

First Presbyterian Church

Congregational Survey Results - August, 2011

Q		%	# resp.
1	Gender		
	Male	39.2%	191
	Female	60.8%	296
2	Age		
	Under 18 years	1.0%	5
	18 - 25 years	2.3%	11
	26 - 35 years	6.0%	29
	36 - 45 years	24.2%	118
	46 - 55 years	25.9%	126
	56 - 65 years	20.9%	102
	over 65 years	19.7%	96
3	How many years have you lived in Charlotte?		
	Fewer than 2 years	1.0%	5
	3 - 8 years	7.7%	37
	9 - 15 years	20.3%	98
	More than 15 years	71.0%	342
4	How many years have you been a member of First Presbyterian Church (FPC)?		
	Fewer than 2 years	4.1%	20
	3 - 8 years	13.5%	65
	9 - 15 yrs	24.5%	118
	More than 15 years	53.7%	259
	Not a member	3.1%	15
	TV member	1.0%	5
5	How long does it take you to get to FPC from home?		
	1 - 5 minutes	3.3%	16
	6 - 10 minutes	15.1%	73
	11 - 15 minutes	28.6%	138
	16 - 20 minutes	26.1%	126
	21 - 30 minutes	20.5%	99
	30 minutes or more	5.4%	26
	Not applicable	0.8%	4
6	How frequently do you attend Sunday Church service(s)?		
	Nearly every Sunday	49.6%	236
	2 -3 times per month	32.1%	153
	About once a month	10.3%	49
	Less than once a month	8.0%	38
7	How frequently do you attend Sunday School?		
	More than 20 times per year	32.6%	155
	11 - 20 times per year	19.6%	93
	Fewer than 10 times per year	27.6%	131
	Never	20.2%	96
8	I support the church financially in the following ways:		
	Annual pledge	25.7%	124
	Plate offerings	4.8%	23
	Special offerings or programs	7.0%	34
	All of the above	59.6%	288
	None of the above	2.9%	14

9	Do you have a sense of belonging to this congregation?		
	Yes, a strong sense of belonging that is growing	29.3%	135
	Yes, a strong sense that is about the same as last year	39.1%	180
	Yes, but perhaps not as strong as last year	19.3%	89
	No, but I am new here	2.4%	11
	No, and I wish I did by now	7.4%	34
	No, but I am happy as I am	2.4%	11

10	Which of the following aspects of First Presbyterian Church do you personally most value?	
	Preaching	256
	Broad community service or social justice emphasis	255
	Style of worship and music	236
	Ministry for children or youth	130
	Practical care for one another in times of need	115
	Bible study or prayer groups, other discussion groups	97
	Fellowship opportunities or meeting new people	89
	Adult Sunday school	77
	Child Development Center or Weekday School	53
	Openness to social diversity	47
	Reaching those who do not attend church	25
	Prayer ministry for one another	22

11	Compared to 4 years ago, do you think you participate in activities of the congregation more, less, or about the same?		
	Participate more	20.0%	93
	Participate about the same	47.2%	219
	Participate less	27.4%	127
	Not applicable (I have been a member < four years)	5.4%	25

12	If you would like to be more involved in FPC, what are the primary reasons you are not?		
	I don't have anyone to go with me	2.1%	9
	I am too busy/ I don't have the time	10.5%	46
	I don't feel welcome or comfortable	5.0%	22
	It is hard to find someone to take the children	0.9%	4
	Involvement conflicts with other activities or travel	16.0%	70
	I am not aware of the opportunities	3.9%	17
	I am dissatisfied with the direction of the church	5.9%	26
	Not Applicable (I am comfortable with my involvement)	55.7%	244

13	While you may value many different styles of music, which two (2) of the following do you prefer in congregational worship?	
	Traditional hymns	431
	Classical music or chorals	201
	Praise music or choruses	65
	Contemporary hymns	64
	Gospel music	36
	Other contemporary music or songs (not hymns)	34
	Sung responsorial psalms	24
	Music or songs from a variety of cultures	24
	Contemplative chants (Taize, Iona)	13
	Indifferent	10
	No music or songs	1

What is your perception of FPC historically?		More like this	Balanced	More like this	
14	Traditional	423	34	1	Contemporary
		92.4%	7.4%	0.2%	
15	Personal Faith Church	178	228	51	Issues Church
		38.9%	49.9%	11.2%	
16	Relaxed	10	101	346	Formal
		2.2%	22.1%	75.7%	
17	Congregational Oriented Ministries	40	310	105	Outreach Oriented Ministries
		8.8%	68.1%	23.1%	
18	"Real Life" Sermons	35	154	267	Scholarly Sermons
		7.7%	33.8%	58.6%	
19	Destination Church	300	127	25	Neighborhood Church
		66.4%	28.1%	5.5%	

Where would you like to see FPC in the future?		More like this	Balanced	More like this	
20	Traditional	237	203	17	Contemporary
		51.9%	44.4%	3.7%	
21	Personal Faith Church	147	283	25	Issues Church
		32.3%	62.2%	5.5%	
22	Relaxed	40	280	135	Formal
		8.8%	61.5%	29.7%	
23	Congregational Oriented Ministries	36	356	63	Outreach Oriented Ministries
		7.9%	78.2%	13.8%	
24	"Real Life" Sermons	131	273	50	Scholarly Sermons
		28.9%	60.1%	11.0%	
25	Destination Church	103	322	27	Neighborhood Church
		22.8%	71.2%	6.0%	

