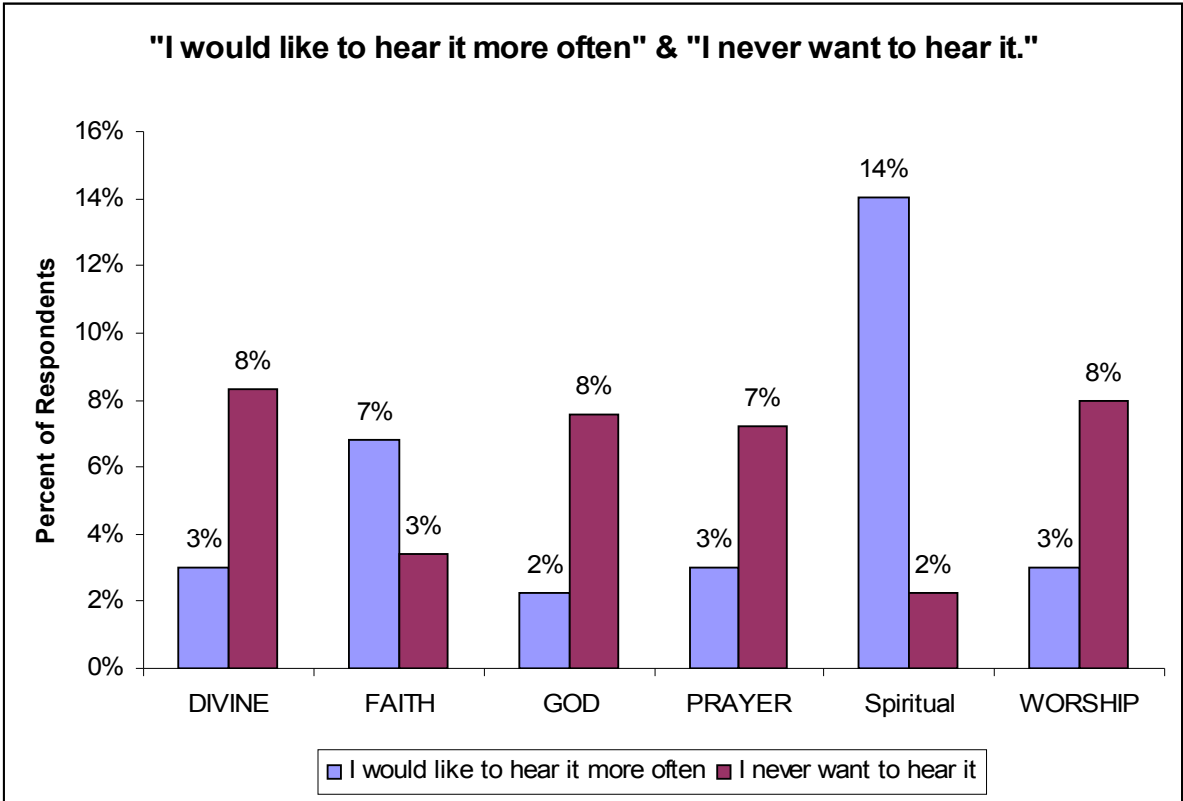


Spiritual



Worship





C. Your views on Professional Ministry

Both UU tradition and the congregation's historical practice hold that the minister should have freedom of the pulpit. How do you feel about views that the minister expresses from the pulpit? *Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with these two statements:*

9. A minister may express whatever theological views s/he may hold without censorship from the congregation

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Response	Percent	Count
1 Strongly Agree	40%	105
2 Agree	52%	137
3 Disagree	7%	18
4 Strongly Disagree	0%	0
No Answer	2%	4

10. A minister may express political views without censorship from the congregation

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Response	Percent	Count
1 Strongly Agree	27%	72
2 Agree	52%	137
3 Disagree	16%	43
4 Strongly Disagree	2%	6
No Answer	2%	6

11. The UUA General Assembly adopted an equal opportunity policy in 1989 which supports "ministerial settlement procedures without discrimination because of race, color, disability, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, age or national origin." Do you have any reservations regarding the application of this policy in regard to our church?

Yes No

93% (245) reported "No". 2% (5) did not answer. 5% (14) reported "yes"

If yes, please elaborate:

Elaborations:

Minister has to be able to do job, given what EUUC can provide in support	9
Race, color, sex, disability etc. should not be the basis for preferential treatment	2
Minister should not be "too" old	1
Prefer a female	1
Respondent made a joke	1

Explanations related to minister doing the job are related to disabilities. Candidates with mental disabilities that make them dangerous to people around them or that make them incomprehensible in any communication mode would not be suitable.

12. How important is it that the coming minister provide great Sunday morning sermons?
(Please check only one.)

- Sunday morning sermons are... not at all important to me.
 not really important to me.
 somewhat important to me.
 extremely important to me.

Response	Percent	Count
Not at all important to me.	0%	0
Not really important to me.	2%	5
Somewhat important to me.	32%	85
Extremely important to me.	65%	172
No Answer	1%	2

13. How important is it that the coming minister be good at collaboration and interpersonal relations?
(Please check only one.)

- The minister's collaboration and interpersonal skills are... not at all important to me.
 not really important to me.
 somewhat important to me.
 extremely important to me.

Response	Percent	Count
Not at all important to me.	0%	0
Not really important to me.	2%	5
Somewhat important to me.	26%	69
Extremely important to me.	70%	186
No Answer	2%	4

14. How important is it that the coming minister be compatible with the congregation on theological issues?
(Please check only one.)

- Whether the minister is compatible with the congregation theologically is... not at all important to me.
 not really important to me.
 somewhat important to me.
 extremely important to me.

Response	Percent	Count
Not at all important to me.	4%	10
Not really important to me.	11%	30
Somewhat important to me.	63%	165
Extremely important to me.	20%	53
No Answer	2%	6

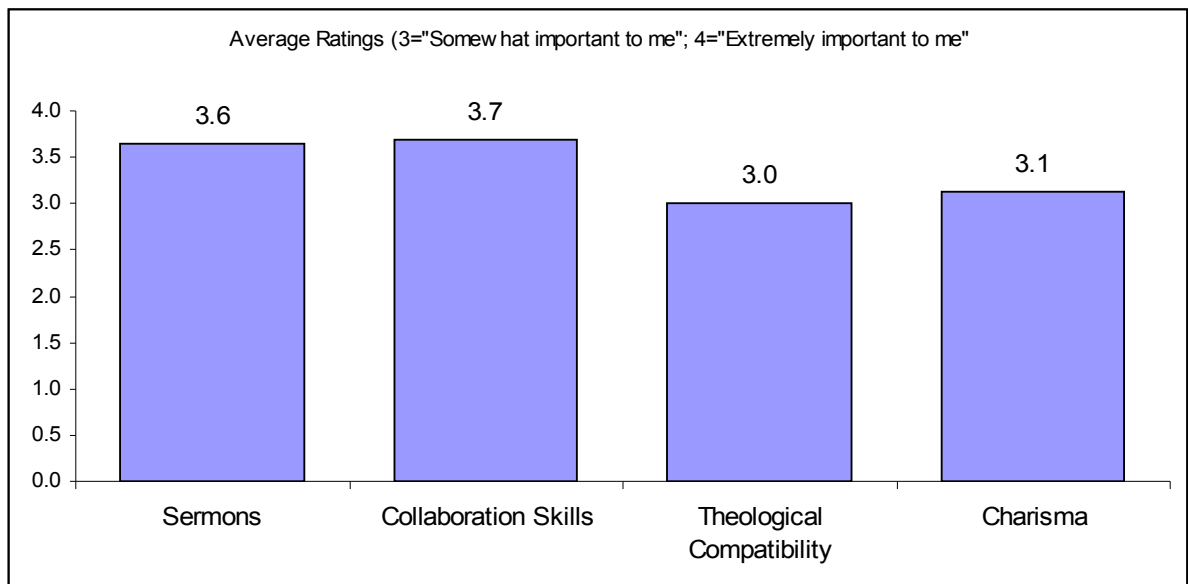
15. How important is it that the coming minister be charismatic and generate excitement?
(Please check only one.)

