

ST. JAMES'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



LOVING PEOPLE.
SERVING PEOPLE.

2026
Congregational
Opinion Survey

ALL RESULTS

Survey process



Content based on:

- 2015 St. James' survey
- FORWARD Visioning Team
- Input from vestry,
the Rev. Canon Dr. Jason Lewis

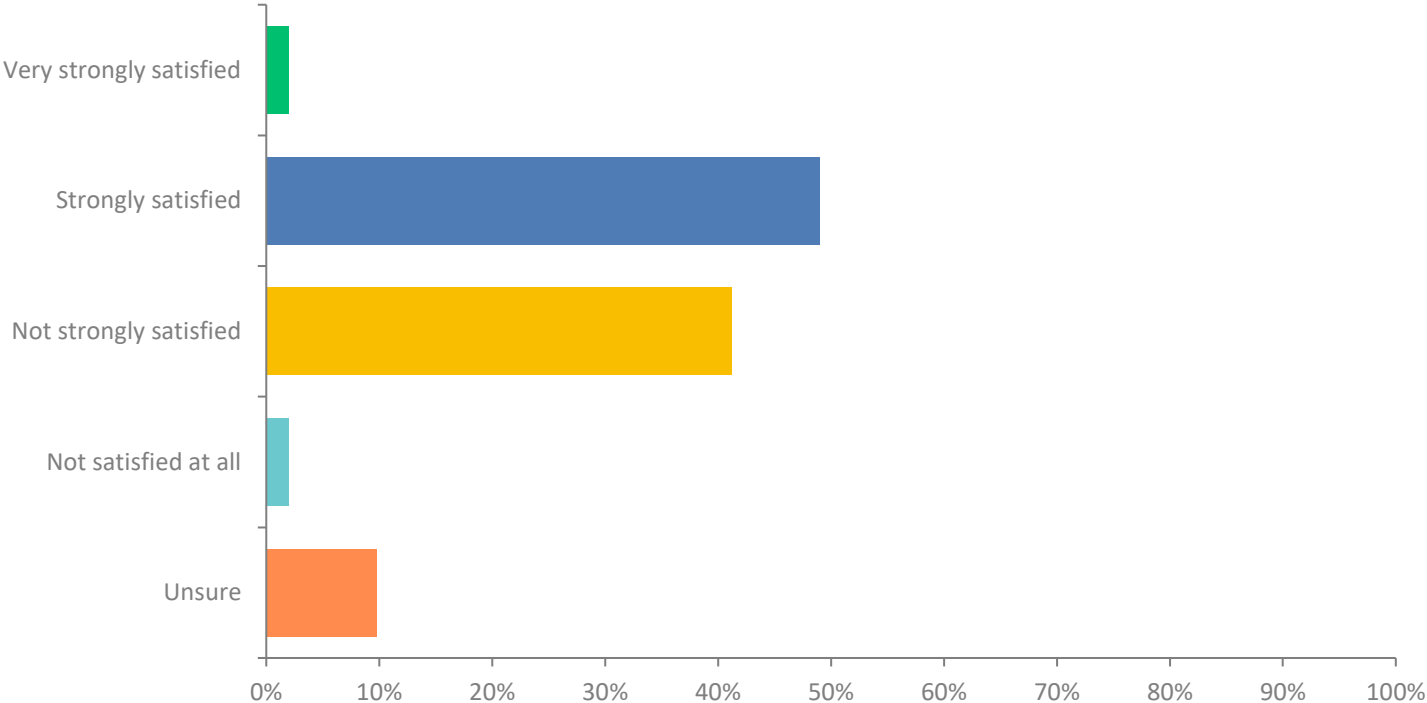
- Survey open May 30-
June 15, 2026
- 53 responses

Publicized through:

- Email
- Direct mail
- Facebook

Q1: On the whole, I am satisfied with how things are in our church.

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2



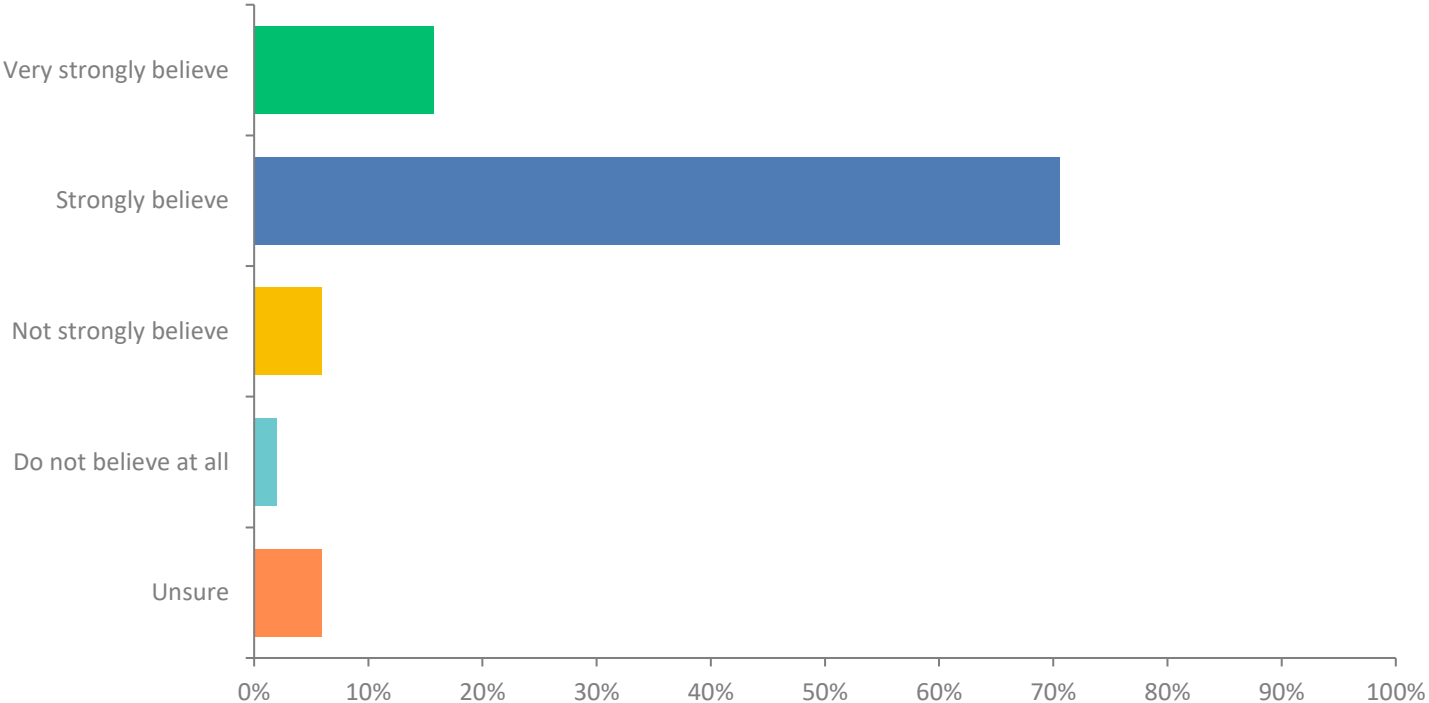
Q1: On the whole, I am satisfied with how things are in our church.

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very strongly satisfied	1.96%	1
Strongly satisfied	49.02%	25
Not strongly satisfied	41.18%	21
Not satisfied at all	1.96%	1
Unsure	9.80%	5
TOTAL		53

Q2: I believe, among most of our members, there is a healthy tolerance of differing opinions and beliefs.

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2



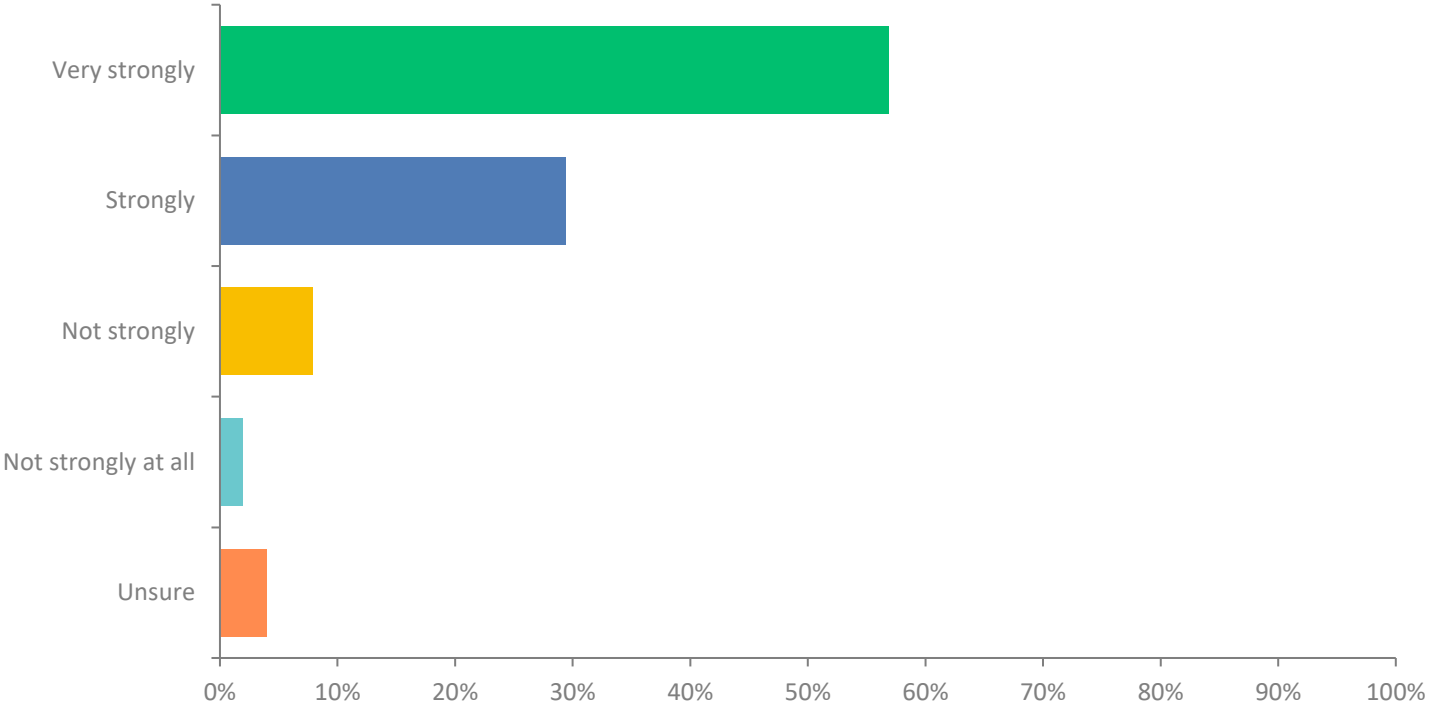
Q2: I believe, among most of our members, there is a healthy tolerance of differing opinions and beliefs.

