

Q1. What is your favorite thing about our congregation?

- Sense of community
- The community.
- Wonderful music, strong commitment to social justice
- Working on events.
- Music
- The sense of community and warm welcome
- Like Minded people and music
- Music program
- Warmth & fellowship
- Sense of accepting community.
- Liberal group of friendly interesting people
- The feeling of family
- Wonderful community of seekers who really try to put love into action; beautiful music and gardens; inspiring sermons and discussions; fun fundraisers!
- Our members and the music
- Community
- A community that aspires to being their best selves and caring for one another and people outside the church as well
- The tightly knit community
- The music!
- Small group spiritual discussion
- The sense of community

Q1. What is your favorite thing about our congregation?

- Caring
- Strong sense of community and welcoming atmosphere
- The spirit of the congregation!
- The weekly service, the connection to the community
- All religious perspectives are respected
- RE program and music
- Openness to diversity: accepting of people from different religious and philosophical beliefs, ethnic and racial backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, etc.
- The people
- Choir, friendship
- The feeling of community and fellowship, sharing and working together.
- The music
- Community of kind people who support each other and provide a safe space for growth
- Stated commitment to open mindedness and tolerance for all beliefs.
- I think my favorite thing about our congregation is its openness in welcoming a variety of people and its willingness to listen and to share in return.
- My favorite thing about UU Middleboro is the warmth of congregants. It feels like an open and safe space.
- Community
- The Sermons
- Small discussion groups
- Feeling of community

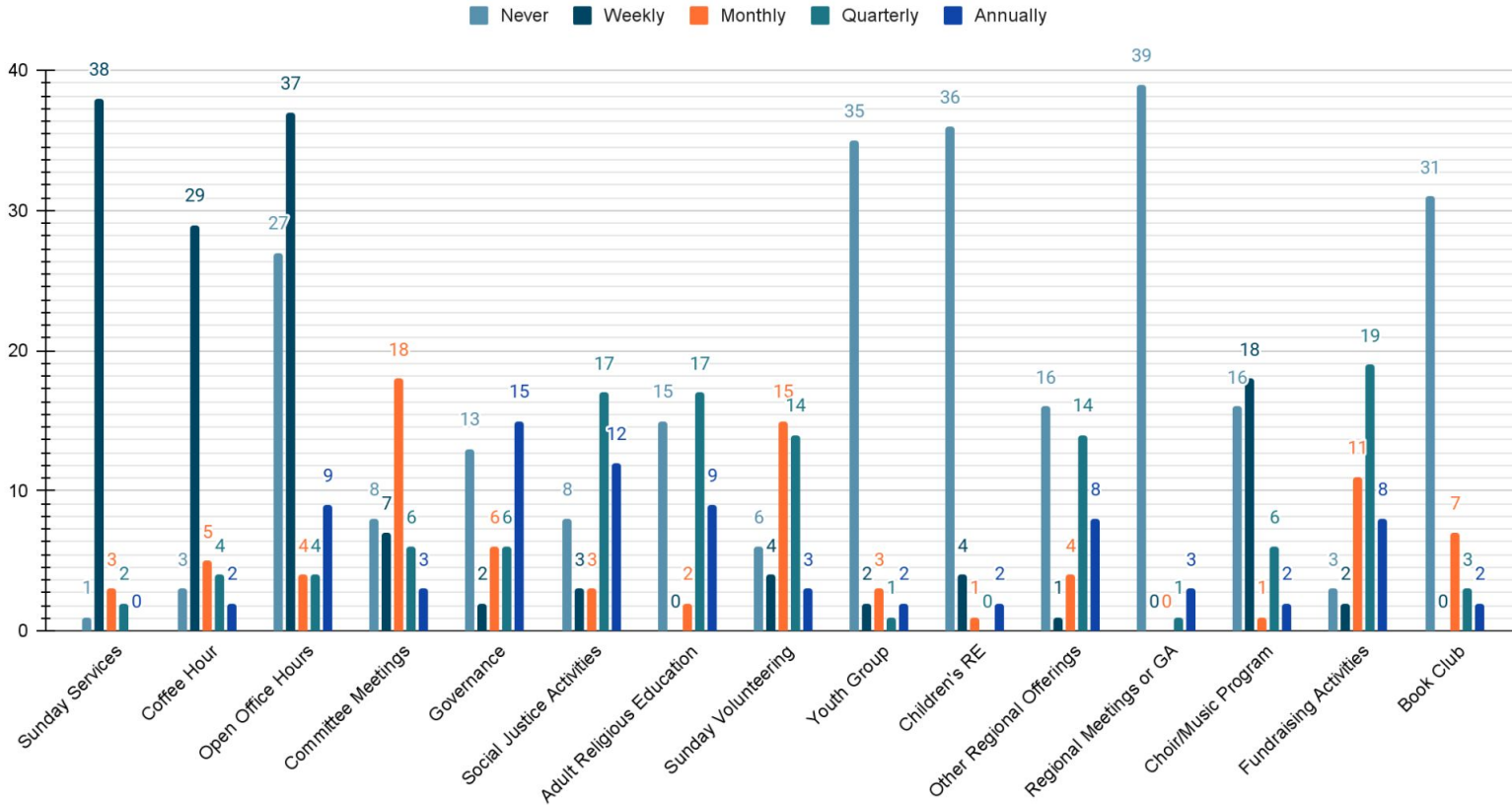
Q2. What do you perceive are the top 3 purposes of our congregation to be?

- caring community, thought provoking sermons, liberal views to support just causes
- Community, service to others, music.
- Care for one another, care for the community, care for the planet
- Would be nice if we had some.
- Community, Making a Difference, Service
- To support each other; to work towards a better life and sense of place; search for spiritual wellness
- Maintain the spiritual health of the congregation.
- Provide support and caring to the congregation.
- Provide a liberal voice in the community.
- Come together for inspiration, support & a sense of purpose
- Support the members of the congregation, do good works in the greater community and push us all out of our comfort zones.
- Spiritual growth, care and support of each other and welcoming atmosphere
- Adhering to the Principles and Purposes; respecting Everyone; educating the community about us
- To support and encourage each other to be our best selves; to preserve the best of our liberal religious and ethical traditions while moving forward into new spiritual territory with wisdom and integrity
- a spiritual home and supportive community for our members, a good presence in our community, a safe space for diversity and inclusivity of all types
- Be a leader of progressive thought. Provide opportunities for spiritual growth. Guide congregation into turning ideals into actions.
- A caring community, a place for spiritual growth & justice work, religious education for youth
- Spread healing through music, social justice work, being together in community
- Provide a spiritual home, create community, participate in social action activities
- Inspire, connect, serve — all in the context of ourselves, our community, and the world.
- Community; Building a more just and inclusive world; Spiritual growth

