

## Versailles Presbyterian Church 2009 Survey Results

**1. I have been attending worship at this church:**

13 less than 1 year   19 1 to 5 years   13 5 to 10 years   72 more than 10 years

**2. I attend worship:**

1 this is my first time   1 hardly ever   1 less than once a month  
3 once a month   27 two or three times a month   83 usually every week

**3. I normally attend:**

47 8:30 service   61 11:00 service   10 I alternate services  
1 I am visiting today at the (circle one) 8:30 or 11:00 service

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**The Worship Committee is considering the suggestion of holding one service only during summer months, beginning next summer (2010). Please let us know your thoughts in the following responses.**

**4. I would be willing to support going to *one service only* for the summer of 2010 (next year).**

94 yes   18 no

**comments:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concerned we would loose too many and what about the Sunday school programs?</li> <li>• depends on time</li> <li>• early morning allows for more activities later in the day</li> <li>• great idea (3x)</li> <li>• I enjoy having the rest of the day in the summer to do things and others probably feel the opposite and like to sleep in. I think our attendance would drop</li> <li>• I like going weekly</li> <li>• I wish the 11 o'clock service would be retained</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I would only attend if at 8:30</li> <li>• If at 10am or 11am</li> <li>• If earlier than 11am</li> <li>• if early</li> <li>• if early-see little/no reason for one service</li> <li>• keep it early</li> <li>• nice time for all members to share worship. We can see people we don't normally see. Good idea!</li> <li>• not at 8:30</li> <li>• offers option to see members who only go to 1st service</li> <li>• perhaps all year</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rather not, but would support</li> <li>• there remain two congregations-early goers and later goers</li> <li>• two very different groups</li> <li>• we need to go to one service</li> <li>• why in summer? I feel we definitely need one service from at least nov 1 thru feb 28-maybe 6 months</li> <li>• why? Financial, personnel, resources, attendance?</li> </ul> |
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**If yes, indicate which of the following times you would attend if that was when the service was held:**

30 9:00 a.m.   29 9:30 a.m.   45 10:00 a.m.

**other:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8:30</li> <li>• 10:30 (3x)</li> <li>• 11 (9x)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9am-Sunday school following... 10am-Sunday school preceding</li> <li>• Any (9x)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• held outside sometimes</li> <li>• none, will not attend</li> <li>• whenever</li> </ul> |
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**5. Please check all the options below that you think would be valuable to add to the music program:**

