

2025 Rural Churches Today Research Study

A SURVEY OF 1,003 RURAL PROTESTANT PASTORS

Sponsored by

Rural Church Institute, Wheaton College Billy Graham Center

The Rural Home Missionary Association

Center for Rural Ministry at Grove City College

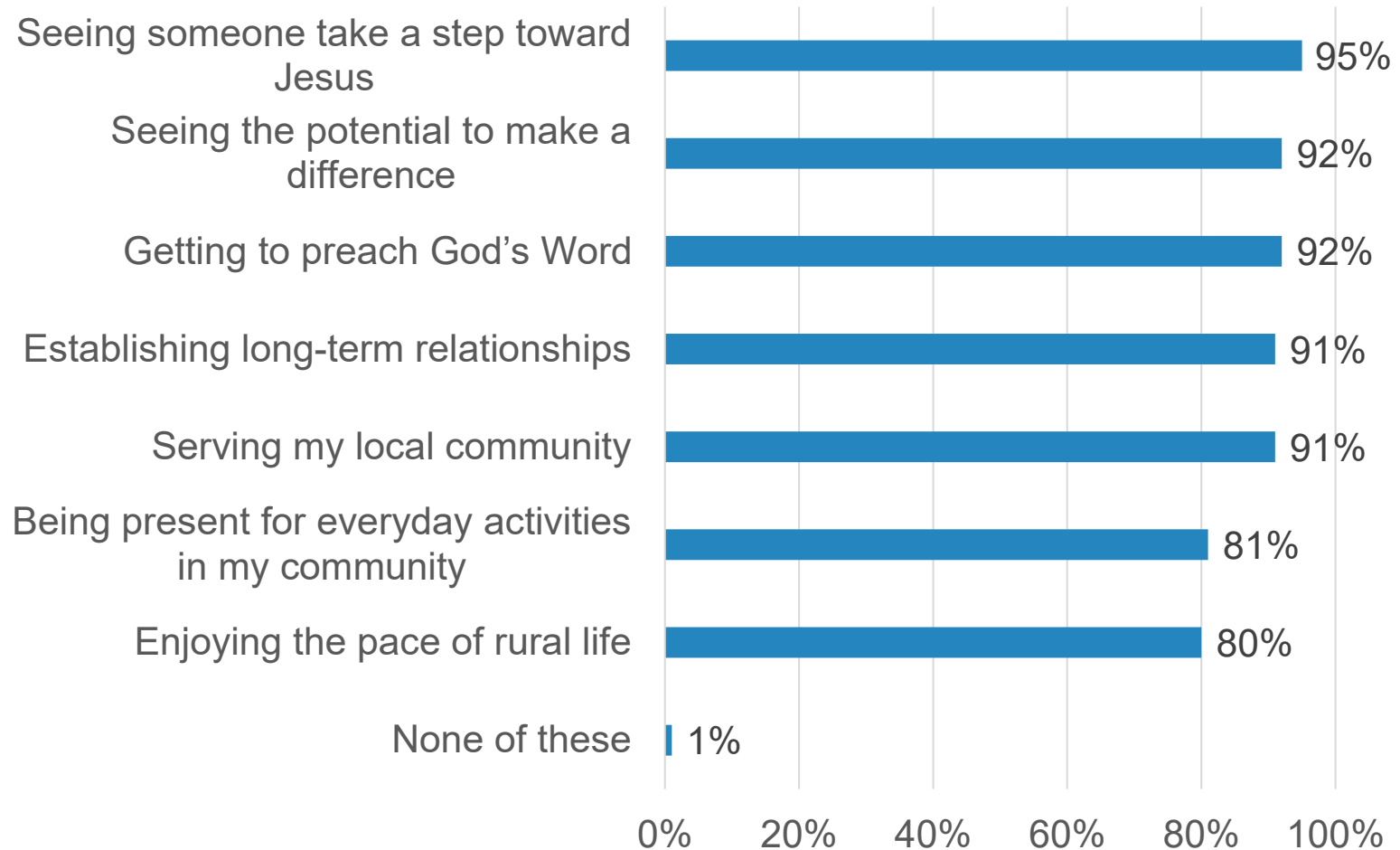
Lifewayresearch

Methodology

- The survey was sponsored by Center for Rural Ministry at Grove City College, The Rural Home Missionary Association, and Rural Church Institute, Wheaton College Billy Graham Center with funding provided by the Lilly Endowment.
- The phone survey of 1,003 Protestant pastors was conducted August 5-27, 2025
- Rural areas were defined by zip codes with RUCA (Rural-Urban Commuting Area Codes) codes 7-10 that designate rural areas and small towns under 10,000 people.
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches in rural areas. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest at the church
- Responses were weighted by region and church size to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,003 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.3\%$ This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

“Which, if any, of the following inspire you to pastor in a rural or small town?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

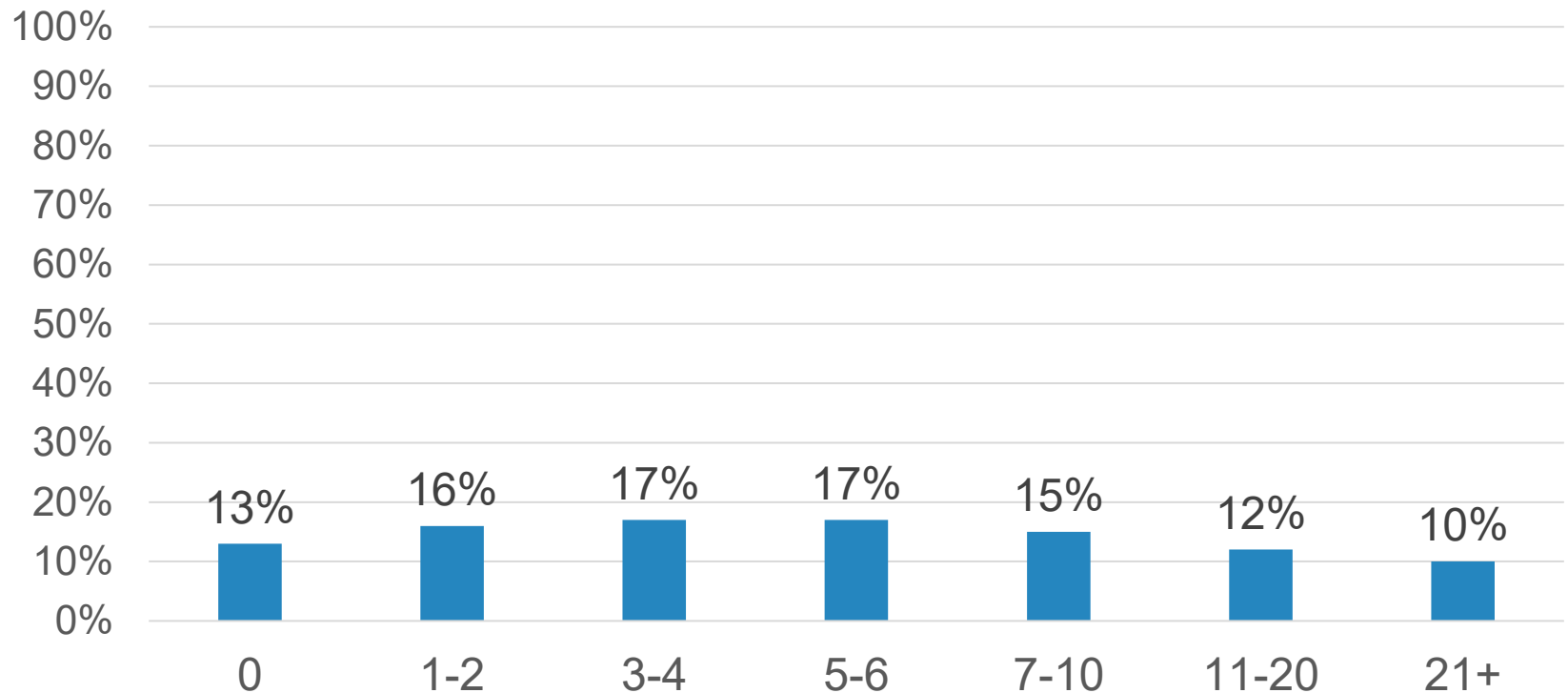


Lifewayresearch

Q4: “Which, if any, of the following inspire you to pastor in a rural or small town? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

46% have seen less than 5 new commitments to Christ in the past 12 months

New Commitments Past 12 Months in Rural/Small Town Churches



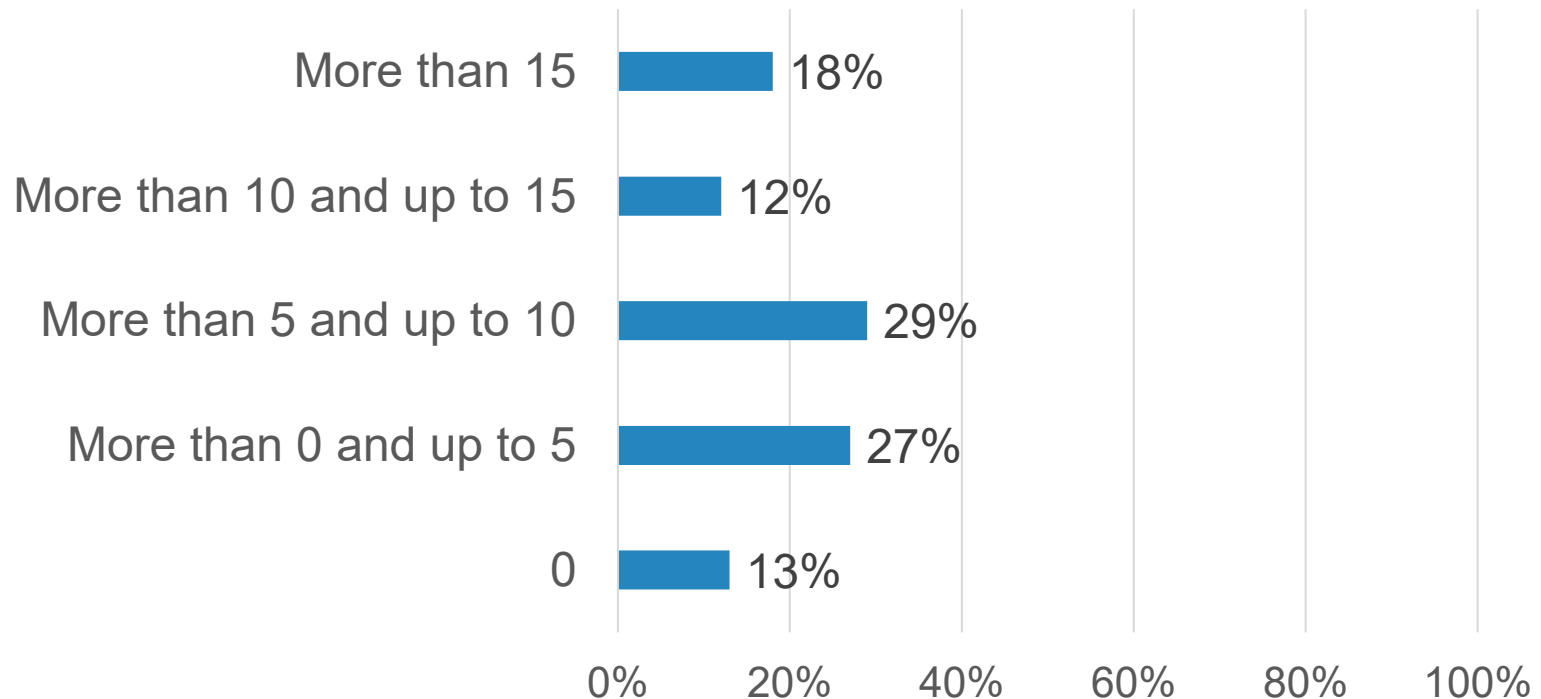
Mean: 13.5

Median: 5.0

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31% had more than 10 new commitments to Christ *per 100 attendees in the past 12 months*

New Commitments Per 100 Attendees in Rural/Small Town Churches



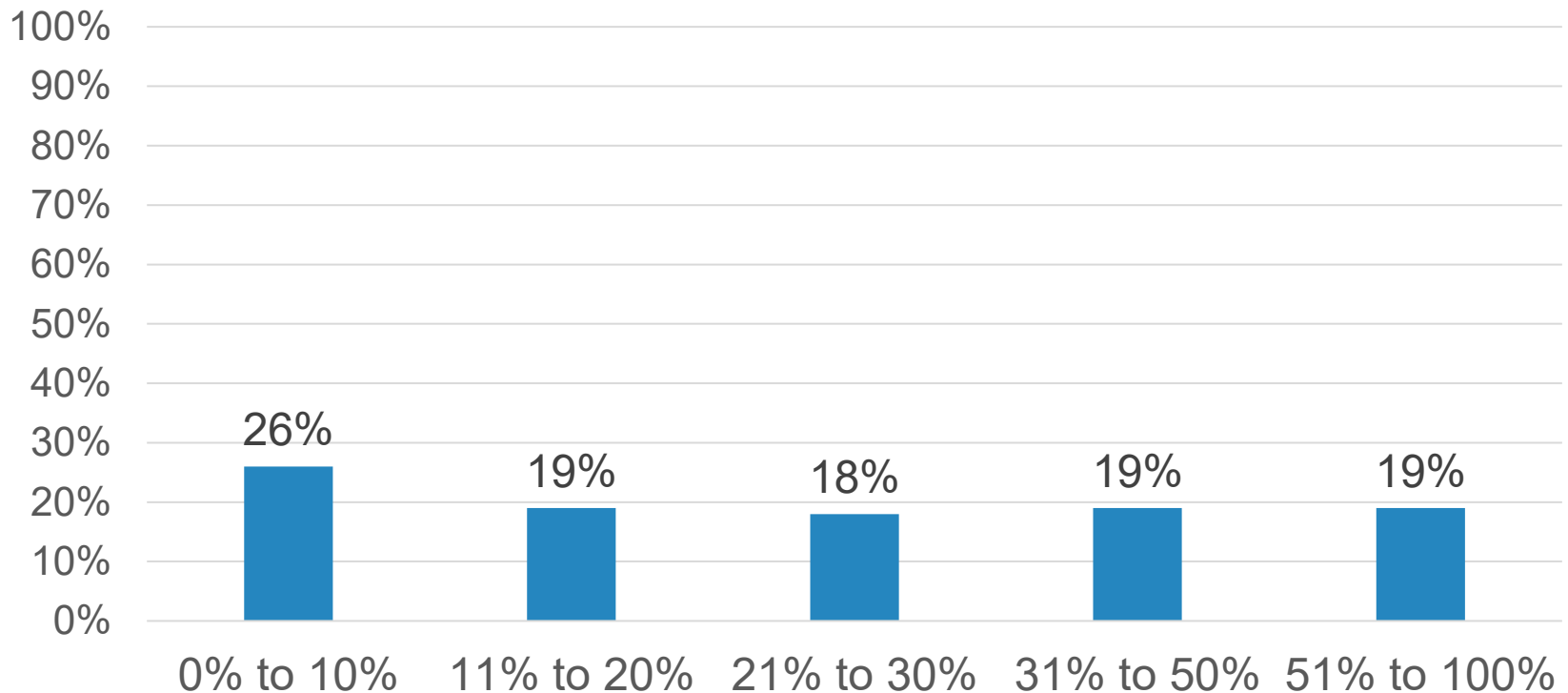
Mean: 13

Median: 6.7

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37% say that more than 30% of adults in their church serve their community at least once a month

