

## 2010 Parish Survey Results

At the annual meeting John Tabor (new vestry member) reported out the preliminary results of the survey. The following are some of the highlights of the very preliminary results. If you have not filled out the survey please go to [www.stjohnsnh.org](http://www.stjohnsnh.org) and fill it out today! Our next step is to gather and discuss the results.

- Average years a member: 11.3
- 46% families, 27% couples, 28% single
- 21% under 45, 79% over 45. Nearly half of respondents between 55 and 75.
- Prior denominations: 41% Catholic, 29% Congregational, 18% Methodist
- 34% have kids, 66% do not

Top 3 attractions of St. John's: People, clergy, liturgy

Congregation thinks we now number 390 (weighted average)

Congregation would like to be 570 (weighted average)

Top 4 assets of St. John's: The people, service to community, clergy, music

74% of new members were personally greeted and oriented

77% think we should be more or somewhat more diverse

Area they see for improvement: recruiting members

Common Table and Community outreach are the most attractive activities for participation, followed by lay worship participation and seasonal (lent, Easter, etc.) study  
Awareness of the programs between services runs 90-92%.

83% think the church should be helping the homeless and poor, 74% seniors assistance, 61% housing projects, 54% visiting the sick, 40% sustainability

People want the website to tell them about activities, weekly calendar, newsletter, and history and info about the church. "Can't attract new members without telling them who we are on the web site" one said.

Email and website is by far the preferred way for us to communicate with the parish (opportunity to save money?) Only 36% like mail to the home

Eight o'clockers strongly like 8 o'clock as early worship time.. A slight majority of later worshipers likes 10:30 vs. 10:00. About a third would like an evening service" -- a tie between Wed and Sun evening.

86% think pledging is important.

We are a parish with relatively high family incomes, and a plurality believe 3-6% of their income should go to the church, but 21% say 10% is right. Competition for donations: local non-profits first, followed by medical research, their alma mater, and international relief

\*61%\* of those responding (46 individuals) have experience heading a volunteer committee or sitting on a non-profit board.

This is just the beginning! We are organizing opportunities for us to gather in people's homes and discuss the results. This is a crucial part of the process. Talking with one another about the results and coming up with ideas of how to use this information is the next step. ALL will be invited to a focus group during Lent so that we can share with one another how we experience our community of faith today and what we hope it can be tomorrow. Stay tuned for details to come.