**Words to hymns projected on screen in front of the church**

21 yes   81 no   1 either

**Youth band**

69 yes   34 no   1 not sure

**Bell choir more often**

69 yes   24 no   1 not sure

**Choral or solo singing more often at 8:30 service**

66 yes   12 no   1 not sure

**Sing all verses to all the hymns at 8:30 service**

26 yes   52 no   1 not sure

**comments/other suggestions:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all are fine I think the music is great. None of the suggestions are objectionable and I would enjoy either way</li> <li>• as suggested last year, more traditional hymns</li> <li>• change music selections</li> <li>• choir should process down aisles-if not every week, then most</li> <li>• Christian music groups by invite</li> <li>• do away with new hymn book</li> <li>• do enjoy musicians but do not recognize they will be here until I attend that service</li> <li>• encourage traditional hymns always be a part of music program</li> <li>• I like the music service now</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• love variety being offered. Way to go e.y.!</li> <li>• maybe once a month the music could be non traditional hymns such as "I can only imagine"</li> <li>• more old tunes</li> <li>• please keep a somewhat traditional feel</li> <li>• please-youth band</li> <li>• screen projectors seem kind of mega church to me</li> <li>• the music needs to be lively-giving you a feeling of joy. I would love to see someone lead the singing at the 8:30 service-since many of the hymns we don't know and very few sing. Music is a very important part of the service</li> <li>• the music program is perfect</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• update to more modern music</li> <li>• use the complete hymns at 11 when given. Like 5th or 6th printed verses</li> <li>• we are so lucky to have such a talented leader. I enjoy all of our music and wish for an anthem each week</li> <li>• would like choir to commit to at least one Sunday per month, other Sundays have hymn leaders</li> <li>• youth band please</li> <li>• youth band-only if a praise service is added and choral/solo singing-not necessarily but love the duets/quartets/guitar (on occasion)</li> </ul> |
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**6. I would like to see more church members involved in the worship service in the following ways:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anything to help get people involved</li> <li>• as liturgist or reading scripture</li> <li>• as readers and greeters, also-surprise us!</li> <li>• ask volunteers to sing or read but respect that there are some who don't enjoy leading worship</li> <li>• assisting when minister is gone</li> <li>• attendance</li> <li>• children helping with offering</li> <li>• choir reading/singing scriptures</li> <li>• come to Sunday school</li> <li>• doing children's sermon</li> <li>• drama/skits</li> <li>• engage youth and young children more</li> <li>• everything but sermon</li> <li>• fine the way it is (2x)</li> <li>• helping on candles, collections</li> <li>• keep it the way it is</li> <li>• lay leaders reading bible verses</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• laymen when necessary</li> <li>• maybe scripture reading</li> <li>• more non-choir fold sharing their music skills</li> <li>• more time together for both services</li> <li>• more youth</li> <li>• no (3x)</li> <li>• no strong feelings</li> <li>• ok as is</li> <li>• perhaps reading scripture and responses</li> <li>• possibly a praise band at one service or once a month I think the churches that are growing are offering this type of service which attracts younger families</li> <li>• probably doing some of the readings</li> <li>• reading scripture and leading in confession and prayer</li> <li>• reading scripture if mike used properly</li> <li>• reading scripture-prayers-key comments on sermon</li> <li>• readings-welcome</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• special services</li> <li>• take responsibility for projects/services and describe/report back to congregation</li> <li>• ushers/greeters (3x)</li> <li>• using their talents to bring something new to the service</li> <li>• yes, especially the involvement of your youth</li> <li>• youth participation</li> <li>• youth participation as greeters and in music (Katelyn Geilear, Dunn Latham, others who play piano, flute, etc) This is great for the kids and a strong way to connect families to the church also a way to promote more music at 8:30 service especially</li> <li>• youth/children with parent as greeters/ushers</li> </ul> |
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**7. If an audio/video copy of Sunday Worship were made available via the VPC web site would you use this free service?**

25 yes      79 no

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• But only if I missed church—not as an excuse not to attend</li> <li>• Sundays I missed</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If not able to attend on Sunday</li> <li>• Out of town family members</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share with shut-ins.</li> </ul> |
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## Questions from the Christian Education Committee

### 8. Do you like the changing cover on the bulletin most Sundays?

91 yes      8 no

#### comments:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a lot of work for you, very interesting especially when Melissa elaborates</li> <li>• actually never even paid attention and did not know it changed that frequently</li> <li>• does not matter (3x)</li> <li>• don't care (2x)</li> <li>• I like seeing people on it from the congregation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• interesting and fresh-shows thoughtfulness</li> <li>• keeps it interesting</li> <li>• like the church picture(4x)</li> <li>• love the artwork</li> <li>• makes it more interesting</li> <li>• n/a</li> <li>• no comment</li> <li>• no difference</li> <li>• no need</li> <li>• no opinion (2x)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no preference</li> <li>• not real important to me</li> <li>• prefer a standard cover to represent the church</li> <li>• sometimes it makes you think</li> <li>• wish could be in color</li> <li>• would like to see bulletin projected on back wall/screen</li> </ul> |
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### 9. Do you think that the Children's Sermons help our children understand the message of the scripture for a particular Sunday?

