

The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina

Survey Statistics for All Respondents

Number of Responses: 2051

June 6, 2009

Gender	Male	Female	Refused
	902	1129	20
	44 %	55 %	1 %

Age	16-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	65+
	31	148	410	805	657
	2 %	7 %	20 %	39 %	32 %

Marital Status	Single	Married	Partnered	Widowed	Divorced	Refused
	189	1527	30	146	142	17
	9 %	74 %	1 %	7 %	7 %	2 %

Racial/Ethnic group with which you most strongly identify	Caucasian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or more races	Re-fused
	1945	52	15	0	2	6	31
	95 %	3 %	1 %	less than 1%	less than 1%	less than 1%	1 %

Do you have any children living in your household?	Yes	No	Refused
	617	1400	34
	30 %	68 %	2 %

How long have you been an Episcopalian?	Less than 1 year	1-5 years	5-10 years	10-20 years	More than 20 years	Refused
	23	129	154	247	1487	11
	1 %	6 %	8 %	12 %	73 %	less than 1%

How long have you been at your present parish?	Less than 1 year	1-5 years	5-10 years	10-20 years	More than 20 years	Refused
	76	439	352	449	723	12
	4 %	21 %	17 %	22 %	35 %	1 %

I attend Services	Regularly	Occasionally	Rarely	Refused
	1914	99	25	13
	93 %	5 %	1 %	1 %

Have you ever been a member of another denomination?	Yes	No	Refused
	1228	796	27
	60 %	39 %	1 %

Of what other denomination(s) have you been a member?

AME	2	0.16 %
Baptist	368	29.97 %
Lutheran	112	9.12 %
Methodist	345	28.09 %
Presbyterian	313	25.49 %
Roman Catholic	201	16.37 %
Church of Christ	25	2.04 %
Mormon	2	0.16 %
Seventh Day Adventist	0	0.00 %
Jewish	3	0.24 %
Muslim	0	0.00 %
Hindu	0	0.00 %
Buddhist	0	0.00 %
Other	98	7.98 %
Total number who responded to this question	1228	
Number who selected more than one item	199	

If clergy, are you:

Rector/Vicar	43	51.81 %
Associate/Assistant	16	19.28 %
Deacon	7	8.43 %
Retired	18	21.69 %
Total number who responded to this question	83	
Number who selected more than one item	1	

If laity, on which you have participated:

Vestry	803	47.01 %
ECW (Episcopal Church Women)	605	35.42 %
DOK (Daughters of the King)	178	10.42 %
Choir	465	27.22 %
Altar Guild	480	28.10 %
Diocesan delegate	410	24.00 %
Other parish ministries	1290	75.53 %
Diocesan Executive Committee	40	2.34 %
Cursillo	366	21.43 %
Vocare	23	1.35 %
Other diocesan ministries	219	12.82 %
Diocesan commissions/committees	204	11.94 %
Total number who responded to this question	1708	
Number who selected more than one item	1315	

The five (5) Most Important Issues/Opportunities in this diocese:

Programs for children and youth	1196	58.80 %
Programs that minister to multiple generations	991	48.72 %
Declining membership	979	48.13 %
Evangelism and outreach with sensitivity to our changing demographics	915	44.99 %
Recruiting, training, developing, ordaining and retaining clergy	884	43.46 %
Programs for college students and young adults	729	35.84 %
Declining Average Sunday Attendance (ASA)	653	32.10 %
Administration and financial management	614	30.19 %
Confirmation and annual church visits	464	22.81 %
Commitment to the Windsor Process	446	21.93 %
Same-sex marriages or blessings of same sex unions (either for or against)	441	21.68 %
Improving communications within the diocese	412	20.26 %
Effective representation to the National Church and Anglican Communion	397	19.52 %
Ordination of celibate and/or partnered gays/lesbians (either for or against)	395	19.42 %
Planting new missions / congregations	196	9.64 %
Expansion of the role of convocations	39	1.92 %
Total number who responded to this question	2034	
Number who selected more than one item	2029	

The five (5) Most Important Strengths/Characteristics of a new bishop:

Integrity	1273	62.37 %
Deeply spiritual and prayerful	1013	49.63 %
Possesses sound judgment and wisdom	990	48.51 %
Commitment to the traditional creeds of the Christian Church (e.g. Nicene Creed)	704	34.49 %
Compassionate	603	29.54 %
Visionary	576	28.22 %
Flexible / open minded	571	27.98 %
Strong theological background	506	24.79 %
Commitment to Anglican Communion	483	23.66 %
Sense of humor	481	23.57 %
Able administrator / fiscally responsible	429	21.02 %
Pastoral	404	19.79 %
Consensus builder	313	15.34 %
Possesses and exhibits humility	289	14.16 %
Windsor-compliant	279	13.67 %
Relates to youth	278	13.62 %
Dynamic preacher	218	10.68 %
Organized	190	9.31 %
Mature	136	6.66 %
Strong leader in the House of Bishops	135	6.61 %
Strong marriage (if married)	117	5.73 %
Embraces technology	55	2.69 %
Bi-lingual	22	1.08 %
Total number who responded to this question	2041	
Number who selected more than one item	2040	

