

Report on Member Survey

The Commission decided to conduct a member survey as part of its planning activities, with the objective of keeping our members engaged and connected with the Church, and also to encourage their participation in the planning process. A brief survey questionnaire was prepared, and circulated electronically on the Church's website, with printable copies available online and hard copies available in the September 2020 issue of the "The Window". The level of participation in this exercise was commendable and significant, with well over 100 responses received. These responses covered a wide range of subject areas including expressions of support for what is being planned, and useful suggestions, many of which are being incorporated in the Commission's plan for returning to in-person worship.

The survey responses were analyzed and the results are summarized below.

Summary of Survey Responses

Number of responses received = 114

Question 1: Are you planning to return to in-person worship?

Yes:	108 – 95%
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No:	6 -- 5%
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Question 2: When will you return to in-person worship?

When they start.	27 – 24%
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As soon as you feel that the risk is minimized.	34 – 30%
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I'm reluctant because of compromising health concerns.	29 – 25%
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Not until a vaccine is available and you are vaccinated.	24 -- 21%
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Question 3: How many family members will accompany you when you return?

The responders indicated that they would be accompanied by 102 adults and 8 children. However, this information cannot be used to facilitate planning for adequate seating, as it is not known when they will attend.

Question 4: How important are the following factors/changes in determining when you return?

The responses to this question were categorized as follows: "Very Important", "Somewhat Important" and "Not Important". The responses in the "Very Important" category appeared to be most significant, and were subjected to a more detailed analysis. The results of this analysis are listed below in descending order.

Facilities sanitation	92 – 81%
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Wearing face masks	92 – 81%
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Maintaining social distance	86 -- 75%
New procedure for communion	70 -- 61%
Availability of hand sanitizer	67 -- 58%
No handshaking or hugs	57 -- 45%
New way of receiving offering	50 -- 44%
Limited singing	45 -- 39%
Removal of Bibles and Hymnals	36 -- 32%

Question 5: Will you continue to attend the virtual livestreaming services if you don't return to in-person services?

A total of 103 persons responded to this question as follows:

Yes	90 -- 87%
No	13 -- 13%.

Question 6: If you don't mind, please indicate your age group.

The 102 responses to this question are broken down as follows:

70+	66 -- 65%
50 -- 69	33 -- 32%
30 -- 49	3 -- 3%

The last item on the survey questionnaire was a request for responders to provide feedback, suggestions and comments.

The majority of responders expressed support for the planning and work that is being done to prepare for in-person worship. They indicated how much they miss coming to church, interacting with the Pastors and members, participating in group activities and generally, their church life. They expressed support for the measures which are being put in place to make coming back to church as safe as possible. These include use of face masks, hand washing and sanitizing, social distancing among others. They also expressed great appreciation for the live streaming of worship services, and the many ways in which the church has tried to keep in touch with members.

As the data above indicate, 95% of responders plan to return to church, although not all will come at the very start of in-person worship, mainly due to health concerns and the unavailability of an effective vaccine. This is understandable, especially as, 65% of responders are in the 70+ age group, with many of them having pre-existing health conditions.

This exercise of conducting a member survey, proved to be a useful tool in the planning process. The Commission wishes to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to the members who participated.