92 yes      4 no

### 10. What things would be helpful to you to learn more about the Bible during the worship service?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ?</li> <li>• acting out roles</li> <li>• an extra speaker in the choir loft</li> <li>• application of themes to daily life-current events</li> <li>• Bible study</li> <li>• Bible study, men and women...Bible study in Sunday school</li> <li>• biographies of the authors, ministers sermon in print form</li> <li>• connecting and interpreting the scripture to sermons</li> <li>• consistently provide a context for the scripture/book of the bible/sermon when mbs does this, it's interesting and helps pull everything together</li> <li>• distribute notes to follow the sermon and use for Bible study during the week</li> <li>• explain origin of scripture</li> <li>• explaining more of the parables</li> <li>• explanations</li> <li>• exploring other religions practices and beliefs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fine as is-lots of background given</li> <li>• good as is</li> <li>• happy with current uses</li> <li>• I like Melissa giving a historical perspective</li> <li>• I need any knowledge of the bible. Would love a class studying the Bible as literature</li> <li>• I think that Melissa does a good job explaining the context surrounding the text</li> <li>• I think we're doing pretty good at this now</li> <li>• I think you do an excellent job</li> <li>• I'm not sure but I would love to learn more</li> <li>• incorporate scriptures into sermon</li> <li>• keep it the same</li> <li>• know in advance the bible readings</li> <li>• Melissa does a good job of explaining the passages during the sermon</li> <li>• more background info by Melissa or Charlie on the passage</li> <li>• more on faith</li> <li>• more references and less reading...relate to real life</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more scripture</li> <li>• none</li> <li>• not much, it is learned in Bible study</li> <li>• nothing more-Melissa is wonderful</li> <li>• ok as is, I think</li> <li>• old testament and historical facts of the Bible</li> <li>• present manner is great</li> <li>• reference to more scripture throughout the sermon</li> <li>• sermon related to Bible</li> <li>• sermon subject</li> <li>• service should be about today with references to the Bible</li> <li>• this happens most Sundays and maybe more often a history or short info on the happenings at the time of the Bible verses</li> <li>• tie scriptures in sermon (no formal readings)</li> <li>• visual effects</li> <li>• visuals on screen relating to the scripture/everyday living</li> </ul> |
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**11. We have been offering a variety of responses during our “Affirmation of Faith” each Sunday. Have you liked the variety?**

95 yes      8 no

**Does the selection seem to support the theme of the service?**

94 yes      1 no

**comments:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I'm traditional, but it's ok and does make you think about what you've read</li> <li>• somewhat</li> <li>• also, its probably a good think (for the same reasons) to vary affirmation of faith</li> <li>• I enjoy our worship services and find them well planned</li> <li>• I guess I like tradition/repetition</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I hate to say this but often it is so long or the wording is such, that I find it hard to draw as much from it</li> <li>• little value to me-would be better for me if it tied to sermon, makes no correlation (longer sermon ok)</li> <li>• love them</li> <li>• makes me think about it instead of doing it by rote</li> <li>• Melissa is wonderful</li> <li>• sometimes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sometimes yes, sometimes no</li> <li>• too long and difficult sometimes</li> <li>• use video</li> <li>• Variety is good. Saying the same thing every Sunday can become routine</li> <li>• We have a rich history to enjoy. Variety reveals this</li> </ul> |
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**Question from the Welcoming Church Committee:**

**12. How welcoming are we on Sunday Morning? Please rate the following:**

**a) How welcoming are we to guests on Sunday mornings?**

great extent	somewhat	not very well	not at all	don't know
53	44	6	1	8

**b) How welcoming are we to members and regular attendees?**

great extent	somewhat	not very well	not at all	don't know
71	31	4	1	3

**Comments:**

- We know them or at least have seen them before
- First time was wonderful, welcoming

**13. What Church related activities are you most comfortable inviting people to?**

**Circle all that apply:**

- 88 a) Worship
- 67 b) Dinners (Wed. night, supper club etc)
- 22 c) Mission events/trips
- 27 d) Children/Youth activities
- 22 e) Sunday school
- f) Others

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ALL</li> <li>• any</li> <li>• bible study</li> <li>• Courtyard carnival. Trinkets and treasures.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas cantata.</li> <li>• Christmas parade</li> <li>• dinners too expensive especially for single person</li> <li>• mens bible study</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• music programs</li> <li>• not comfortable inviting anyone at this time</li> <li>• supper clubs</li> <li>• VIP events (3x)</li> </ul> |
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**Growth of our Church through Community**

