



2010 NATIONAL SURVEY OF CONGREGATIONS

EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT

This is the generic version of the FACT2010 common core questionnaire. Participating denominations and faith groups could substitute words and phrases appropriate to their traditional language (e.g., priest, minister, Imam, rabbi), delete questions that did not fit their congregations (e.g., gender of clergy), and supplement the common core questions with items of particular interest to them. The latter are not contained in the following frequencies. N = 3789

Worship

1. Please describe the worship services your congregation holds on a **typical weekend**:

<i>For each day or time on a typical weekend:</i>	Friday	Saturday	Sunday AM	Sunday PM
Write in the number of worship services held on each day or time -- MEDIAN	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Write in the average (or typical) attendance for all services on this day or time: MEDIAN	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
MEDIAN TOTAL ATTENDANCE	--- 115.0 ---			

2. If you hold **more than one service** on a typical weekend, how different are these services from each other?

- 53% We have only one service on a typical weekend
- 21 Very similar or identical in style
- 17 One or more is *somewhat* different in style from the other(s)
- 10 One or more *very* different in style from the other(s)

3. **During the past 5 years**, has your congregation *changed the style* of any of its weekend worship services or added a new service with a different style of worship?

- 49% No change in style
- 21 Changed style a little
- 18 Changed style somewhat
- 6 Changed style a lot
- 6 Added a new service with a different style of worship

4. On a typical weekend, does your congregation hold a worship service in a language **other than English**, or one that is **bilingual** in English and another language? (full services, not occasional songs or readings)

- 92% No
- 8 Yes

5. So far in 2010 and for the past 5 years, estimate the **average attendance at your regular weekend worship services**. If you have more than one weekend worship service, estimate the attendance for all weekend services combined. Do not include special services such as weddings or funerals.

MEDIAN AVERAGE ATTENDANCE		MEDIAN AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	
112	2010	100	2007
100	2009	100	2006
100	2008	100	2005

6. How often are the following a part of your congregation's **regular weekend worship services**?

√ ONE ON EACH LINE	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
Choir.....	25%	11	12	15	37
Organ	38	8	5	9	41
Drums or other percussion instruments	36	8	7	8	41
Electric guitar or bass.....	40	11	9	8	32
Visual projection equipment.....	26	11	8	8	47
Kneeling by the congregation	41	18	17	10	13
[Eucharist, Lord's Supper, Sacrament]	2	4	28	39	27
Reading or performing by children or youth.....	8	23	38	22	10

7. How well do the following describe your congregation's **largest regular weekend worship service**?

√ ONE ON EACH LINE	Not at all	Slightly	Somewhat	Quite Well	Very Well
Reverent.....	1%	5	25	43	27
Filled with a sense of God's presence	1	2	14	43	41
Joyful	1	2	15	44	39
Innovative	6	17	36	26	15
Inspirational.....	1	2	15	51	33
Thought-provoking	1	2	15	46	37

Programs

1. Does your congregation have any of the following programs or activities? **If yes**, how much emphasis is given to the activity?

√ ONE ON EACH LINE	No	Yes		
		Some emphasis	A lot of emphasis	Specialty of the Congregation
Sunday School [church school, religious school].....	7%	16	60	18
Prayer or meditation groups	18	31	40	12
Scripture [Bible] studies (other than Sunday school)				
Fellowships, trips, or other social activities	10	25	45	20
Music program	11	30	41	18
Adult religious formation classes	29	34	27	10
Spiritual retreats	44	42	11	3
Support groups (bereavement, job loss, 12-step).....	53	29	13	5
Community service activities.....	14	44	29	13
Parenting or marriage enrichment activities.....	35	43	18	4
Young adult activities or programs.....	24	39	27	10
Youth [teen] activities or programs	12	27	42	20
Team sports, fitness activities, exercise classes	59	28	9	4

7. Which of the following technologies does your congregation use on a regular basis? ✓ **ALL THAT APPLY**
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|-----|--------------------------------|
| 90% | E-mail | 45% | Facebook or other social media |
| 69% | Website | 14% | Podcasts |
| 14% | Blogs | 10% | Other |