Whether the minister is charismatic and generates excitement is...

- not at all important to me.
- not really important to me.
- somewhat important to me.
- extremely important to me.

Response	Percent	Count
Not at all important to me.	2%	6
Not really important to me.	12%	31
Somewhat important to me.	57%	150
Extremely important to me.	29%	76
No Answer	0%	1

	N	Mean Rating	Std. Deviation
Sermons	262	3.6	0.52
Collaboration Skills	260	3.7	0.50
Theological Compatibility	258	3.0	0.69
Charisma	263	3.1	0.70



16. If you had to make a choice between two candidates with a mix of the above qualities, please rank how important each of those four qualities is for you from 1 (for most important) to 4 (for least important)

The coming minister's Sunday morning sermons

Response	Percent	Count
1st (Most Important)	38%	99
2nd	28%	73
3rd	21%	56
4th (Least Important)	9%	23
No Answer	5%	13

The coming minister's collaboration and interpersonal skills

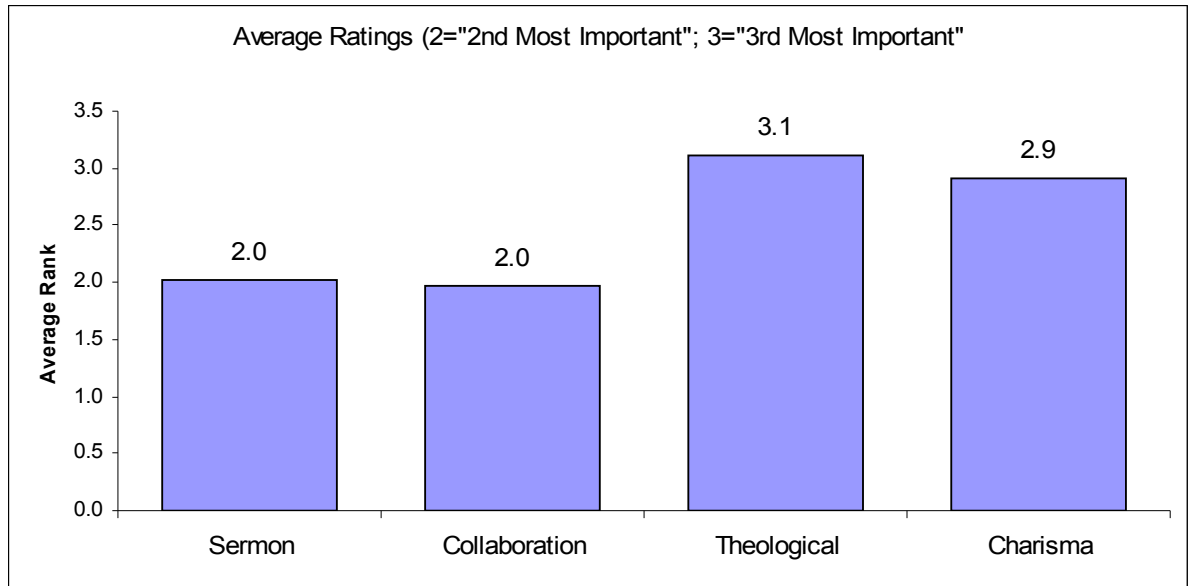
Response	Percent	Count
1st (Most Important)	38%	100
2nd	29%	77
3rd	21%	55
4th (Least Important)	7%	19
No Answer	5%	13

The coming minister's theological compatibility with the congregation

Response	Percent	Count
1st (Most Important)	8%	20
2nd	18%	47
3rd	26%	69
4th (Least Important)	44%	115
No Answer	5%	13

The coming minister is charismatic and generates excitement

Response	Percent	Count
1st (Most Important)	8%	20
2nd	18%	47
3rd	26%	69
4th (Least Important)	44%	115
No Answer	5%	13



17. How important to you personally are each of the following ministerial activities?
(Please check a box for each activity where the scale is:)

1) Very important 2) Important 3) Not at all important

a. **Facilitation** (e.g. involving others in congregational life, promoting lay leadership, guiding and encouraging others)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	48%	126
2 Important	45%	119
3 Not At All Important	5%	14
No Answer	2%	5

b. **Spiritual Leadership** (e.g. preparing and leading services, promoting personal growth)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	61%	162
2 Important	32%	85
3 Not At All Important	5%	13
No Answer	2%	4

c. **Welcoming Diversity** (e.g. actively promoting acceptance, inclusion, understanding & equality for all)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	56%	148
2 Important	40%	106
3 Not At All Important	3%	7
No Answer	1%	3

d. **Administrative Leadership** (e.g. coordinating and supporting efforts of staff, Board, committees, resolving volunteer conflicts)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	30%	78
2 Important	56%	149
3 Not At All Important	13%	34
No Answer	1%	3

e. **Promoting Intellectual Development** (e.g. challenging and stimulating the thinking of the congregation)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	56%	147
2 Important	40%	105
3 Not At All Important	3%	8
No Answer	2%	4

f. **Social Activism** (e.g. promoting social transformation and ethical values in the congregation and the larger community)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	44%	115
2 Important	49%	130
3 Not At All Important	5%	14
No Answer	2%	5

g. **Community Outreach** (e.g. reaching out to other faiths, promoting Edmonds Unitarian Church in the community)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	28%	75
2 Important	57%	151
3 Not At All Important	12%	32
No Answer	2%	6

h. Fostering Growth (e.g. helping us build a larger, more vibrant congregation)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	14%	37
2 Important	51%	134
3 Not At All Important	32%	85
No Answer	3%	8

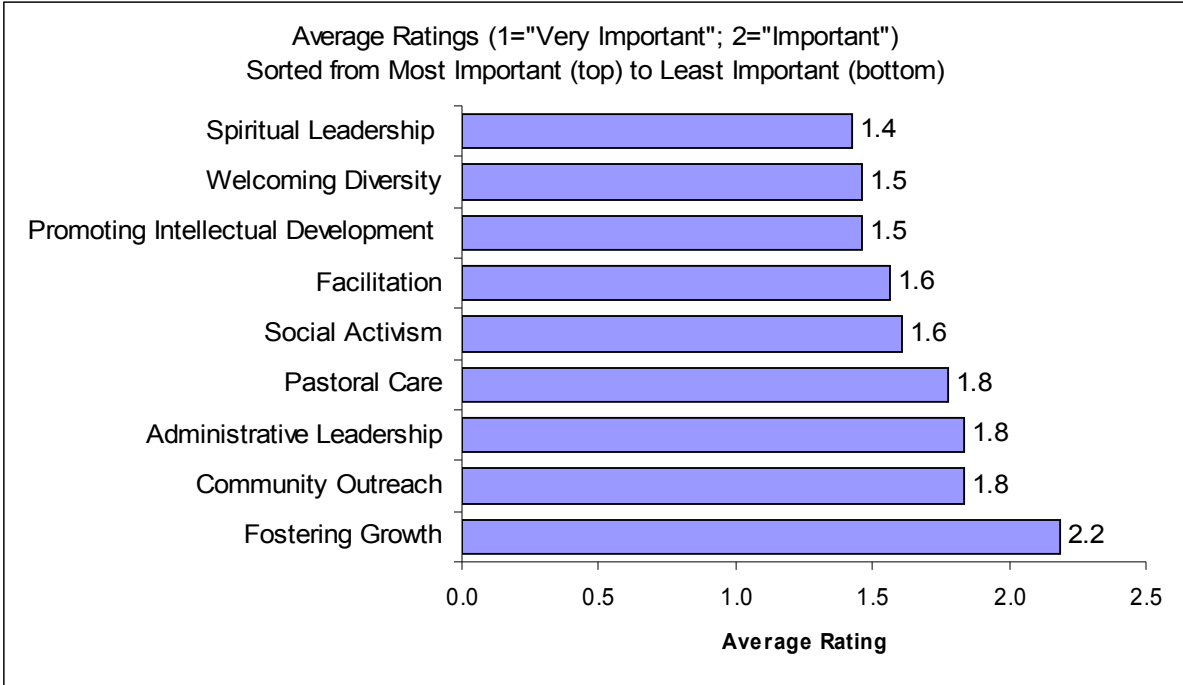
i. Pastoral Care and Counseling (e.g. visiting and counseling the sick, troubled and elderly)