#### 14. What do you feel are the greatest spiritual, emotional or physical needs of Woodford County today?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a church that they feel at home, welcomed</li> <li>• a connection to god and community as family</li> <li>• a place to feel free to worship where individuals feel welcome regardless of past or present experiences and beliefs</li> <li>• a welcoming place to worship where you can contribute thoughts which can be provocative and energy to insure the community/world</li> <li>• addressing unemployment an outreach for networking would be nice</li> <li>• being a community that cares about each other and our community as a whole</li> <li>• Bridging the gap between the social classes. We have a few very rich and many poor. There is also a problem of acceptance of people who are different whether its race or gender.</li> <li>• community-not just Kroger's</li> <li>• concern for all</li> <li>• connected to one another</li> <li>• declining economy being felt harder by the working poor</li> <li>• embracing diversity, race/color, economic status, age, gender, gay/straight-would like to see more integration of each</li> <li>• feeling a part of the county</li> <li>• food, contact for those in need</li> <li>• for myself I like and need to feel a part of a community having a church family to work along side with is important and helpful to the community I heard of one small community joining forces with their neighboring churches and once a month on a Sunday evening join forces and have a community service</li> <li>• friendship and understanding</li> <li>• gay community and racial communities need to be accepted in our small town</li> <li>• helping needy people (need to do more)</li> <li>• helping those who need food and clothing it seems</li> </ul> | <p>we do address their needs but maybe more effort from us in needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hispanic community, low income children</li> <li>• hunger/financial-especially children's needs</li> <li>• I believe all people simply want to be loved and accepted and valued and whatever the people of the church can do to achieve that must be done...whatever it takes!</li> <li>• I believe in the importance of the church as a foundation of spiritual and emotional support</li> <li>• I don't have an answer</li> <li>• I don't know, are we helping to welcome and care for our increasing Hispanic community?</li> <li>• To feel a connection to the community at large, we have a hard time moving out of our comfort zones to include others in our lives</li> <li>• I feel we all want to feel a sense of community-togetherness</li> <li>• I think connecting spirituality to current events is needed. Helping people better understand how spirituality can enrich their lives. Youth in Woodford need more productive, healthy activities available.</li> <li>• income/employment has put excessive strain on all people needs are great to those not covered under social programs or unqualified for</li> <li>• Keeping in touch with older members that are no longer physically able to make it to services.</li> <li>• key issues in this county with substance abuse issues/hidden poverty</li> <li>• learning the proper values and morals</li> <li>• living waters, undie sundays...I am very proud that this church holds peoples dignity as a high priority</li> <li>• maintaining a focus on the downtown-vpc does a good job of acting as a magnet through a variety of activities</li> <li>• mission, Hispanic, hidden poverty</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more connection as a community with race/class differences, would be nice if churches could come together more and focus on similarities</li> <li>• more events like the festival with participation with town people</li> <li>• more opportunities to become bilingual (Spanish) so that we can reach out and share with more people in our community &amp; more bilingual events</li> <li>• Not enough room or time in this space.</li> <li>• not staying focused on God</li> <li>• out reach programs care for sick and poor</li> <li>• people are out of work</li> <li>• people want an open non judgmental place where they feel free to get involved at their pace</li> <li>• positive response to drug and alcohol problems</li> <li>• Reaching out and changing the broken areas in our town. More help here then going out of state to help as well</li> <li>• Relationships extended throughout the week. Encourage people in the community that are different to attend all aspects of activities. Evaluate community needs-what can we do?</li> <li>• restoring faith to help make it through hard economic times</li> <li>• some ability to share the wealth</li> <li>• support for families</li> <li>• the clothing bank, gods pantry, there are greatly needed although not so glamorous</li> <li>• the need for more Christian actions not all social</li> <li>• the need to overcome the economic hardship</li> <li>• there continues to be a lot of people in poverty that will need help and support</li> <li>• to believe that we are here for a purpose</li> <li>• too broad a question-spiritual- congregation that is inviting and accepting.. emotional-sense of</li> </ul> |
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trust...physical-property or personal?