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very strongly believe	15.69%	8
Strongly believe	70.59%	36
Not strongly believe	5.88%	3
Do not believe at all	1.96%	1
Unsure	5.88%	3
TOTAL		51

Q3: How strongly do you feel members of St. James' are at being warm, supporting and welcoming?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

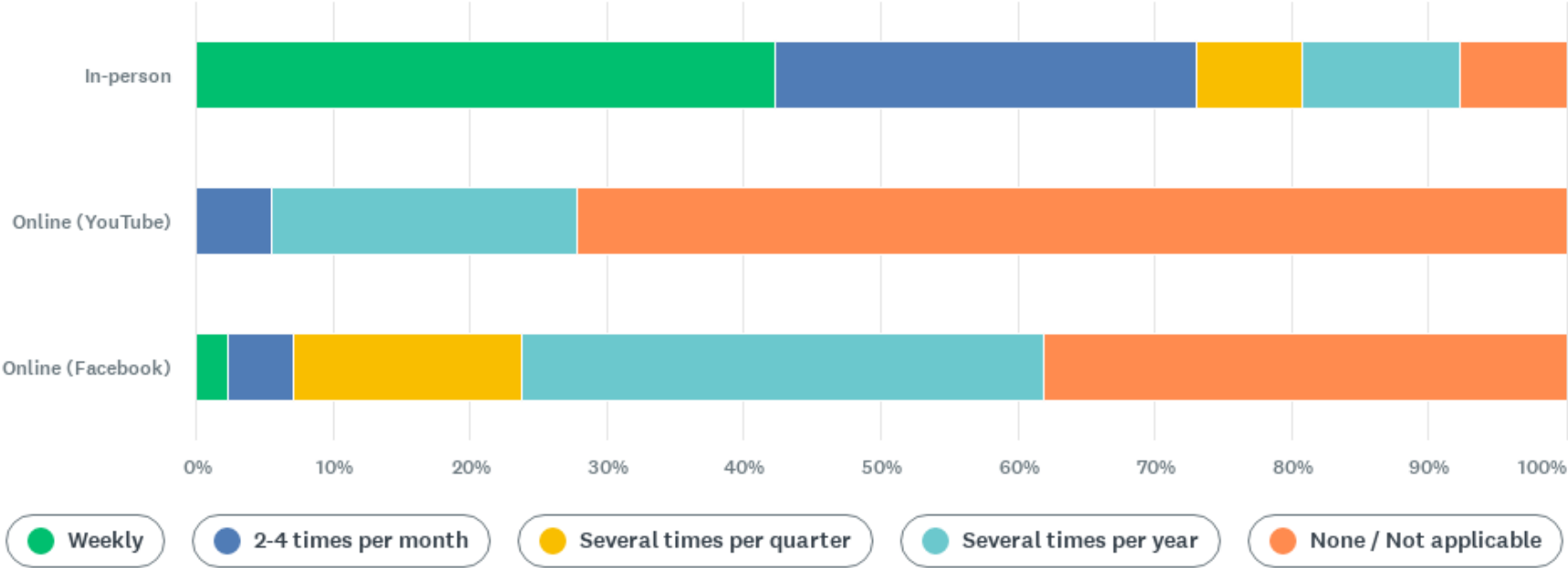


Q3: How strongly do you feel members of St. James' are at being warm, supporting and welcoming?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very strongly	56.86%	29
Strongly	29.41%	15
Not strongly	7.84%	4
Not strongly at all	1.96%	1
Unsure	3.92%	2
TOTAL		51

Q4: How often do you attend worship services?



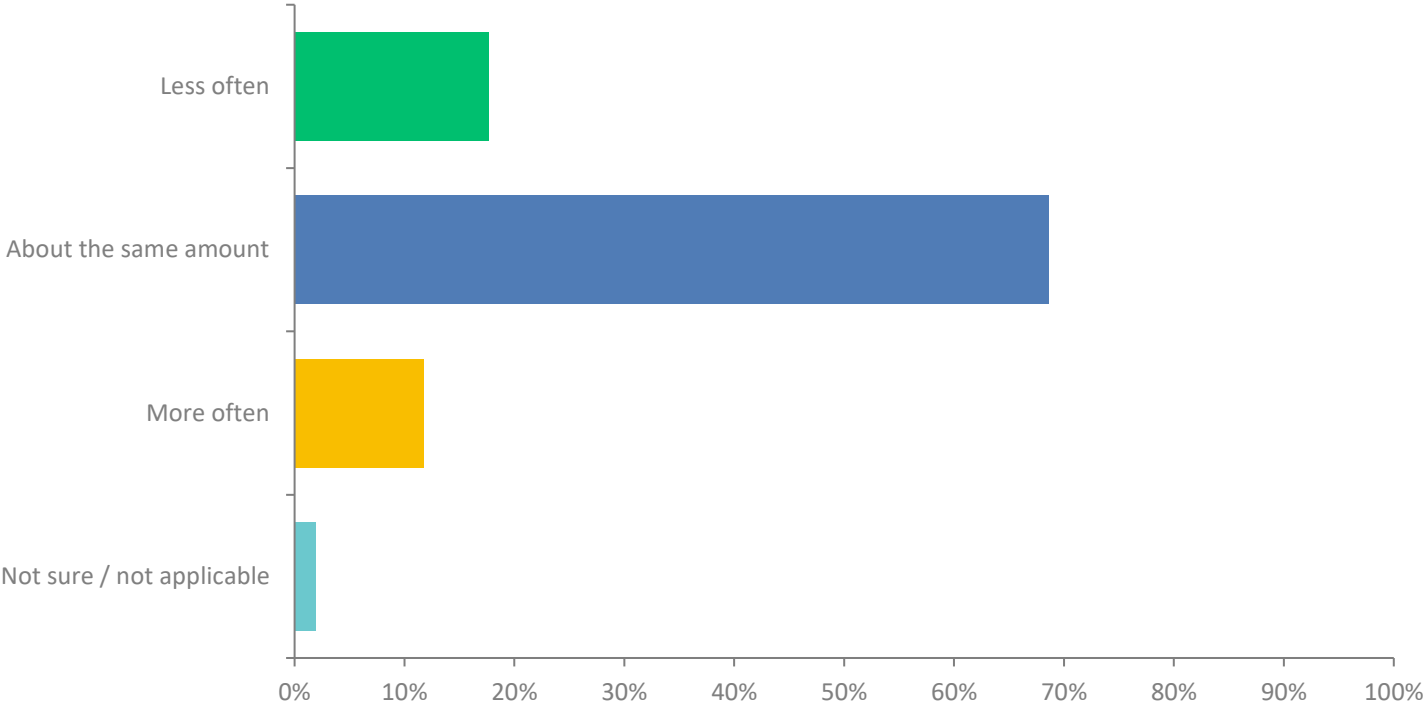
Q4: How often do you attend worship services?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

	WEEKLY	2-4 TIMES PER MONTH	SEVERAL TIMES PER QUARTER	SEVERAL TIMES PER YEAR	NONE / NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
In-person	43.14% 22	31.37% 16	7.84% 4	11.76% 6	5.88% 3	51	2.06
Online (YouTube)	0.00% 0	5.71% 2	0.00% 0	22.86% 8	71.43% 25	35	4.6
Online (Facebook)	2.44% 1	4.88% 2	17.07% 7	39.02% 16	36.59% 15	41	4.02

Q5: Compared with 3 years ago, I attend worship services (online or in-person)...

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

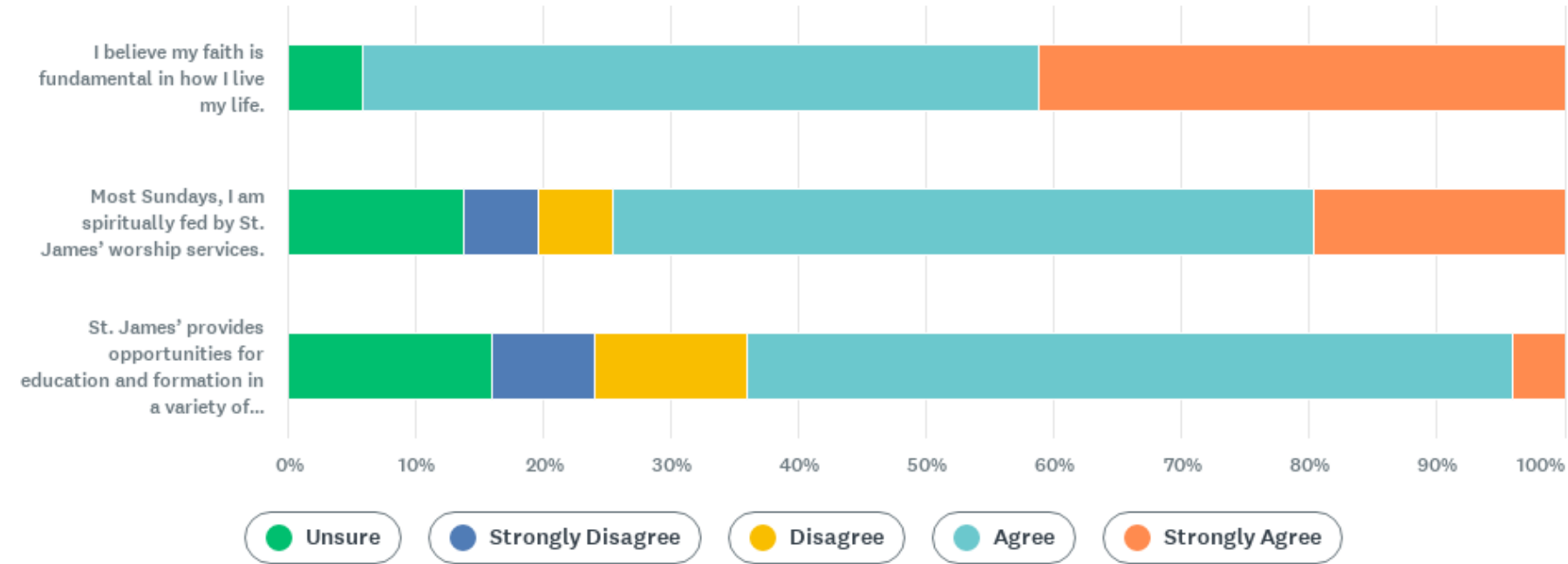


Q5: Compared with 3 years ago, I attend worship services (online or in-person)...

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less often	17.65%	9
About the same amount	68.63%	35
More often	11.76%	6
Not sure / not applicable	1.96%	1
TOTAL		51

Q6: Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

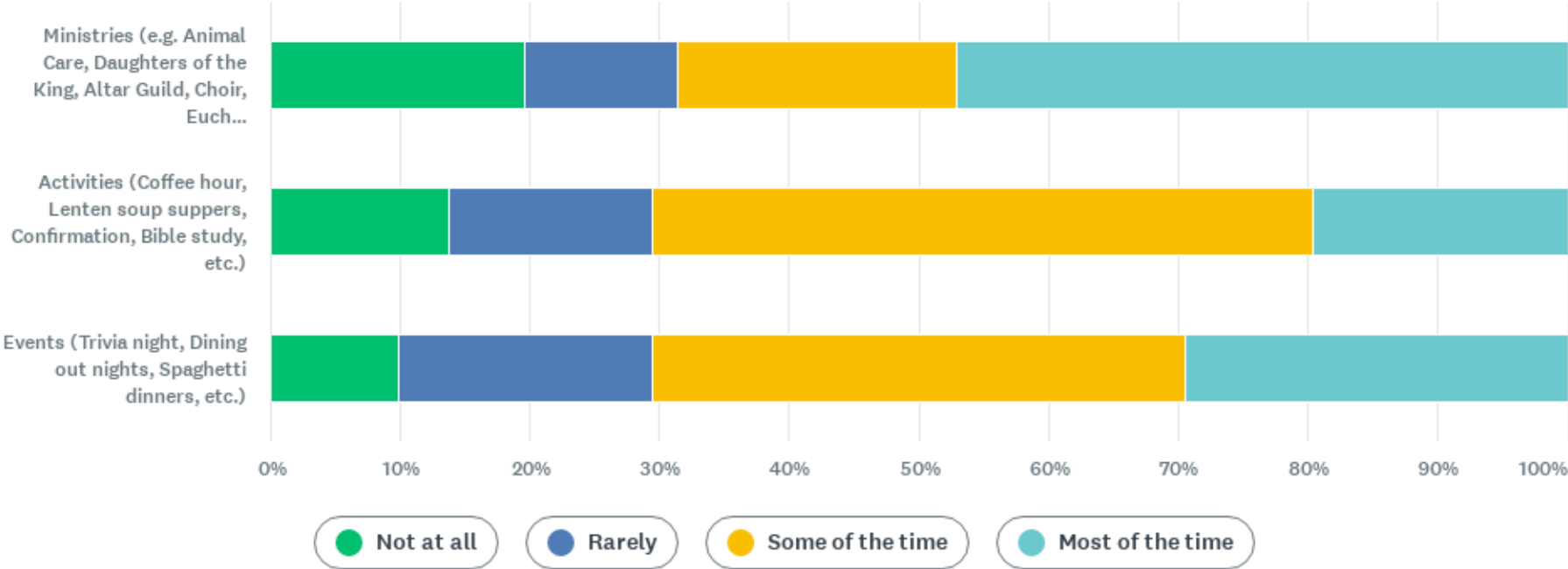


Q6: Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

Answered: 50 Skipped: 3

	UNSURE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
I believe my faith is fundamental in how I live my life.	4.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	54.00% 27	42.00% 21	50	3.34
Most Sundays, I am spiritually fed by St. James’ worship services.	12.00% 6	6.00% 3	6.00% 3	56.00% 28	20.00% 10	50	2.84
St. James’ provides opportunities for education and formation in a variety of ways so that I can find one that fits my complex lifestyle.	14.29% 7	8.16% 4	12.24% 6	61.22% 30	4.08% 2	49	2.55