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	33%	86
2 Important	55%	144
3 Not At All Important	11%	29
No Answer	2%	5

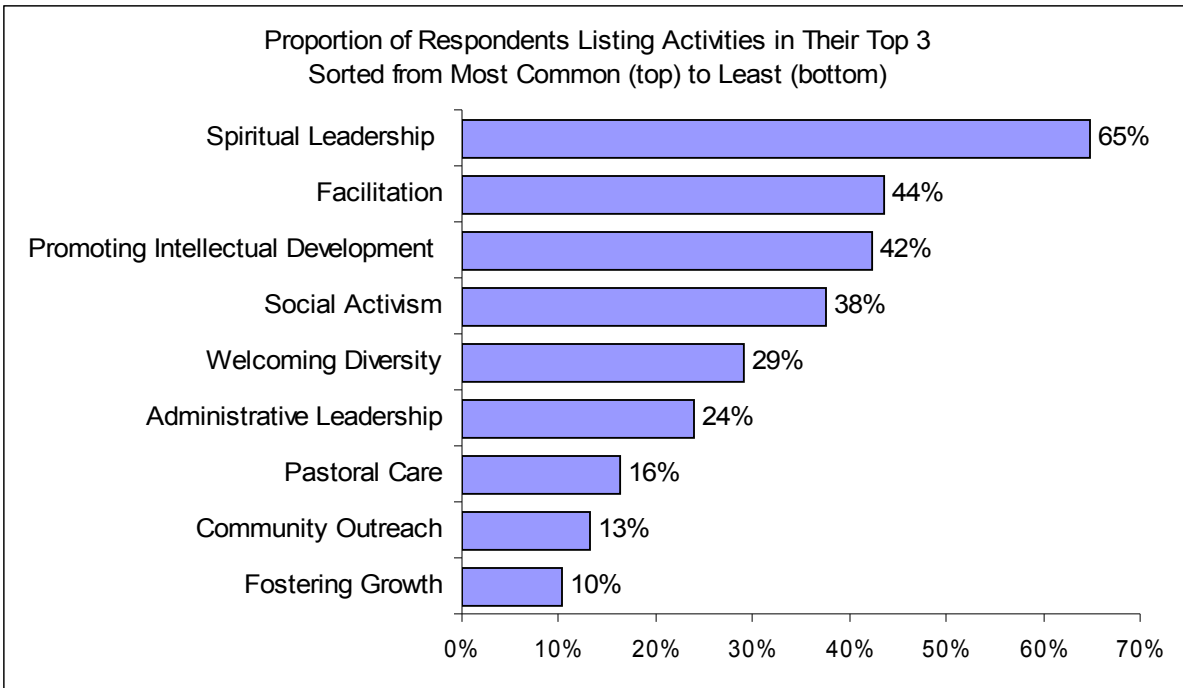
j. Other

Response	Percent	Count
1 Very Important	3%	9
2 Important	0%	1
3 Not At All Important	0%	0
No Answer	96%	254

	N	Mean Rating	Std. Deviation
Facilitation	259	1.6	0.60
Spiritual	260	1.4	0.59
Welcoming Diversity	261	1.5	0.55
Administrative Leadership	261	1.8	0.63
Promot Intel Dev	260	1.5	0.56
Social Activism	259	1.6	0.59
Community Outreach	258	1.8	0.62
Fostering Growth	256	2.2	0.67
Pastoral Care	259	1.8	0.63
Other	10	1.1	0.32

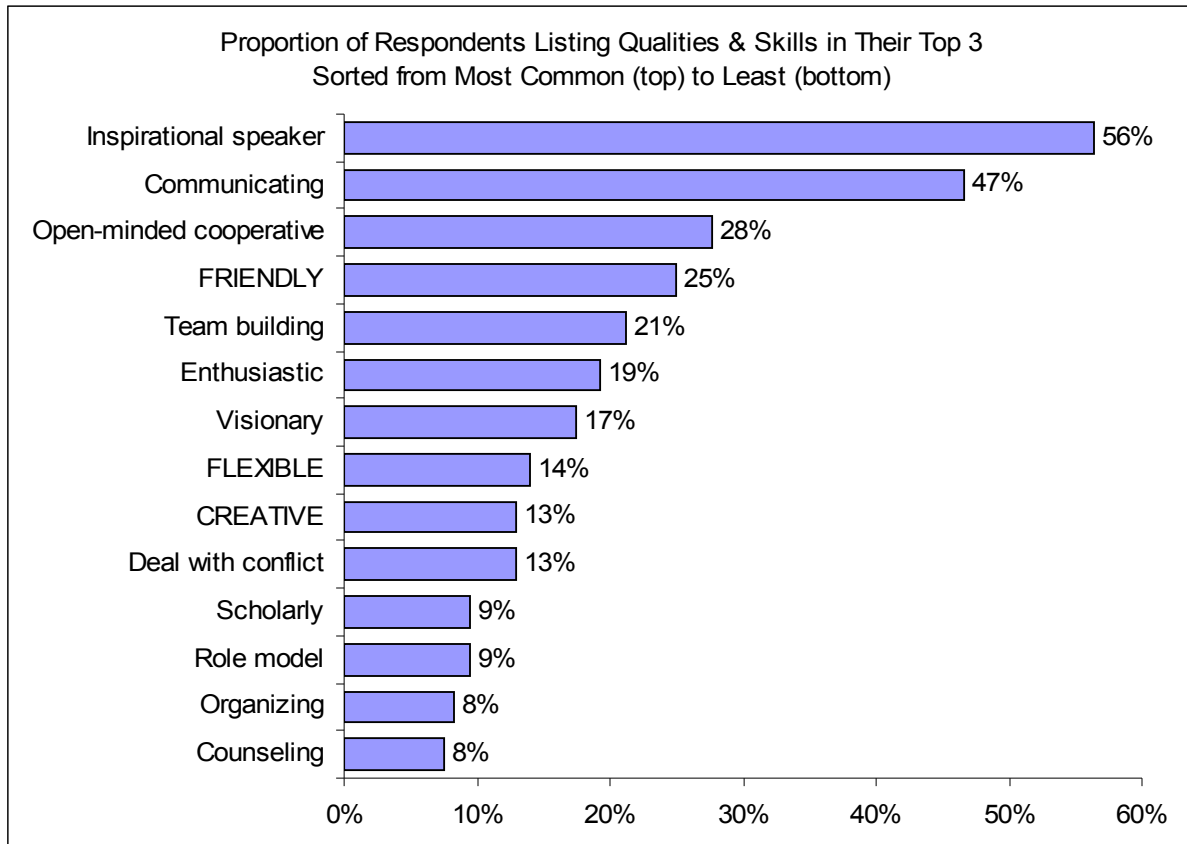


Which of the activities **above** would you choose as most important? *(Please select the three most important activities and enter the letters in the boxes below)*



18. Which qualities and skills in a new minister listed **below** are most important to you?
(Please select the three most important qualities from the list below and enter the letters in the boxes)

- a. Flexible, adaptable
- b. Enthusiastic
- c. Creative
- d. Open-minded, cooperative
- e. Good at team building
- f. Good at communicating
- g. Skilled at counseling
- h. Friendly, approachable
- i. Good at organizing
- j. Willing to deal with conflict
- k. Inspirational speaker
- l. Admirable role model
- m. Visionary
- n. Scholarly
- o. Other _____