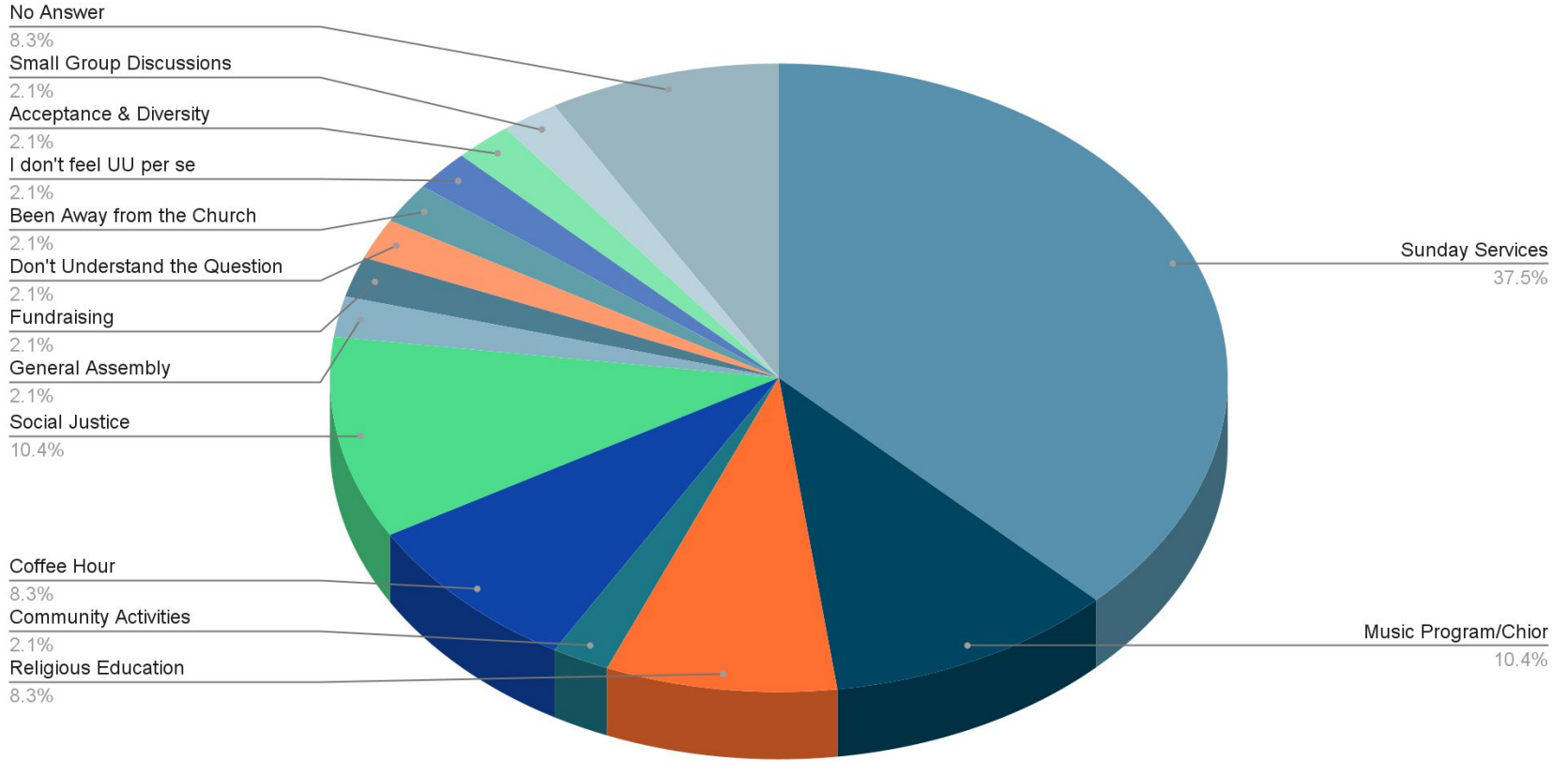
Q2. What do you perceive are the top 3 purposes of our congregation to be?

- Create a welcoming and caring community, a place to gather, social justice
- Providing a safe, spiritual home for all people, providing caring, thoughtful community of members ready to help each other, and participating outside the church in community events and working towards social/environmental justice in the world
- To share our values, be part of a similar environment, and support our community
- Support LGBTQ..... / provide a religious establishment / support those in need
- Community, spirituality, ministry
- Social justice and action, providing community, outreach to the greater community
- Community, music social justice
- Elucidate and deepen our understanding of our principles
- Inspire & uplift. Foster connection & collaboration. Offer guidance in personal spiritual development and service to others.
- Promote inclusive values in the community, care for each other, challenge each other
- Provide a safe spiritual space, offer opportunities for social interaction, support each other in times of need.
- Rootedness in a deep commitment to Spirit that serves as the "glue" for the congregation 2. Commitment to social justice and serving the broader community in tangible and useful ways. 3. Being wayshowers & a visible force for good in the world and modelling right relationship with people, other than human beings and the Earth.
- Our top purpose is to share our funds in the collection plate so others will learn about us. 2. Our 2nd purpose is to listen to those who share their beliefs with us. Our 3rd purpose is to tell others what we believe.
- Congregational purposes include 1) offering a liberal voice in a conservative community; 2) exploring social justice as an educational process and not a requirement of being a good UU; 3) providing opportunities for spiritual development for those who choose that path.
- Supportive community, work for justice in the world, a place to learn and grow
- Spiritual community, social justice in our community, education
- Inspire, connect, serve
- Spiritual home for members, service in and outside the church, caring and support for individuals