Q7: I currently participate in one or more of these St. James' church activities:



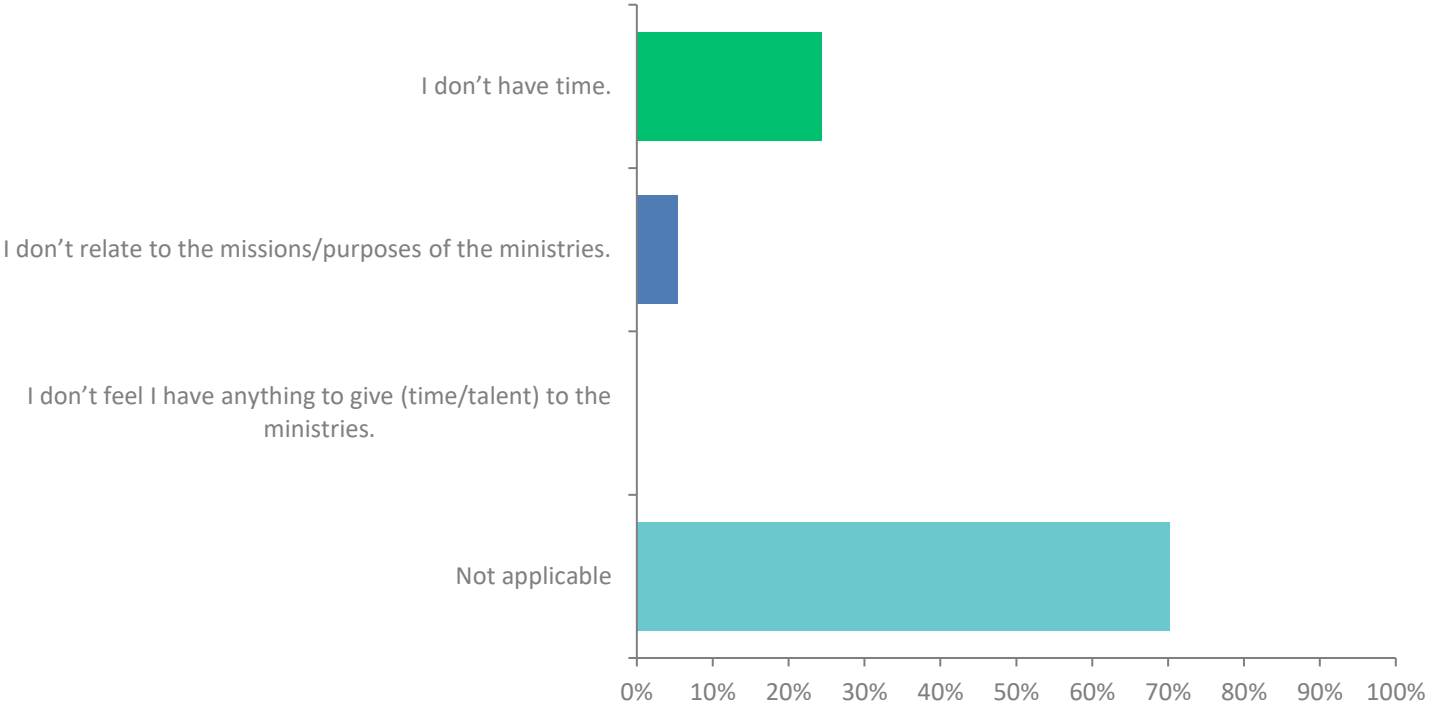
Q7: I currently participate in one or more of these St. James' church activities:

Answered: 50 Skipped: 3

	NOT AT ALL	RARELY	SOME OF THE TIME	MOST OF THE TIME	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Ministries (e.g. Animal Care, Daughters of the King, Altar Guild, Choir, Eucharistic Visits, Healing Blankets, Laundry Love, etc.)	18.00% 9	12.00% 6	22.00% 11	48.00% 24	50	3
Activities (Coffee hour, Lenten soup suppers, Confirmation, Bible study, etc.)	12.00% 6	16.00% 8	52.00% 26	20.00% 10	50	2.8
Events (Trivia night, Dining out nights, Spaghetti dinners, etc.)	8.00% 4	20.00% 10	42.00% 21	30.00% 15	50	2.94

Q8: If you answered not at all to any of the previous questions, what is holding you back from participating in St. James' church ministries?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 16



Q8: If you answered not at all to any of the previous questions, what is holding you back from participating in St. James' church ministries?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 16

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I don't have time.	24.32%	9
I don't relate to the missions/purposes of the ministries.	5.41%	2
I don't feel I have anything to give (time/talent) to the ministries.	0.00%	0
Not applicable	70.27%	26
TOTAL		37

Q9: Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

Our church does a good job helping each member discern their gifts & understand that they are called to ministry.



Our church does a good job supporting people in ministry by reminding them that they are making a difference.



St. James' welcomes & is enriched by persons from many different walks of life.



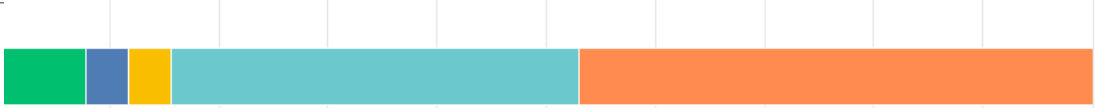
Being part of this church community has given new meaning to my life.



A friendly atmosphere prevails among the members of St. James'.



I sense an atmosphere of genuine care and concern among our members in time of personal need.



I would recommend St. James' to family, friends, others in my social network.



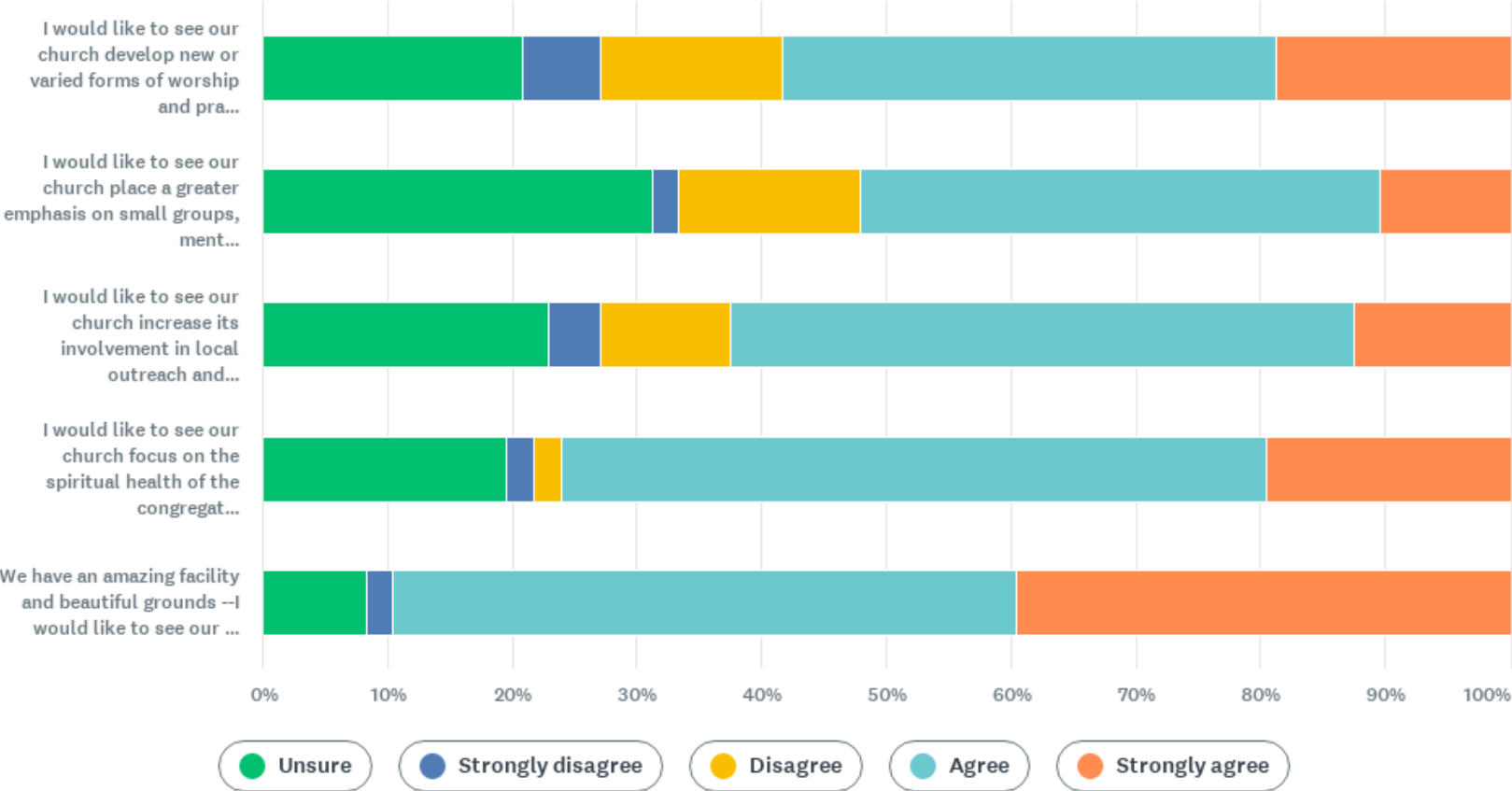
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Q9: Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

Answered: 50 Skipped: 3

	UNSURE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOT AL
Our church does a good job helping each member discern their gifts and understand that they are called to ministry.	34.00% 17	6.00% 3	14.00% 7	40.00% 20	6.00% 3	50
Our church does a good job supporting people in ministry by reminding them that they are making a difference.	18.00% 9	6.00% 3	8.00% 4	48.00% 24	20.00% 10	50
St. James' welcomes and is enriched by persons from many different walks of life.	10.00% 5	4.00% 2	10.00% 5	52.00% 26	24.00% 12	50
Being part of this church community has given new meaning to my life.	16.00% 8	4.00% 2	8.00% 4	50.00% 25	22.00% 11	50
A friendly atmosphere prevails among the members of St. James'.	2.00% 1	4.00% 2	2.00% 1	48.00% 24	44.00% 22	50
I sense an atmosphere of genuine care and concern among our members in time of personal need.	6.00% 3	4.00% 2	4.00% 2	38.00% 19	48.00% 24	50
I would recommend St. James' to family, friends, others in my social network.	6.25% 3	4.17% 2	0.00% 0	52.08% 25	37.50% 18	48