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town



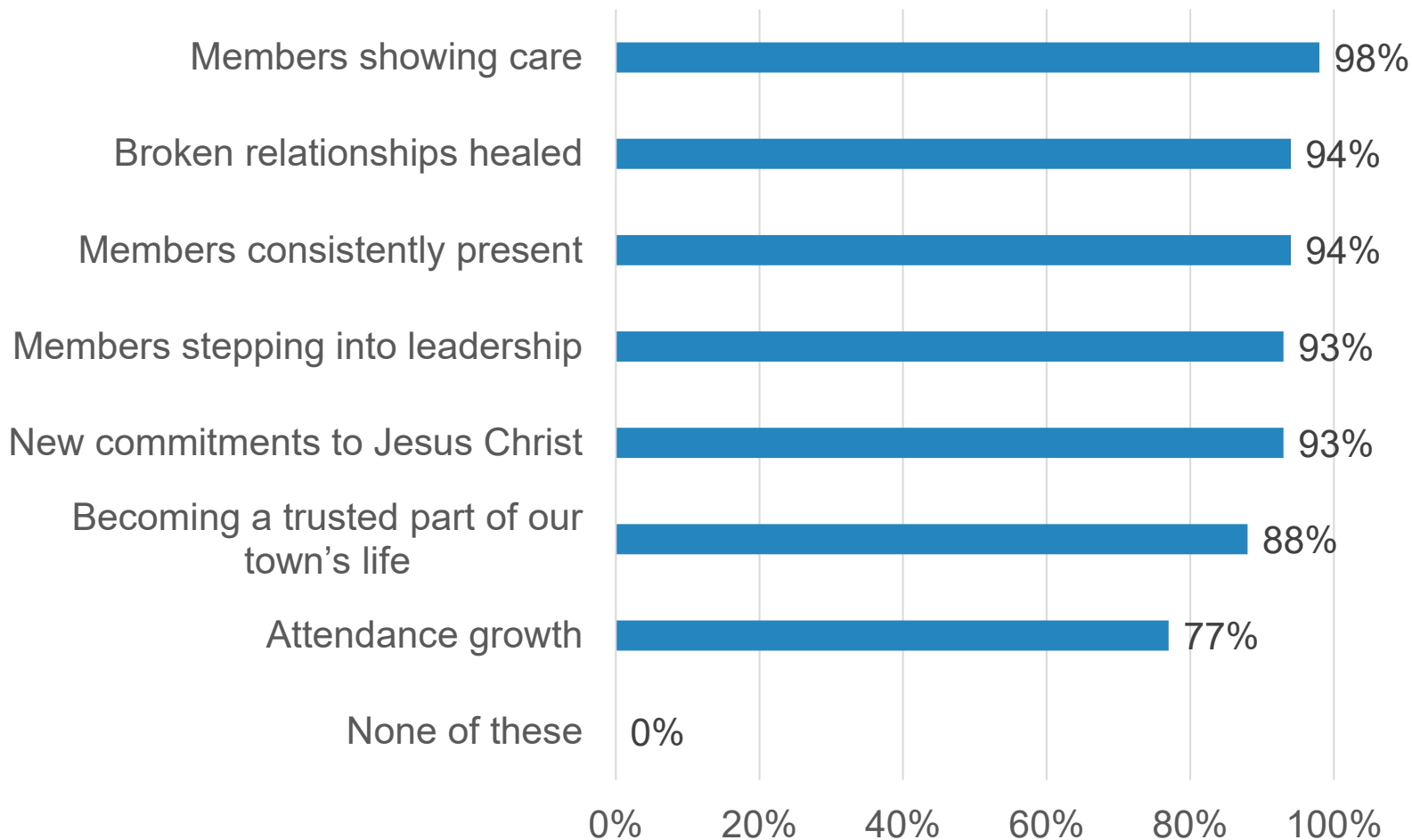
Mean: 32%

Median: 25%

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“Which, if any, of the following do you consider a sign of rural ministry success when you see it in your church?”

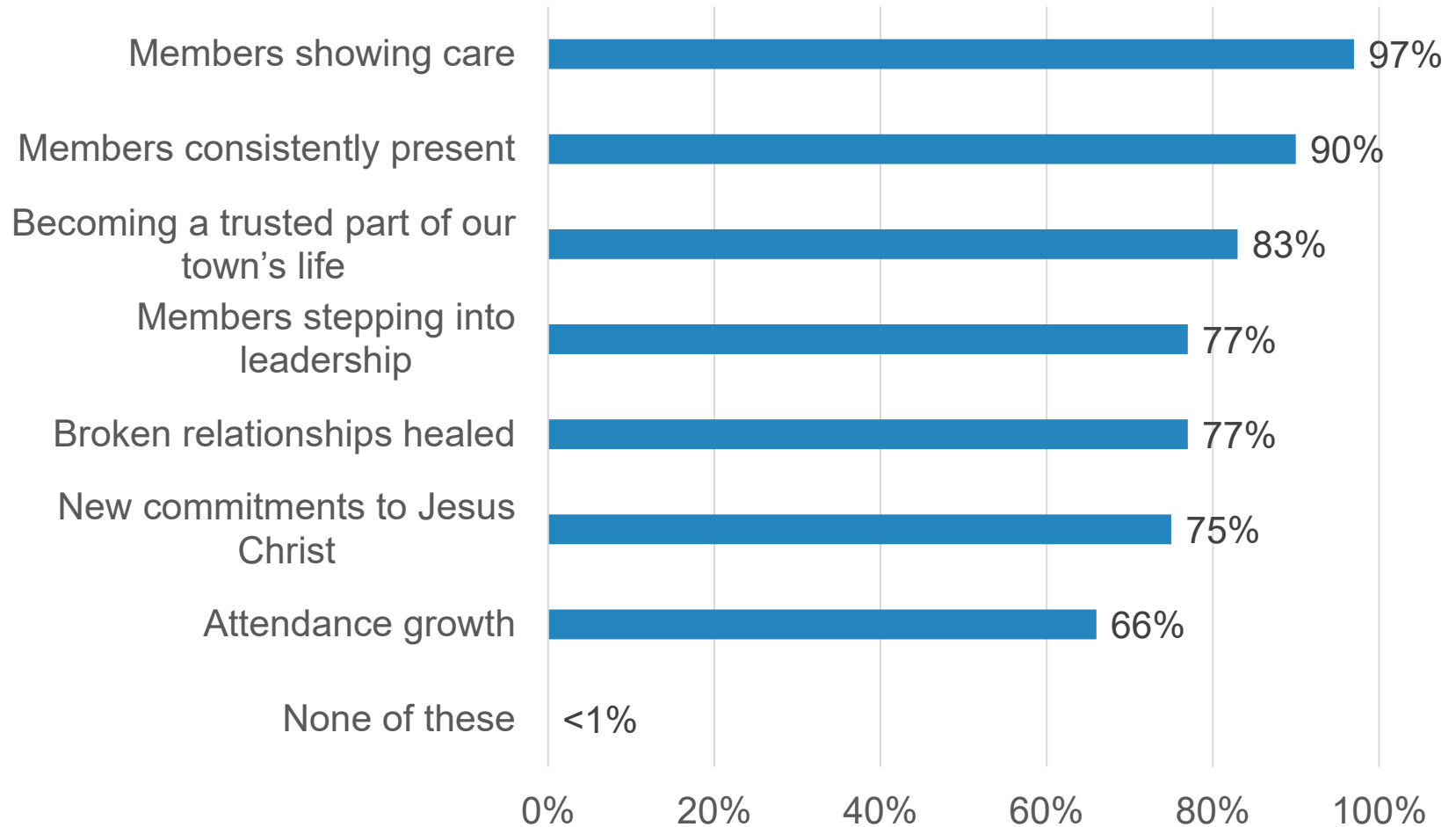
Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town



Lifewayresearch

“Which of these potential signs of success is your church experiencing regularly?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

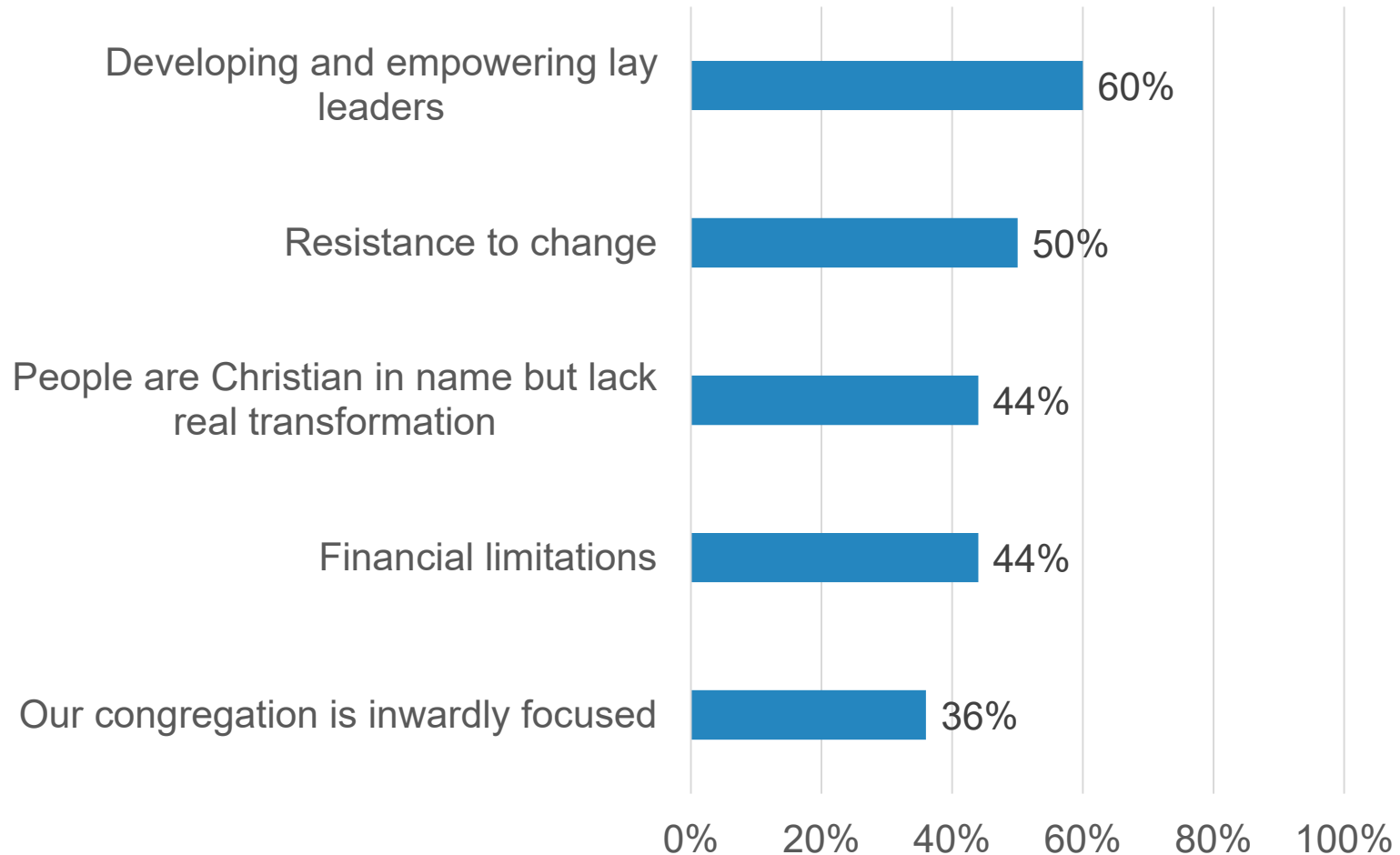


Lifewayresearch

Q8: “Which of these potential signs of success is your church experiencing regularly? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