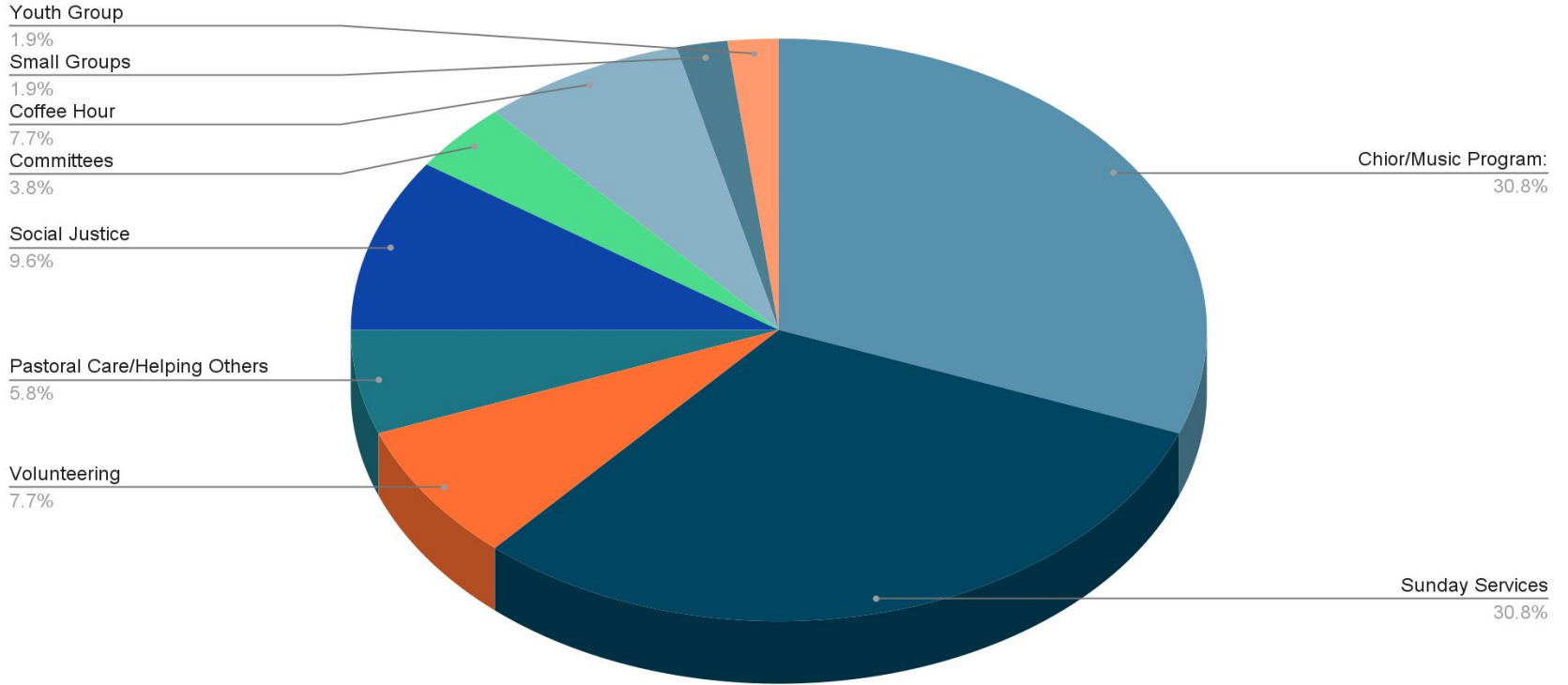
Q3: Below are the listed ministries, programs and activities of the First UU Society of Middleboro. On Average, how often did you participate in these during the last year?



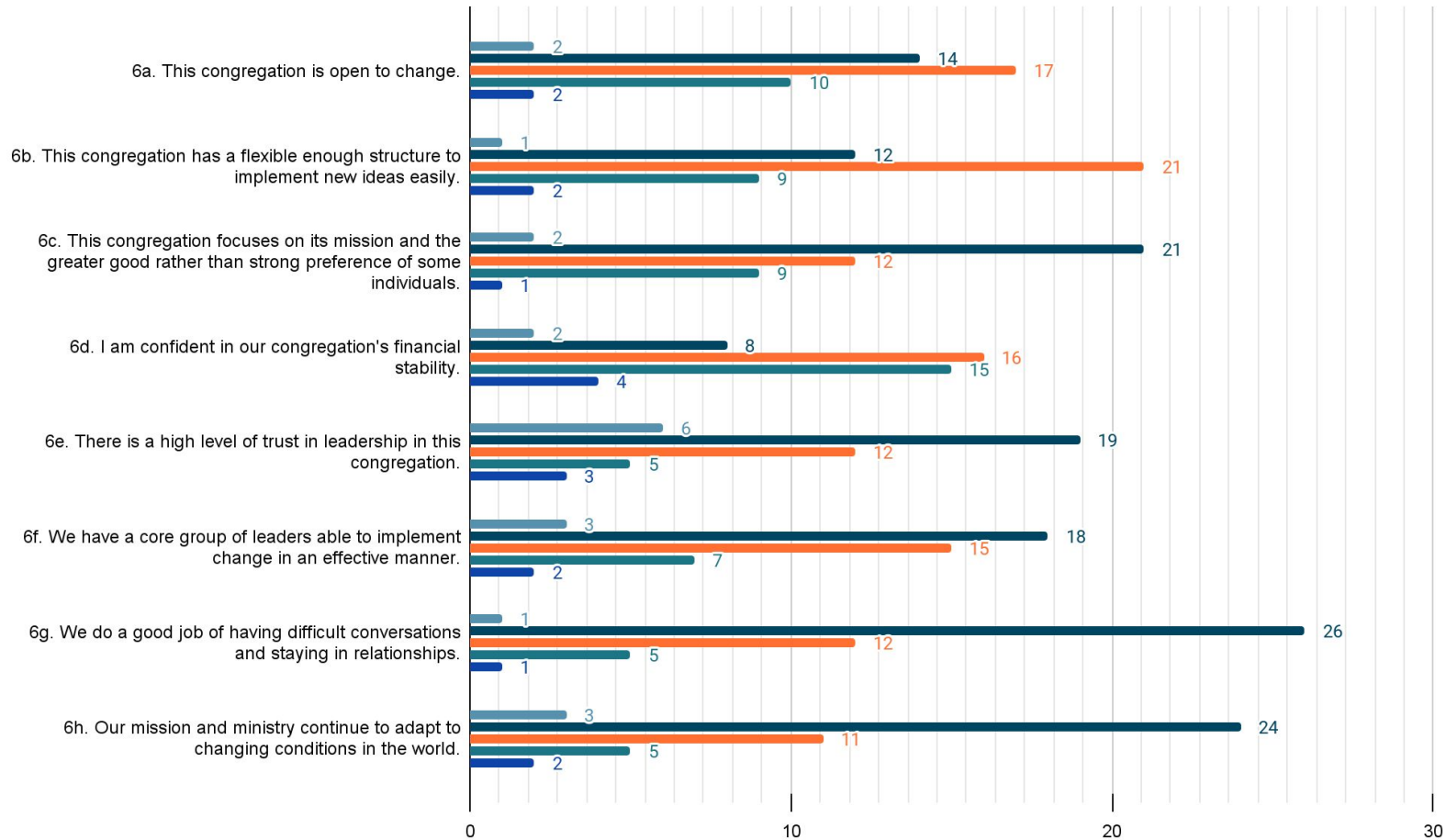
Q4: In which of the ministries, programs, or activities listed in Question 3 do you feel the most Unitarian Universalist?