Q10: Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

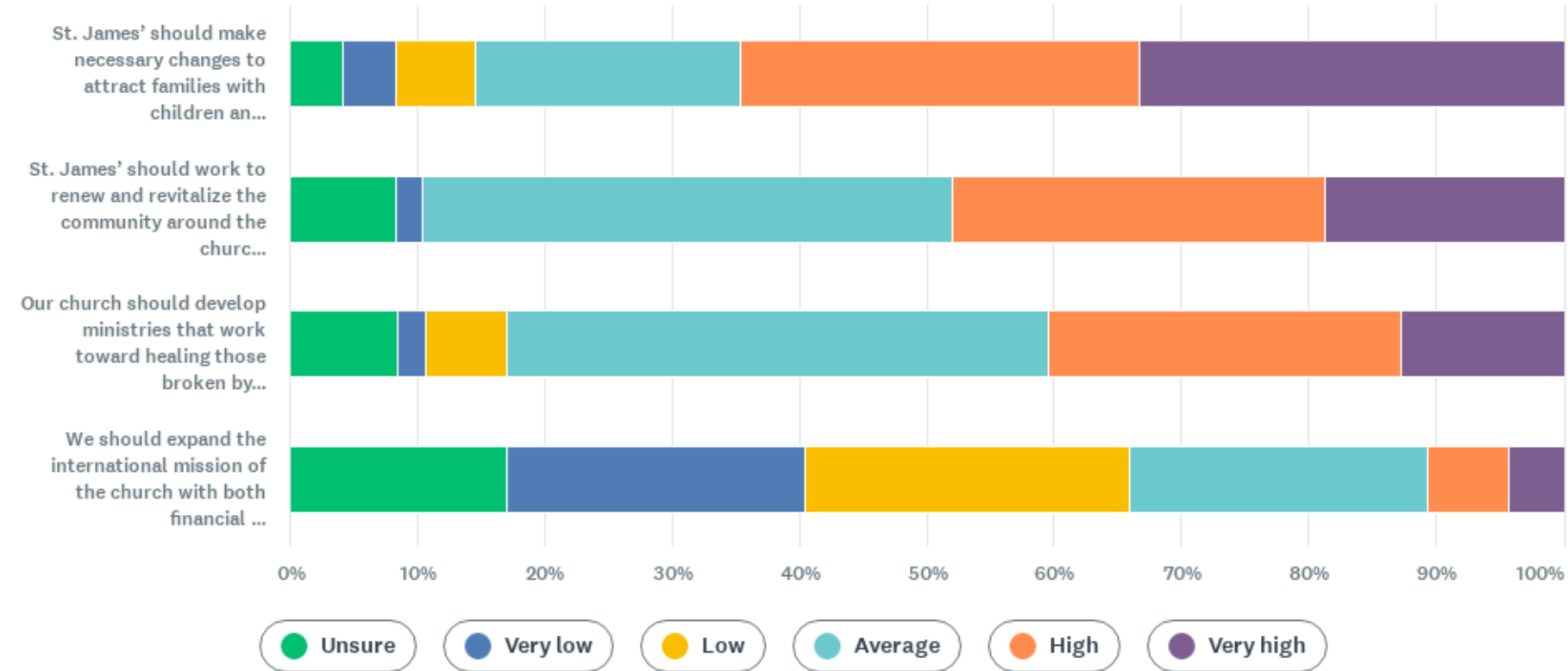


Q10: Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statements:

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6

	UNSURE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE	TOT AL
I would like to see our church develop new or varied forms of worship and prayer in the coming years.	19.15% 9	6.38% 3	14.89% 7	40.43% 19	19.15% 9	47
I would like to see our church place a greater emphasis on small groups, mentoring, fellowship, or other close-knit community experiences.	29.79% 14	2.13% 1	14.89% 7	42.55% 20	10.64% 5	47
I would like to see our church increase its involvement in local outreach and community service over the next few years.	21.28% 10	4.26% 2	10.64% 5	51.06% 24	12.77% 6	47
I would like to see our church focus on the spiritual health of the congregation through an increase in education, bible study, and pastoral care over the next few years.	17.78% 8	2.22% 1	2.22% 1	57.78% 26	20.00% 9	45
We have an amazing facility and beautiful grounds -- I would like to see our church better utilize our property and facility over the next few years.	6.38% 3	2.13% 1	0.00% 0	51.06% 24	40.43% 19	47

Q11: Please tell us how important the following statements are to you:



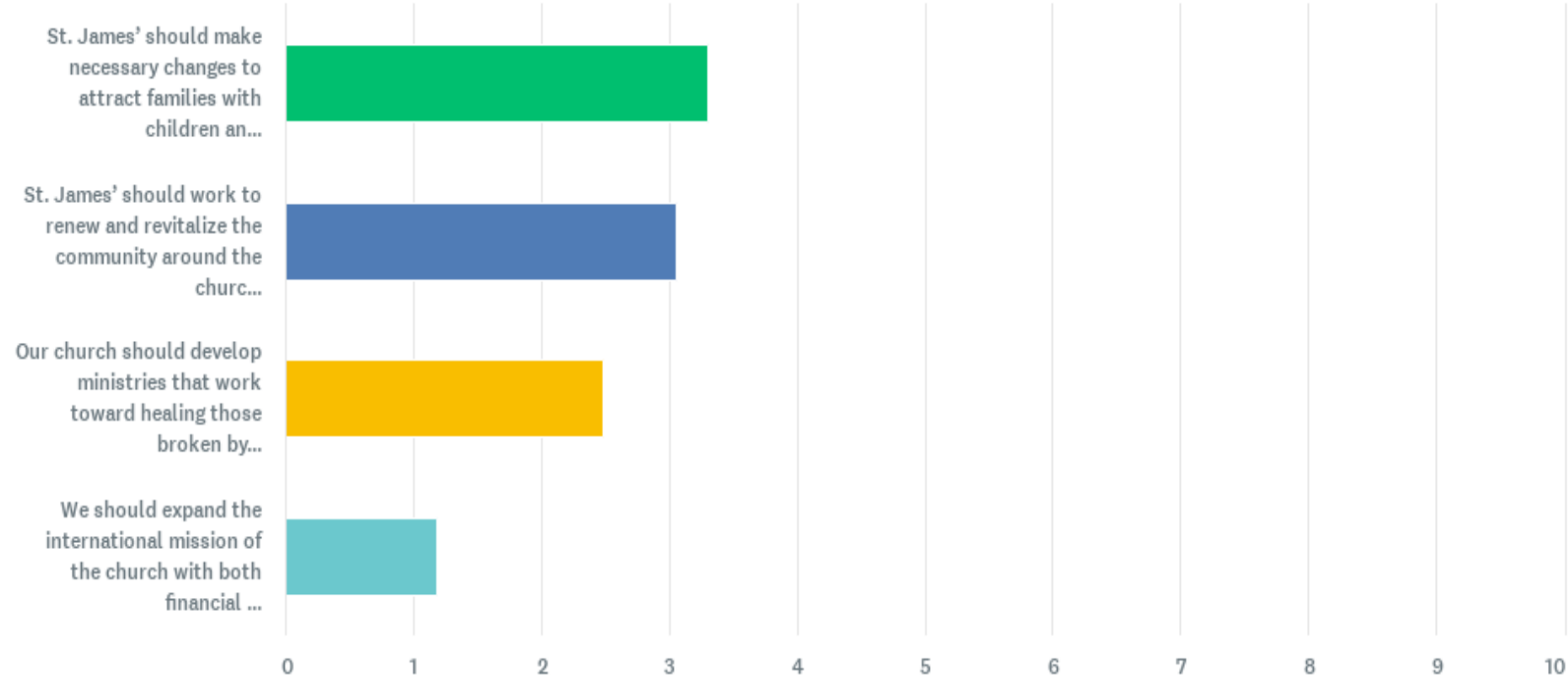
Q11: Please tell us how important the following statements are to you:

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6

	UNSURE	VERY LOW	LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH	VERY HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
St. James' should make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.	2.13% 1	4.26% 2	6.38% 3	21.28% 10	31.91% 15	34.04% 16	47	4.79
St. James' should work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners in Oldham County.	6.38% 3	2.13% 1	0.00% 0	42.55% 20	29.79% 14	19.15% 9	47	4.45
Our church should develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.	6.52% 3	2.17% 1	6.52% 3	43.48% 20	28.26% 13	13.04% 6	46	4.24
We should expand the international mission of the church with both financial resources and personal involvement.	15.22% 7	23.91% 11	26.09% 12	23.91% 11	6.52% 3	4.35% 2	46	2.96

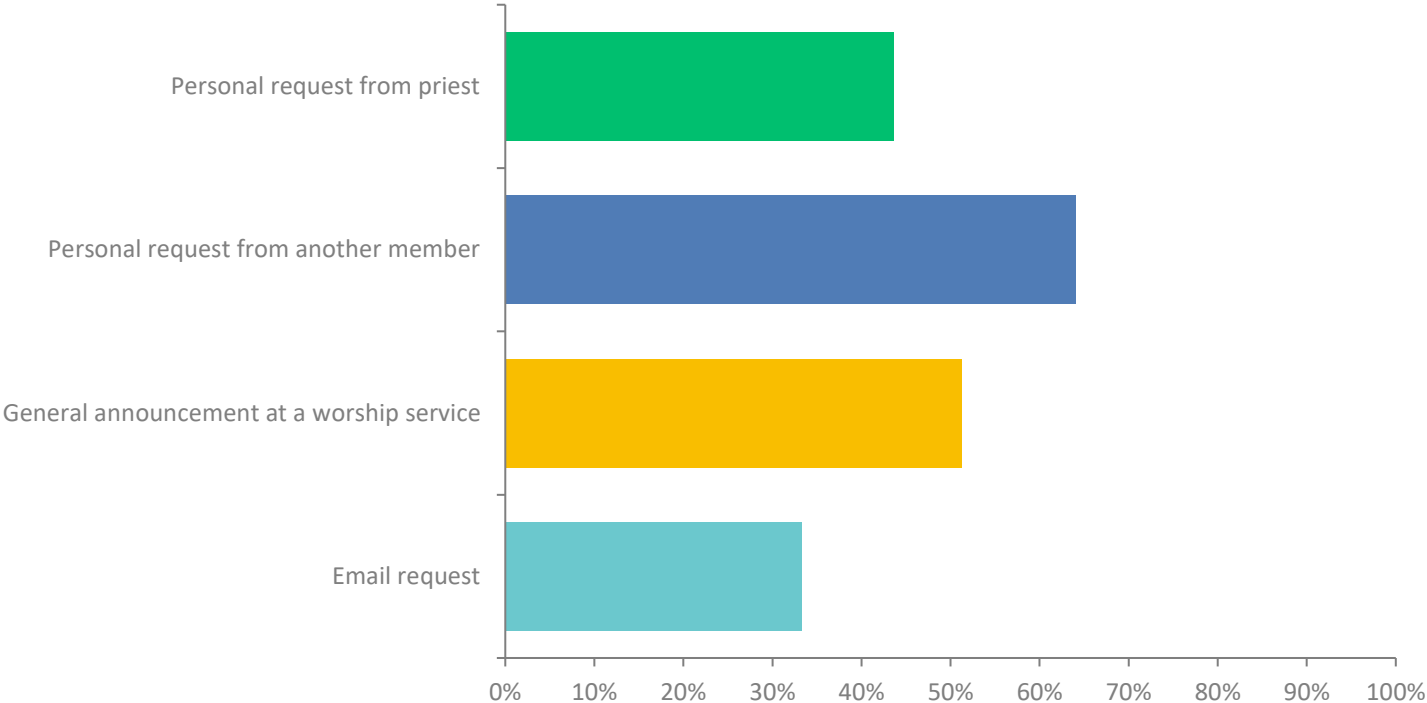
Q12: (RANK ORDER OPTION OF PREVIOUS QUESTION) Please rank the following statements in the order of how important they are to you:

Answered: 44 Skipped: 9



Q13: What would encourage you to increase your participation at St. James' outside of worship services? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 39 Skipped: 14



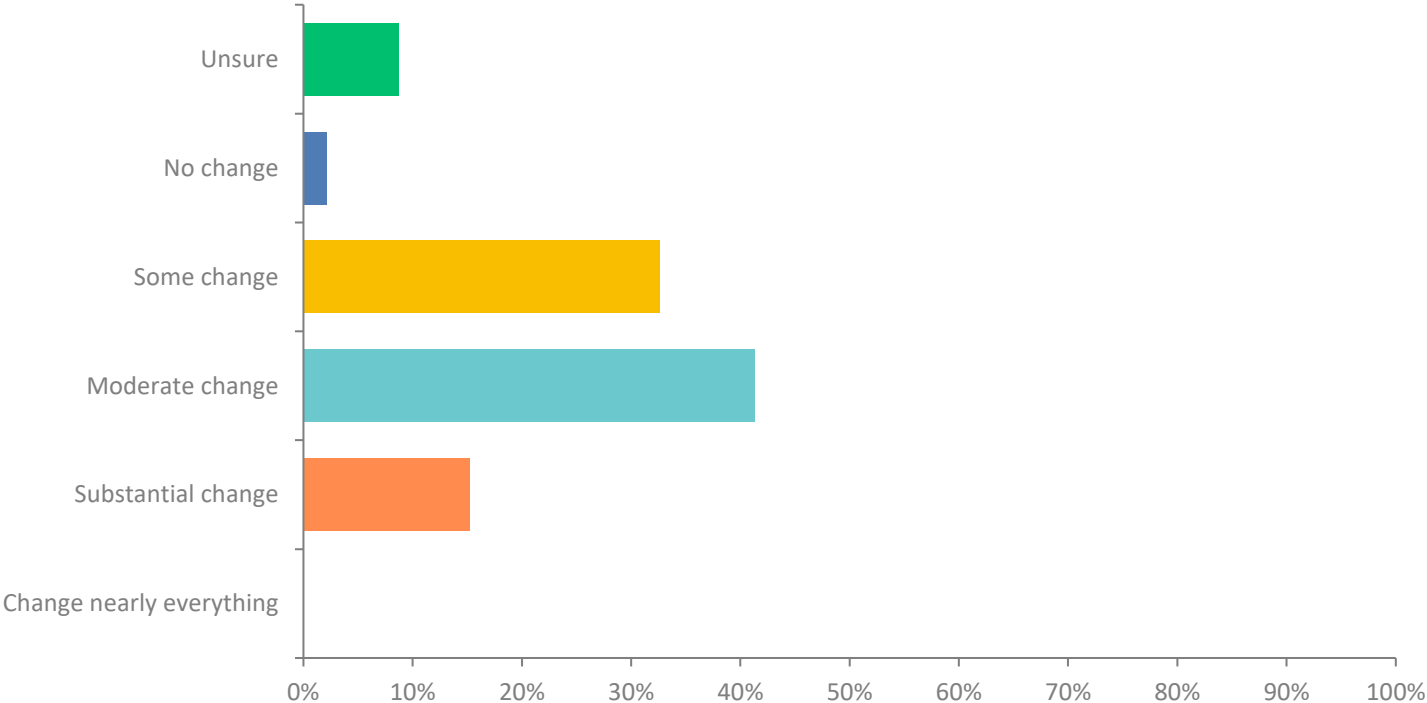
Q13: What would encourage you to increase your participation at St. James' outside of worship services? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 39 Skipped: 14

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Personal request from priest	43.59%	17
Personal request from another member	64.10%	25
General announcement at a worship service	51.28%	20
Email request	33.33%	13
TOTAL		75

Q14: How much change is required to realize your personal vision for St. James'?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 7



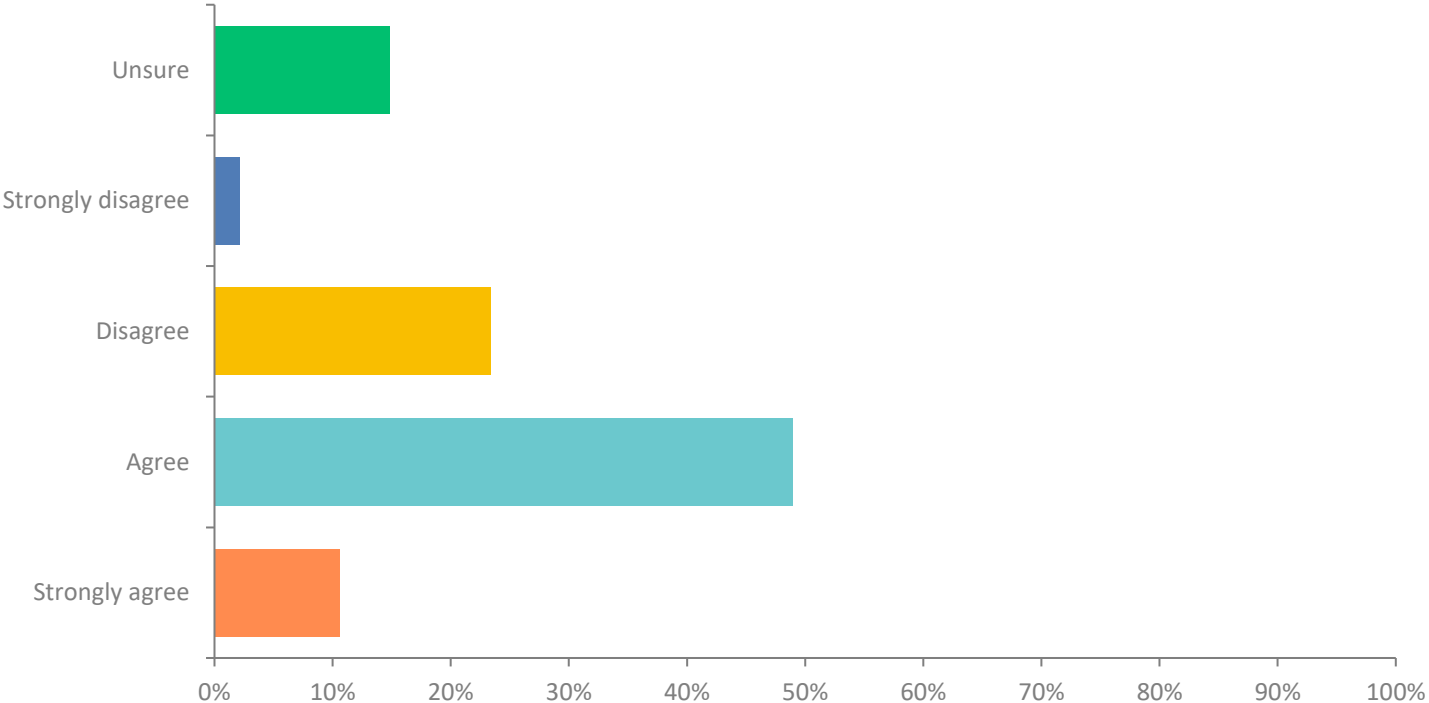
Q14: How much change is required to realize your personal vision for St. James’?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 7

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Unsure	8.70%	4
No change	2.17%	1
Some change	32.61%	15
Moderate change	41.30%	19
Substantial change	15.22%	7
Change nearly everything	0.00%	0
TOTAL		46

Q15: How strongly do you agree with this statement: St. James' is open and willing to make changes necessary to fulfill its mission in the years ahead.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6



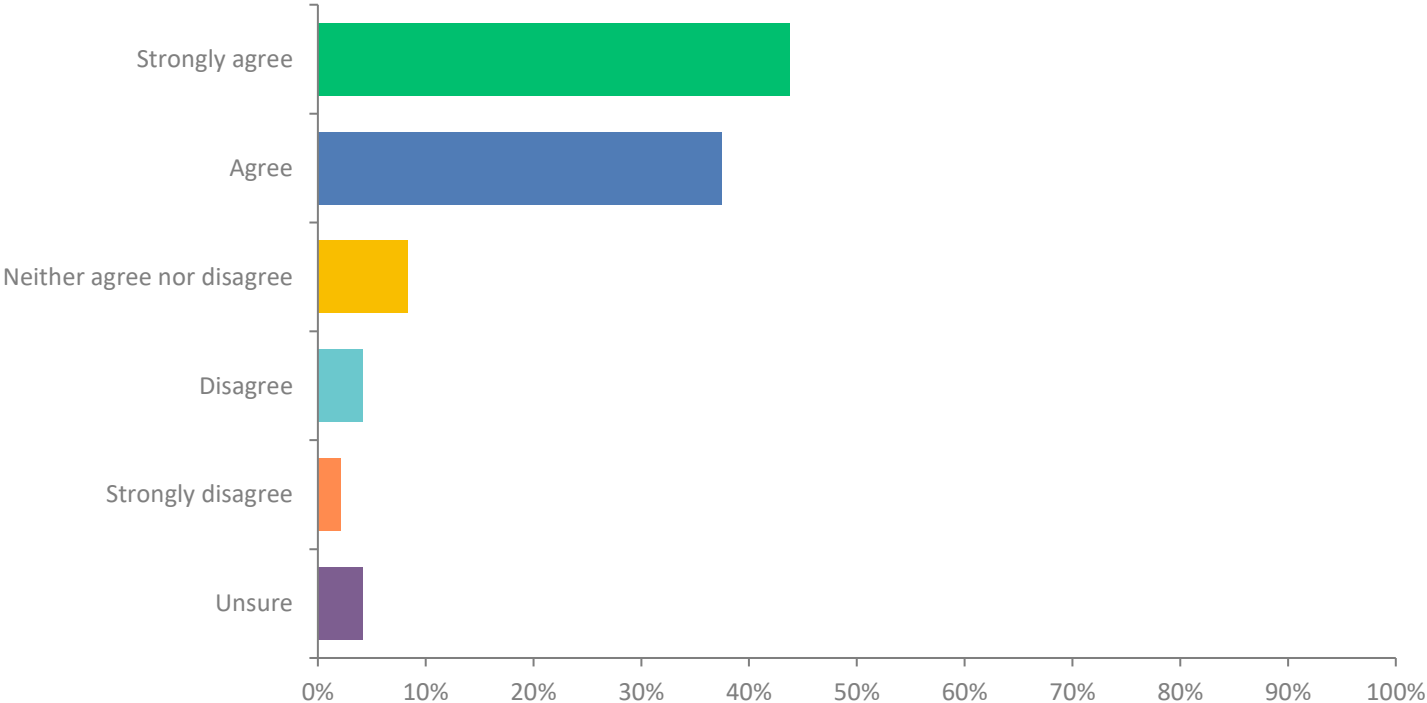
Q15: How strongly do you agree with this statement: St. James' is open and willing to make changes necessary to fulfill its mission in the years ahead.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Unsure	14.89%	7
Strongly disagree	2.13%	1
Disagree	23.40%	11
Agree	48.94%	23
Strongly agree	10.64%	5
TOTAL		47

Q17: How strongly do you agree with this statement: The FORWARD Visioning Process is vital to the growth and sustainability of St. James'.