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	No Opinion	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Number of Responses
1. Our diocese should encourage and support domestic and foreign outreach programs.	1315 64 %	628 31 %	47 2 %	41 2 %	15 1 %	2046
2. We are effective at evangelizing and bringing the un-churched to God.	116 6 %	718 35 %	268 13 %	733 36 %	209 10 %	2044
3. Within our diocese, we effectively identify locations for new missions and congregations.	139 7 %	507 25 %	865 42 %	372 18 %	157 8 %	2040
4. In these troubled times, the Church (both at the diocesan level and at the national level) should do all in its power to ease the financial demands on congregations.	593 29 %	839 41 %	254 12 %	301 15 %	53 3 %	2040
5. Our diocese is of one mind in matters of theology, faith, tradition, liturgy, music, etc.	201 10 %	553 27 %	187 9 %	705 35 %	394 19 %	2040
6. The range of available worship styles / liturgies, including music, offered in my parish is satisfactory.	1175 58 %	613 30 %	55 3 %	165 8 %	32 1 %	2040
7. The variety of worship traditions in this diocese should be consistent with the Book of Common Prayer.	1126 55 %	665 33 %	115 6 %	117 6 %	21 < 1%	2044
8. Our parish youth programs offer opportunities for learning, for participating in the life of the parish and for meeting other youth in our diocese.	760 37 %	644 32 %	386 19 %	183 9 %	65 3 %	2038
9. Currently, many of our parish teenagers are participating in non-Episcopalian- sponsored youth programs.	218 11 %	505 25 %	1076 53 %	179 9 %	51 2 %	2029

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	No Opinion	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Number of Responses
10. Our bishop should be an advocate for the well-being of clergy, particularly with regard to their need for adequate compensation and benefits.	1076 53 %	733 36 %	153 7 %	65 3 %	15 1 %	2042
11. We effectively support and retain ordained clergy.	595 29 %	813 40 %	389 19 %	210 10 %	36 2 %	2043
12. We effectively recruit, train, ordain and assign deacons within the diocese.	330 16 %	588 29 %	763 38 %	251 12 %	100 5 %	2032
13. The diocese would benefit from having a bishop who has an understanding of the cultural dynamics of South Carolina.	1185 58 %	638 31 %	114 6 %	87 4 %	17 1 %	2041
14. It is important for the Episcopal Church to remain in the Anglican Communion.	1402 69 %	400 20 %	133 7 %	83 4 %	22 < 1%	2040
15. Our current Bishop and the diocese, in convention, have affirmed that we are a Windsor Diocese. In that light, I believe our next bishop should be supportive of the Windsor Report and the ongoing Windsor process.	964 48 %	402 20 %	517 26 %	77 4 %	66 2 %	2026
16. I support the blessing of civil unions (as opposed to marriage) between gay and lesbian persons in the Episcopal Church.	521 26 %	392 19 %	171 8 %	210 10 %	743 37 %	2037
17. I support the ordination of partnered gay and lesbian persons in the Episcopal Church.	423 21 %	243 12 %	137 7 %	246 12 %	987 48 %	2036
18. I believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary for salvation.	1269 62 %	484 24 %	87 4 %	145 7 %	51 3 %	2036
19. Divisiveness in the wider Church is beginning to cause problems in our diocese.	542 27 %	859 42 %	332 16 %	244 12 %	61 3 %	2038

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	No Opinion	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Number of Responses
20. I believe the current problems within our denomination should be resolved by reasonable negotiation between and among the various constituencies.	805 40 %	796 39 %	166 8 %	161 8 %	103 5 %	2031
21. I support the marriage of gay and lesbian persons in the Episcopal Church.	338 17 %	232 11 %	150 7 %	238 12 %	1087 53 %	2045
22. All persons should be welcome to receive Holy Communion regardless of whether or not they have been baptized.	493 24 %	355 17 %	127 6 %	478 23 %	588 30 %	2041
23. Gender is not an issue for me in the context of ordination to the priesthood.	1500 73 %	290 14 %	67 3 %	107 5 %	77 5 %	2041
24. Being divorced and remarried should be a consideration in the selection of our next bishop.	336 16 %	461 23 %	350 17 %	391 19 %	502 25 %	2040
25. I believe the Nicene Creed is a sufficient statement of Christian faith.	1196 59 %	601 30 %	89 4 %	110 5 %	40 2 %	2036
26. I accept the theology and doctrine found in An Outline of Faith: The Catechism (Book of Common Prayer, pp. 845-862).	1272 63 %	518 26 %	181 9 %	41 2 %	13 < 1%	2025
27. Our next bishop should always stand on Christian principles, even if he stands alone.	1427 70 %	434 21 %	119 6 %	46 2 %	12 1 %	2038
28. Our diocese needs leadership that is willing to consider carrying out its ministry in a more cost effective manner.	719 35 %	825 40 %	412 20 %	72 4 %	17 1 %	2045
29. I feel parishes should have greater control over the acquisition / disposition of their properties.	621 31 %	532 26 %	375 18 %	267 13 %	240 12 %	2035

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	No Opinion	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Number of Responses
30. I would like our next bishop to be a strong preacher / orator, fully committed to evangelism and outreach to the unchurched.	932 46 %	793 39 %	185 9 %	114 6 %	16 < 1%	2040
31. Our next bishop should understand and support traditional liturgies as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.	1349 66 %	548 27 %	80 4 %	51 3 %	8 < 1%	2036
32. It would be desirable for the next bishop to make a tangible effort to bring the Gospel to the issue of race relations in South Carolina.	780 38 %	738 36 %	329 16 %	125 6 %	67 4 %	2039
33. Diocesan communications keep me adequately informed as an Episcopalian.	493 24 %	917 45 %	217 11 %	305 15 %	110 5 %	2042
34. Our next bishop needs to commit time, talent and treasure to re-energize the diocesan commitment to the mission in Cange, Haiti, and other outreach missions of our diocese.	602 29 %	877 43 %	341 17 %	182 9 %	39 2 %	2041
35. Our diocese welcomes those of all races and different national origins.	1008 49 %	753 37 %	117 6 %	138 7 %	25 1 %	2041
36. Maintaining unity and focus on mission within our diocese is important.	1206 59 %	710 35 %	67 3 %	42 2 %	11 1 %	2036