- to extend ourselves to the needy and poor
- too many other things to do spiritual matters not a priority
- understanding one another
- we need more opportunities to bring all congregations together to

worship. The community thanksgiving service is great! Maybe involve more churches in that event.

- Woodford has lost a number of businesses plus some small bus as well the county could use some stable, small-med business ventures. While the other counties

surrounding Fayette are doing well, Woodford except for horse farms seem to be stagnating

- youth programs, variety of exercise/fun weekly activities

### 15. Why do you think most people don't attend church?

- competition not from other churches but from youth sports, other rec activities, (summer homes), family events
- 8:30 too early for families, 11:00 too late-wastes day
- a time of quiet, peace
- Afraid of unknown. Schedules-work& sports
- busy, don't feel its relevant
- competition from other sources; work, other leisure activities
- disagree with judgmental actions of "Christians", need extra time for other things (too busy)
- do not see it as valuable to their lives
- do not see need to
- do not want to attend
- don't feel a personal connection
- don't feel comfortable with some people who act so holy on Sunday but are known to be not holy the rest of the week
- don't feel connected to God/spiritual side
- don't get anything out of it, time constraints, socialize in other ways
- Feel that they don't get anything out of it.
- find it boring, unsure about religion, busy
- find service boring, afraid of being pushed to attend, don't find any uplifting feelings
- first time is awkward to attend alone
- for different reasons they don't feel comfortable/they have no background in church and don't know how to start
- I am flabbergasted at the apparent turning away of young people, especially. But things run in cycles, I think people will come begging to the Lord once

again in these uncertain times.

- I think most people do not find the typical church service to be relevant to their lives
- I think people have such busy lives, Sunday is sometimes the only day they have a choice to sleep in or just stay home, also may be awkward about visiting a new church and feeling what do they have to offer.
- I think some have had bad experiences and don't know how to begin, busy lifestyle
- indifference, outside interests, competition from family activities
- inertia or disagree with a perceived strict dogma
- lack of faith that it matters, lazy
- laziness and doubt
- laziness-wont make the time to do it
- lazy (5x)
- lazy or like their time off as work so much otherwise
- Many times people are not invited. Other times there are too many competing activities. I think the church should be the hub of community activities
- most people probably feel that they are too busy
- most people think that church/religions are too confining and directive in what you should do, think, act, be
- Need personal contact of being asked. Habit, work.
- never have, so are uncomfortable, time constraints, anti religion trend in country, its okay not to attend or even believe even in KY
- no good reason
- no need to, worship is unfulfilling, not brought up

in the church/lack of motivation

- non believers, too busy, don't think church is welcoming and they don't care or believe
- not a priority
- Not feeling well. Other things to do. Out of the habit
- not important enough to them
- not important to their lives, 2nd homes, travel, other weekend activities, kids soccer, basketball, swim meets
- other obligations, habit, no involvement in programs
- out of habit, or never got in...time commitments...don't feel connected
- people do not find the church to be relevant today
- people have too many things scheduled and the weekends tend to be too short so Sunday morning is down time
- people want to relax on the weekend and see it as an inconvenience
- politics of church (internal)
- Possible bad experiences in past with churches. Lack of money
- preparation-little ones, have gotten out of the habit, didn't attend as a child and haven't been approached
- priorities-work and recreation along with rest take a greater priority
- not enough room or time in this space
- sports being a big factor, other summer activities
- Stress of work and day week. economic troubles
- the lack of feeling a part of the family