Answered: 48 Skipped: 5



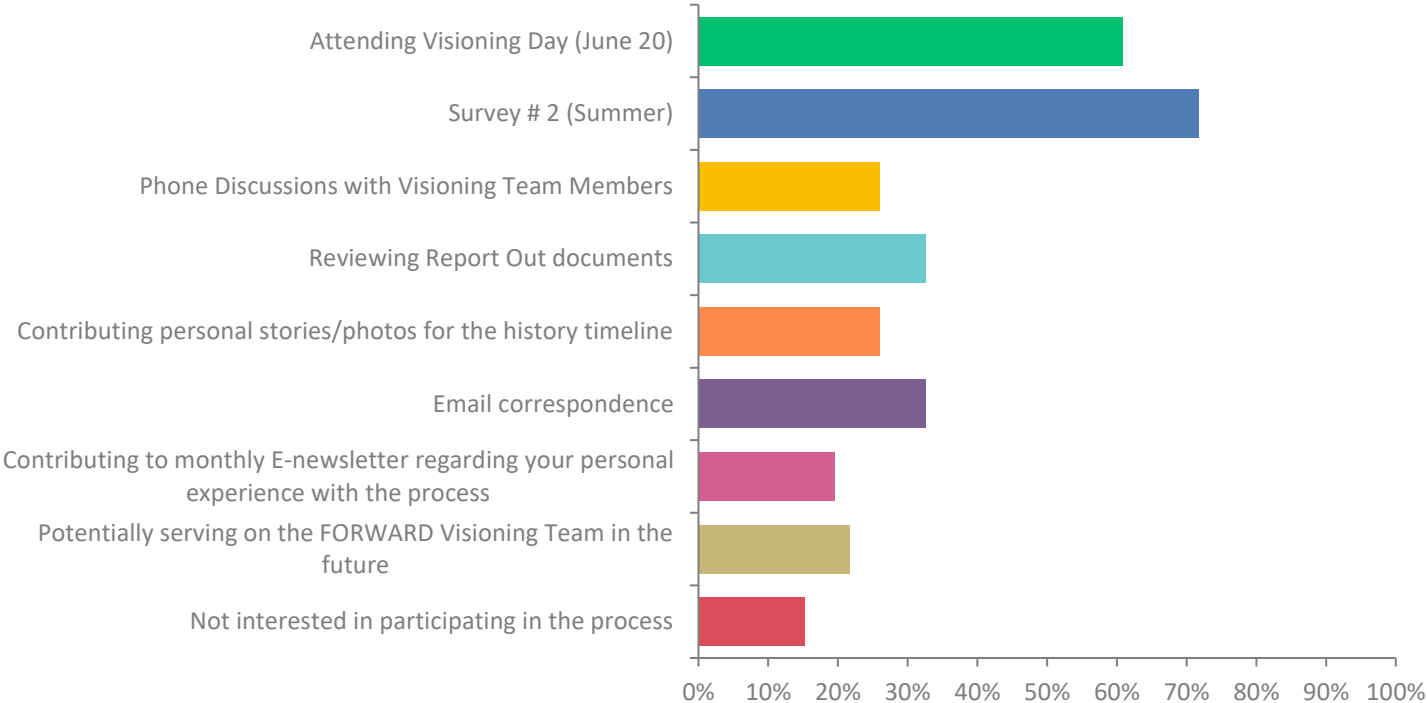
Q17: How strongly do you agree with this statement: The FORWARD Visioning Process is vital to the growth and sustainability of St. James'.

Answered: 48 Skipped: 5

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	43.75%	21
Agree	37.50%	18
Neither agree nor disagree	8.33%	4
Disagree	4.17%	2
Strongly disagree	2.08%	1
Unsure	4.17%	2
TOTAL		48

Q18: I would be willing to participate in the FORWARD Visioning Process. (Check all that apply)

Answered: 46 Skipped: 7



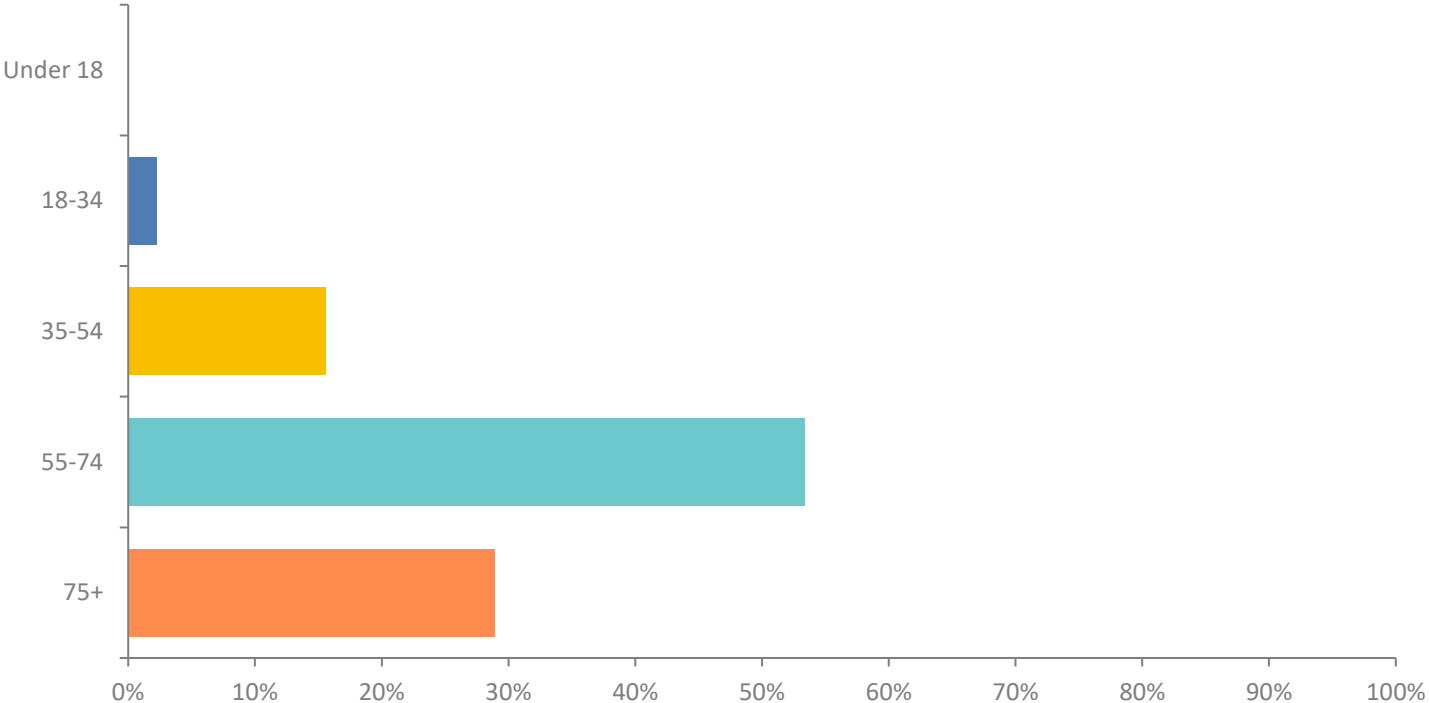
Q18: I would be willing to participate in the FORWARD Visioning Process. (Check all that apply)

Answered: 46 Skipped: 7

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Attending Visioning Day (June 20)	60.87%	28
Survey # 2 (Summer)	71.74%	33
Phone Discussions with Visioning Team Members	26.09%	12
Reviewing Report Out documents	32.61%	15
Contributing personal stories/photos for the history timeline	26.09%	12
Email correspondence	32.61%	15
Contributing to monthly E-newsletter regarding your personal experience with the process	19.57%	9
Potentially serving on the FORWARD Visioning Team in the future	21.74%	10
Not interested in participating in the process	15.22%	7
TOTAL		141

Q19: Age range:

Answered: 45 Skipped: 8



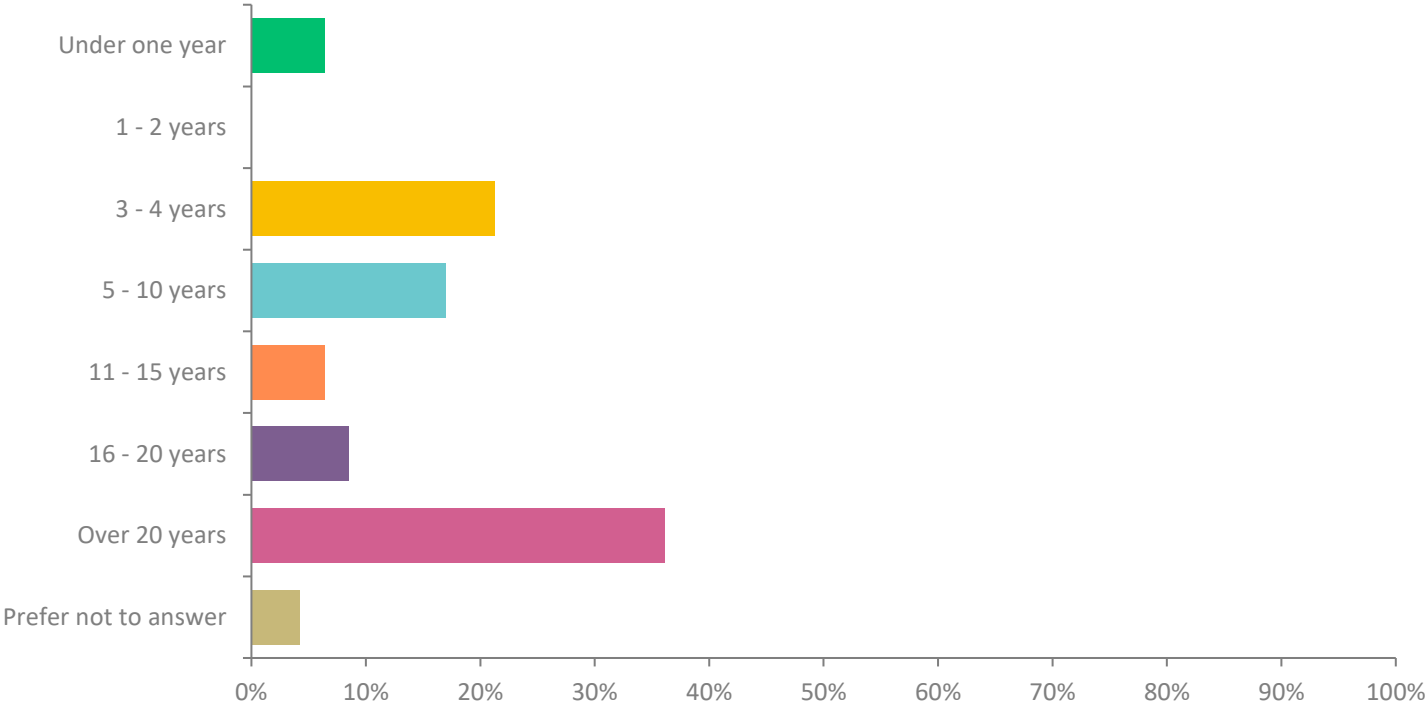
Q19: Age range:

Answered: 45 Skipped: 8

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-34	2.22%	1
35-54	15.56%	7
55-74	53.33%	24
75+	28.89%	13
TOTAL		45

Q20: How long have you been attending St. James'?