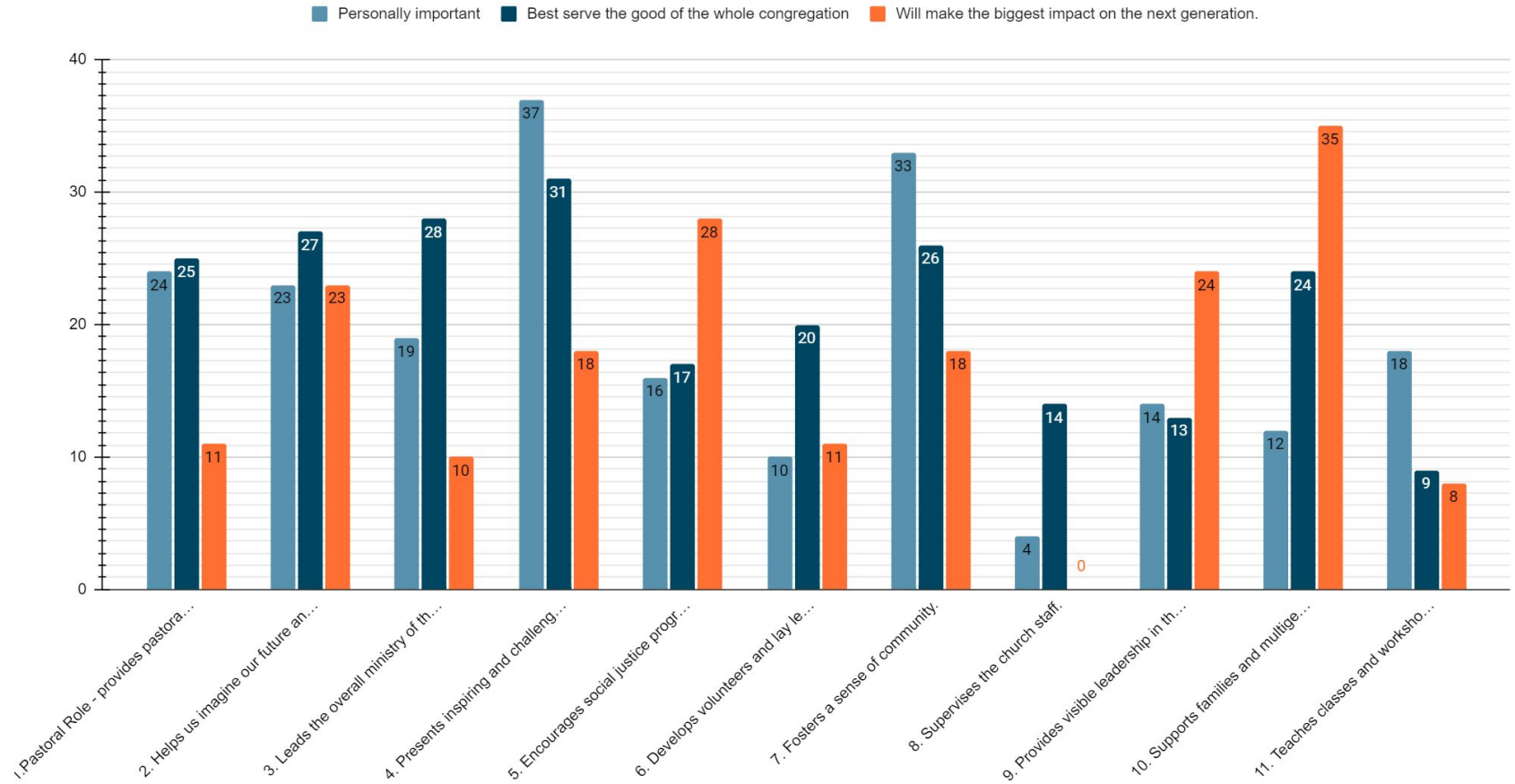
Q5: Which of the ministries, programs, or activities listed in Question 3 gives you the deepest sense of belonging?