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• their only day to sleep in, not committed, not important</li> <li>• They are out of the habit. They need to be re invited</li> <li>• they aren't getting the spiritual strength they need</li> <li>• they don't feel the need or don't know about God</li> <li>• they don't feel the need/or know about God</li> <li>• They don't get what they want. Churches that are growing today preach sermons that make you feel good</li> <li>• they don't take time out of busy lives to sit and listen to word of God</li> <li>• they feel their life is too hectic and they do not feel a need for greater spiritual growth</li> <li>• They got out of the practice or never made it a practice to come to church. They feel out of place or afraid they'll be asked to do something</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they have gotten off the path lazy, and materialistic and have let money become their gods</li> <li>• they have just fallen away</li> <li>• they would rather relax or sleep in</li> <li>• time limits</li> <li>• Time. Worship in non traditional ways. Some are spiritual and not religious</li> <li>• to busy, don't think they do any good/help here</li> <li>• too busy</li> <li>• Too busy with dual income families and want to use Sunday mornings for recreation etc.</li> <li>• too busy, haven't found right church, church not relevant to their lives</li> <li>• too busy, not aware of their great need to nurture their lives and souls</li> <li>• too busy, weren't brought up in the church</li> <li>• too busy-jobs-sports-children's activities</li> <li>• Too lazy to get here. Sleepy!</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too lazy/can't keep commitments to causes. Don't set time aside for selves. Afraid to walk through the door</li> <li>• too many other things in life</li> <li>• too many outside activities (sports) and adults do not want to be interrupted</li> <li>• too many services are still too traditional in their format. Should adapt some type of contemporary style/theme. Look at the growing churches and their worship format is contemporary and often includes technology</li> <li>• too much trouble</li> <li>• too structured but mostly they want to do other things</li> <li>• wish I knew</li> </ul> |
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**16. If you had a spiritual question or problem, where would you look for the answer?**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bible reading</li> <li>• Bible, Melissa (2x)</li> <li>• Bible, minister, spouse (2x)</li> <li>• Bible, online</li> <li>• Bible, other books, minister</li> <li>• Bible, preacher, true friend</li> <li>• Bible.email vpc</li> <li>• Bible/minister (2x)</li> <li>• Bible,biblical counseling</li> <li>• books, friends</li> <li>• Burnamwood</li> <li>• Christian friends, bible, pastor</li> <li>• church family</li> <li>• church friends/counselors</li> <li>• church, minister, bible, friends, family</li> <li>• church/minister</li> <li>• close friends within the church, minister</li> <li>• close spiritual friends, the bible, and prayer</li> <li>• concordance-bible</li> <li>• family, friends, faith</li> <li>• friends, Melissa</li> <li>• God (2x)</li> <li>• God, family, minister</li> <li>• God, pastor</li> <li>• good friend</li> <li>• good question—probably good friends</li> <li>• I would talk with Melissa</li> <li>• I'd ask my close friends or minister</li> <li>• in my church congregation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in Sunday school, ask the minister, at Bible study</li> <li>• Melissa (5x)</li> <li>• Melissa and many others in our church</li> <li>• Melissa is excellent I would feel comfortable approaching her with a problem-I feel she would be comforting, wise, and confidential</li> <li>• Melissa or Bible</li> <li>• Melissa, Bible, commentaries</li> <li>• Melissa, Charlie, my parents</li> <li>• Melissa, Charlie, Wanda, bob b</li> <li>• minister (9x)</li> <li>• minister and lay minister, other church friends</li> <li>• minister friends</li> <li>• minister or church member friend</li> <li>• minister, friends, books</li> <li>• minister, friends, family</li> <li>• minister, friends/family, bible</li> <li>• minister, lay minister</li> <li>• minister, prayers</li> <li>• minister, study group at church, fellow members, bible</li> <li>• Minister. Stephen ministry</li> <li>• minister/bible/prayer</li> <li>• my dad, Charlie</li> <li>• pastor</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pastor</li> <li>• pastor and prayer</li> <li>• pastor, church member, family</li> <li>• prayer, church, Bible</li> <li>• prayer, friend, Bible, minister</li> <li>• preacher</li> <li>• research/Melissa</li> <li>• scripture, family, friends</li> <li>• someone I trust, preacher, counselor, bible</li> <li>• Spouse, friends, minister or assoc. Minister</li> <li>• talk to the pastor</li> <li>• talk with friends, especially ones from church, minister</li> <li>• the bible, spouse, and church minister</li> <li>• the church</li> <li>• the church pastor, other close friends, professionals</li> <li>• therapist/confidante</li> <li>• to my spiritual leader and those around me whom I trust</li> <li>• to the pastor and members the saints of the church are those working here and now there are many in this church</li> <li>• various places and people including Melissa</li> <li>• VPC staff</li> <li>• within me</li> </ul> |