Mission and Identity

1. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? ✓ **ONE ON EACH LINE**

Our congregation:	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral/ Unsure	Agree	Strongly agree
Is like a close-knit family	1%	3	10	51	36
Is spiritually vital and alive.....	1	2	13	52	31
Is not that different from other congregations in our community.....	15	35	23	24	4
Has a clear mission and purpose.....	1	4	12	46	37
Is a “moral beacon” in our community.....	1	5	23	48	24
Is willing to change to meet new challenges.....	3	7	20	47	22
Wants to grow in membership [participants].....	1	2	7	40	51
Holds strong beliefs and values	1	1	3	35	61
Celebrates its [denominational] heritage.....	5	8	20	37	29
Wants to be racially and culturally diverse.....	2	6	23	39	30
Is working for social justice	6	14	39	28	13

2. How would you describe the **theological outlook** of the majority of your regularly participating adults?

Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
1%	4	21	39	36

Participants

1. How many persons (including children) **regularly participate** in worship or other religious activities in your congregation? Median 100
2. Of your regular participants (**the figure given above**), estimate the **number** who are:

Median percent	
1%	American Indian/Alaska Native
1%	Asian
1%	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
29%	Black or African American
2%	Hispanic or Latino/a
63%	White
4%	Biracial/multiracial

3. Of your regular participants, estimate the **percent** who are:

Median percent

17%	Senior adults, age 65 or older
20%	Adults, age 50-64
20%	Adults, age 35-49
13%	Younger adults, age 18-34
16%	Children and youth, age 0-17
100%	Total

4. Of your total regular participants **age 18 and older**, estimate the **percent** who are:

Median Percent

60%	Female
25%	College graduates
20%	New to this congregation in the past 5 years
40%	Life-long [denomination, e.g., Baptists]
65%	Living within 15 minutes of this congregation's place of worship

5. How many people are associated **in any way** with the religious life of your congregation? Median: 150

Leadership

1. Our congregation has:

55%	A principal leader with one or more assistant or associate leaders (such as a senior pastor)
37	One principal leader (such as a pastor, priest, rabbi, etc. with no assistant or associate leaders)
4	Co-principal leaders (two or more persons sharing the leadership role equally)
4	No principal leader at present

If you have no principal leader at present, skip to Question 12

Please describe the **principal leader** of your congregation (if co-principal leaders, answer only about your oldest principal leader).

2. Age Median: 53 Years old

3. 92% Male
8 Female

4. Employment status ✓ ONE

71%	Full-time paid leader
5	Full-time unpaid leader
16	Part-time paid leader
8	Part-time unpaid leader

5. Ordained Status

11%	Layperson
89	Ordained

6. Permanent or temporary status

95%	Permanent leader [called, elected, assigned; or use titles that convey permanence: rector, etc.]
3	Interim or supply leader
2	Retired clergy serving as leader

- 7. Highest level of education
 - 5% High school diploma or GED
 - 15 Some college or technical school; associate's degree
 - 26 College bachelor's degree
 - 37 Master's degree (including M Div)
 - 18 Doctoral degree (PhD, D Min)

8. Leader's race/ethnicity:

	Median Percent
Native American	1%
Asian	1%
Pacific Islander	1%
Black	27%
Hispanic	3%
White Non-Hispanic	69%
Bi- Multi-Racial	1%

9. This person became the principal leader of your congregation in what year? Median 2004

10. How much time does your principal leader spend in the following areas?

✓ ONE ON EACH LINE	Very Little	Some	Quite a Bit	A Great Deal
Planning and leading worship	7%	23	39	31
Developing and promoting a vision and purpose for the congregation	4	23	40	33
Evangelism or recruitment	8	40	33	18
Recruiting and training lay leaders.....	13	41	31	14
Providing pastoral care (visiting the sick, counseling people) ..	3	23	40	34
Teaching people about the faith and scripture	1	9	38	52
Leading small groups (for sharing, support, spiritual growth) ...	17	36	30	17
Administration, supervision and committee meetings.....	7	29	38	26
Representing the congregation in the community.....	12	31	30	27
Engaging youth and young adults.....	10	36	33	21
Dealing with conflict and disagreements.....	17	41	25	17

11. **During the past 3 years**, has your principal leader met regularly with other ministers or pastoral leaders in a **small** group for continuing education and support?

71% Yes
29 No

12. How many people are employed by your congregation **including your principal leader**?

WRITE IN NUMBER OF:	Full-time paid employees	Part-time paid employees
Ordained professionals	Data coming later	
Lay administrative professionals		
Lay program professionals (including musicians and lay pastors)		
Clerical or secretarial employees		
Custodial or maintenance employees		
Other employees of the congregation		

13. Do the same people tend to serve in volunteer leadership roles year after year, or does your congregation rotate volunteer service among a larger number of people?
- 34% The same people tend to serve
 52 Although there is some rotation, it tends to be among a limited number of people
 14 We have a lot of rotation among persons in volunteer leadership roles

14. **During the past 12 months**, has your congregation been involved in any of the following ecumenical or interfaith activities?