26	How important is each of the following professional characteristics in the new Senior Minister? Please, choose no more than six (6) critical and six (6) important qualities.	Weighted Ranking	Critical 1	Somewhat Important 2	Important 3	Not important 4	# resp.
	Dynamic preacher	1.31	314	104	12	2	432
	Spiritual leader	1.36	292	110	19	2	423
	Biblical scholar and theologian	1.55	240	149	37	5	431
	Committed to all levels of Christian Education	1.70	188	166	58	3	415
	Teacher	1.80	149	202	54	6	411
	Able to engage people in dialogue on difficult issues	1.84	145	167	71	5	388
	Other	1.89	27	5	8	7	47
	Ability to involve laity in planning and leadership	1.91	128	178	85	3	394
	Inspires good stewardship	1.94	113	196	85	2	396
	Interacts with and inspires youth	2.02	111	167	104	7	389
	Committed to pastoral care	2.03	105	182	112	2	401
	Leader in the community	2.13	114	130	127	19	390
	Skilled manager and administrator	2.17	93	151	130	15	389
	Supports strong music program	2.21	81	163	124	19	387
	Outreach leader (Service and Missions)	2.27	64	152	155	6	377
	Willing to take a stand on social issues	2.28	99	109	130	37	375
	Counselor	2.39	41	156	167	11	375
	Committed to evangelism	2.50	51	119	150	40	360
	Involved in Presbytery and national church activities	2.62	40	98	190	39	367

27	Of the professional characteristics listed above, which are the three (3) most critical to you?	
	Dynamic preacher	303
	Spiritual leader	244
	Biblical scholar and theologian	195
	Teacher	72
	Skilled manager and administrator	69
	Committed to all levels of Christian Education	66
	Ability to involve laity in planning and leadership	51
	Inspires good stewardship	50
	Interacts and inspires youth	40
	Able to engage people in dialogue on difficult issues	39
	Supports strong music program	35
	Willing to take a stand on social issues	35
	Committed to pastoral care	31
	Outreach leader (Service and Missions)	29
	Leader in the community	29
	Committed to evangelism	17
	Counselor	15
	Other (as defined in Question 26)	14
	Involved in Presbytery and national church activities	3

28	In your view, what are the six (6) most important personal characteristics of a senior minister?	
	Integrity	364
	Good communicator	302
	Ease in relating to others	287
	Intellect	258
	Vision	229
	Sense of humor	183
	Compassion	147
	Energy	126
	Strength of conviction	103
	Humility	98
	Optimism	79
	Openness to a range of worship styles	73
	Openness over a range of theological issues	70
	Willingness to delegate	68
	Innovative and creative	62
Openness over a range of personal issues	38	
Self-assurance	27	
Patience	22	
Other	10	

29	If you have a preference around the pastor's age, what ages would you find acceptable for our new senior minister? (check all that are acceptable.)		
	Younger than 40 years	8.4%	38
	40 - 47 years	41.6%	187
	48 - 55 years	39.3%	177
	Older than 55 years	9.3%	42
	All age ranges are acceptable	44.4%	200

30	Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.	Weighted Ranking	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Unsure or N/A	Total # Resp.
			1	2	3	4	0	
	A) Adult Christian Education offerings at FPC deepen my sense of faith in Jesus Christ.	1.94	75	209	31	12	94	420
	B) Adult Christian Education offerings at FPC deepen my awareness of current political and social issues.	1.98	57	219	38	6	94	414
	C) Children's Ministries (Sun. School; special programs) at FPC are well organized and effective.	1.85	74	169	23	3	150	417
	D) Youth Ministry programs at FPC are well-organized and effective.	2.13	55	129	43	20	173	418
	E) Youth Ministry at FPC encourages fellowship and service.	1.95	67	149	33	10	158	416
	F) The FPC ministerial staff meets the pastoral counseling needs of the congregation.	1.79	99	196	22	3	101	419
	G) FPC ministerial staff provides ample pastoral care for the sick, bereaved, and those in crisis.	1.68	123	178	16	2	103	422

30	Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.	Ranking	Strongly Agree 1	Agree 2	Disagree 3	Strongly Disagree 4	Unsure or N/A 0	Total # Resp.
	H) Members of the congregation support one another in times of joy and crisis.	1.57	183	185	16	1	33	418
	I) There is someone on the church staff that I can talk with about any church concerns I might have.	1.84	125	191	40	13	50	419
	J) There are meaningful opportunities for fellowship and community building among members.	1.87	104	252	38	4	19	414
	K) FPC helps nurture the spiritual life of its members through small group opportunities.	1.89	85	241	40	2	49	416
	L) My spiritual needs are being met at FPC.	1.98	96	224	62	13	22	416
	M) Members of the congregation are kept well-informed about the programs and activities of the church.	1.75	144	235	32	4	5	420
	N) Members of the congregation are kept well-informed about issues and important decisions affecting the congregation.	2.13	72	224	81	19	25	419
	O) Members of the congregation trust one another and work together to solve problems.	1.98	57	247	39	4	66	411
	P) The church provides sufficient opportunities for members to express their opinions on key issues.	2.38	26	191	107	25	62	411
	Q) FPC is a welcoming congregation to newcomers and non-members.	2.00	77	259	61	7	20	422
	R) FPC encourages and equips members to share their faith in Jesus Christ with others.	2.12	45	229	71	9	58	412
	S) I am well informed about and encouraged to participate in the outreach ministries of FPC.	1.84	113	239	38	4	24	416
	T) My faith has been deepened by my involvement in outreach ministries.	1.77	123	187	29	5	72	413
	U) FPC's local outreach ministries are well-organized and effective.	1.74	118	211	14	5	70	416
	V) FPC's global outreach ministries are well-organized and effective.	1.80	82	200	14	4	111	411
	W) FPC has a clear vision and direction for its ministry and mission.	2.06	57	227	45	14	72	413