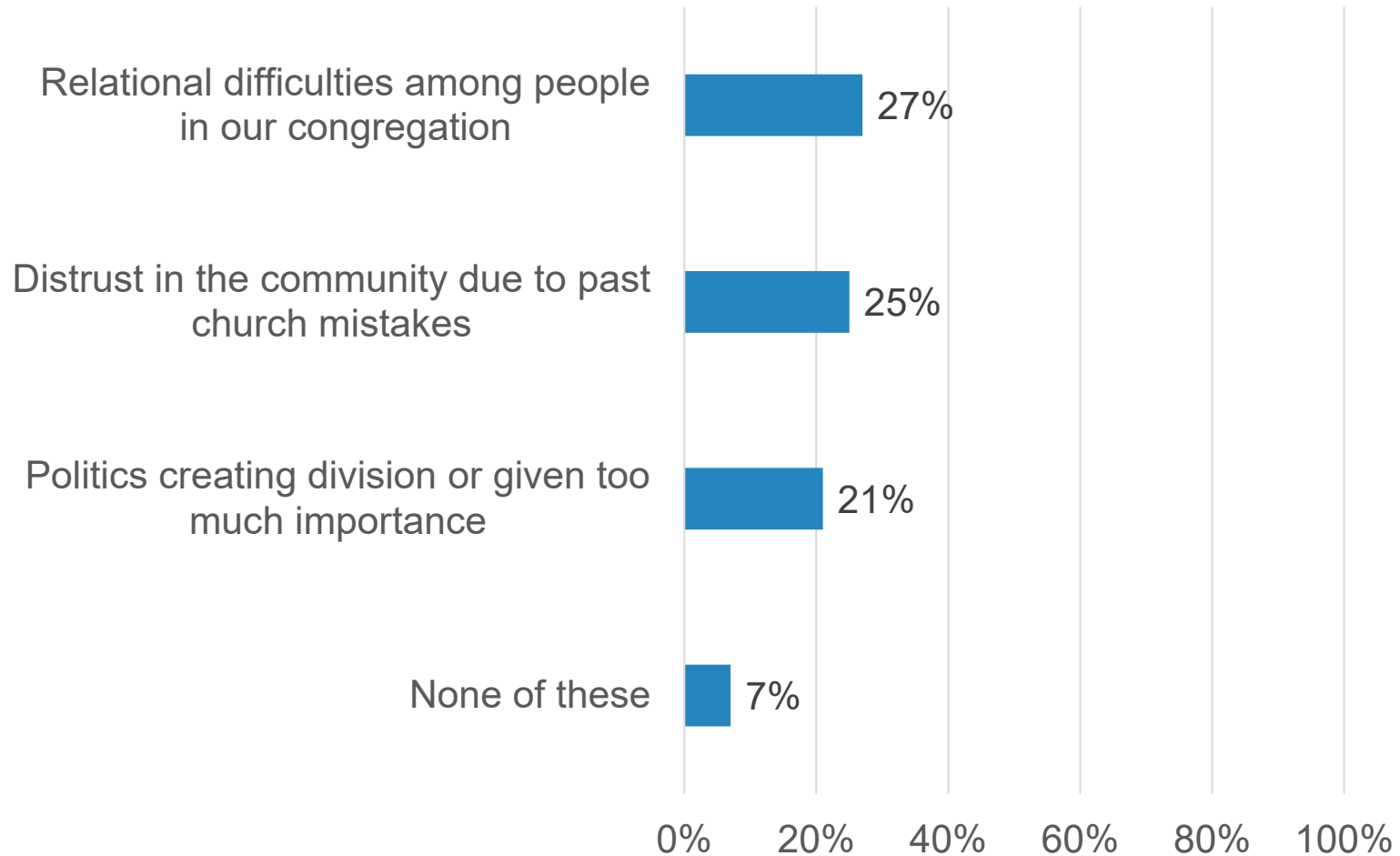


Lifewayresearch

Q9: “Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?” *continued*

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

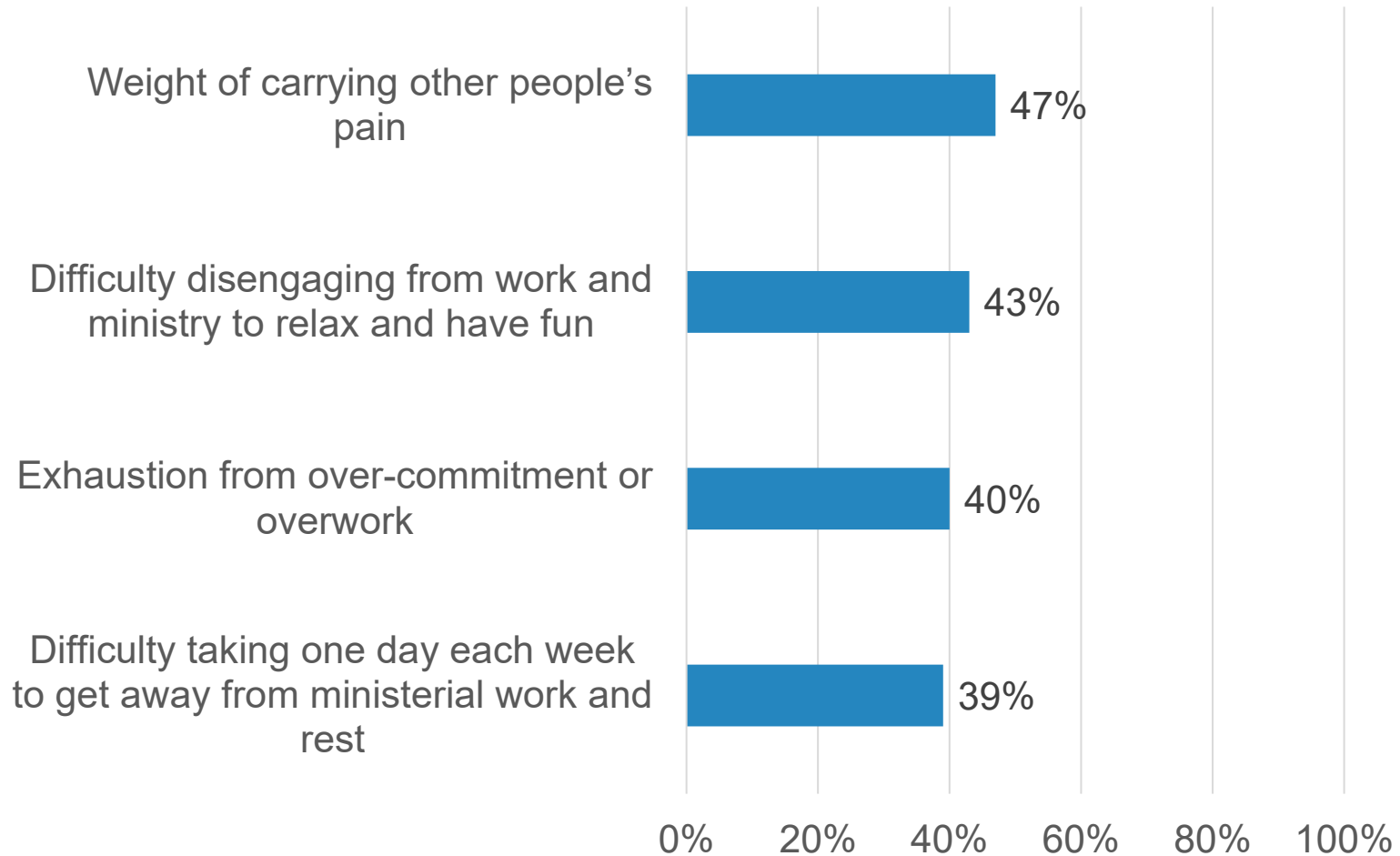


Lifewayresearch

Q9: “Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

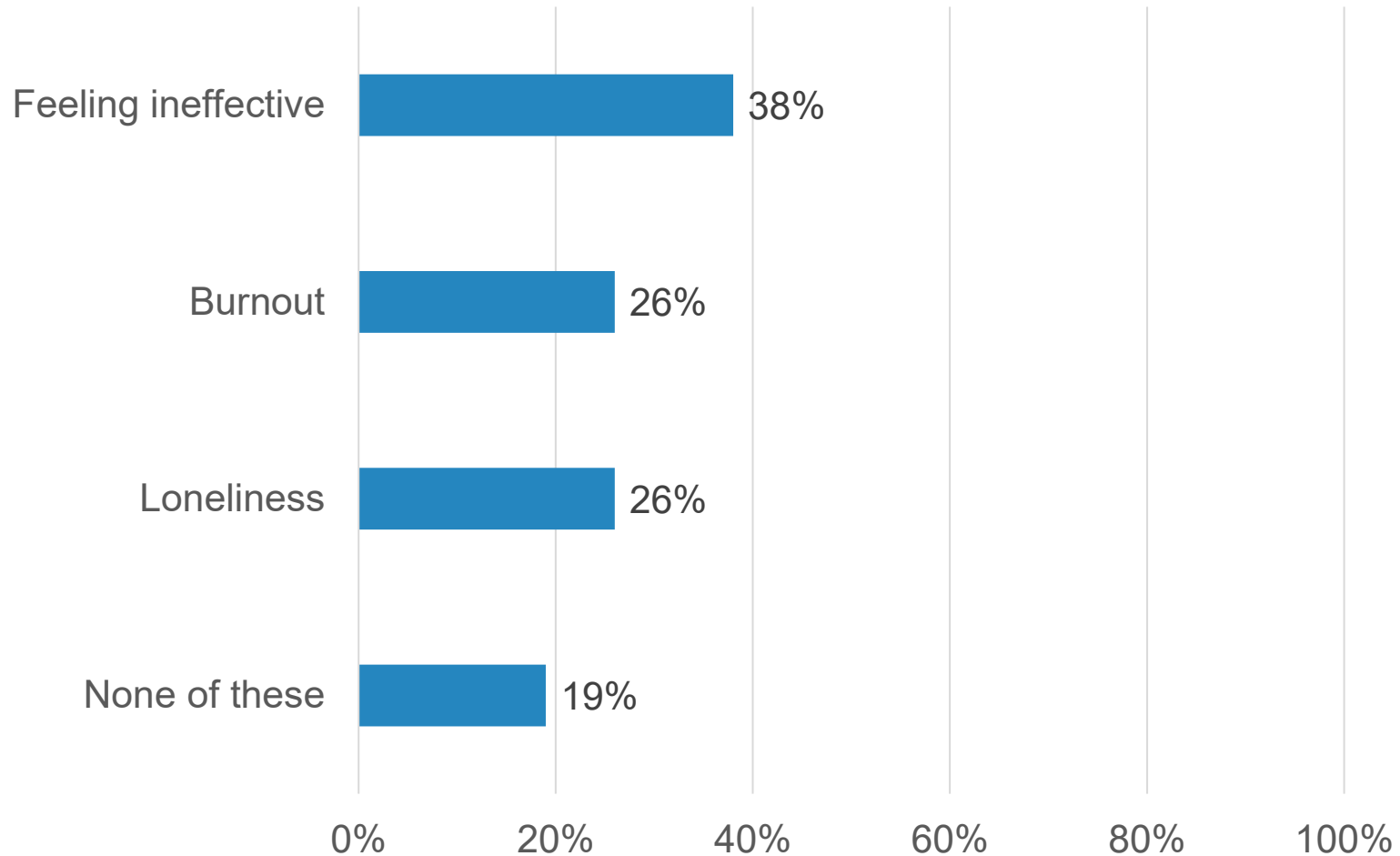


Lifewayresearch

Q10: “Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?” *continued*

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

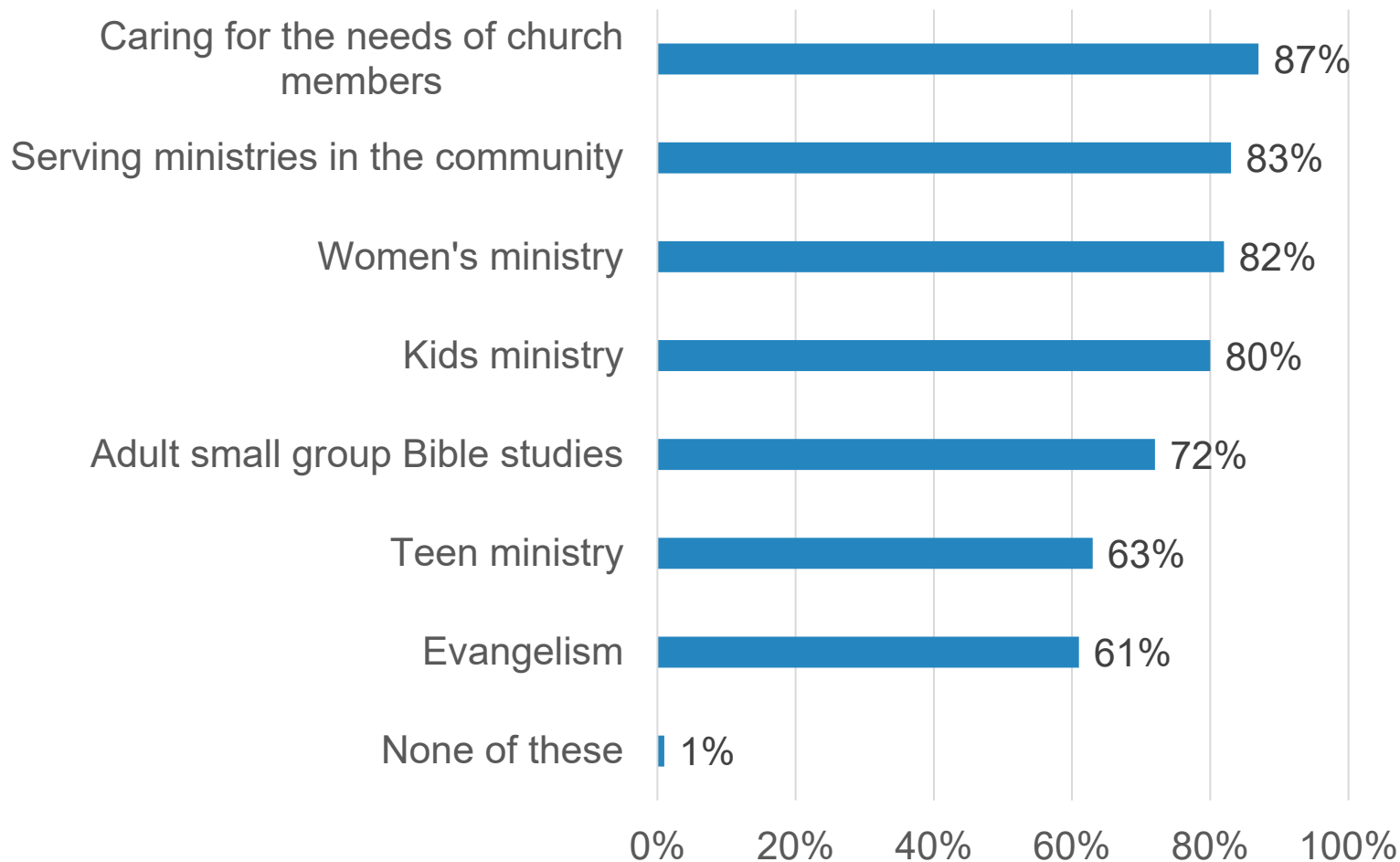


Lifewayresearch

Q10: “Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

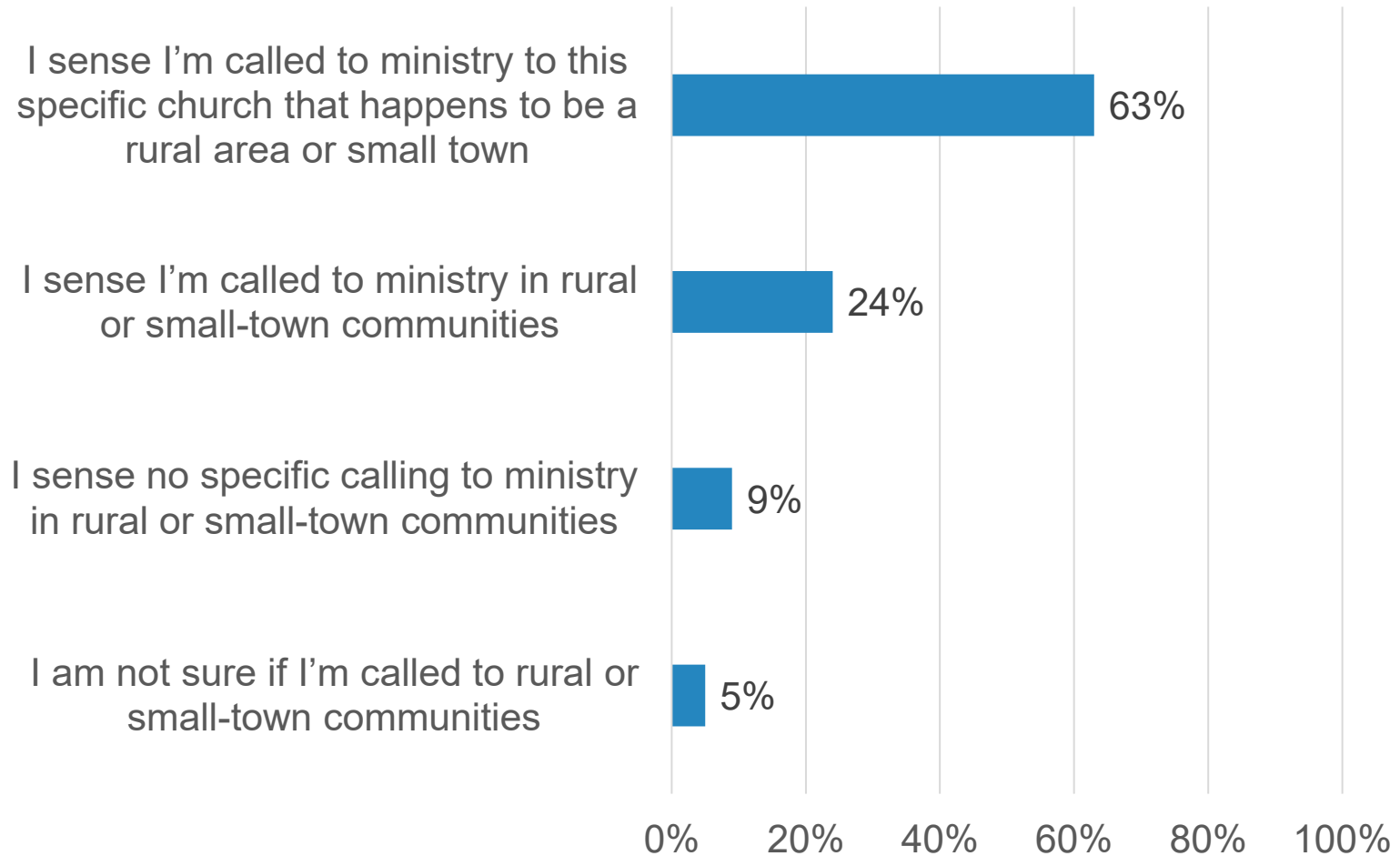


Lifewayresearch

Q11: “In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

24% of rural/small town pastors sense they are called to ministry in rural or small-town communities

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

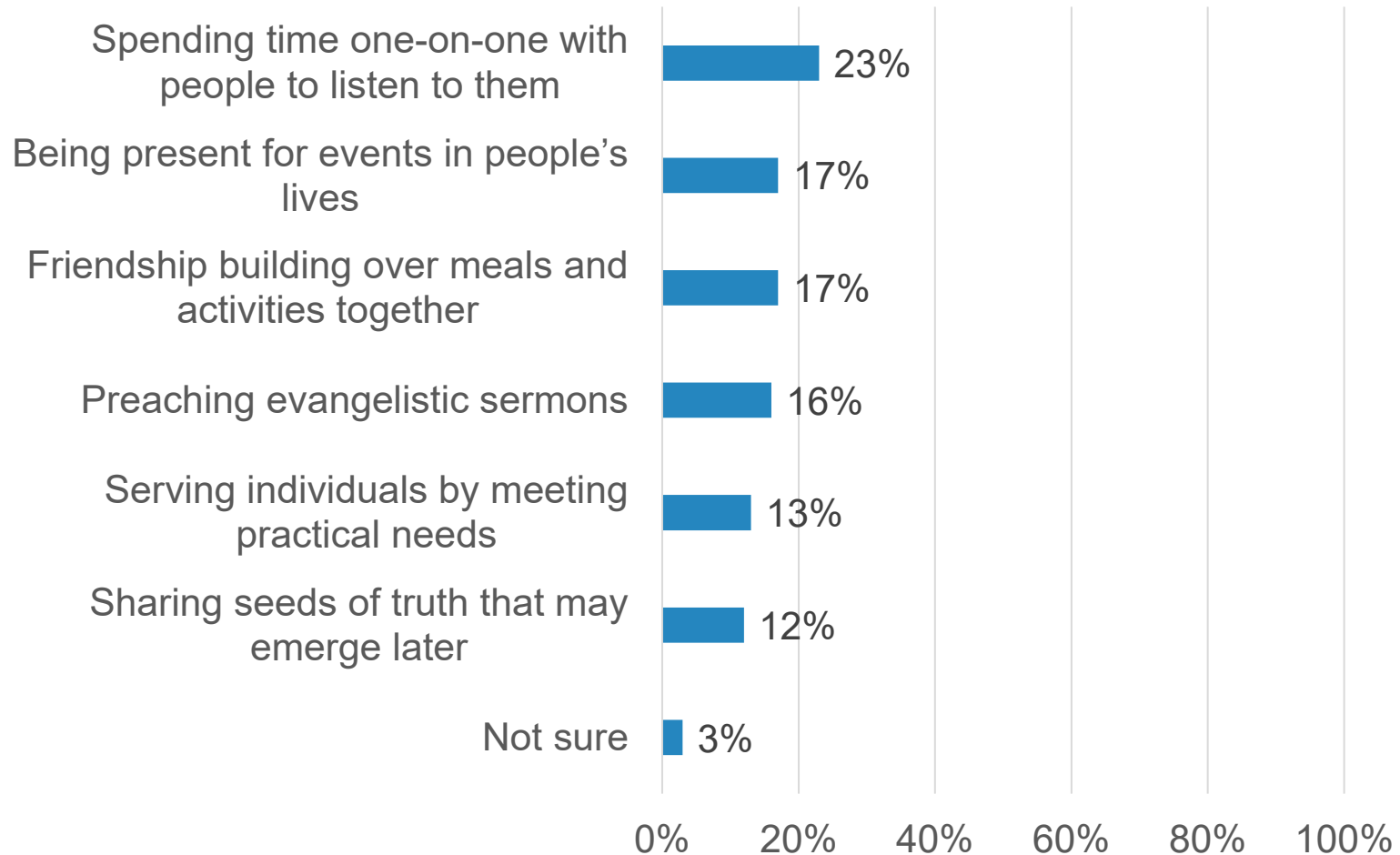


Lifewayresearch

Q12: "Which of the following best reflects your thoughts on your ministry calling? (Select one)" n=1,003