	No	Yes	
		With other [Christian] groups	With other faith traditions
✓ ALL THAT APPLY ON EACH LINE			
Worship services.....	45%	47	13
Joint celebrations, fairs, meals or cultural events.....	48	43	14
Educational or fellowship activities	48	45	10
Community service activities	38	47	20

15. **During the past 5 years** has your congregation experienced any disagreements or conflict in the following areas?

	No	Yes			
		But it was not serious	Some people left	Some people withheld donations	Leader or staff member left
✓ ALL THAT APPLY ON EACH LINE					
Finances or budget	56%	28	10	7	3
How worship is conducted	58	28	12	3	2
Program priorities.....	63	27	7	2	1
Actions of denomination or supervisory body.....	75	16	6	3	2
[Pastor's] leadership style	63	16	16	4	6
[Pastor's; Leader's] personal behavior	80	7	7	3	5
[Members'; Participants'] personal behavior	52	28	17	2	3
Use of facilities.....	71	25	3	1	1

Finances

6. What was the approximate dollar amount of your congregation's total budget for **2009**? (Do not count funds for capital improvements or primary/secondary schools) Median: \$150,000.000
7. Of this total budget amount, estimate the **percent** that was spent in each of the following categories in **2009** (or most recent fiscal year).

Median Percent

40%	Staff salaries and benefits
20%	Building operations (utilities, mortgage, insurance, maintenance, etc.)
10%	Program support and materials (for Sunday school, evangelism, education, etc.)
10%	Mission and benevolence (including assessments)
5%	All other expenditures
100%	Total

8. How would you describe your congregation's financial health today and five years ago?

Today	2005
6% In serious difficulty	6% In serious difficulty
10 In some difficulty	11 In some difficulty
40 Tight, but we manage	25 Tight, but we managed
29 Good	39 Good
15 Excellent	19 Excellent

9. How would you assess the **impact of the 2008-2009 economic crisis** on your congregation's income?

18%	Our income declined a lot
39%	Our income declined a little
11%	Our income declined at first, but has since rebounded
21%	No significant change in income
11%	Our income has grown

10. How would you assess the **impact of the 2008-2009 economic crisis** on your congregation in the following areas?

✓ ONE ON EACH LINE	No impact	Minor impact	Moderate impact	Major impact
Impact on Congregational Staff and Operations				
Staff layoffs or furloughs	81%	9	6	3
Staff salary reductions or salary freeze	57	18	15	10
Delays in filling staff positions	74	9	10	7
Funds available from investments or savings account	56	20	13	11
Funds available for mission and benevolence	51	26	16	7
Capital campaign or building program	53	19	14	15
Impact on Individuals				
Requests for pastoral counseling	40	34	18	7
Requests for cash assistance	20	30	34	17
Requests for emergency housing	51	27	14	9
Unemployment among [participants]	19	38	30	13

History, Location, Building and Affiliation

1. In what year was your congregation officially founded? Median: 1957

Before 1976	65%
1976 - 1999	24
2000 - 2010	12

2. How would you describe the **location** of your place of worship? ✓ **ONE**

18%	Rural area or open country
22	Village or town with a population of less than 10,000
22	Small city or large town with a population of 10,000 to 50,000
8	Downtown or central area of a large city with a population of 50,000 or more
14	Older residential area of a large city with a population of 50,000 or more
11	Older suburb around a large city with a population of 50,000 or more
5	Newer suburb around a large city with a population of 50,000 or more

3. What is the approximate seating capacity of the space where your largest worship service is held? Median 225

4. How adequate are the following for the **current needs** of your congregation?

<i>√ ONE ON EACH LINE</i>	Much less than we need	Slightly less than we need	Just about right	Slightly more than we need	Much more than we need
Space for worship	9%	13	40	25	14
Space for parking	15	18	40	17	10

5. Median Weekend Worship Attendance

50 and less	20%
50 - 100	23
100 - 150	14
150 - 200	8
200 - 250	7
250 - 300	6
300 - 350	4
350 - 400	2
450 - 500	1
500 - 550	2
Over 500	13

6. Census Region

Northeast	10%
South	45
North Central	26
West	20

7. Worship Attendance Change: 2005 – 2010

Declined > 10%	29%
Declined 2 – 10%	6
Flat: 2 – 2%	10
Grow 2 – 10%	9
Grow More than 10%	46