1 Strongly Agree 2 3 4 5 Strongly Disagree



7. Consider the following roles of our future minister and their importance in different contexts



8. If you didn't agree with something the minister said or did would you...

Tell those in your circles

2.2%

Write a note or send an email to the Parish

2.2%

Just Keep it to yourself

11.1%

Stop coming to church

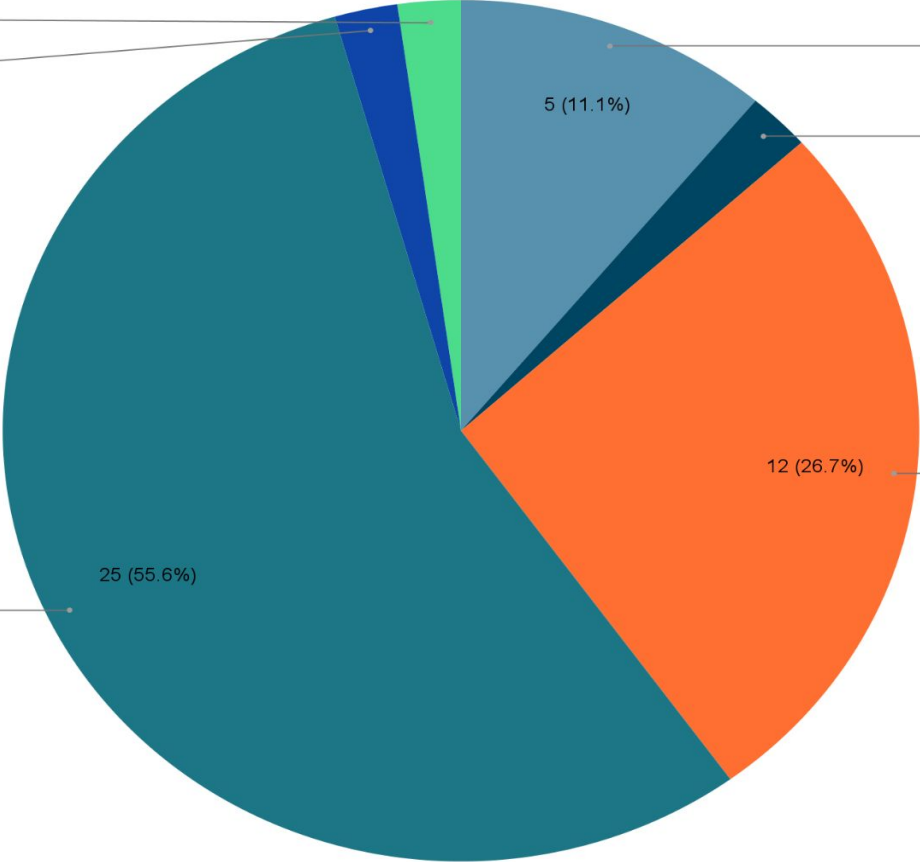
2.2%

Tell the minister immediately

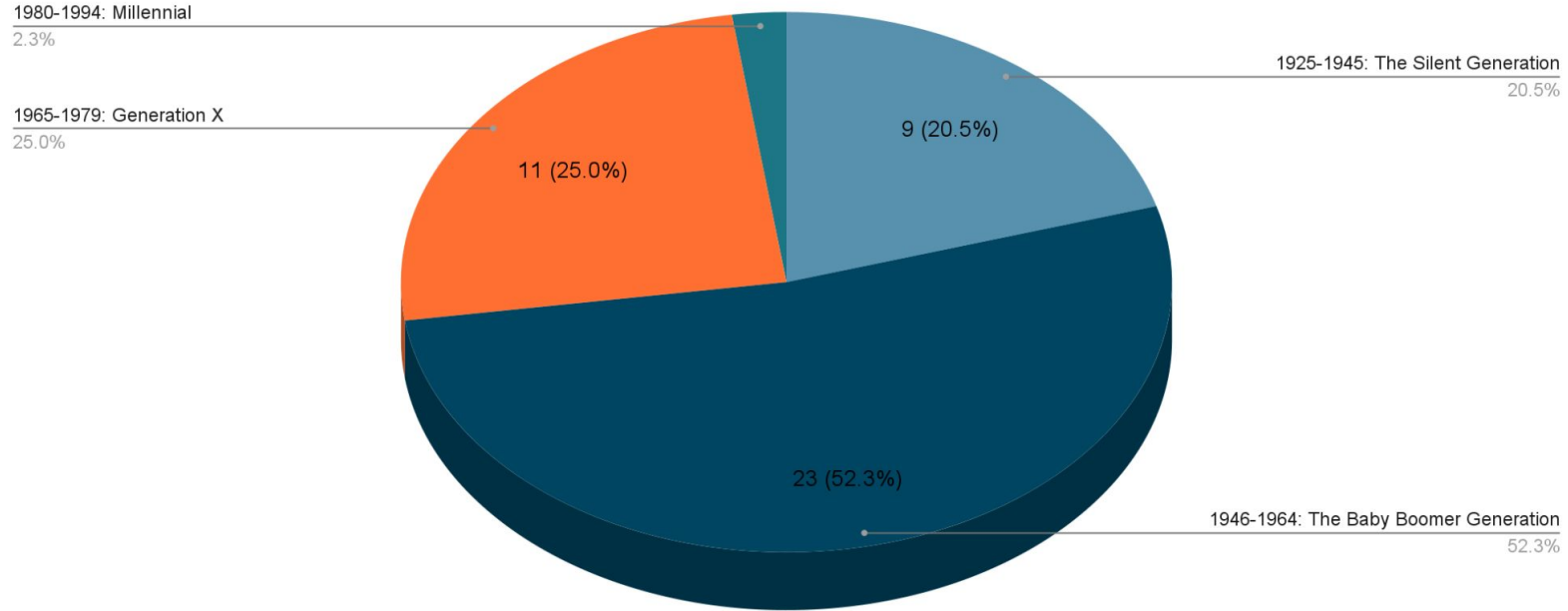
26.7%

Write a note or send an email to the minister.

55.6%



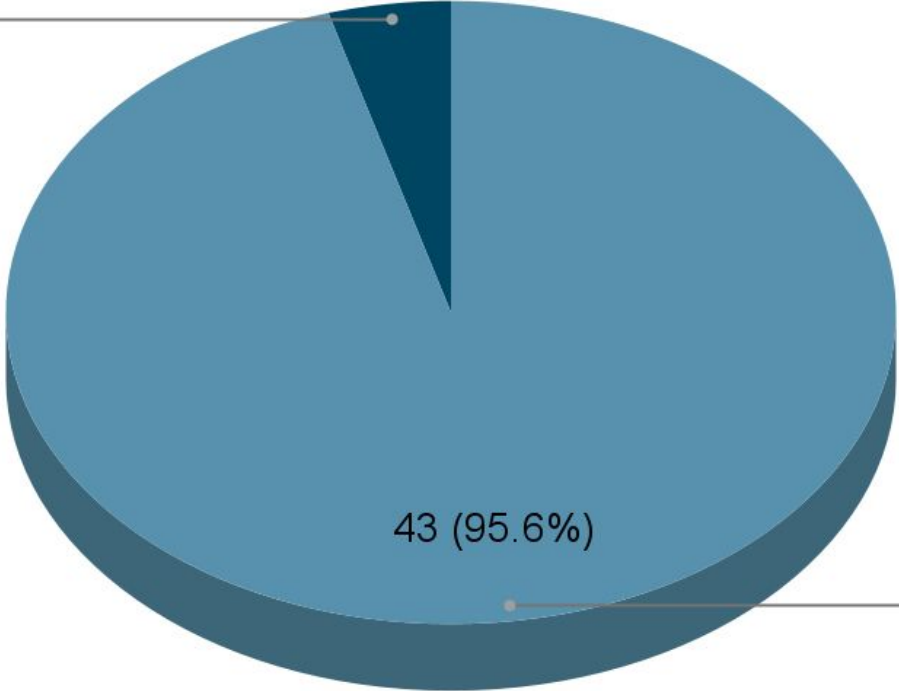
9. When were you born?