23% say they are having the greatest evangelistic impact by spending one-on-one time with people

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

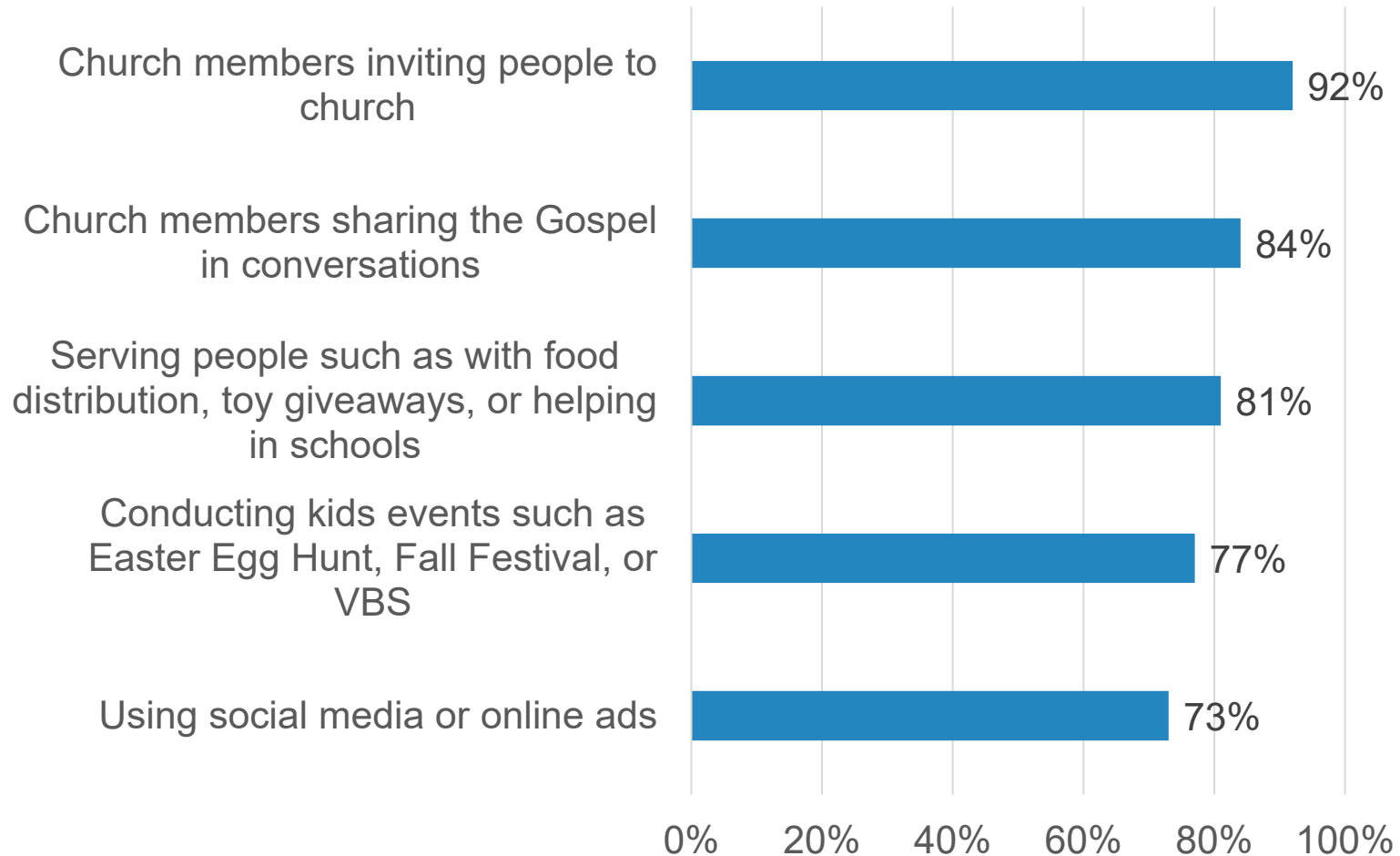


Lifewayresearch

Q13: Where are you personally having your greatest evangelistic impact on your community? (Select One)" n=1,003

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

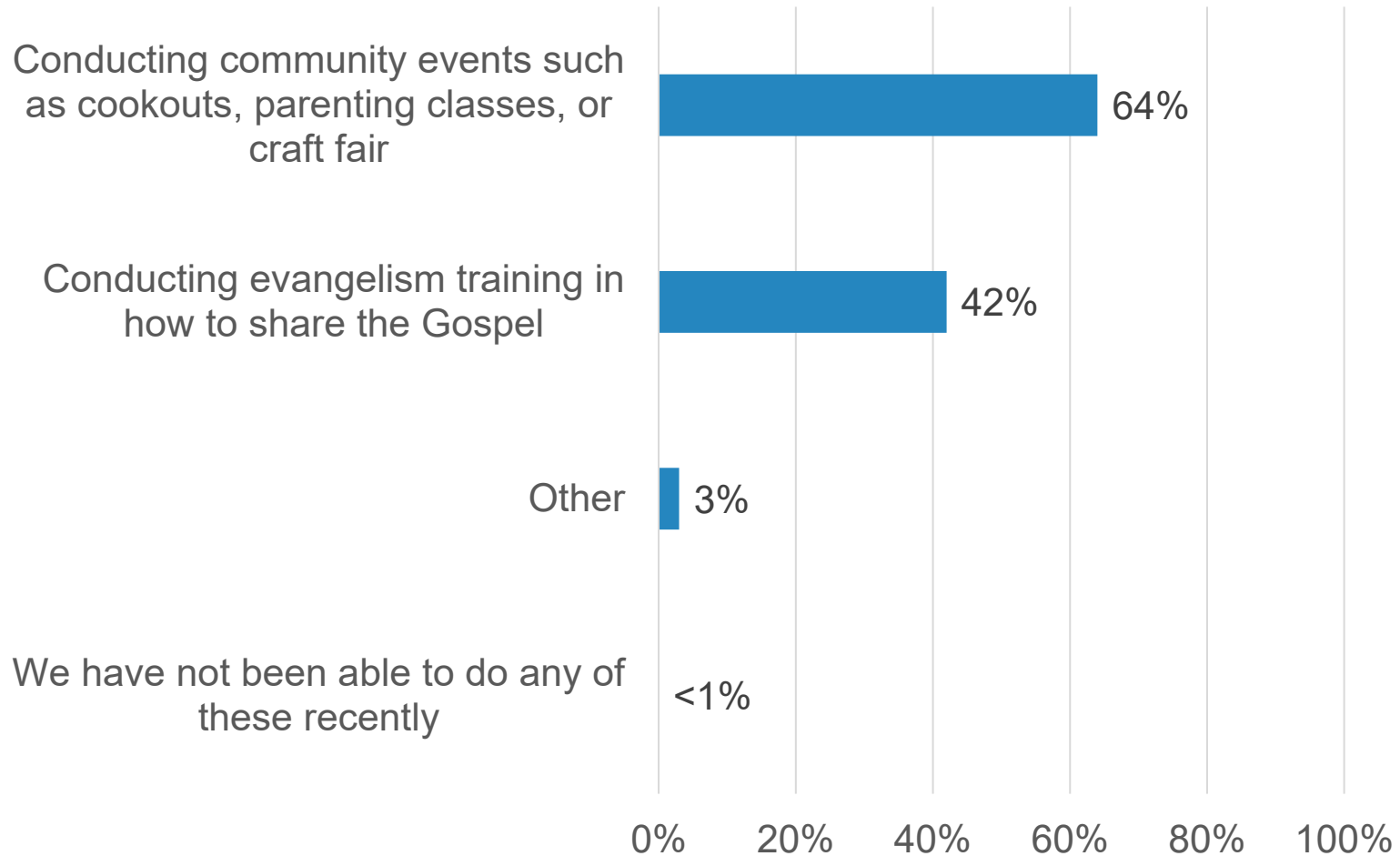


Lifewayresearch

Q14: “What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”
(Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?” *continued*

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

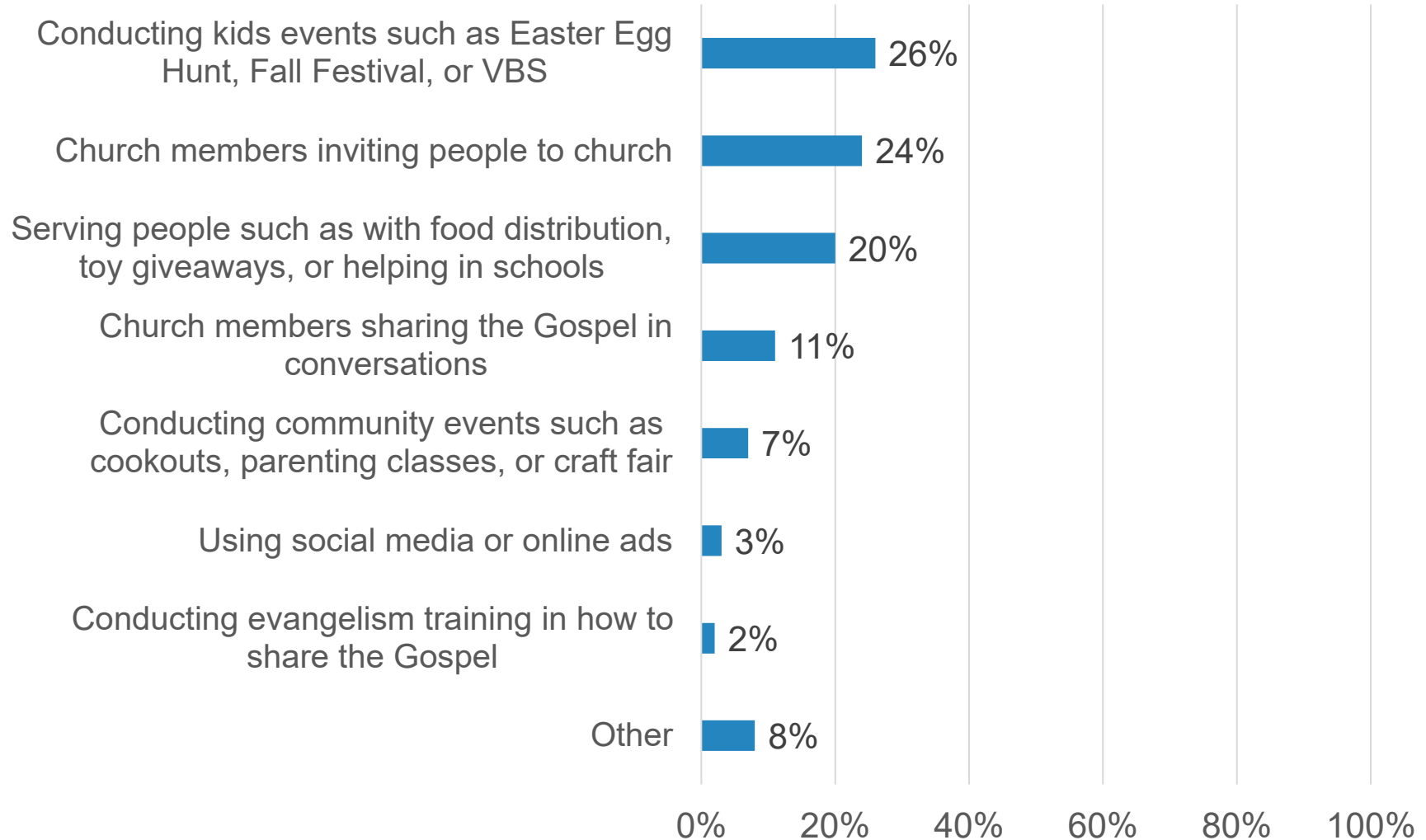


Lifewayresearch

Q14: “What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”
(Select all that apply)” n=1,003

26% say kid's events have had the greatest evangelistic impact

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

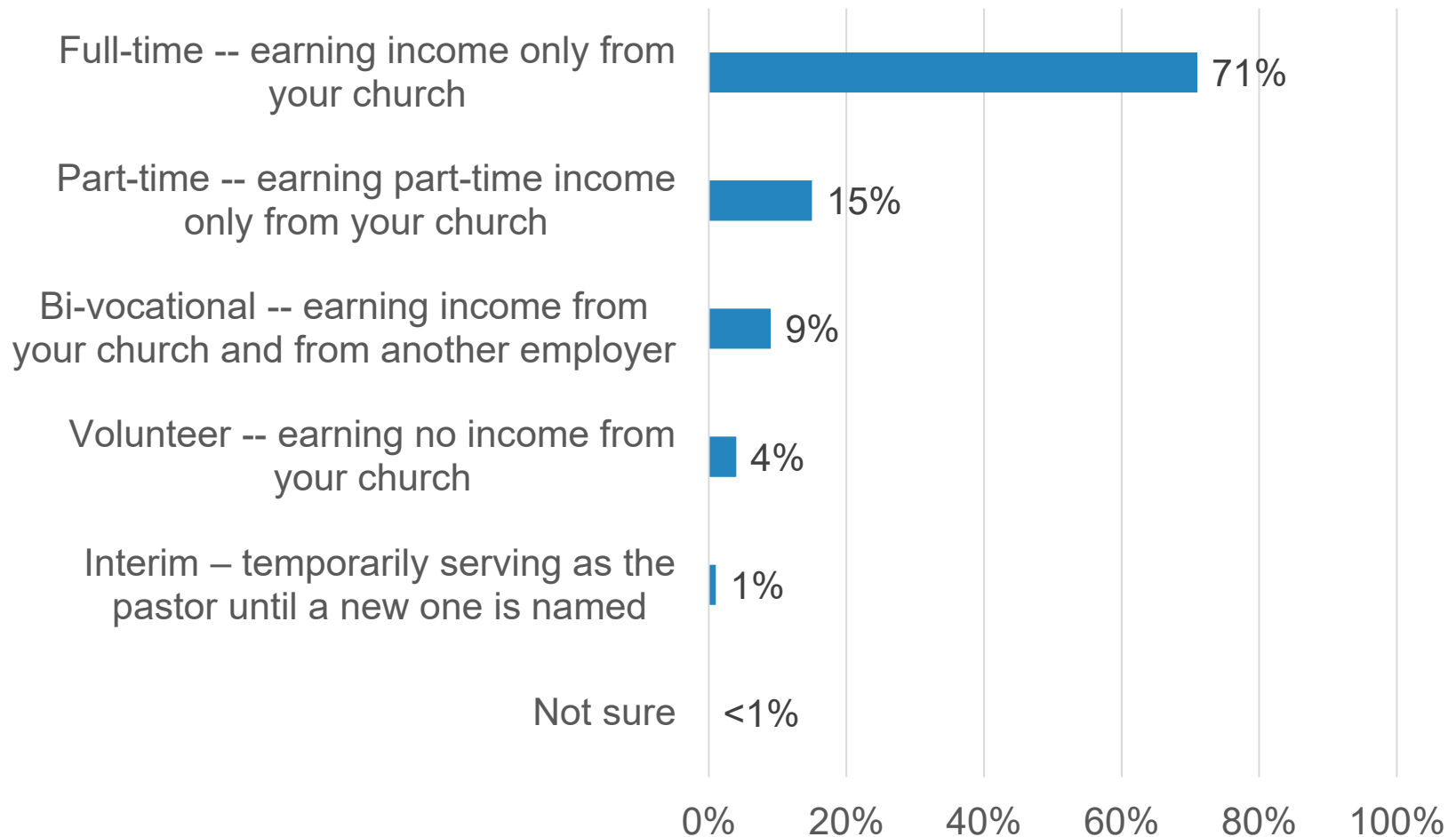


Lifewayresearch

Q15: "Which of the outreach activities you have done has had the greatest evangelistic impact on your community?"
(Select One)" n=1,001

Rural pastors who responded to the survey are largely full-time though almost 3 in 10 are less than full-time