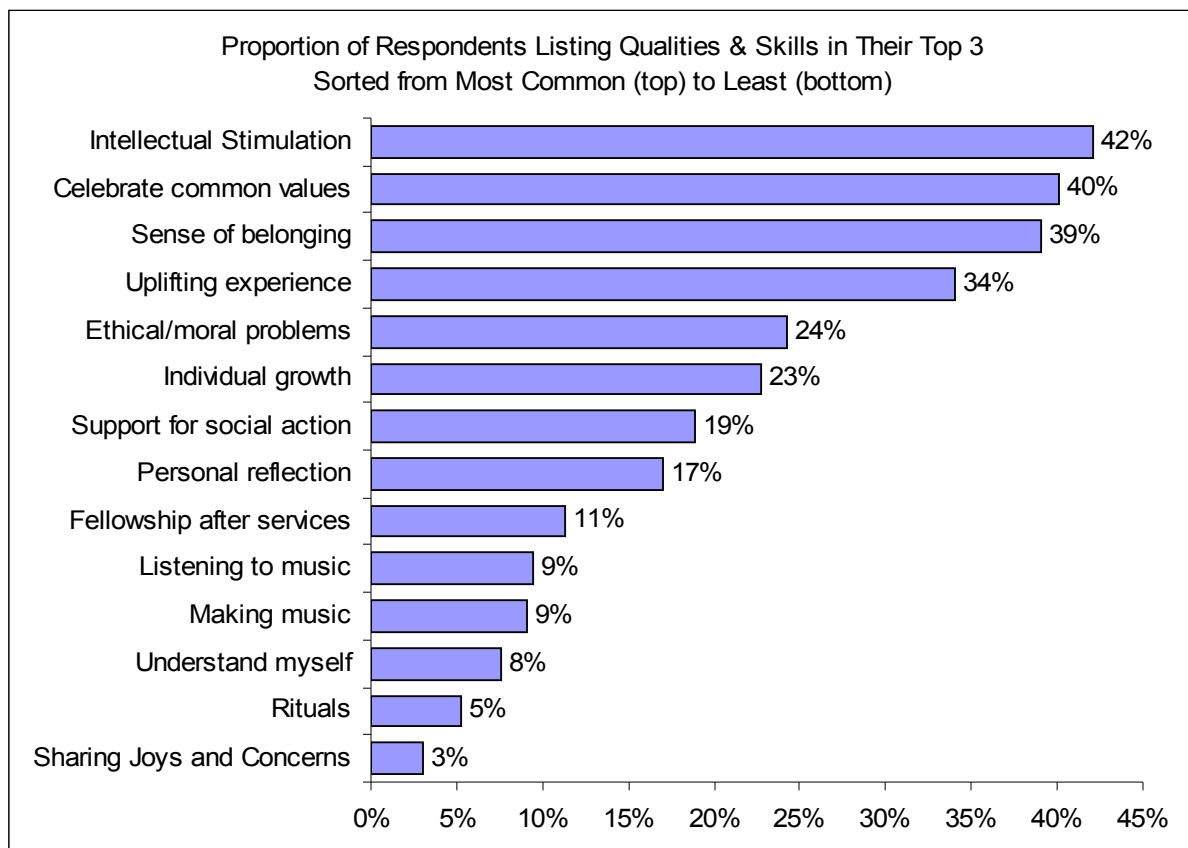


D.

Your views on Sunday morning services

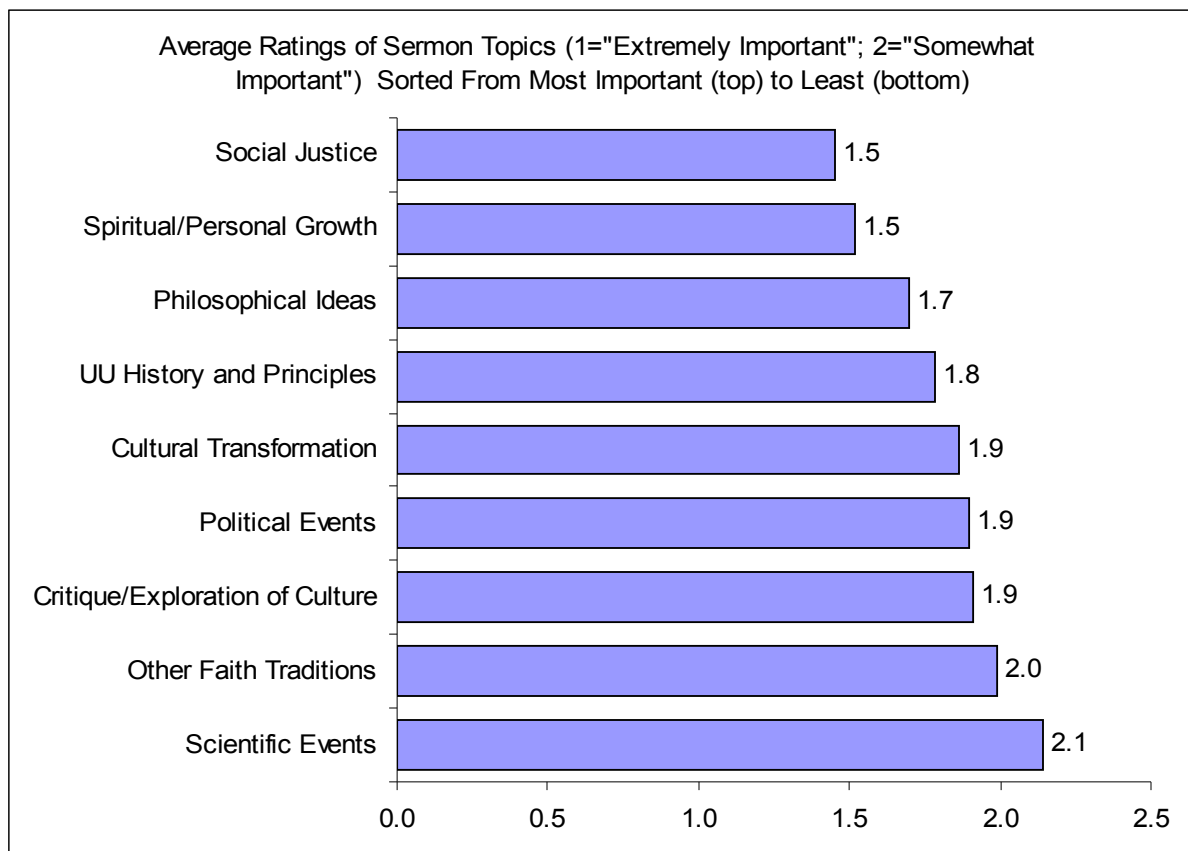
19. What are the most important reasons why you attend Sunday morning services? *(Please select your three most important reasons and enter the letters in the boxes below.)*

- a. Celebration of common values
- b. Intellectual stimulation
- c. Sense of belonging
- d. Better understanding of myself
- e. Support and encouragement for social action
- f. Fellowship period after services
- g. Making music
- h. Listening to music
- i. Presentation of ethical/moral problems
- j. Personal reflection and meditation
- k. New paths for individual growth and change
- l. Uplifting emotional/spiritual experience
- m. Sharing Joys and Concerns
- n. Rituals (chalice lighting, affirmation, closing circle, amens)



20. How important to you are each of these Sunday morning sermon topics? *(Please select an answer for each topic to show how important you feel it is.)*

	<u>Extremely Important</u>	<u>Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Not Important</u>
Social Justice and Action	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unitarian Universalist History and Principles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Faith & Spiritual Traditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spiritual/Personal Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Transformation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Critique/Exploration of Culture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Philosophical Ideas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Current Political Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Current Scientific Events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