10. Which racial or ethnic identity or identities do you hold? Please mark all that apply.

"Human Being"

4.4%



43 (95.6%)

White

95.6%

11. Do you consider yourself part of a multiracial family?

Prefer not to answer

6.7%

Yes

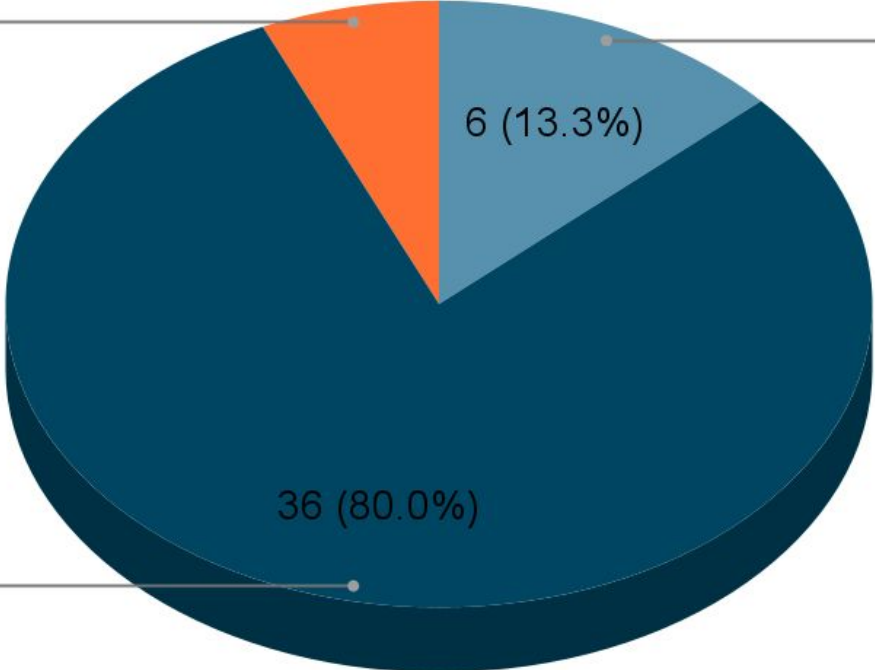
13.3%

6 (13.3%)

36 (80.0%)

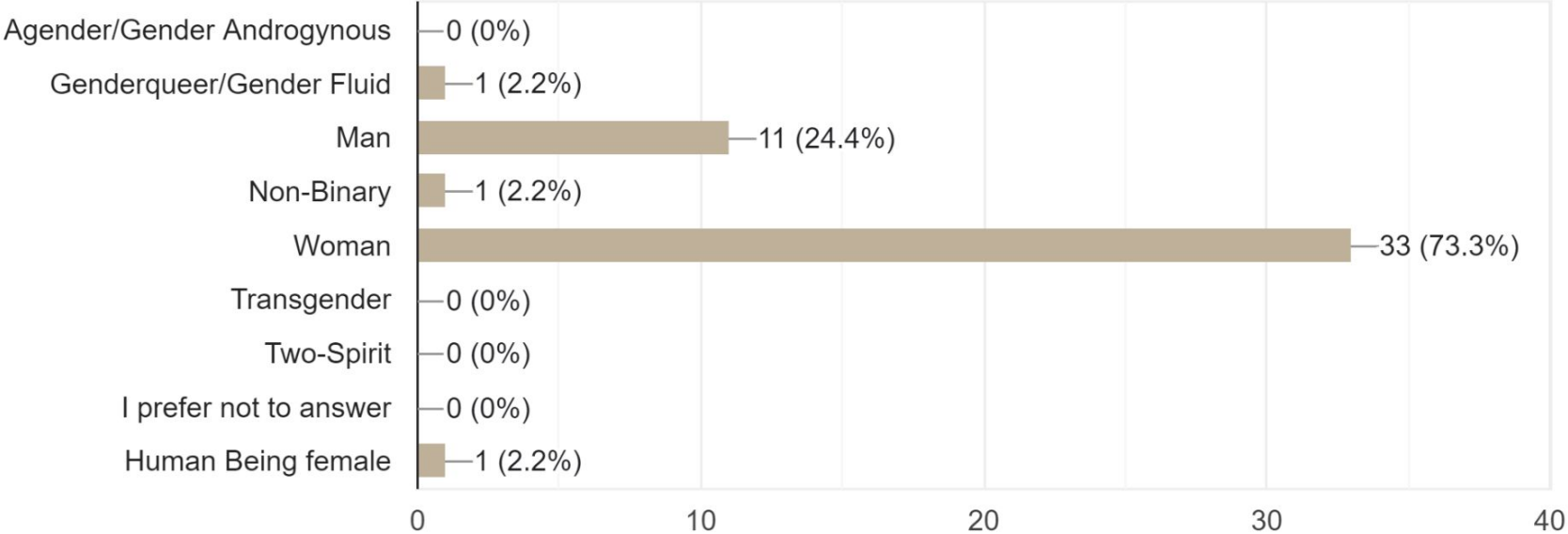
No

80.0%



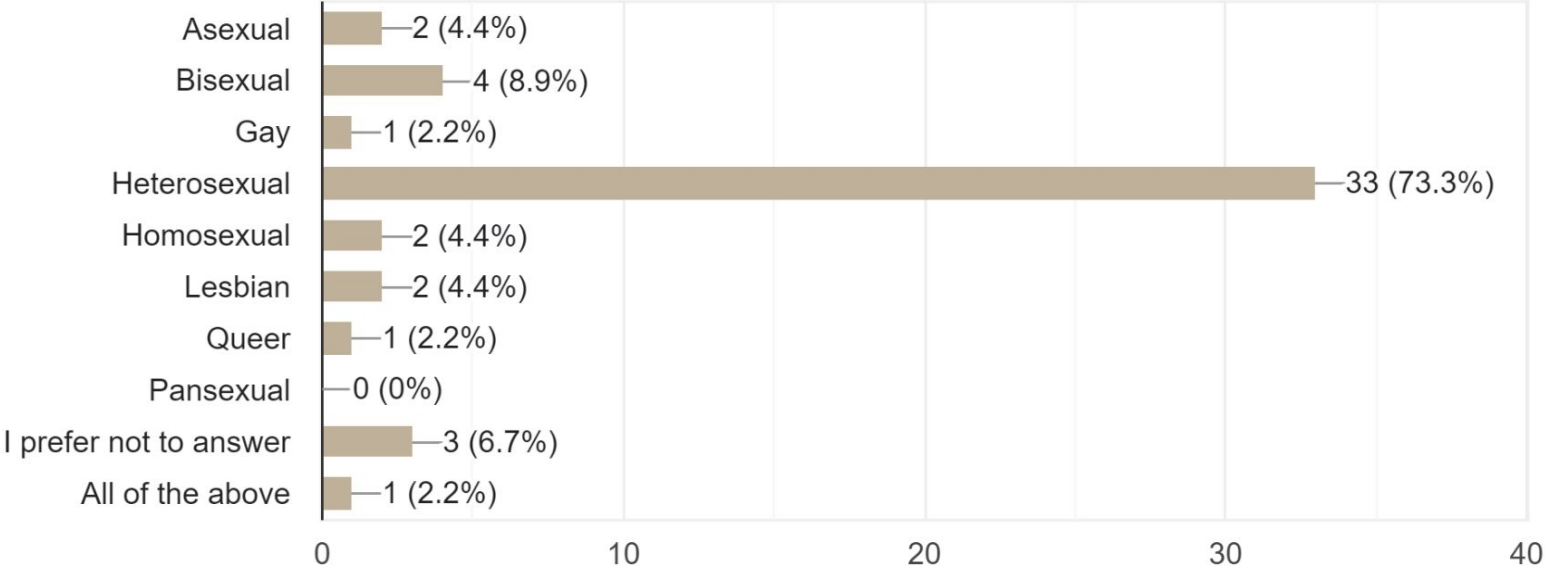
12. How do you describe your gender? Please mark all that apply.