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

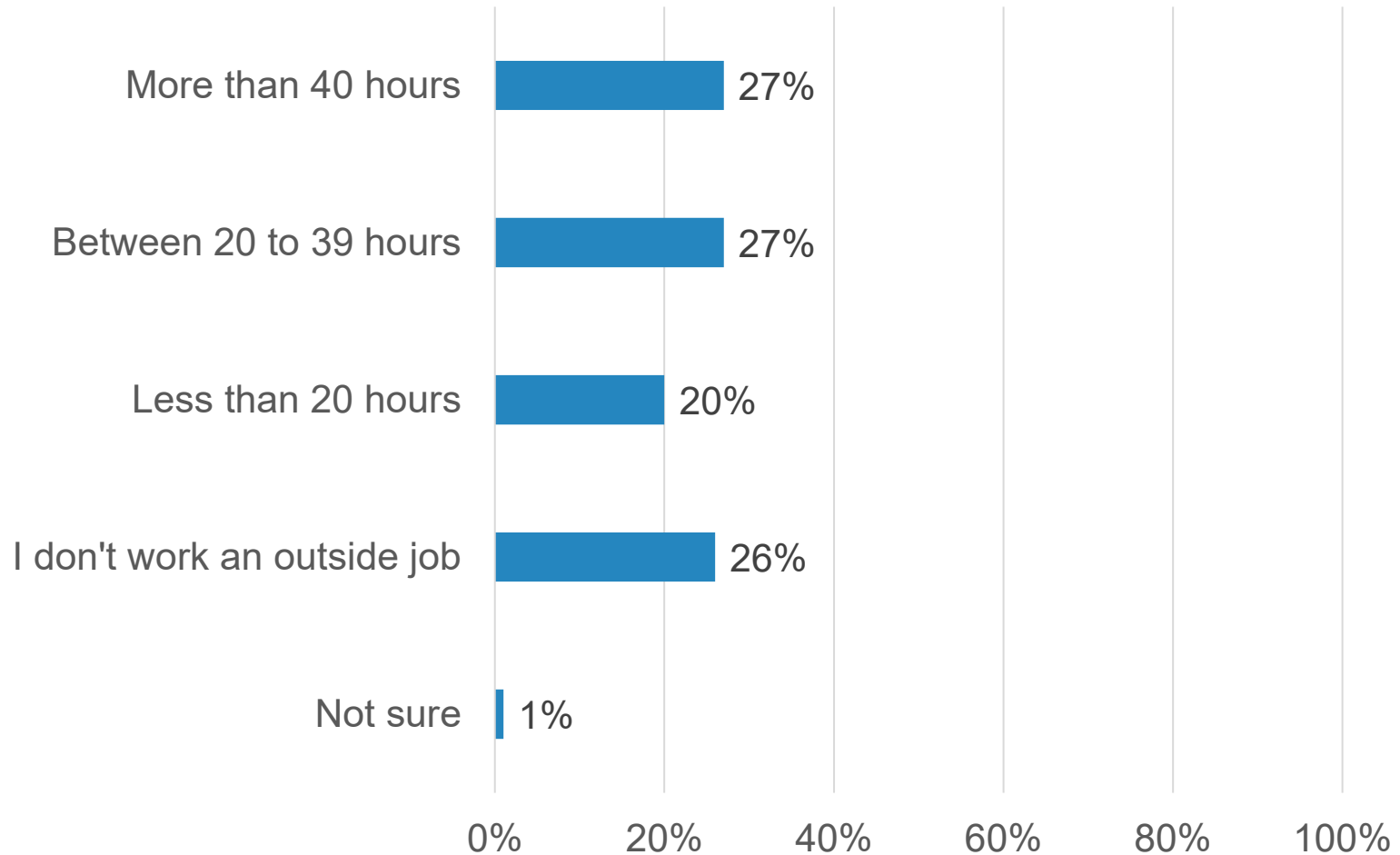


Lifewayresearch

Q16: "Which of the following best describes your employment status in your church? (Select One)" n=1,003

The majority of pastors with an outside job are working more than 20 hours a week in that job

Hours Worked in Outside Job by Bi-vocational and Volunteer Pastors

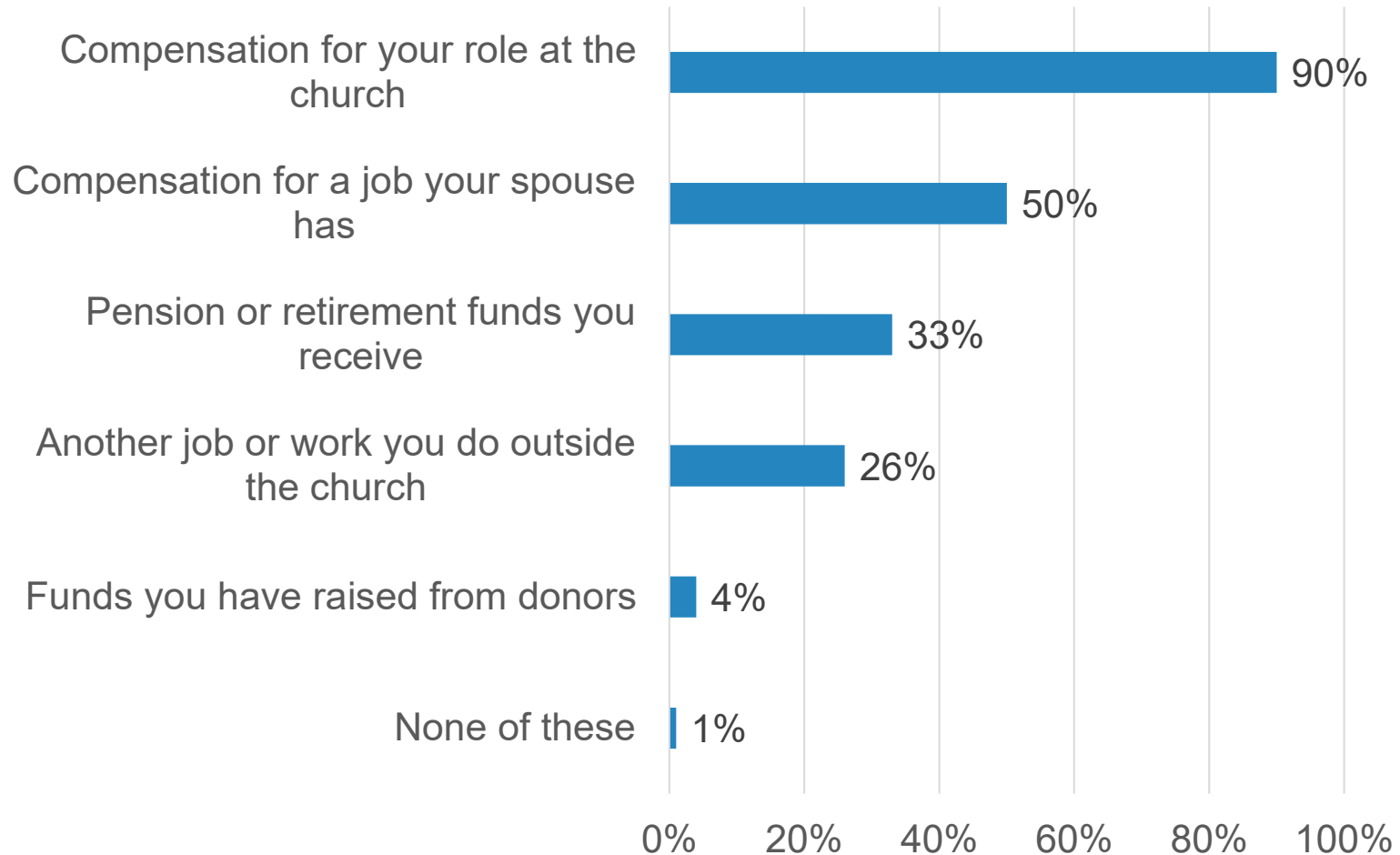


Lifewayresearch

Q17: "In an average week, how many hours do you work at an outside job in addition to working as a pastor? (Select One)" n=136

“Which of the following are sources of income for your family?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

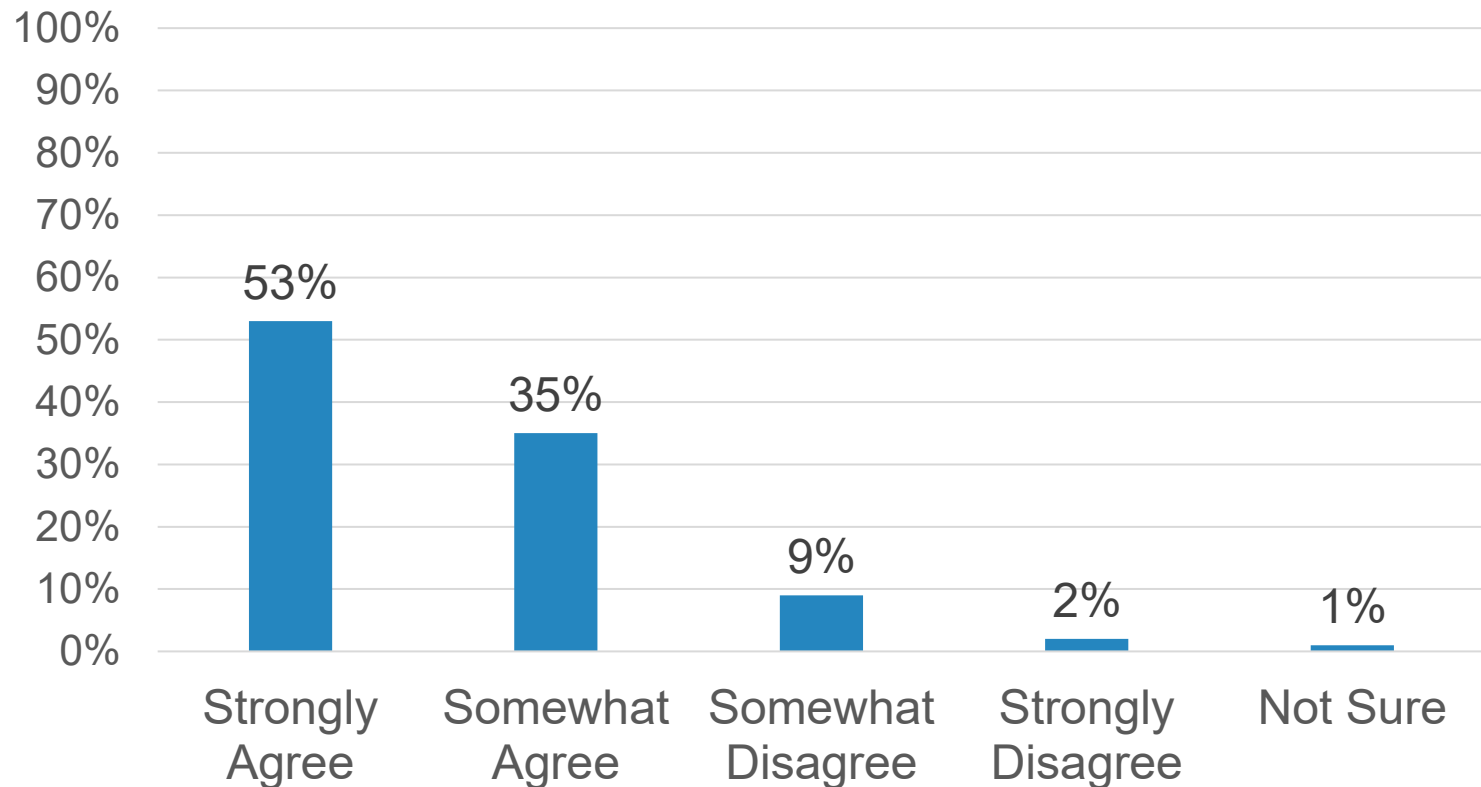


Lifewayresearch

Q18: “Which of the following are sources of income for your family? (Select all that apply)” n=999

88% expect their church will be stronger in 10 years

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

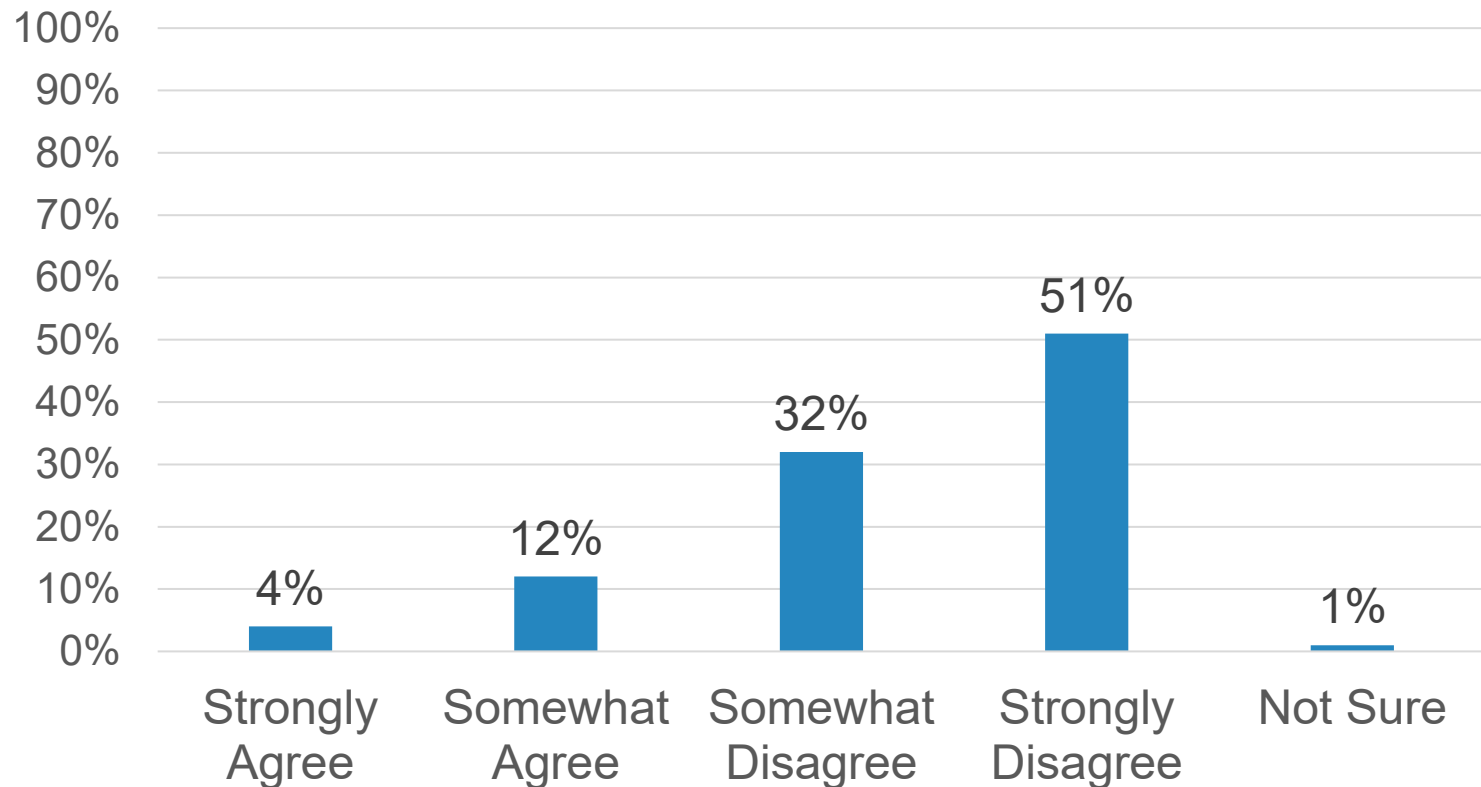


Lifewayresearch

Q19: "I expect my church will be stronger 10 years from now." n=1,003

16% agree they have no time to spend learning new ministry skills or approaches

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

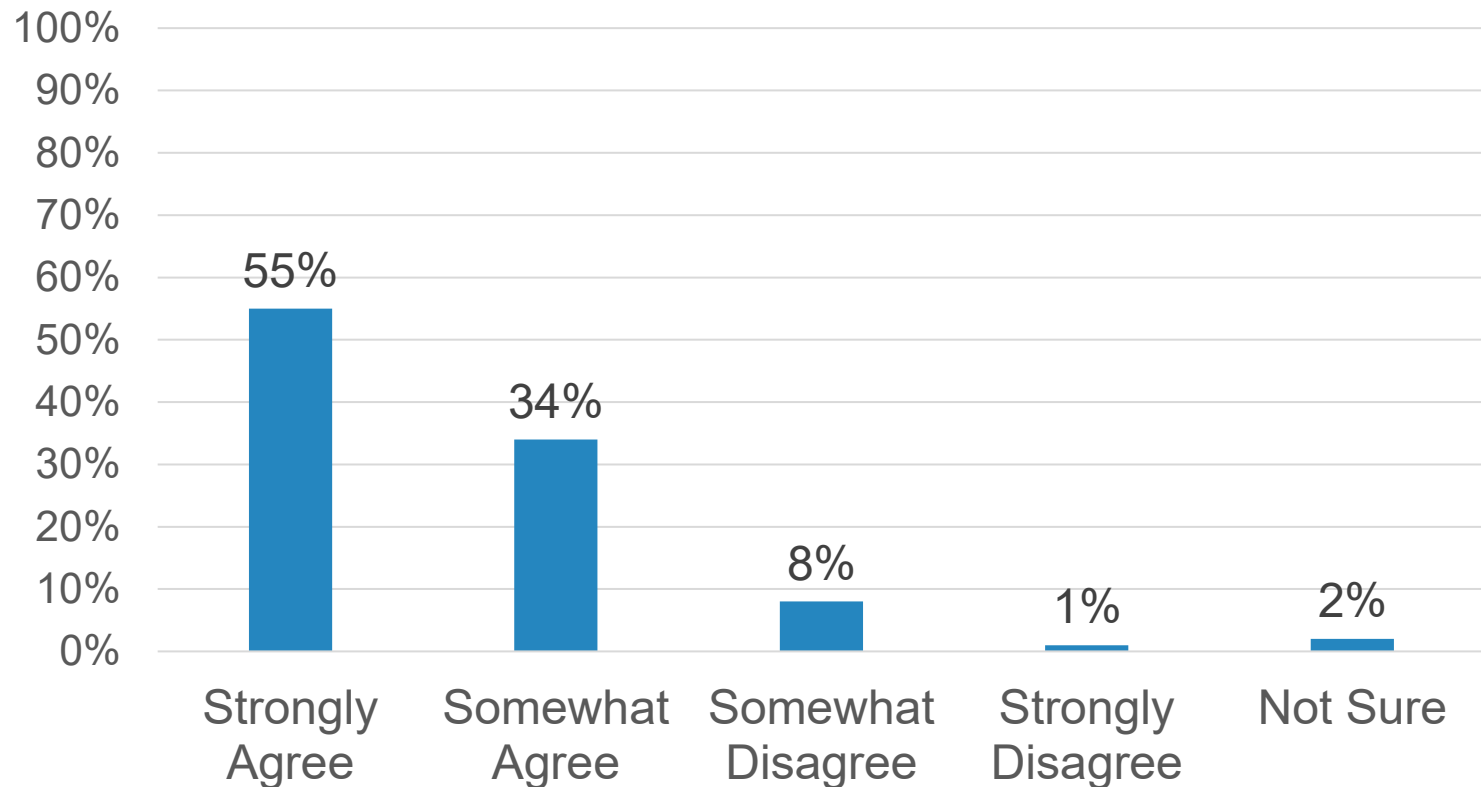


Lifewayresearch

Q20: "I have no time to spend learning new ministry skills or approaches." n=1,003