E. About you

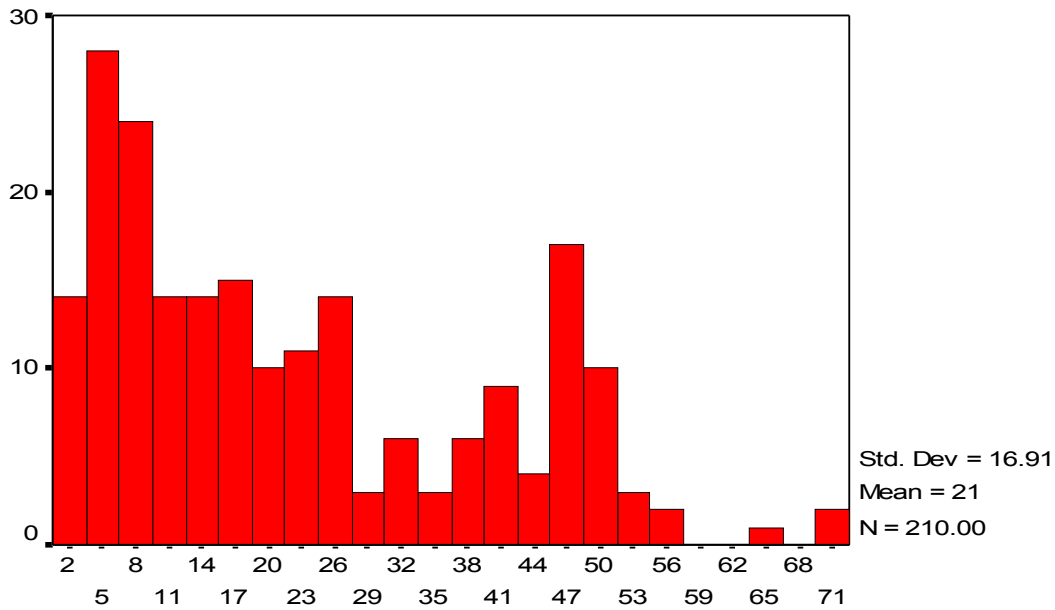
21. What is your affiliation with the EUUC? *(Please check one)*

- Member Friend Other _____

89% (235) were members; 10% (26) were friends; and 1% (3) gave no answer.

22. How long have you been a Unitarian Universalist?

- Officially, as a member of some Unitarian or UU congregation _____ years



Years an Official UU Member

Years as an official member are bi-modal with a mode at 4-6 years, and a second mode at 46-48 years. What is unusual is 28-39 years. These would include any who began UU by joining EUUC between 1969 and 1980.

- Unofficially, i.e., in my beliefs although not formally affiliated _____ years

Descriptive Statistics

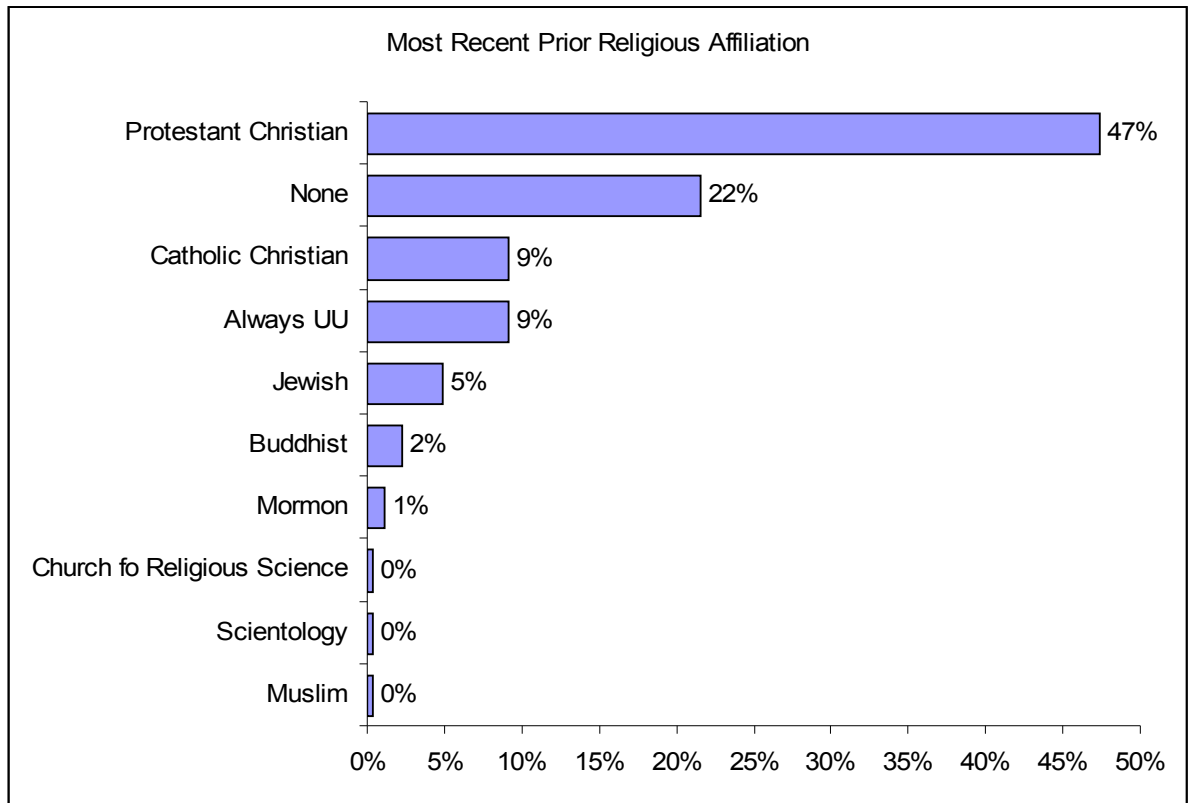
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Years an Official UU Member	210	1.00	71.00	21.4714	16.91300
Years and Unofficial UU	25	5.00	100.00	25.8800	20.55140
Valid N (listwise)	0				

- I'm not a Unitarian Universalist.

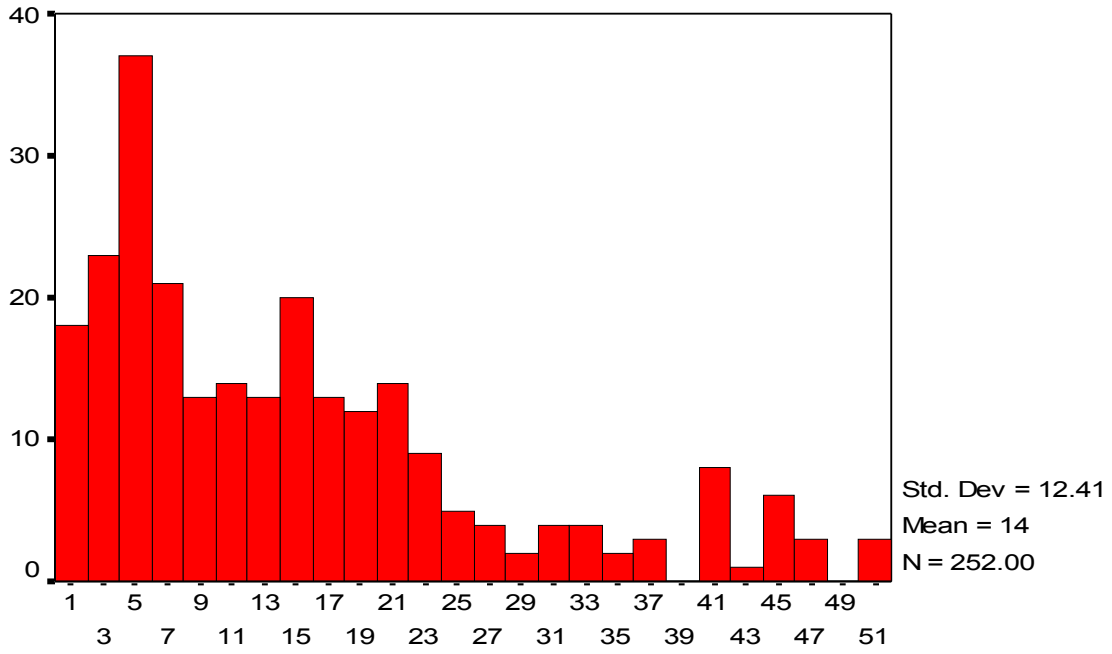
9 reported not being UU.