45 responses



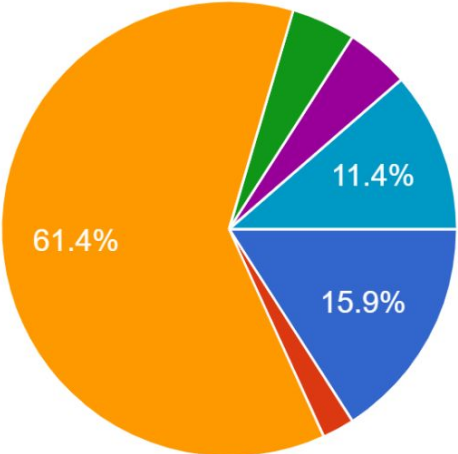
13. How do you describe your sexual orientation? Please choose all that apply.

45 responses



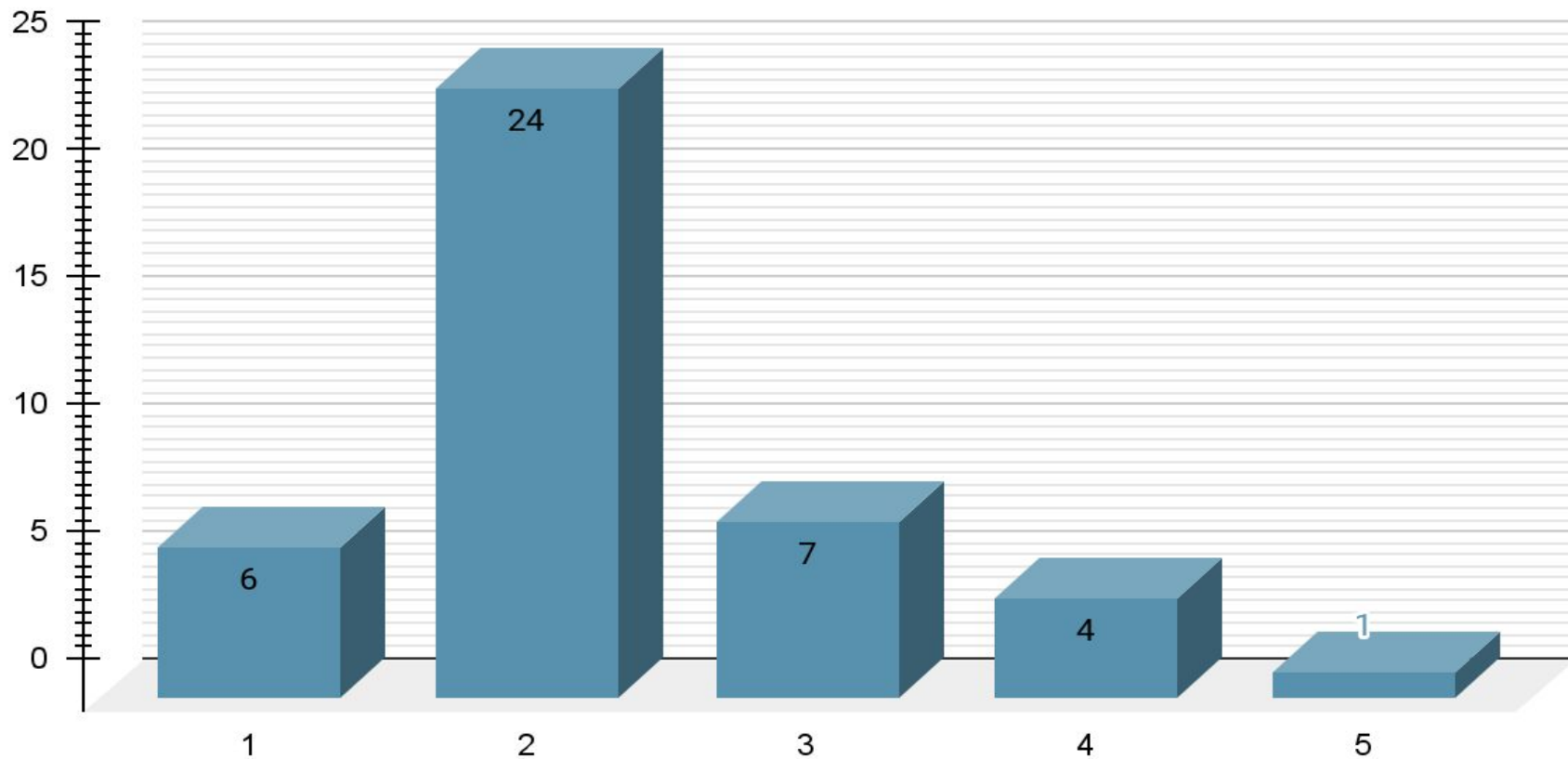
15. How would you describe your relationship status?