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## 17. When you were looking for a church family what did you look for?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minister who is sincere, devout, approachable, and welcoming 2. Like minded people 3. activities for all ages...vpc had all of these and still does</li> <li>• Supportive congregation to its members. 2. Approachable minister. 3. Active in the community 4. fun and welcoming youth program</li> <li>• a church closely related to the one I grew up in</li> <li>• a church family with diverse talents and gifts and a minister whose sermons speak to my needs, troubles, and apprehensions</li> <li>• a church that we felt comfortable in and a minister that we connected with both of which we have found here</li> <li>• a comforting , thoughtful, somewhat traditional service with friendly people. Purposeful, direct, modern sermons</li> <li>• a friendly church</li> <li>• a lot of familiar faces, always enjoyed Presbyterian church services</li> <li>• a sense of family</li> <li>• a service, youth group, social</li> <li>• a warm place that was open and welcoming. And one that demonstrated activity in the community which would have a direct and tangible impact. (habitat for humanity)</li> <li>• activities in which my family members can participate together or alone and the quality of the activities</li> <li>• always have attending this church, its home, nourishing</li> <li>• a welcoming church that fellowships together</li> <li>• an alive, welcoming, spiritual experience</li> <li>• bible believing</li> <li>• Caring pastor, friendly members, learning opportunities and opportunities to help.</li> <li>• church mission; welcoming congregation; location in relation to my house; message from pulpit compatible with my beliefs; good preaching; minimum congregational singing, I</li> </ul> | <p>sing poorly and don't enjoy group sing, hymns that I have a chance at being able to sing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community and edification, plus Lee Ann did not give me a choice</li> <li>• Compassion, helpfulness, acceptance!!</li> <li>• congregation in harmony, varied music, dedication to peace and justice</li> <li>• convention combined with a realistic approach</li> <li>• family</li> <li>• feeling like I belonged, friendliness, good sermons, approachable minister</li> <li>• feeling of welcome-ness and belonging</li> <li>• friendliness and a place to belong</li> <li>• friendliness and honesty</li> <li>• friendliness, inspiration from sermon, uplifted/encouraged by service, church activities</li> <li>• friendliness, strong C.E. program for kids</li> <li>• friendly church</li> <li>• friendly people with kids our sons age</li> <li>• friendly people, same interests</li> <li>• friendly people, something for our kids, place that would be easy to get involved in</li> <li>• Friendly, caring, active church that is growing with a variety of age groups and a variety of worship/education opportunities.</li> <li>• friendly, choir, preaching</li> <li>• friendly, good music</li> <li>• good children's program</li> <li>• good music, sermons pertinent to my daily living and relationship with God</li> <li>• good preacher, friendly people</li> <li>• good, friendly, diverse congregation</li> <li>• honest, warm, friendly, open &amp; accepting of ALL</li> <li>• I have always belonged to a presby church. Being made welcome would probably be important if I were to look for a different church</li> <li>• if I were in the position to look, I'd want accepting, fun, and a blend of traditional and contemporary (not too much of either) and as a</li> </ul> | <p>teen/young adult I would want real life applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspirational services. a welcoming church. music</li> <li>• Interesting minister with good sermon thoughts and diversity. Warm, friendly, and involved members who did something in the community to show faith</li> <li>• I've always been a Presbyterian</li> <li>• like spiritual values, close to my neighborhood</li> <li>• love of God, friendly people, caring for others</li> <li>• Minister having knowledge and ability to effectively preach. Friendliness to all</li> <li>• minister who is liberal and accepts others</li> <li>• minister, neighbors, and friends</li> <li>• nice, friendly, good youth group</li> <li>• open, friendly, inviting, non-liturgical service, good music and Sunday school options</li> <li>• open mind, friendly, out-reached oriented, church</li> <li>• open minded friendly respectful of opposing viewpoints</li> <li>• open minded, welcoming, thoughtful</li> <li>• open mindedness, friendliness, good youth group, an opportunity to grow in faith</li> <li>• open yet traditional church with a good choir</li> <li>• openness, friendly, ways to serve and make new friends</li> <li>• openness, friendliness, mission</li> <li>• openness, welcoming atmosphere, women involved at all levels of the church</li> <li>• people close to our age with common interests, close to our home, programs for children</li> <li>• people that are welcoming, accepting, social in a church environment that is same to all types of people with both conservative and liberal views (I think we are doing a great job just need to continue and figure out how to meet a greater group and move m preach the word, familiar hymns)</li> <li>• preach the word and familiar hymns</li> </ul> |
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- Presbyterian
- Presbyterians, not Baptists
- programs for my child
- scheduling, friendliness
- service that I could relate to, basic beliefs of church, how comfortable I was in attending
- similar beliefs warmth, caring
- similar beliefs, friendliness, liked organizational structure of the church
- sense of belonging and acceptance
- small, practical, concise
- Social, contact in time of need. Small group discussions
- spiritual atmosphere, friendly, goodhearted folks, good music program