23. What was your most recent prior religious affiliation?

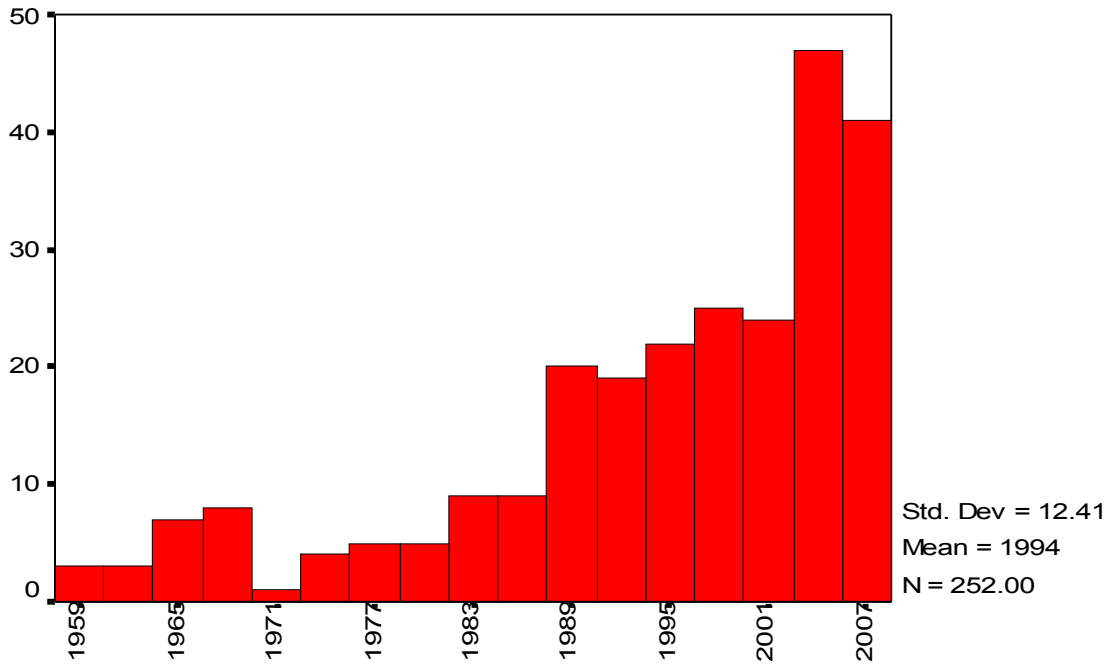
- None
- Always a Unitarian Universalist
- Buddhist
- Catholic Christian
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Protestant Christian
- Other (*Please specify*) _____



24. How many years have you attended EUUC? _____



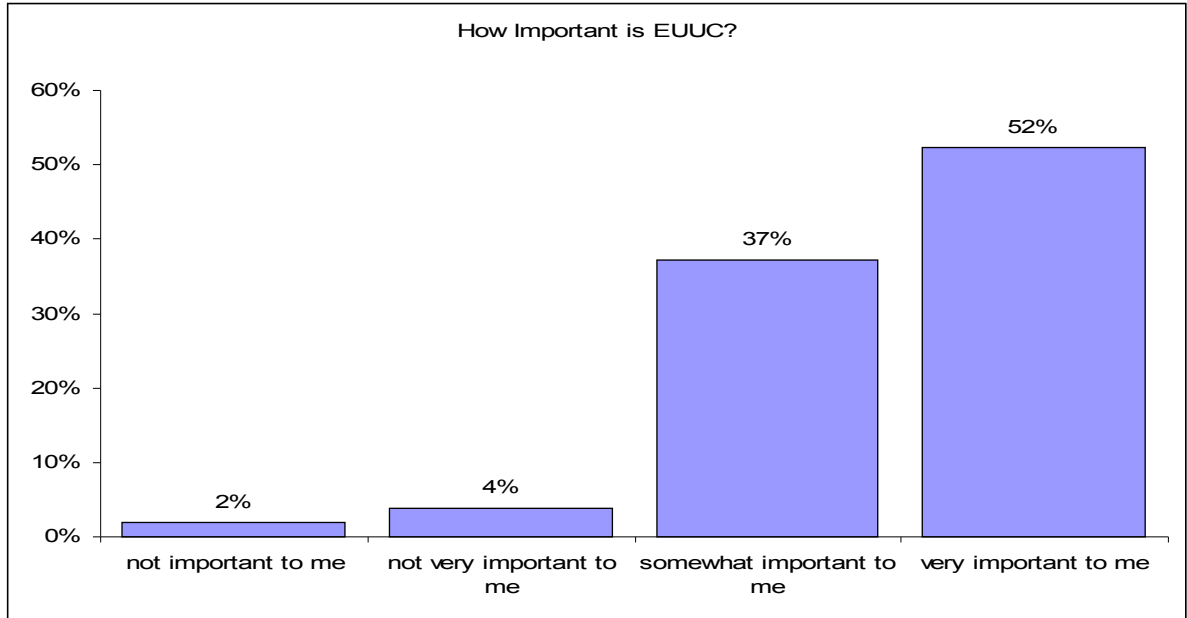
Years attended EUUC



Year Joined EUUC

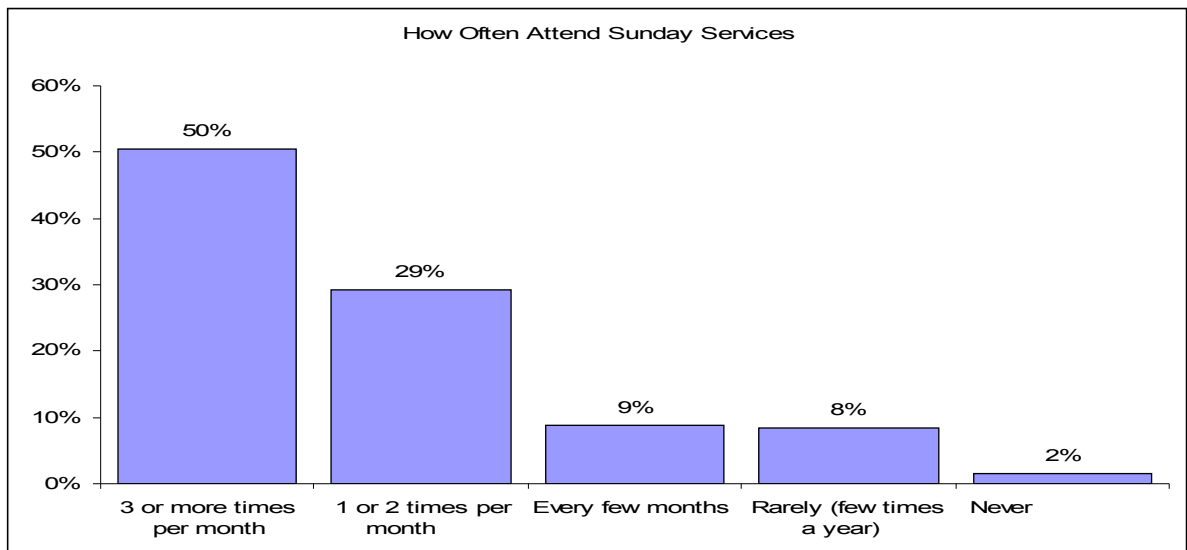
25. How important in your life is your participation in EUUC? *(Please check only one)*

- not important to me.
- not very important to me.
- somewhat important to me.
- very important to me.



