

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a great holiday season and are ready for a new year. The Consistory is excited, as we have many new faces joining us and we are ready to lead where God will have us go. Late summer, our church leadership conducted a church-wide survey of teens and adults (ages 14 and over). Below is a summary of the results and the actions that the Elders, Deacons, and staff members have initiated in response to these findings. This survey also establishes a baseline where, when conducting future surveys, we will be able to better track results. Thanks again for all of your input and we are very excited for the direction Remembrance Church is headed.

CHURCH SURVEY RESULTS

Demographics: 324 people took the survey

Gender

59% female
41% male

Age and family status

39% age 41-59
34% under 40 (8% under 24 years old)
27% over 60

58% empty nesters or no children
42% with children

80% married
20% Single

Status

91% members of RC
7% regular attendees (at least 2x/month)

Years attending RC

49% have attended more than 10 years
29% 5-10 years
22% less than 5 years

Survey Responses

Worship Preferences

61% surveyed most often attend 8:30 Sunday worship service
38% most often 11:00 worship service (Currently 11:00 a.m. attendance averages ~100 more attendees than 8:30 a.m.)

Worship service attendance (Time vs. Music Style)

57% attend their worship service because of time offered
19% attend their worship service because of music style offered
23% both time and music style of worship service equally affect worship service preference

Worship style

24% prefer mostly traditional worship
26% prefer mostly contemporary worship
50% both equally

Ministry importance according to those surveyed

In order of important (most to least)

1. Sunday worship
2. Sunday sermon
3. Spiritual growth opportunities
4. Youth programs (Jr/Sr High)
5. Connecting opportunities
6. Children's programs
7. Serving opportunities
8. Outreach Opportunities
9. Communication
10. Logistics (far less important in comparison to other ministries above)

Level of satisfaction according to those surveyed

1. Logistics (most satisfied, but least important)
2. Connecting opportunities
3. Jr High ministry
4. Children's ministry
5. Outreach opportunities
6. Spiritual growth opportunities
7. Sunday worship
8. Sr High ministry
9. Sermon (depth of Bible teaching)
10. Church Leadership

Examples of action being taken – based on survey information

Church Leadership:

Because of the apparent low level of congregational satisfaction with church leadership, a more concerted effort has been made by the Pastors and Consistory (Elders/Deacons) to address concerns and preferences of our congregation. We have done this while at the same time understanding the diverse nature of our church. We have responded by providing better communication to the congregation (e.g., *Leadership Updates* newsletters and informational congregation meetings) of decisions made by the Consistory and Staff Members with better explanation as to why certain decisions were made. We continue to welcome questions and feedback from the congregation.

Sunday worship music and sermon:

Because of different music and worship style preferences, church leadership began in September 2009 to regularly offer two different worship music styles (Traditional and Contemporary music blends) on Sunday mornings. This has been very well received. Also, because some people in our congregation are looking for more in-depth Bible teaching during our worship services, Pastor Steve, and also Pastor Eric and Pastor Todd, have made an effort to provide more sermon depth theologically and biblically. We as pastors have done this while continuing to focus on relevance, life change, and personal application.

Spiritual growth opportunities

In an effort to help the people of Remembrance become more fully devoted followers, church leaders hired Pastor Eric Cook and Pastor Todd Schmidt. They will greatly help us provide greater growth, connecting, caring, and serving opportunities. More complete spiritual growth and connecting processes are being developed and will be forthcoming in 2010. We will also work hard to improve our caring ministries and mobilizing church attendees in service ministries.

As mentioned earlier we will be conducting future surveys to monitor how we are doing and to identify areas needing improvement. Thank you again for taking the time to take the survey and give us your feedback. We continue to value your feedback and input and are happy to respond to any questions or concerns you have at this time. To request additional information or to submit a question or concern to the Consistory, please e-mail elders@remembrancechurch.org.

Your Consistory