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6



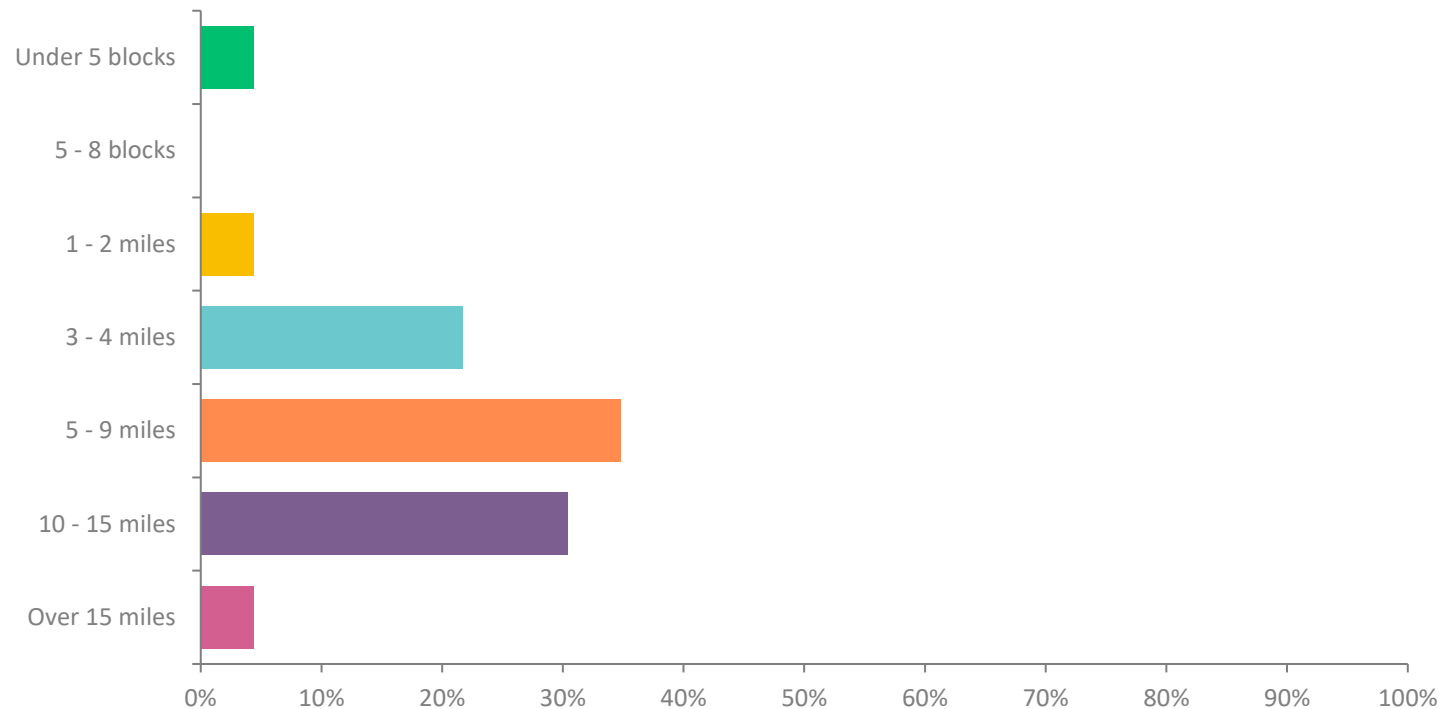
Q20: How long have you been attending St. James'?

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under one year	6.38%	3
1 - 2 years	0.00%	0
3 - 4 years	21.28%	10
5 - 10 years	17.02%	8
11 - 15 years	6.38%	3
16 - 20 years	8.51%	4
Over 20 years	36.17%	17
Prefer not to answer	4.26%	2
TOTAL		47

Q21: Distance to church

Answered: 46 Skipped: 7



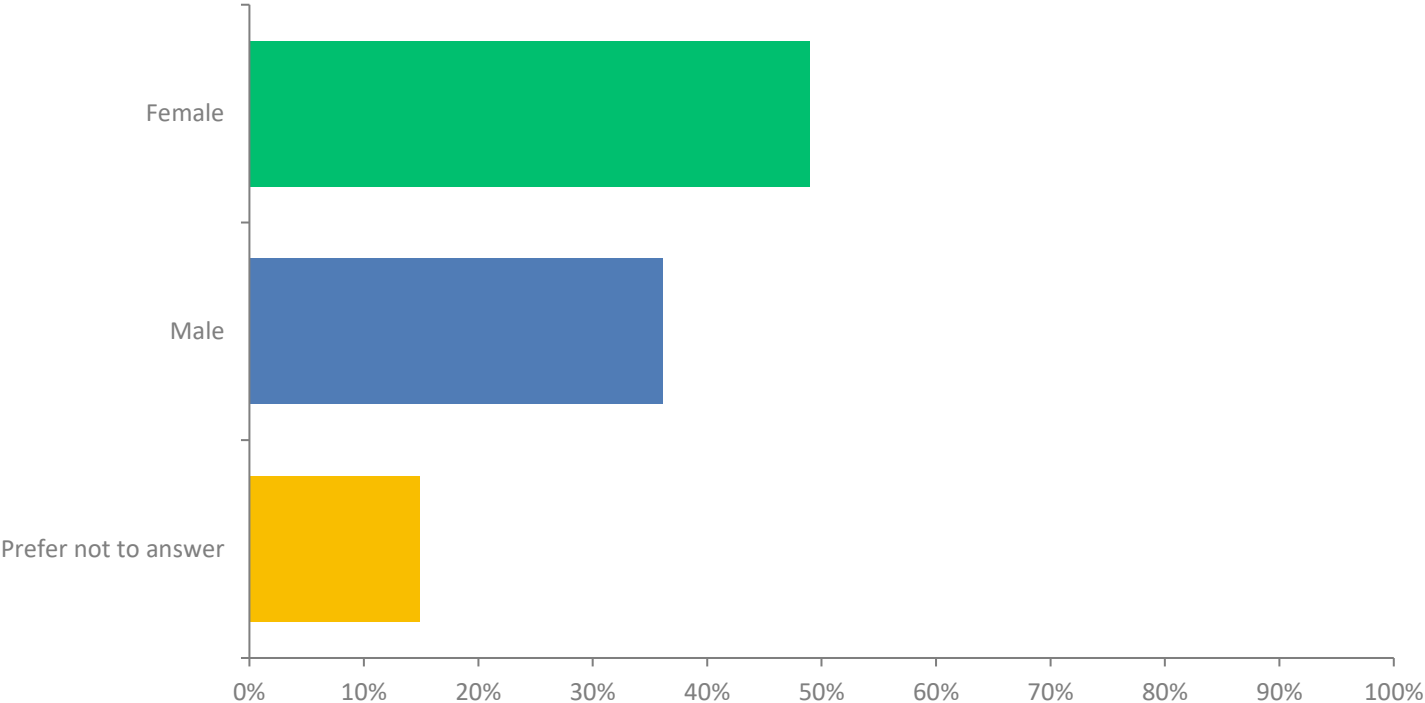
Q21: Distance to church

Answered: 46 Skipped: 7

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 5 blocks	4.35%	2
5 - 8 blocks	0.00%	0
1 - 2 miles	4.35%	2
3 - 4 miles	21.74%	10
5 - 9 miles	34.78%	16
10 - 15 miles	30.43%	14
Over 15 miles	4.35%	2
TOTAL		46

Q22: Gender

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6



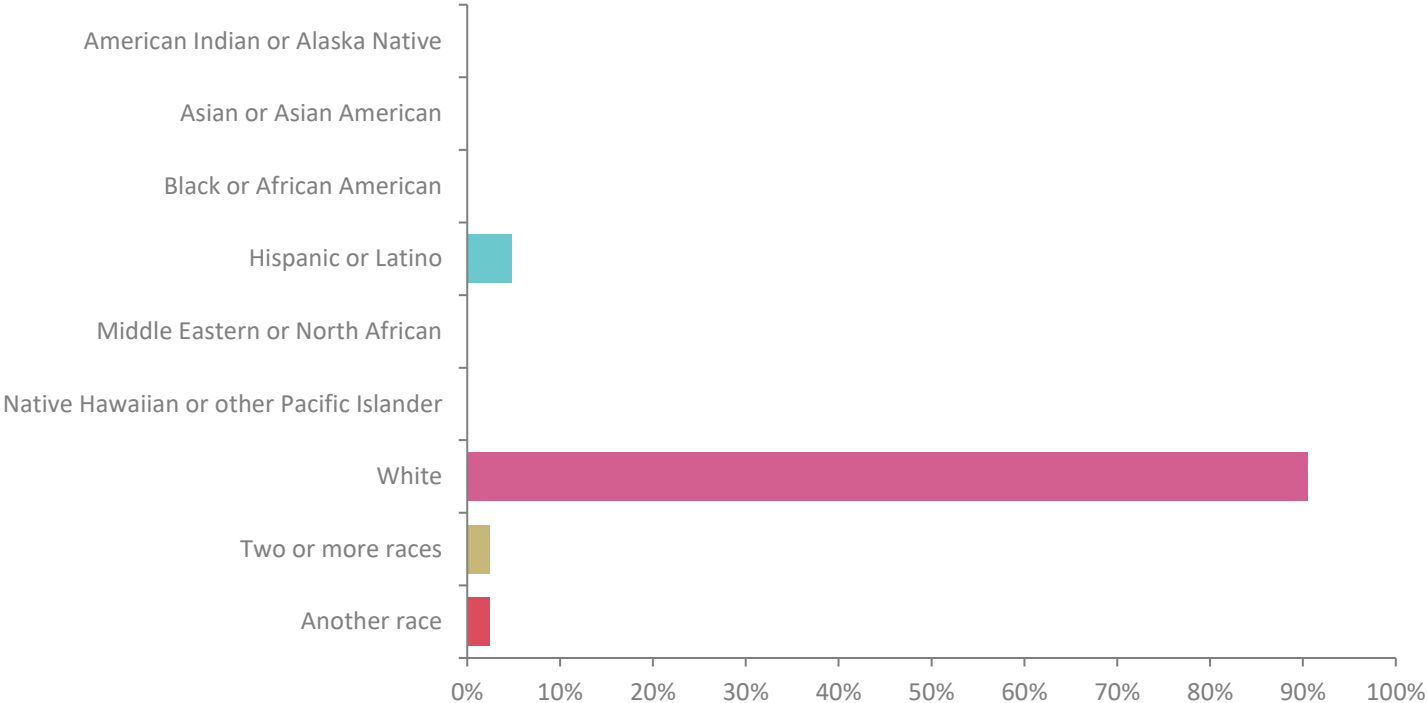
Q22: Gender

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	48.94%	23
Male	36.17%	17
Prefer not to answer	14.89%	7
TOTAL		47

Q23: Ethnic background (optional)

Answered: 42 Skipped: 11



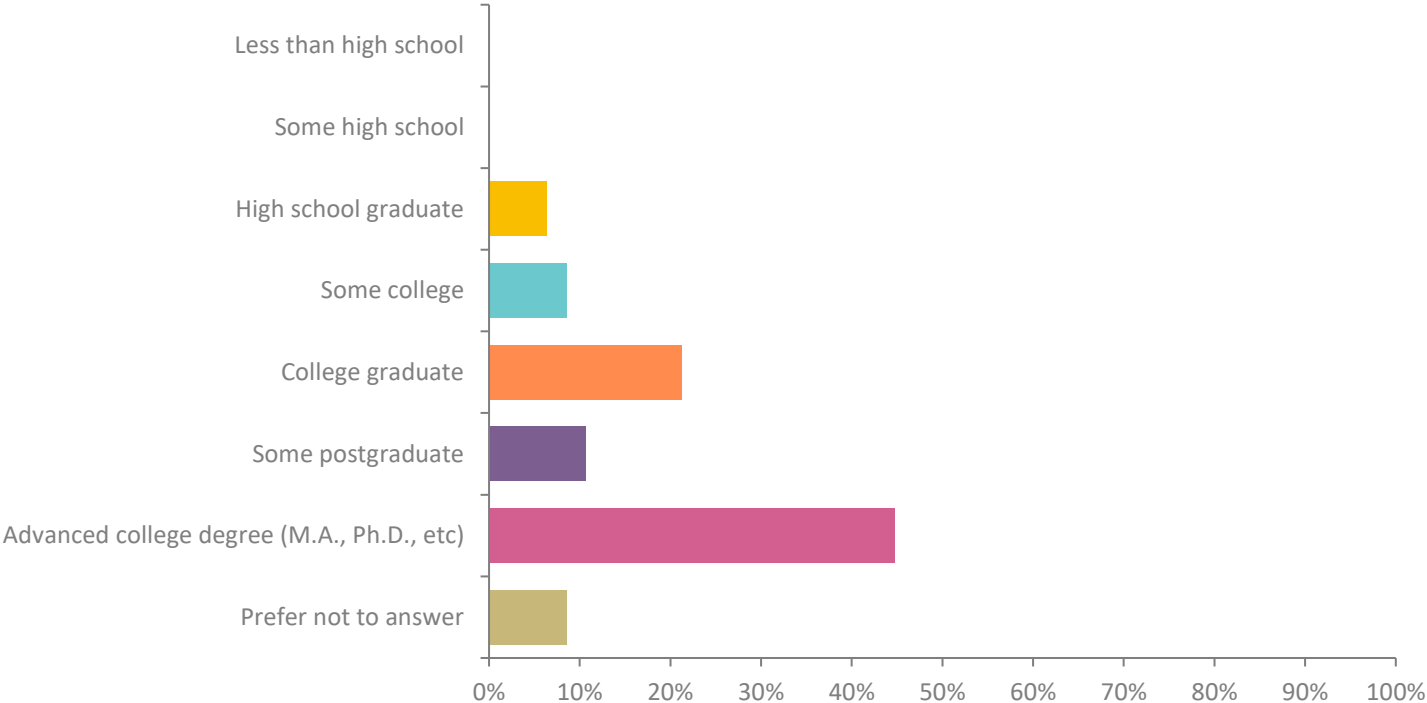
Q23: Ethnic background (optional)