26. Over the past two years, how frequently have you attended Sunday services during the regular church year? *(Please check only one)*

- 3 or more times per month
- 1 or 2 times per month
- Every few months
- Rarely (few times a year)
- Never

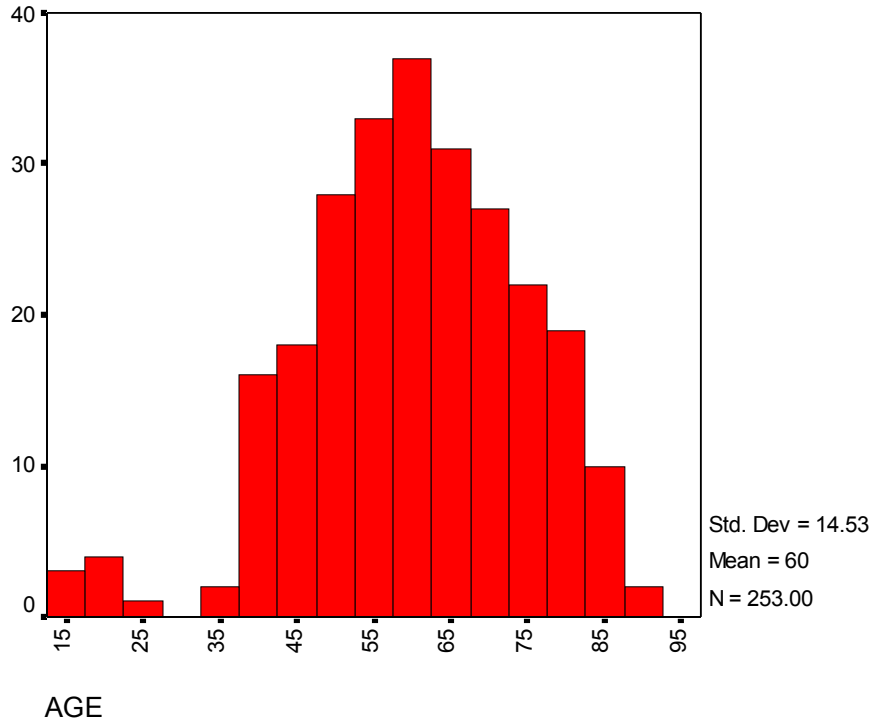


27. What is your gender? (Please check only one)

- Male Female Transgender

36% Male; 61% Female; 3% no response

28. What is your age? _____



29. What is your sexual orientation? (Please check only one)

- Heterosexual Gay or lesbian Bisexual

92% (242) Heterosexual (coded 1); 3% Gay or lesbian (coded 2); 2% (4) Bisexual (coded 3); 0.4% coded as "4" (Other?)

30. What is your ethnic/racial background?

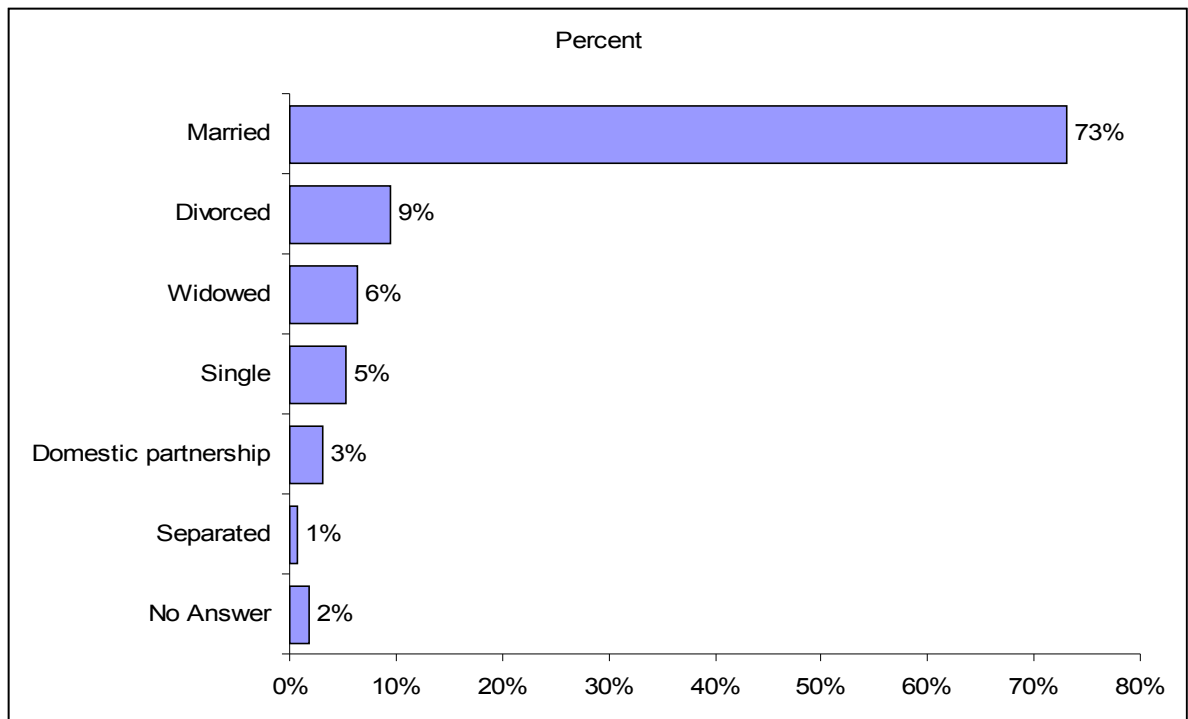
- | | Primary Ethnicity
<i>(Check only one)</i> | Other Ethnicities
<i>(Check all that apply)</i> |
|---|--|--|
| a. African American/Black | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. American Indian/Alaska Native | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Asian <i>Please specify</i> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Hispanic/Latino <i>Please specify</i> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Pacific Islander <i>Please specify</i> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. White (not of Hispanic origin) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Primary Race	Percent	Count
African		
American/Black	0%	1
American Indian	0%	1
Asian	1%	3
Hispanic	0%	1
Pacific Islander	0%	0
White	94%	247
Other	2%	4

Secondary Race	Percent	Count
African		
American/Black	0%	0
American Indian	8%	20
Asian	2%	4
Hispanic	1%	2
Pacific Islander	1%	2
White	2%	6
Other	2%	4

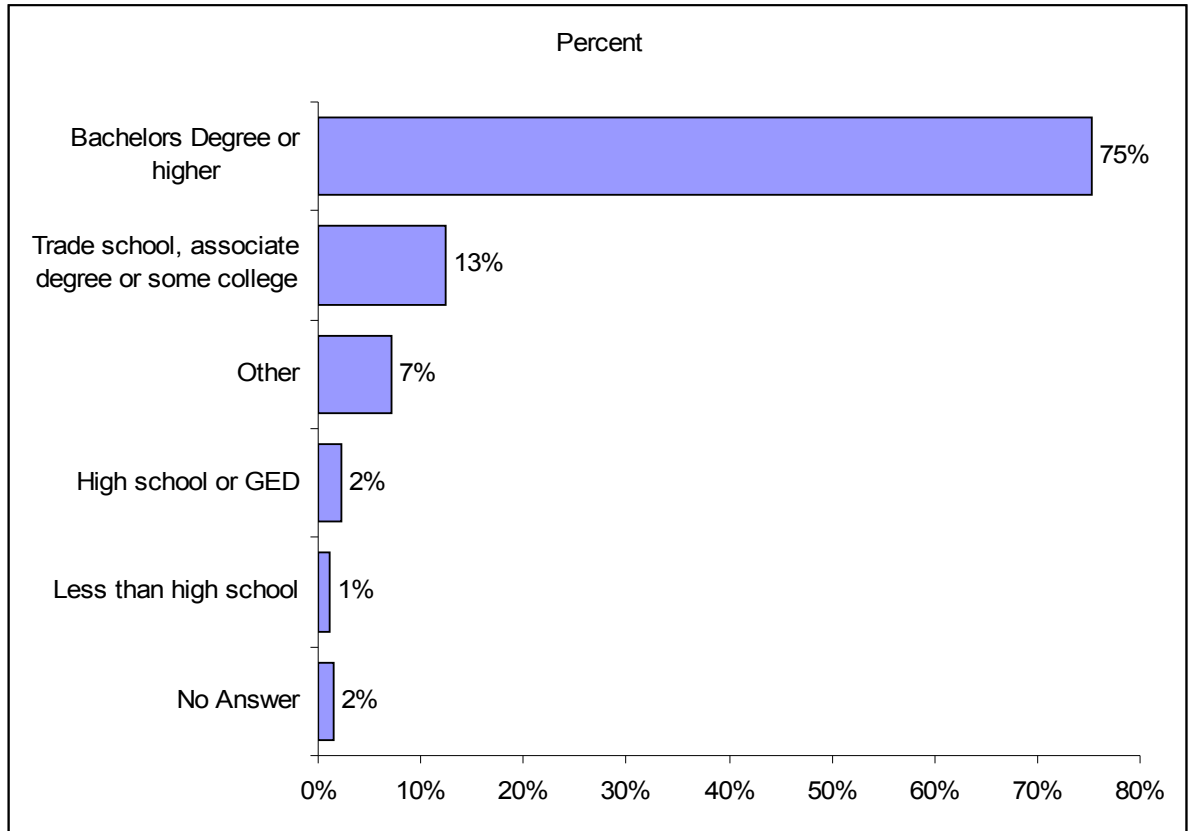
31. What is your current marital status?

