# Pastors' Views on Wednesday Night Activities

Survey of American Protestant Pastors



#### Methodology

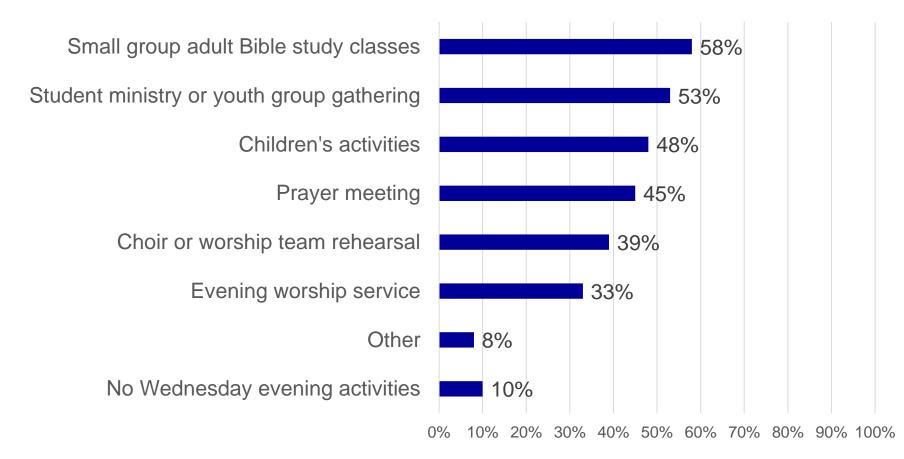
- The phone survey of 1,000 Protestant pastors was conducted August 29 – September 11, 2018
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest of the church called
- Responses were weighted by region to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,000 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed +3.2%
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups



### **Survey Responses**



#### Among Protestant Pastors





#### Significant Differences

<u>Pastor</u>

**Ethnicity** 

Age

Gender

**Education Level** 

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance



# Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's attendance and region, the pastor's gender, age and ethnicity.

Attendance	Region	Pastor's Gender	Pastor's Age	Ethnicity
0-49	Northeast	Male	18-44	White
50-99	Midwest	Female	45-54	African- American
100-249	South		55-64	Other Ethnicity
250+	West		65+	



Note: Region is defined by US Census locations

## Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's denomination and the pastor's education level and identification as evangelical or mainline.

Education Level	Self-Identified	Denomination
No College Degree	Evangelical	Baptist
Bachelor's Degree	Mainline	Lutheran
Master's Degree		Methodist
Doctoral Degree		Pentecostal
		Presbyterian/ Reformed
		Christian/ Church of Christ



#### **Evening worship service**

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (38%) and 250+ (41%) are more likely to select than those at churches of 0-49 (23%) and 50-99 (30%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (41%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (35% v. 24%)
- Pastors with no college degree are the most likely to select (46%)
- Pentecostals are the most likely to select (62%)



#### **Prayer meeting**

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 100-249 (52%) are more likely to select than those at churches of 0-49 (39%) and 50-99 (40%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (54%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (49% v. 29%)
- Pastors with a Master's degree are the least likely to select (39%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (54% v. 36%)
- Baptists are the most likely to select (74%)



#### Small group adult Bible study classes

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (75%)
- Pastors in the South (62%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (52%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (60% v. 48%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (62% v. 52%)
- Christians/Church of Christ (75%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (43%), Methodists (57%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (48%)



#### Student ministry or youth group gathering

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (80%)
- Pastors in the Northeast are the least likely to select (26%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (56% v. 38%)
- Pastors age 18-44 (57%) and 45-54 (58%) are more likely to select than those 65+ (45%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (59% v. 46%)
- Baptists (69%) and Pentecostals (65%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (47%), Methodists (37%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (29%)



#### Children's activities

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (21%)
- Pastors in the South (57%) and Midwest (50%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (24%) and West (36%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (51% v. 35%)
- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (36%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor's degree (57%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's degree (44%) or a Doctoral degree (43%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (55% v. 44%)
- Baptists (69%), Pentecostals (62%), and Christian/Church of Christ (58%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (32%), Methodists (32%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (28%)



#### **Choir or worship team rehearsal**

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (58%)
- Pastors in the South (45%) and Midwest (41%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (29%) and West (24%)
- Pastors with a Master's degree (41%) or a Doctoral degree (42%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (27%)
- Methodists (49%) are more likely to select than Pentecostals (31%) and Christian/Church of Christ (21%)



#### No Wednesday evening activities

- Pastors of churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select (31%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (18%) are more likely to select than those in the South (8%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select than Males (21% v. 8%)
- Pastors age 65+ (14%) are more likely to select than those 45-54 (7%)
- Pastors with a Doctoral degree (15%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (6%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (14% v. 8%)
- Lutherans (15%), Methodists (18%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (19%) are more likely to select than Baptists (2%), Pentecostals (3%), and Christian/Church of Christ (4%)

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