89% believe being present in people's lives is more effective ministry than having good church programs

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

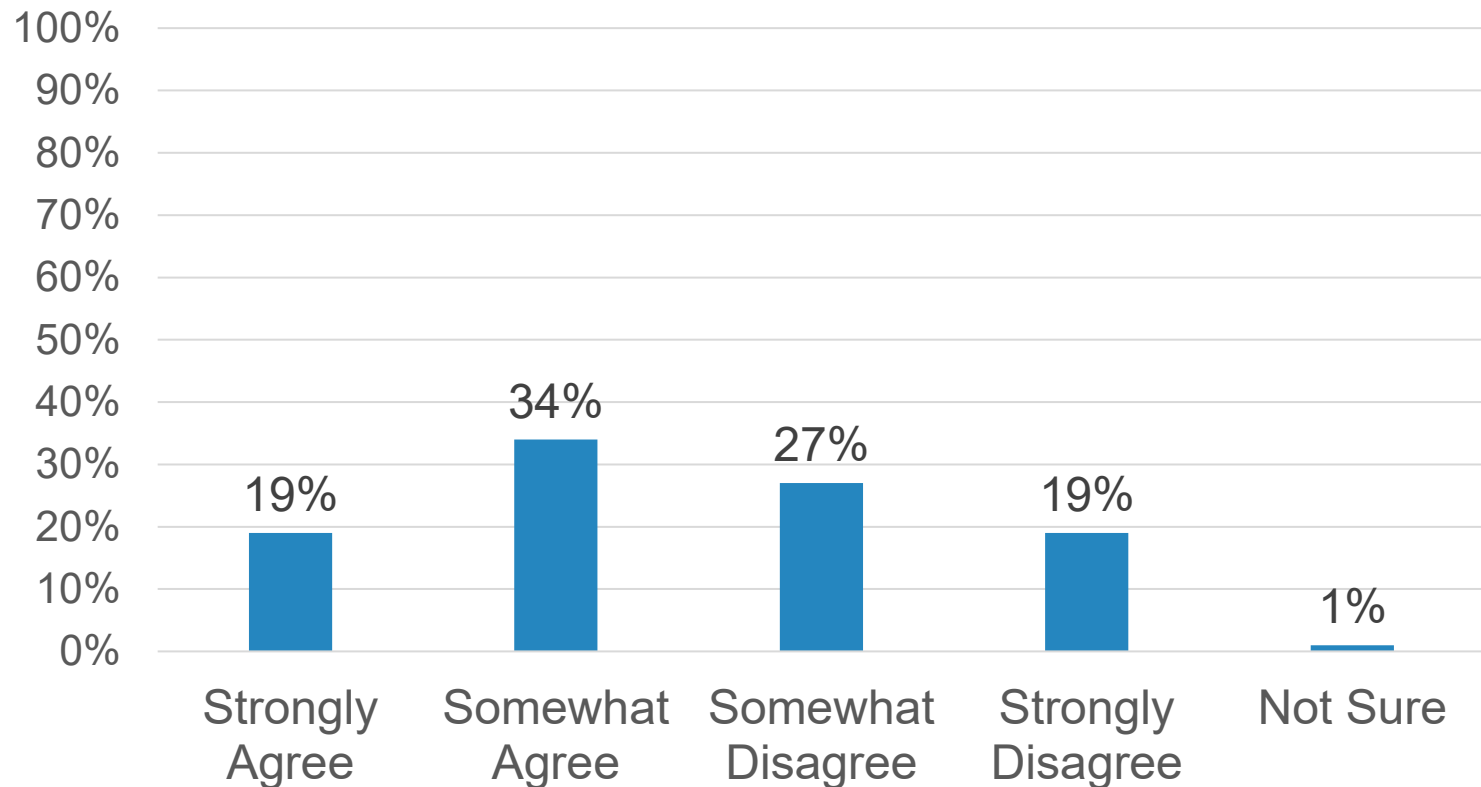


Lifewayresearch

Q21: "Effective ministry is more about being present in people's lives than having good church programs." n=1,003

53% agree they often feel like their congregation looks to them to do most of the church's work

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

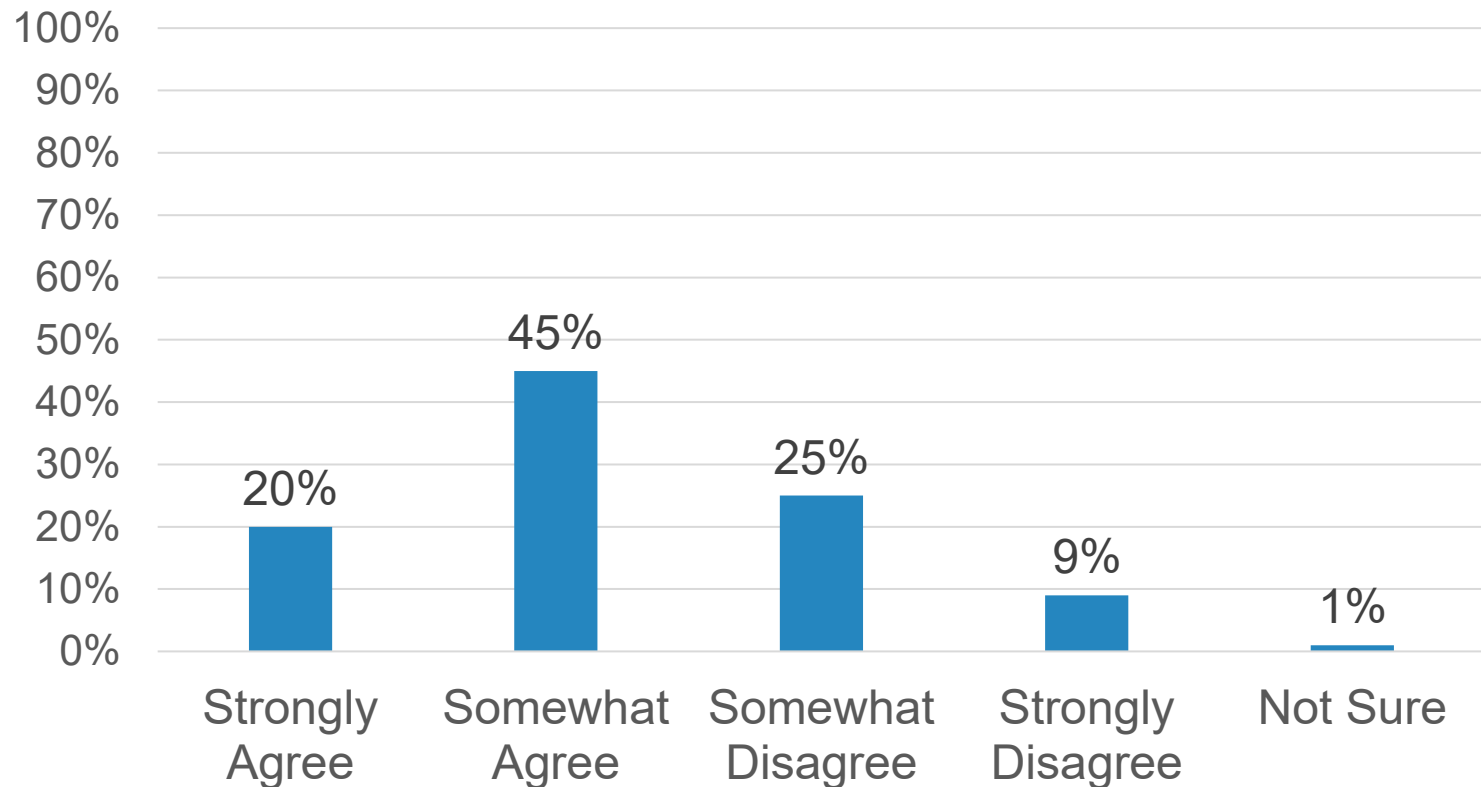


Lifewayresearch

Q22: "I often feel like our congregation looks to me to do most of the church's work." n=1,003

65% agree they spend time each month developing lay leaders' skills and experience

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

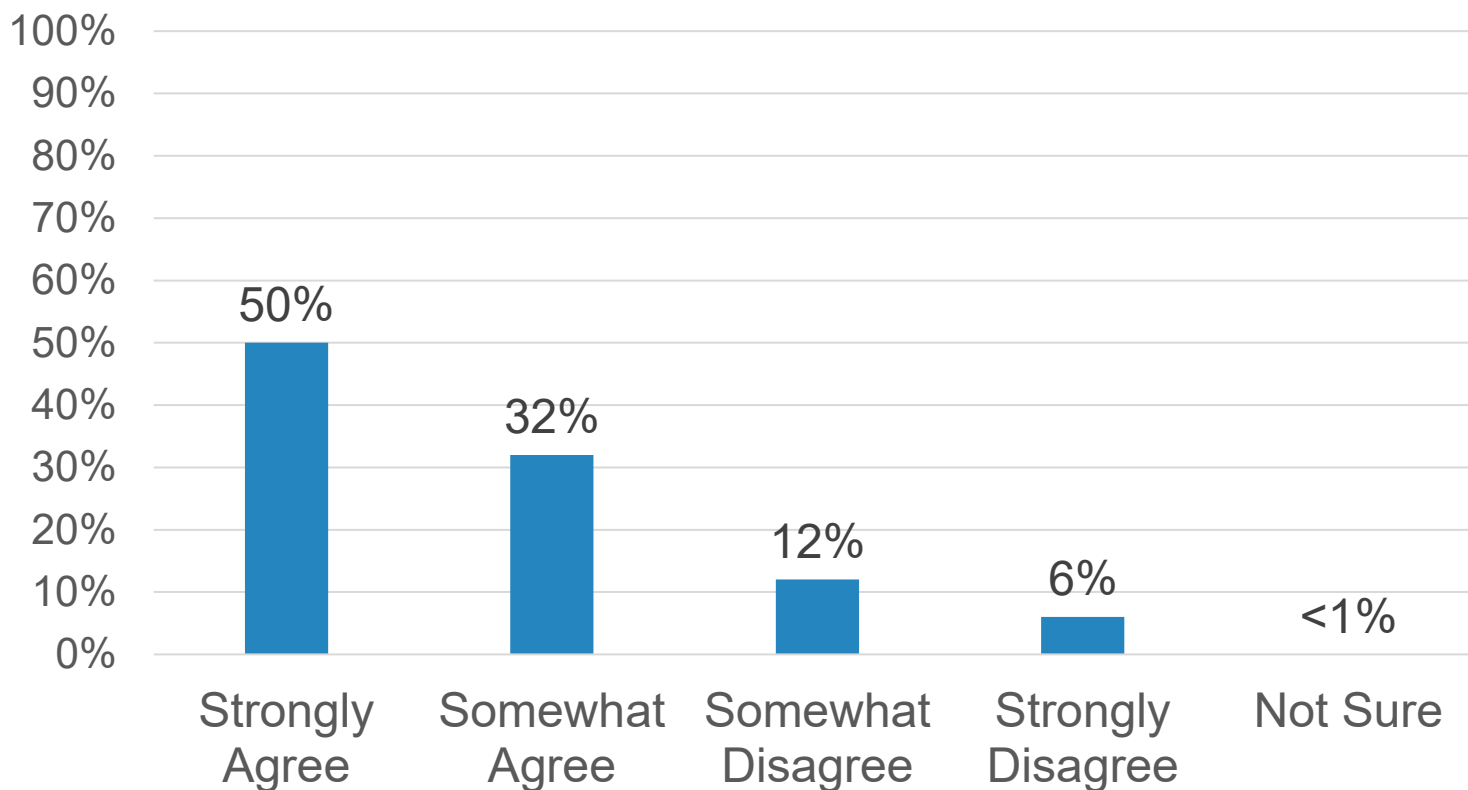


Lifewayresearch

Q23: "I spend time each month developing lay leaders' skills and experience." n=1,003

81% agree their congregation has the financial resources to support essential ministry

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

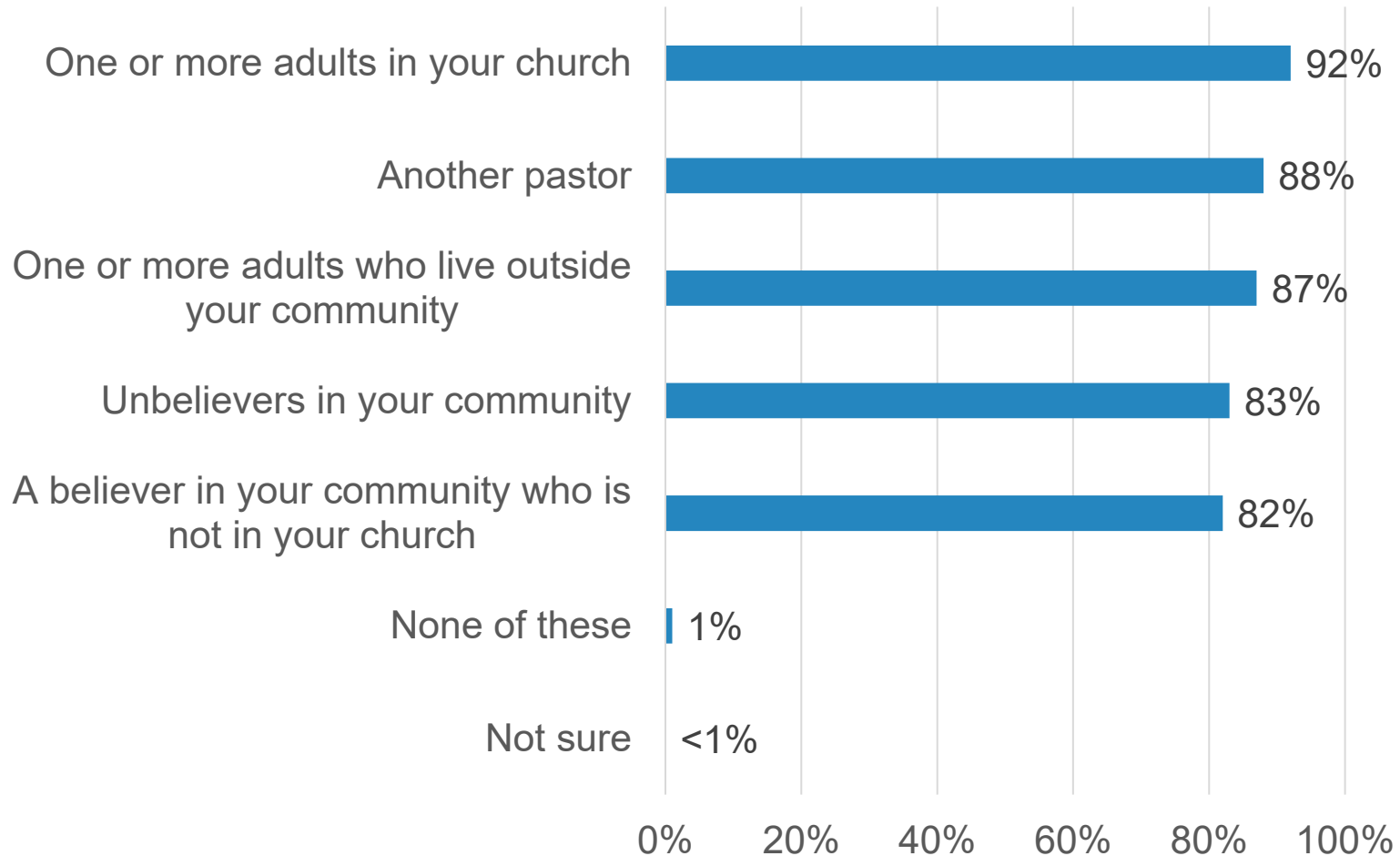


Lifewayresearch

Q24: "Our congregation always has the financial resources we need to support essential ministry." n=1,003

“Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town

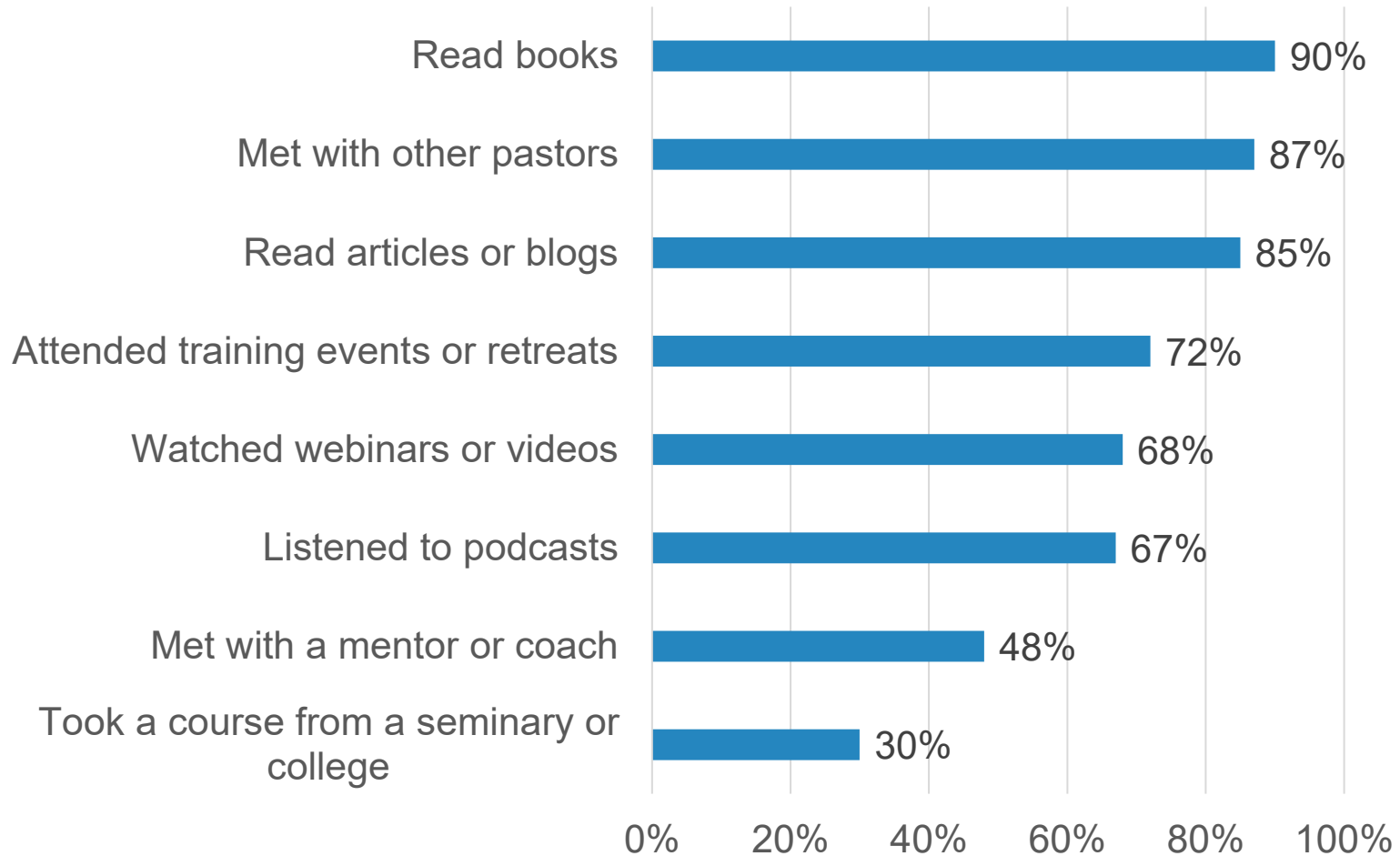


Lifewayresearch

Q25: “Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Among Pastors in a Rural or Small Town



*None of these 1%

Lifewayresearch

Q26: “Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

Significant Differences

Pastor

Ethnicity

Age

Gender

Education Level

Location Where Pastor Grew Up

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

Church Budget

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Significant Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the pastor's ethnicity, age, gender, education, location where pastor grew up, and self-identified Evangelical or Mainline.

AGE	GENDER	ETHNICITY	EDUCATION	LOCATION	Self-Identified
18-44	Male	White	No College Degree	Rural	Evangelical
45-54	Female	Non-White	Bachelor's Degree	Suburban	Mainline
55-64			Master's Degree	Urban	
65+			Doctoral Degree		

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's region, denomination, attendance, and budget.

REGION	DENOMINATION GROUP	ATTENDANCE	CHURCH BUDGET
Northeast	Baptist	0-49	Less than \$50,000
South	Christian/Church of Christ	50-99	\$50,000 to less than \$100,000
Midwest	Holiness	100-249	\$100,000 to less than \$300,000
West	Lutheran	250+	\$300,000 or more
	Methodist		Not sure/Prefer not to answer
	Pentecostal		
	Presbyterian/Reformed		
	Non-Denominational		

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations

“Which, if any, of the following inspire you to pastor in a rural or small town?”

Seeing someone take a step toward Jesus

- Baptists (97%), Holiness (99%), and Methodist (96%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (89%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (89%)

Enjoying the pace of rural life

- Pastors with no college degree (86%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (77%) or a Doctoral Degree (76%)
- Pastors who grew up in a rural area (85%) are more likely to select than those in a suburban area (74%) or an urban area (67%)
- Christian/Church of Christ (86%), Holiness (88%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (86%) are more likely to select than Non-denominational (71%)

“Which, if any, of the following inspire you to pastor in a rural or small town?”

Serving my local community

- Holiness (97%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (87%) and Non-denominational (87%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 100-249 (94%) and 250+ (98%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (88%)

Establishing long-term relationships

- Baptists (93%) and Holiness (97%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (85%)

Seeing the potential to make a difference

- No meaningful significant differences

“Which, if any, of the following inspire you to pastor in a rural or small town?”

Being present for everyday activities in my community

- Pastors at churches with attendance 100-249 (84%) and 250+ (87%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (76%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (82%) and \$300,000 or more (86%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (75%)

Getting to preach God’s Word

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (95% v. 81%)

New commitments to Jesus Christ per 100 Attendees

- Pastors age 18-44 (32%) are more likely to answer “More than 0 and up to 5” than pastors age 65+ (21%)
- Pastors age 65+ are the most likely to answer “More than 15” (25%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (26%) and South (20%) are more likely to answer “More than 15” than those in the Midwest (13%)
- Pastors who grew up in an urban area (26%) are more likely to answer “More than 15” than those in a rural area (16%)
- Lutherans (21%), Methodists (24%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (16%) are more likely to answer “0” than Baptists (6%), Christian/Church of Christ (4%), and Pentecostals (6%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to answer “0” (26%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 are the most likely to answer “More than 15” (38%) and the most likely to answer “0” (30%)

“What percentage of adults who attend your church at least once a month are serving in ministries that meet tangible needs in your community?”

- Pastors age 55-64 (26%) and 65+ (33%) are more likely to answer “0% to 10%” than pastors age 18-44 (19%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (27%) are more likely to answer “51% to 100%” than those in the South (17%) and West (14%)
- Pastors in the West (34%) are more likely to answer “0% to 10%” than pastors in the Northeast (19%)
- Christian/Church of Christ (26%) and Methodists (21%) are more likely to answer “21% to 30%” than Pentecostals (9%)
- Pentecostals (26%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (28%) are more likely to answer “51% to 100%” than Baptists (14%) and Non-denominational (12%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to answer “0% to 10%” (36%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 are the most likely to answer “0% to 10%” (51%)

“Which, if any, of the following do you consider a sign of rural ministry success when you see it in your church?”

New commitments to Jesus Christ

- Baptists (99%), Christian/Church of Christ (98%), Holiness (98%), Non-denominational (99%), and Pentecostals (100%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (75%), Methodists (90%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (89%)

Members showing care

- No meaningful significant differences

Broken relationships healed

- Lutherans are the least likely to select (83%)

“Which, if any, of the following do you consider a sign of rural ministry success when you see it in your church?”

Members stepping into leadership

- Baptists (96%), Holiness (95%), Methodists (96%), Non-denominational (97%), Pentecostals (93%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (92%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (82%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (89%)

Members consistently present

- No meaningful significant differences

Becoming a trusted part of our town's life

- Holiness (96%) and Methodists (93%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (76%) and Non-denominational (86%)

“Which, if any, of the following do you consider a sign of rural ministry success when you see it in your church?”

Attendance growth

- Pastors age 65+ (82%) are more likely to select than pastors age 18-44 (72%)
- Pastors with no college degree (81%) or a Bachelor's Degree (84%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (74%) or a Doctoral Degree (70%)
- Baptists (83%), Christian/Church of Christ (82%), and Pentecostals (90%) are more likely to select than Holiness (67%) and Lutherans (63%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (82%) and 250+ (85%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (72%)

“Which of these potential signs of success is your church experiencing regularly?”

New commitments to Jesus Christ

- Pastors in the South (80%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (72%) and Midwest (69%)
- Baptists (84%), Christian/Church of Christ (93%), and Pentecostals (87%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (53%), Methodists (69%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (59%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (95%) followed by 100-249 (85%), 50-99 (76%), and 0-49 (61%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (88%)

Members showing care

- No meaningful significant differences

“Which of these potential signs of success is your church experiencing regularly?”

Broken relationships healed

- Pastors in the Northeast (82%) and South (80%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (72%)
- Pentecostals (89%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (65%), Methodists (73%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (72%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (85%) and 250+ (88%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (73%) and 50-99 (72%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (89%)

Members stepping into leadership

- Methodists (82%) are more likely to select than Holiness (69%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (94%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (88%)

“Which of these potential signs of success is your church experiencing regularly?”

Members consistently present

- Baptists (93%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (93%) are more likely to select than Holiness (82%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (92%) and \$300,000 or more (94%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (82%)

Becoming a trusted part of our town's life

- Methodists (91%) are more likely to select than Baptists (79%), Christian/Church of Christ (82%), Lutherans (76%), and Non-denominational (82%)

“Which of these potential signs of success is your church experiencing regularly?”

Attendance growth

- Pastors age 18-44 (71%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (61%)
- Pastors with no college degree (70%) or a Bachelor's Degree (72%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (61%) or a Doctoral Degree (58%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (73%)
- Baptists (71%), Christian/Church of Christ (73%), and Pentecostals (78%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (52%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (58%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (93%) followed by 100-249 (78%), 50-99 (66%), and 0-49 (48%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (84%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

People are Christian in name but lack real transformation

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (47% v. 35%)
- Pastors in the South (50%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (41%) and West (40%)
- Baptists (54%) and Holiness (54%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (31%) and Methodists (38%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (59%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (36%) and 50-99 (43%)

Our congregation is inwardly focused

- Pastors in the South (39%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (29%)
- Christian/Church of Christ (45%) are more likely to select than Non-denominational (29%) and Pentecostals (30%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

Politics creating division or given too much importance

- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (26%) or a Doctoral Degree (25%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (15%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (16%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (23%) and West (27%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (14%)
- Pastors who grew up in an urban area (31%) are more likely to select than those in a rural area (19%)
- Methodists (32%) are more likely to select than Baptists (19%), Christian/Church of Christ (16%), Holiness (18%), Lutherans (19%), and Pentecostals (14%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

Relational difficulties among people in our congregation

- Pastors age 18-44 (33%) and 45-54 (31%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (22%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (30% v. 20%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (33%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (22%)

Distrust in the community due to past church mistakes

- Pastors in the South (28%) and West (31%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (19%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

Resistance to change

- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (54%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (46%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (44%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (52%) and South (54%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (41%) and West (40%)
- Methodists (57%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (58%) are more likely to select than Non-denominational (39%) and Pentecostals (36%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

Financial limitations

- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (51% v. 41%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (48%) are more likely to select than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (38%)
- Pastors who grew up in a suburban area (48%) or an urban area (52%) are more likely to select than those in a rural area (40%)
- Lutherans (46%), Methodists (55%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (46%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (29%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select (54%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the least likely to select (31%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges for your congregation?”

Developing and empowering lay leaders

- Baptists (65%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (50%)

None of these

- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (15%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Weight of carrying other people’s pain

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (37%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (51% v. 35%)
- Baptists (58%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (43%), Lutherans (33%), and Methodists (41%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (56%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (38%) and 50-99 (47%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (49%) and \$300,000 or more (55%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (39%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Feeling ineffective

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (42% v. 26%)
- Pastors in the South (41%) are more likely to select than those in the West (31%)
- Baptists (44%) and Holiness (56%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (31%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (31%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Burnout

- Pastors age 18-44 (35%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (23%) and 65+ (20%)

Loneliness

- Pastors age 18-44 are the most likely to select (37%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (28% v. 18%)
- Pastors with a Master's Degree (31%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (20%) or a Bachelor's Degree (21%)
- Pastors who grew up in a suburban area (33%) are more likely to select than those in a rural area (22%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Difficulty taking one day each week to get away from ministerial work and rest

- Pastors age 18-44 (49%) and 55-64 (41%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (31%)
- Baptists (48%) and Pentecostals (52%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (30%), Lutherans (31%), Methodists (39%), Non-denominational (32%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (35%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (45%) and 250+ (48%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (35%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (46%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (29%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Exhaustion from over-commitment or overwork

- Pastors age 18-44 (46%) and 45-54 (45%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (34%)
- Holiness are the most likely to select (61%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (50%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (38%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

Difficulty disengaging from work and ministry to relax and have fun

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (31%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (47% v. 33%)
- Baptists (46%), Holiness (55%), and Pentecostals (52%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (33%) and Non-denominational (32%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (60%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (37%) and 50-99 (42%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (55%)

“Which of the following are currently challenges you face in your ministry as a pastor?”

None of these

- Pastors age 18-44 are the least likely to select (11%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (31% v. 15%)
- Pastors with no college degree (25%) or a Bachelor's Degree (21%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (15%)
- Christian/Church of Christ (23%), Lutherans (24%), Methodists (20%), Non-denominational (23%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (25%) are more likely to select than Baptists (13%) and Holiness (5%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 are the least likely to select (12%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (27%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (17%) and \$300,000 or more (15%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Kids ministry

- Pastors age 18-44 (86%) and 45-54 (85%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (72%)
- Baptists (89%), Holiness (86%), Non-denominational (85%), and Pentecostals (82%) are more likely to select than Presbyterian/Reformed (67%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (100%) followed by 100-249 (93%), 50-99 (85%), and 0-49 (58%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (99%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Teen ministry

- Pastors age 45-54 (69%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (58%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (73%)
- Baptists (77%), Non-denominational (68%), and Pentecostals (68%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (49%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (52%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (98%) followed by 100-249 (86%), 50-99 (61%), and 0-49 (39%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (91%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Adult small group Bible studies

- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (80%)
- Baptists (78%), Holiness (80%), Methodists (76%), and Pentecostals (78%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (55%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (64%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (81%) and 250+ (87%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (61%) and 50-99 (73%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (82%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Women’s ministry

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (76%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (88%)
- Baptists (88%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (76%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (73%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (93%) and 250+ (99%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (66%) and 50-99 (85%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (96%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Evangelism

- Pastors age 65+ (66%) are more likely to select than pastors age 45-54 (56%)
- Pastors with no college degree (67%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (56%)
- Pastors in the South (67%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (55%) and Midwest (57%)
- Baptists (70%), Holiness (63%) and Pentecostals (73%) are more likely to select than Presbyterian/Reformed (44%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (67%) and 250+ (76%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (55%) and 50-99 (58%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Serving ministries in the community

- Pastors age 45-54 (88%) and 55-64 (85%) are more likely to select than pastors age 18-44 (78%)
- Pastors in the South (87%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (81%) and West (75%)
- Methodists are the most likely to select (94%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (76%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (92%)

“In which of the following ministry areas do you have people from your congregation other than you who lead or help significantly?”