- Divorced
- Domestic partnership
- Married
- Separated
- Single
- Widowed



32. What is the highest level of education you have completed? *(Please check only one)*

- Less than high school
- High school or GED
- Trade school, associate degree or some college
- Bachelors Degree or higher
- Other _____



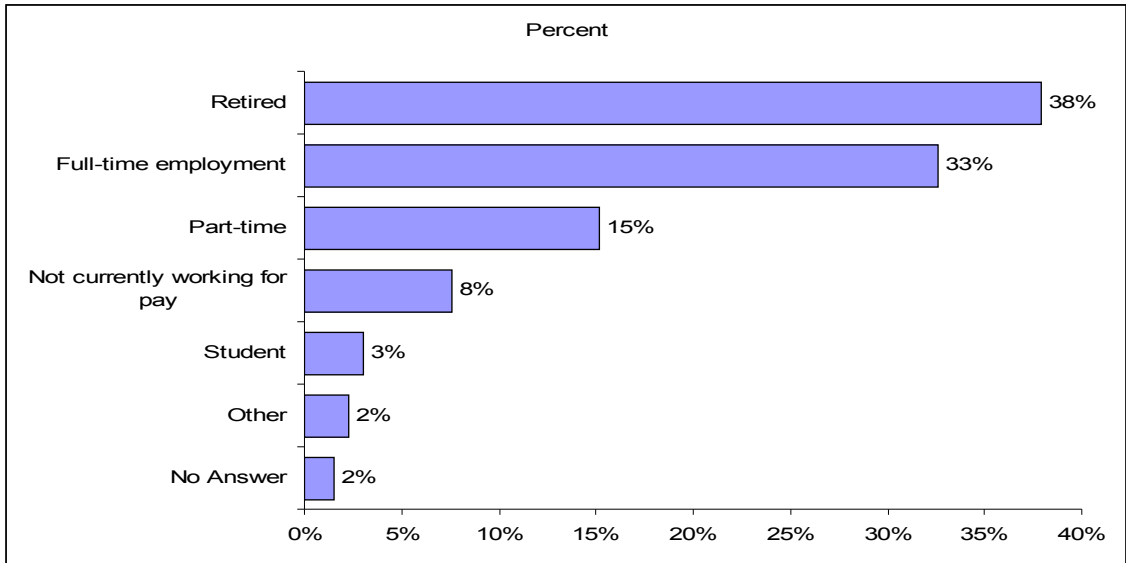
33. Do you have any of the following challenges? *(Please check all that apply)*

- Mobility or Dexterity challenge(s)
- Visual challenge(s)
- Hearing challenge(s)
- Other _____

Challenge	Percent	Count
Mobility challenged	7%	18
Visually challenged	2%	6
Hearing challenged	13%	33

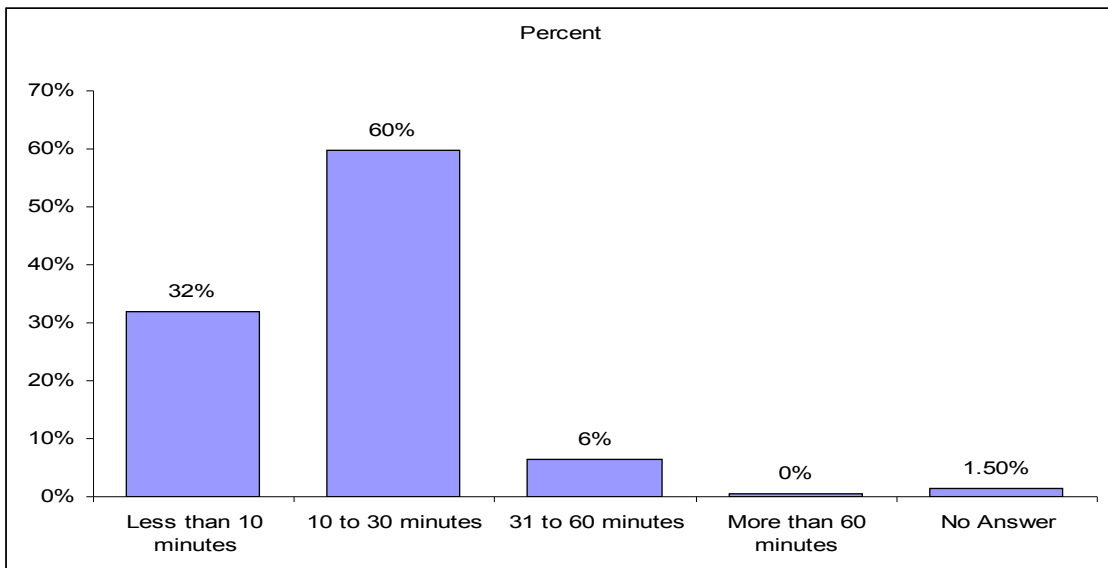
34. What is your employment status? (Please check only one)

- Full-time employment
- Part-time
- Student
- Retired
- Not currently working for pay
- Other _____



35. How long does it take you to reach the church from home, by your most frequently used means of transportation? (Please check only one)

- 1 Less than 10 minutes
- 2 10 to 30 minutes
- 3 31 to 60 minutes
- 4 More than 60 minutes



F. Your Household Information

36. Is your partner or spouse also affiliated with this congregation?

- Yes No

66% Yes; 21% No; 13% No Answer

37. Another household member is answering these questions on my behalf.

- Yes No

15% (40) Yes; 69% (181) No; 16% (43) No Answer.

38. Do you have any children under age 18 who lived in your household last year?

- Yes No -- PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 41

22% (58) Yes; 53% (141) No; 199 Answering

39. How many children do you have in each age group and how often did they attend RE last year?

	<u>6 to 12 years</u>	<u>13 to 18 years</u>
3 or more times per month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 or 2 times per month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Every few months	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rarely (few times a year)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Mean Number of Kids	Std. Deviation
Num kids 6-12, 3 times/month	8	1.63	1.061
Num kids 13-18, 3 times/month	17	1.29	.588
Num kids 6-12, 1 or 2 times/month	5	1.60	.894
Num kids 13-18, 1 or 2 times/month	6	1.00	.000
Num kids 13-18, every few months	4	1.00	.000
Num kids 6-12, rarely	4	1.75	.500
Num kids 13-18, rarely	6	1.17	.408
Num kids 6-12, never	1	1.00	.
Num kids 13-18, never	10	1.30	.483
Valid N (listwise)	0		

40. What is your annual household income before tax? *(Please check only one)*

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$50,000
- \$50,000 to \$75,000
- \$75,000 to \$100,000
- \$100,000 to \$125,000
- \$125,000 to \$150,000
- \$150,000 to \$175,000
- \$175,000 to \$200,000
- Over \$200,000

Annual Household Income	Count	Percent
Less than \$25,000	10	4%
\$25,000 to \$50,000	35	16%
\$50,000 to \$75,000	49	22%
\$75,000 to \$100,000	32	14%
\$100,000 to \$125,000	22	10%
\$125,000 to \$150,000	6	3%
\$150,000 to \$175,000	5	2%
\$175,000 to \$200,000	4	2%
Over \$200,000	8	4%
No Answer	53	24%