Answered: 42 Skipped: 11

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00%	0
Asian or Asian American	0.00%	0
Black or African American	0.00%	0
Hispanic or Latino	4.76%	2
Middle Eastern or North African	0.00%	0
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
White	90.48%	38
Two or more races	2.38%	1
Another race	2.38%	1
TOTAL		42

Q24: Level of education

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6



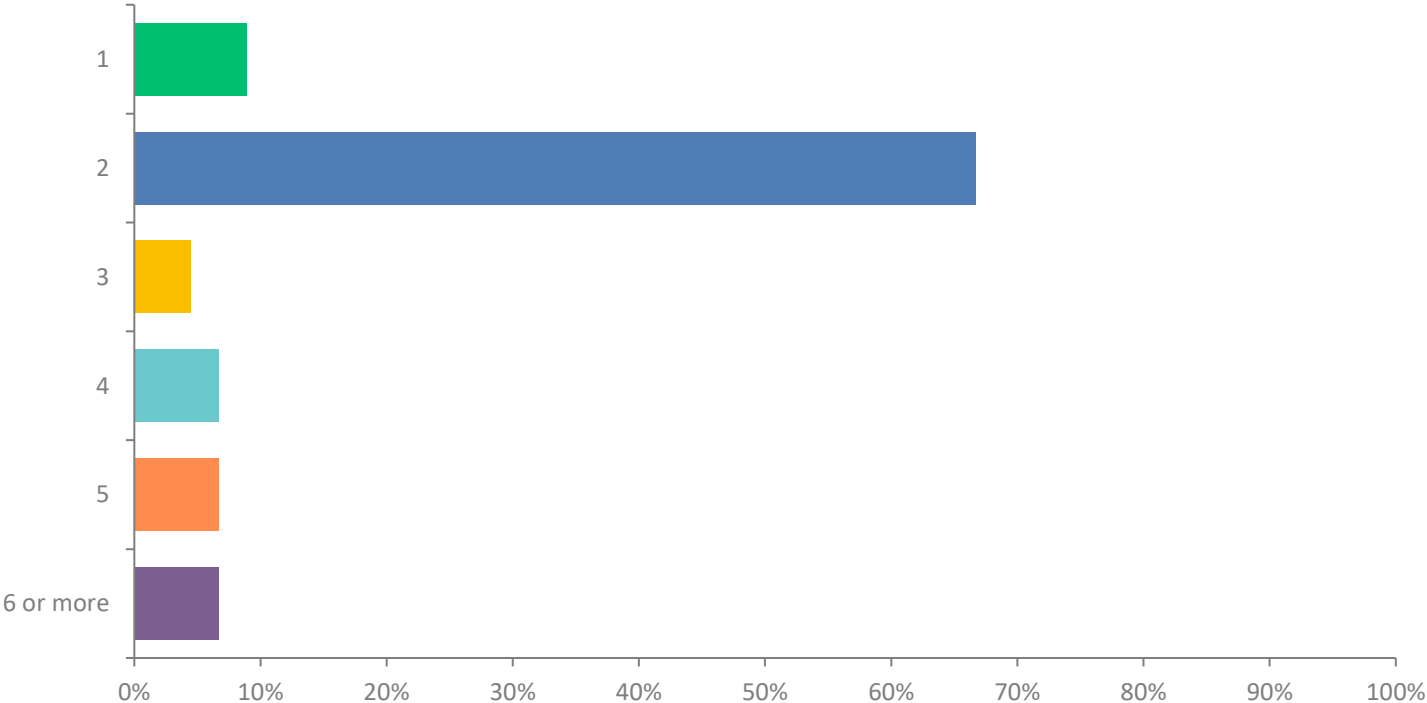
Q24: Level of education

Answered: 47 Skipped: 6

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than high school	0.00%	0
Some high school	0.00%	0
High school graduate	6.38%	3
Some college	8.51%	4
College graduate	21.28%	10
Some postgraduate	10.64%	5
Advanced college degree (M.A., Ph.D., etc)	44.68%	21
Prefer not to answer	8.51%	4
TOTAL		47

Q25: Number of people in your household

Answered: 45 Skipped: 8



Q25: Number of people in your household

Answered: 45 Skipped: 8

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1	8.89%	4
2	66.67%	30
3	4.44%	2
4	6.67%	3
5	6.67%	3
6 or more	6.67%	3
TOTAL		45

Q16 Open-Ended Response Themes

Question 16 asked respondents, "Is there anything else you would like to share about your experiences at St. James' that we haven't asked about?" Of the 53 survey participants, 19 answered (23 if “no additional comments” are counted) and 30 skipped this optional question. The responses that were submitted surfaced a set of recurring, distinctive themes, summarized below with the number of respondents who touched on each. Several responses reference more than one theme and are counted under each relevant category.

Theme	Mentions
Outreach & evangelism (inviting the unchurched, growing awareness in the community)	6
Music (worship style — some want more, several want less/shorter)	5
Small groups & family/children's ministry (Sunday school, childcare, small groups)	5
No additional comments ("NA," "No," "Nothing to share")	4
Service format & scheduling (additional service times, an 8am option)	2
Politics in the church (concerns about political lean, church/state separation)	2
Deconstruction / refuge from a more conservative church background	2
Rector/clergy engagement & preaching style (presence at events, reading from tablet, more teaching)	1
Financial stewardship & pledging	1
Feeling heard/valued by leadership	1
Physical space & sanctuary decor (speaker podiums)	1
Outdoor space & community events (labyrinth, movie nights, farmers market)	1
Post-service "voluntary" greeting time causing confusion	1

A note on the politics theme: the two mentions run in opposite directions — one respondent expressed concern that the church has become too politically progressive, while another asked for a stricter separation of church and state in messaging. This is not a unified ask and should be read as two distinct, individual viewpoints rather than a consensus concern.

The music theme reflects a similar split: some respondents asked for more contemporary music, while others asked for shorter or fewer musical selections during the service. The count reflects the volume of discussion on the topic, not agreement on a single direction.

Q16 Is there anything else you would like to share about your experiences at St. James' that we haven't asked about?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 30

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I think it's important to target families and provide a space for parents to allow their kids to be watched over a while. They attend service. Getting a organized Sunday school and daycare would be helpful.	6/15/2026 11:50 AM
2	The choir/music ministry is deeply meaningful and in my opinion an asset that can help bring awareness into the local community (performance during a farmers market event? Caroling outside?). More use of outdoor space e.g. outdoor Eucharist, planting a labyrinth, movie nights on the lawn. Also for young families, creating some chat groups that include families with kids and those willing to support with Sunday school/childcare can help better ensure we match hospitality to needs. Lastly, connecting with and supporting community groups like KCfD that provide advocacy (aligned with the Beatitudes) is deeply meaningful and important.	6/15/2026 11:48 AM
3	NA	6/15/2026 10:41 AM
4	I just want to reiterate the importance of outreach especially among younger people, because as a teenager myself it has been a bit more difficult to find a community for myself rather than just being the child of a community member.	6/14/2026 11:09 PM
5	St. James like the Bishop down has become an arm of the left. The Church should RETURN to traditional "our Father" and leave politics for FOX and CNN.	6/14/2026 11:28 AM
6	I was looking for a church because I deconstructed from a more conservative church-I believe there are others like me who have deconstructed and are unaware that a less-conservative church is hidden in this traditional church building that usually has an empty parking lot. I believe that some spiritual small groups can be built around outreach and service opportunities.	6/13/2026 4:42 PM
7	St. James is a breath of fresh air after the confining doctrine of some churches in the bible belt. I believe there are people out there without a church home due to the fact that they have deconstructed from a more confining faith and do not know the Episcopal church is available to them. I believe we could combine small group ministry and outreach and service projects to a degree.	6/13/2026 4:30 PM
8	Love the service and music and the message. Would like to have	6/12/2026 6:25 PM
9	The speaker podiums need to be redone! They distract from the speakers, especially the eagle. The podiums should be minimalist to put the speaker front and center for more powerful engagement. I would be happy to contribute ideas on this.	6/9/2026 5:14 PM
10	We need to examine the financial health of our church and how to encourage members to pledge or increase their pledge. We also need to do a better job of evaluating people's specific concerns and responding to them. In the few times I have voiced my concerns, I feel like my thoughts have fallen on deaf ears. When members do not feel valued it is difficult to garner their support for future endeavors.	6/8/2026 12:41 PM
11	Nothing comes to mind.	6/7/2026 2:07 PM
12	A lot of the change requires people and energy. We have folks that work and need things in evenings. Others don't drive at night and need day activities. How do we address both and include those with children including preschool	6/7/2026 8:17 AM
13	One option for service is not enough	6/6/2026 2:36 PM
14	The church needs to reconsider how important the separation of Church and state is, keeping politics out of our faith.	6/6/2026 12:16 PM
15	Add more current music to the service if possible	6/6/2026 8:56 AM

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16	A little less music and none at the end of the service. It seems like a concert and is not needed	6/5/2026 9:04 PM
17	I would like to see an 8am service, I would like the rector to attend ministry events once per quarter(such as pet food pantry), I would like our church to offer Bible study and other services rather than our priest attending events at other church's, I would like more faith formation and programming that increases my knowledge, I would like for the rector to stop reading from her tablet at the lectern and actually speak to me, I would like the rector to be involved in community boards and update the congregation on that.	6/4/2026 10:05 PM
18	Cut back on music at the service to maybe 3 stanzas per song. Daniel is wonderful and he is an organist extradonaire so no complaints there.	6/3/2026 4:46 PM
19	The people of St. James' are wonderful and already do good works in the community. How do we get the community to recognize this and decide they want to be a part of it?	6/2/2026 2:13 PM
20	I do not care for the voluntary after service is over. It's confusing to people	5/31/2026 3:02 PM
21	No	5/30/2026 3:10 PM
22	All outreach could include a moment where the priest or committed member of St. James invites all present to St. James with a statement along the lines of "if you don't have a church home, or want to learn more about the ways of Jesus, come check us out Sundays at 10:00." I also believe that there is room for educating unchurched people, or people dissatisfied with their church in our nearby community with the basics of the Baptismal Convent and/or reasons to check out St. James	5/27/2026 3:17 PM
23	Nothing to share.	5/25/2026 6:22 PM