Caring for needs of church members

- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (93%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (80%) and \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (86%)

“Which of the following best reflects your thoughts on your ministry calling?”

- Pastors age 55-64 (28%) and 65+ (28%) are more likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry in rural or small-town communities” than pastors age 18-44 (18%) and 45-54 (19%)
- Pastors who grew up in an urban area (70%) are more likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry to this specific church that happens to be a rural area or small town” than those in a rural area (60%)
- Pastors who grew up in a rural area (28%) are more likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry in rural or small-town communities” than those in a suburban (15%) or urban area (19%)
- Methodists (36%) are more likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry in rural or small-town communities” than Baptists (18%), Christian/Church of Christ (23%), Lutherans (20%), Non-denominational (16%), Pentecostals (18%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (25%)

“Which of the following best reflects your thoughts on your ministry calling?” *continued*

- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (74%) and 250+ (75%) are more likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry to this specific church that happens to be a rural area or small town” than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (51%) and 50-99 (62%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry in rural or small-town communities” (34%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry to this specific church that happens to be a rural area or small town” (77%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (35%) and \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (31%) are more likely to select “I sense I’m called to ministry in rural or small-town communities” than those at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (22%) and \$300,000 or more (14%)

“Where are you personally having your greatest evangelistic impact on your community?”

- Pastors with a Bachelor's Degree (22%) or a Doctoral Degree (24%) are more likely to select “Friendship building over meals and activities together” than those with no college degree (15%) or a Master's Degree (13%)
- Pastors in the West (32%) are more likely to select “Spending time one-on-one with people to listen to them” than those in the Midwest (22%) and South (22%)
- Holiness (19%), Methodists (17%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (18%) are more likely to select “Serving individuals by meeting practical needs” than Baptists (9%) and Lutherans (8%)
- Holiness (26%) are more likely to select “Being present for events in people's lives” than Baptists (13%)
- Lutherans (32%) are more likely to select “Spending time one-on-one with people to listen to them” than Christian/Church of Christ (13%)
- Baptists (17%) are more likely to select “Sharing seeds of truth that may emerge later” than Christian/Church of Christ (5%), Lutherans (8%), Methodists (10%), and Pentecostals (8%)

“Where are you personally having your greatest evangelistic impact on your community?” *continued*

- Christian/Church of Christ (27%) are more likely to select “Friendship building over meals and activities together” than Baptists (17%), Holiness (11%), Lutherans (12%), Methodists (14%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (15%)
- Baptists (19%) and Lutherans (19%) are more likely to select “Preaching evangelistic sermons” than Holiness (8%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 50-99 (21%) and 250+ (24%) are more likely to select “Friendship building over meals and activities together” than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (14%) and 100-249 (12%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (31%) are more likely to select “Spending time one-on-one with people to listen to them” than those at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (18%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (18%) and \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (17%) are more likely to select “Friendship building over meals and activities together” than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (8%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Conducting kid’s events such as Easter Egg Hunt, Fall Festival, or VBS

- Pastors age 18-44 (85%) and 45-54 (84%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (75%) and 65+ (66%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (83%)
- Baptists (87%), Holiness (80%), and Methodists (81%) are more likely to select than Presbyterian/Reformed (65%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (93%) and 250+ (95%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (54%) and 50-99 (82%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (95%) followed by \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (81%), \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (67%), and less than \$50,000 (43%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in schools

- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (91% v. 78%)
- Pastors with no college degree (88%) are more likely to select than those with a Bachelor's Degree (76%) or a Master's Degree (81%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (81%) and South (86%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (69%)
- Methodists (91%) and Pentecostals (88%) are more likely to select than Baptists (78%), Christian/Church of Christ (69%), and Non-denominational (75%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Church members inviting people to church

- Baptists (96%) and Pentecostals (98%) are more likely to select than Holiness (89%), Lutherans (88%), Methodists (89%), and Non-denominational (91%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (96%) and 250+ (100%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (88%) and 50-99 (92%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Church members sharing the Gospel in conversations

- Pastors with no college degree (91%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (80%) or a Doctoral Degree (78%)
- Pastors who grew up in a rural area (85%) or an urban area (88%) are more likely to select than those in a suburban area (78%)
- Baptists (90%) and Pentecostals (92%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (76%), Methodists (80%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (72%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (90%) and 250+ (96%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (78%) and 50-99 (81%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Using social media or online ads

- Pastors age 18-44 are the least likely to select (66%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (81% v. 70%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (80%)
- Pastors who grew up in a rural area (75%) or an urban area (78%) are more likely to select than those in a suburban area (68%)
- Methodists (79%) and Pentecostals (82%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (66%), Non-denominational (68%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (68%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (66%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (74%) and \$300,000 or more (79%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (60%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Conducting evangelism training in how to share the Gospel

- Pastors with no college degree (50%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (39%) or a Doctoral Degree (35%)
- Pastors in the South are the most likely to select (54%)
- Baptists are the most likely to select (66%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (63%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (53%)

“What outreach activities has your church used in the last year to try to share the Gospel with your community?”

Conducting community events such as cookouts, parenting classes, or craft fair

- Pastors age 18-44 (68%) and 45-54 (72%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (57%)
- Pastors in the South (69%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (58%)
- Methodists (69%) and Pentecostals (70%) are more likely to select than Non-denominational (55%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (53%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (66%) and \$300,000 or more (72%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (47%) and \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (57%)

“Which of the outreach activities you have done has had the greatest evangelistic impact on your community?”

- Female pastors are more likely to select “Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in school” than males (33% v. 16%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (25%) or a Doctoral Degree (29%) are more likely to select “Church members inviting people to church” than those with no college degree (18%)
- Mainline pastors are more likely to select “Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in school” than Evangelical pastors (25% v. 14%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (27%) and South (30%) are more likely to select “Conducting kid’s events such as Easter Egg Hunt, Fall Festival, or VBS” than those in the Northeast (16%)
- Baptists (38%) are more likely to select “Conducting kid’s events such as Easter Egg Hunt, Fall Festival, or VBS” than Christian/Church of Christ (17%), Lutherans (25%), Methodists (21%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (17%)
- Methodists are the most likely to select “Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in school” (41%)

“Which of the outreach activities you have done has had the greatest evangelistic impact on your community?” *continued*

- Baptists (24%), Christian/Church of Christ (29%), and Non-denominational (30%) are more likely to select “Church members inviting people to church” than Methodists (16%)
- Holiness (20%) are more likely to select “Church members sharing the Gospel in conversations” than Baptists (10%), Methodists (3%), and Pentecostals (9%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select “Conducting kid’s events such as Easter Egg Hunt, Fall Festival, or VBS” (48%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select “Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in school” (29%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the least likely to select “Church members sharing the Gospel in conversations” (3%)

“Which of the outreach activities you have done has had the greatest evangelistic impact on your community?” *continued*

- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select “Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in school” (29%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (36%) are more likely to select “Conducting kid’s events such as Easter Egg Hunt, Fall Festival, or VBS” than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (13%) and \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (18%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (23%) and \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (21%) are more likely to select “Serving people such as with food distribution, toy giveaways, or helping in school” than those at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (11%)

“Which of the following best describes your employment status in your church?”

- Pastors age 65+ are the most likely to select “Part-time” (22%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select “Full-time” than females (79% v. 46%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select “Part-time” than males (39% v. 7%)
- White pastors (72%) are more likely to select “Full-time” than Non-White pastors (59%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (80%) or a Doctoral Degree (77%) are more likely to select “Full-time” than those with no college degree (58%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (63%)
- Pastors in the South (74%) are more likely to select “Full-time” than those in the Northeast (64%)
- Pastors who grew up in a suburban area (76%) are more likely to select “Full-time” than those in a rural area (69%) or an urban area (65%)
- Pastors who grew up in an urban area (23%) are more likely to select “Part-time” than those in a rural area (14%) or a suburban area (11%)

“Which of the following best describes your employment status in your church?” *continued*

- Christian/Church of Christ are the most likely to select “Full-time” (90%)
- Methodists (30%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (28%) are more likely to select “Part-time” than Baptists (7%), Christian/Church of Christ (6%), Holiness (7%), Lutherans (16%), Non-denominational (8%), and Pentecostals (7%)
- Baptists (15%), Holiness (18%), and Pentecostals (23%) are more likely to select “Bi-vocational” than Christian/Church of Christ (2%), Lutherans (5%), Methodists (3%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (2%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select “Part-time” (23%) and “Bi-vocational” (17%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select “Full-time” (88%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 are the most likely to select “Bi-vocational” (40%)

“Which of the following are sources of income for your family?”

Compensation for your role at the church

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (80%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (93% v. 80%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (95%) or a Doctoral Degree (91%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (82%)
- Baptists (94%) are more likely to select than Non-denominational (86%) and Pentecostals (81%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (100%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the least likely to select (81%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (100%) followed by \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (95%), \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (86%), and less than \$50,000 (62%)

“Which of the following are sources of income for your family?”

Another job or work you do outside the church

- Pastors age 45-54 (31%) are more likely to select than pastors age 65+ (21%)
- Pastors with no college degree (33%) or a Bachelor's Degree (31%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (20%)
- Holiness (43%) and Pentecostals (35%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (19%), Methodists (20%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (20%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 (31%) and 50-99 (25%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (18%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 are the most likely to select (55%)

“Which of the following are sources of income for your family?”

Compensation for a job your spouse has

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (34%)
- Pastors in the Midwest (51%) and South (52%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (39%)
- Holiness (64%) are more likely to select than Baptists (48%), Lutherans (46%), Methodists (46%), and Non-denominational (46%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (66%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (41%) and 50-99 (49%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (67%)

“Which of the following are sources of income for your family?”

Pension or retirement funds you receive

- Pastors age 65+ are the most likely to select (67%)
- Female pastors are more likely to select than males (42% v. 30%)
- Non-White pastors (45%) are more likely to select than white pastors (32%)
- Methodists (43%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (43%) are more likely to select than Baptists (25%), Christian/Church of Christ (23%), and Non-denominational (28%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to select (46%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the least likely to select (21%)

Funds you have raised from donors

- No meaningful significant differences

“I expect my church will be stronger 10 years from now.”

- Pastors age 18-44 (92%) and 45-54 (94%) are more likely to Agree than pastors age 55-64 (86%) and 65+ (82%)
- Pastors with no college degree (93%) or a Bachelor's Degree (92%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Master's Degree (86%) or a Doctoral Degree (81%)
- Baptists (94%), Christian/Church of Christ (94%), Holiness (95%), Non-denominational (93%), and Pentecostal (97%) are more likely to Agree than Lutherans (77%), Methodists (81%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (81%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to Disagree (24%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to Agree (97%)

“I have no time to spend learning new ministry skills or approaches.”

- Holiness (26%) and Pentecostal (22%) are more likely to Agree than Lutherans (11%) and Methodists (12%)

“Effective ministry is more about being present in people’s lives than having good church programs.”

- Holiness (95%) are more likely to Agree than Methodists (85%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (84%)

“I often feel like our congregation looks to me to do most of the church’s work.”

- Pastors age 18-44 (60%) and 55-64 (59%) are more likely to Agree than pastors age 45-54 (47%) and 65+ (47%)
- Pastors who grew up in a suburban area (60%) are more likely to Agree than those in a rural area (52%) or an urban area (49%)
- Baptists (57%) and Christian/Church of Christ (64%) are more likely to Agree than Methodists (47%) and Non-denominational (45%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to Disagree (71%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to Disagree (58%)

“I spend time each month developing lay leaders’ skills and experience.”

- Male pastors are more likely to Agree than females (68% v. 56%)
- Baptists (72%) are more likely to Agree than Lutherans (52%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (58%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 100-249 (71%) and 250+ (82%) are more likely to Agree than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (56%) and 50-99 (64%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to Agree (81%)

“Our congregation always has the financial resources we need to support essential ministry.”

- Baptists (86%), Christian/Church of Christ (88%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (86%) are more likely to Agree than Methodists (72%) and Pentecostals (74%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 0-49 are the most likely to Disagree (28%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to Agree (93%) followed by \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (84%), \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (76%), and less than \$50,000 (63%)

“Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following?”

One or more adults in your church

- Pastors with no college degree (97%) or a Bachelor's Degree (96%) are more likely to select than those with a Master's Degree (89%) or a Doctoral Degree (86%)
- Baptists (97%), Holiness (98%), and Non-denominational (97%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (88%), Lutherans (85%), Methodists (87%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (89%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (100%)

“Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following?”

A believer in your community who is not in your church

- Pastors with no college degree (90%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s Degree (79%) or Doctoral Degree (76%)
- Methodists (87%) and Pentecostal (87%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (71%) and Lutherans (73%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (92%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (81%) and 50-99 (79%)

“Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following?”

One or more adults who live outside your community

- Presbyterian/Reformed (95%) are more likely to select than Baptists (88%), Christian/Church of Christ (81%), Holiness (85%), Lutherans (86%), Methodists (83%), and Pentecostals (86%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (92%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (81%)

“Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following?”

Unbelievers in your community

- Pastors with a Doctoral Degree are the least likely to select (69%)
- Pastors in the West (92%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (78%) and South (83%)
- Baptists (88%), Holiness (90%), Non-denominational (91%), and Pentecostals (90%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (75%), Lutherans (70%), and Methodists (76%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (90%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (80%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (90%) and \$300,000 or more (87%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (80%)

“Do you currently invest in meaningful friendships with any of the following?”

Another pastor

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (82%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ (96%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (86%) and 100-249 (88%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (96%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of \$50,000 to less than \$100,000 (86%) and \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (87%)

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Met with other pastors

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (92% v. 70%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (92%) or a Doctoral Degree (93%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (79%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (82%)
- Holiness (93%) are more likely to select than Presbyterian/Reformed (82%)

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Attended training events or retreats

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (62%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree are the most likely to select (81%)
- Pastors in the Northeast (77%) and Midwest (75%) are more likely to select than those in the West (65%)
- Methodists (82%) are more likely to select than Baptists (69%), Non-denominational (63%), Pentecostals (68%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (66%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (77%) and \$300,000 or more (74%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (58%)

Read articles or blogs

- No meaningful significant differences

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Listened to podcasts

- Pastors age 18-44 (79%) and 45-54 (74%) are more likely to select than those age 55-64 (63%) and 65+ (54%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (69% v. 59%)
- Baptists (71%) and Non-denominational (72%) are more likely to select than Methodists (59%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance of 250+ are the most likely to select (89%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more are the most likely to select (80%)

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Read books

- Pastors with a Master’s Degree (94%) or a Doctoral Degree (97%) are more likely to select than those with no college degree (87%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (85%)
- Baptists (92%), Lutherans (93%), Non-denominational (95%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (94%) are more likely to select than Pentecostals (83%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (94%) and \$300,000 or more (92%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (83%)

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Met with a mentor or coach

- Pastors age 18-44 (63%) and 45-54 (55%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (43%) and 65+ (32%)
- Non-White pastors (59%) are more likely to select than white pastors (47%)
- Methodists (54%) are more likely to select than Christian/Church of Christ (41%), Lutherans (41%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (39%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$300,000 or more (55%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (38%)

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Watched webinars or videos

- Pastors age 65+ are the least likely to select (57%)
- Pastors in the South (73%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (61%)
- Holiness (75%) and Methodists (75%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (57%)
- Pastors at churches with a budget of \$100,000 to less than \$300,000 (71%) and \$300,000 or more (75%) are more likely to select than those at churches with a budget of less than \$50,000 (58%)

“Which of the following sources of practical ministry help or development have you utilized in the last year to guide or encourage you as a pastor?”

Took a course from a seminary or college

- Pastors age 18-44 (39%) are more likely to select than pastors age 55-64 (24%) and 65+ (24%)
- Non-White pastors (45%) are more likely to select than white pastors (28%)
- Pastors in the South (36%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (21%) and Midwest (29%)
- Lutherans (40%) and Methodists (46%) are more likely to select than Baptists (26%), Holiness (16%), Non-denominational (17%), and Presbyterian/Reformed (24%)