- to feel welcomed and the people reached out to us with love
- traditional worship style, music and format
- unity charity giving
- Warm nonthreatening environment. Acceptance of everyone
- warmth and learning experiences
- warmth, something familiar
- warmth, traditional service, beautiful music, like minded folks, lots of children
- We wanted a kind church. We found it
- we were invited to visit by neighbors first to the adult social group (mariners) then to worship

- welcoming atmosphere and a good minister
- Welcoming church family and where the message is meaningful to me and my life. I found both!
- welcoming church that fellowship together
- welcoming church with good music
- welcoming people
- Welcoming to all. Comfort in times of need
- welcoming, friendly, comfortable
- what I found here
- where I feel welcome/tradition
- youth activities
- youth programs, Sunday school

#### Other comments:

- 1.would like to see the menu for wed night dinner in bulletin or online before sign up deadline 2.dont like to see people bring food/drink into sanctuary on Sundays 3.how come most people scheduled as greeters don't show up and we should welcome people before service, no welcoming moment
- Choral prelude or Amen, need to get the minister photo gallery in library up to date.
- don't like the break in service, it disrupts the service, I use to be more involved with choir and women's groups, our lives have changed and we are gone a lot
- don't like welcoming moment
- Don't like welcoming moment. Hard to get us back to pew
- found all of the above at VPC
- I believe that vpc's mission statement says it all
- I feel that our church is divided. If I don't attend weekly programs I don't get to see 11oclock group. Can't we consider one service in the winter

- months? It would benefit us financially too. I feel one of the biggest problems our church faces is the lack of young growing families. We need to have children looking forward to Sunday mornings. Young families need to be seeking out our church. How can we make that happen? Can we do it without sacrificing our traditional ways?
- I like the welcoming minutes, it is a really good way to greet my neighbors
  - I'm proud to know you and be a member of this church. Thanks for high and holy days: early & late should meet together.
  - Lansung
  - more old time hymns
  - on welcoming section- "need more consistency"
  - service should not be so scripted and more different week to week
  - This church is doing a lot of stuff right. I give us an A.
  - visiting from Ohio, but will come every time I'm here
  - We come to vpc because as a visitor you don't want to be "called out" but don't want to be ignored. Vpc

- does pretty good at this...I get the feeling that absolutely anyone can come and fit in. of course I would love to see more young people and more diversity
- we are looking forward to getting to know everyone better
  - wish there were more kids, esp. boys Cayce's age
  - Would like to see more different intros between 8:30 and 11 services. 8:30 has become a short version of 11. To reach younger families we should have one service be more informal and contemporary. Would also like to see one or both services streamlined too many components in current format—creates "choppy" feel
  - I do not like getting up early
  - would like to see welcoming moment at beginning of service