44 responses

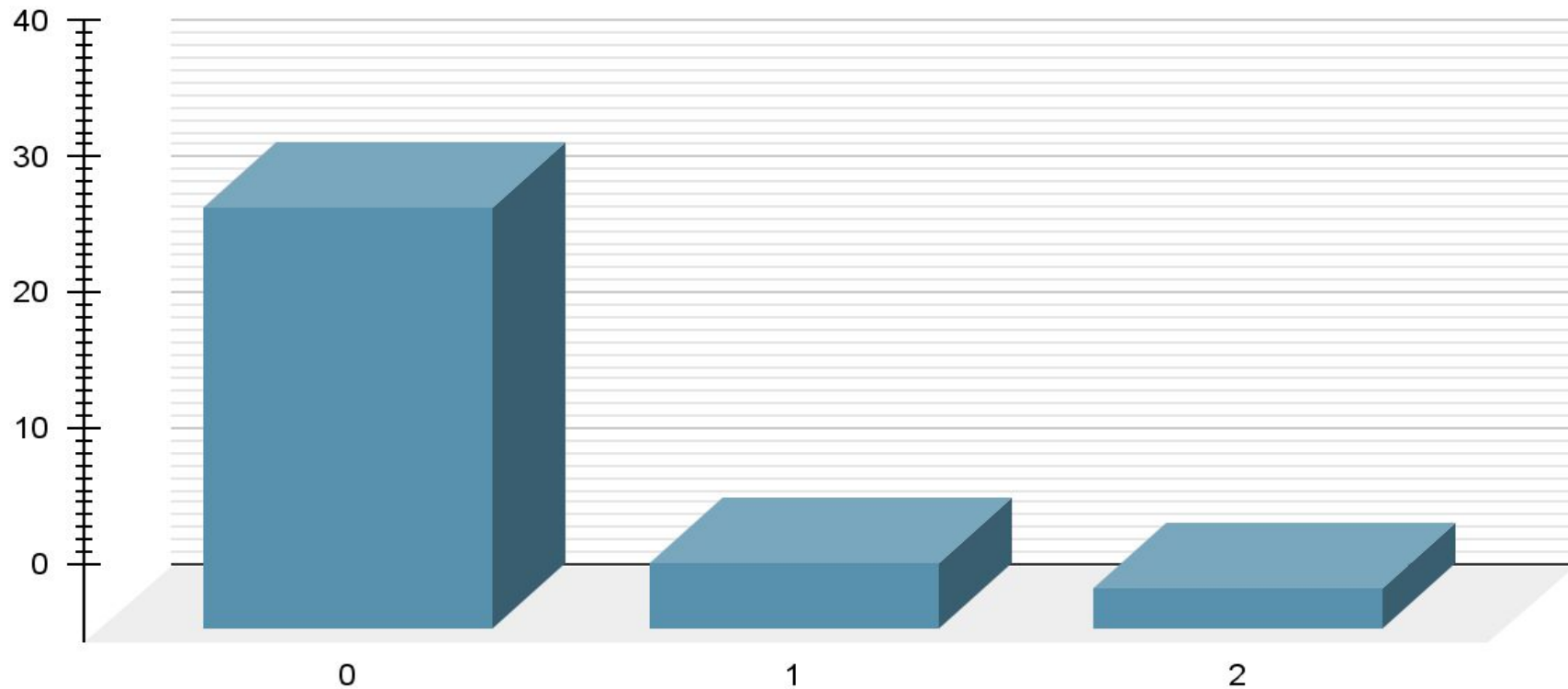


- In a committed relationship.
- In committed relationships (polyamorous).
- Married.
- Separated or Divorced.
- Single.
- Widowed.
- I prefer not to answer.

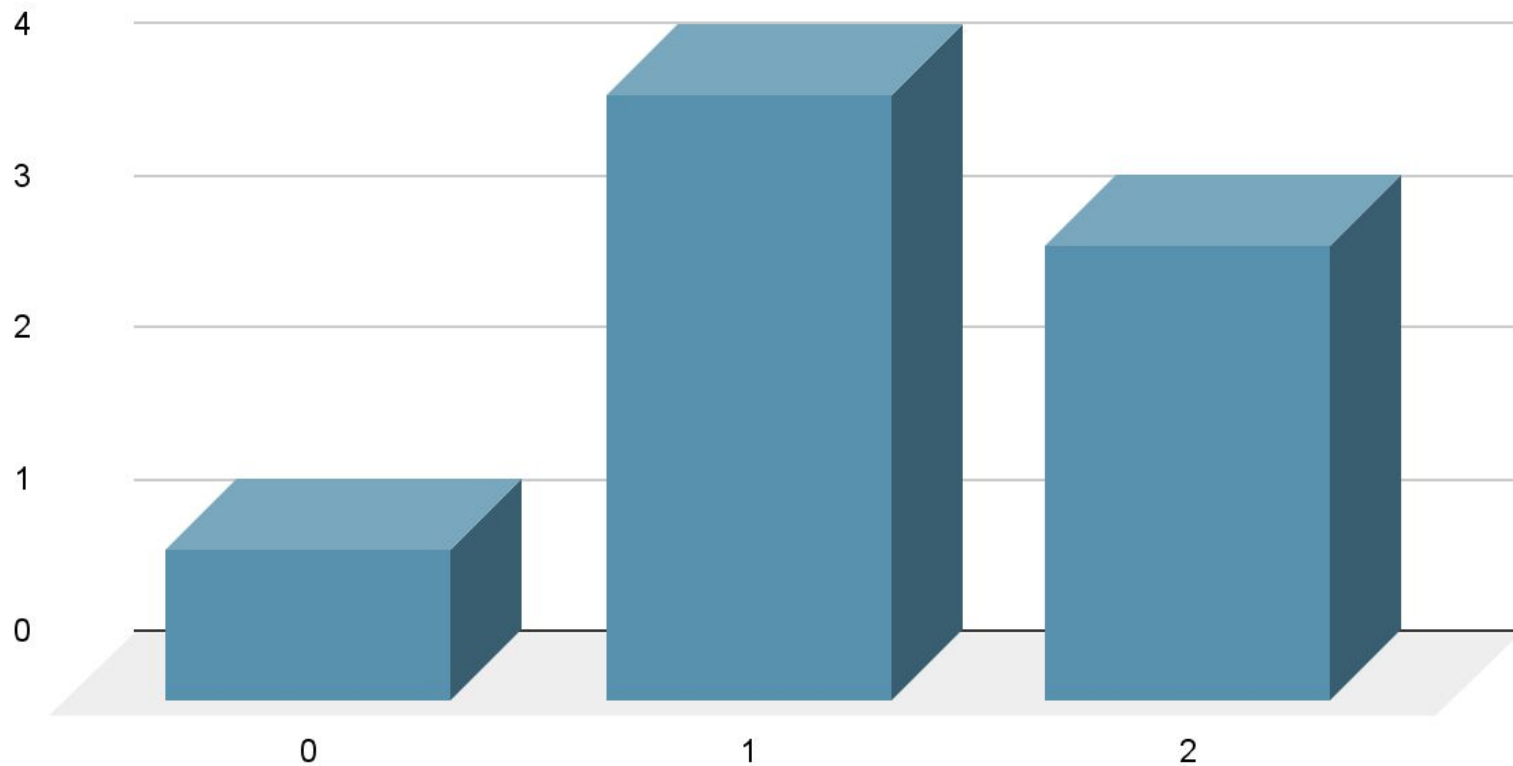
16. How many people currently live in your household?



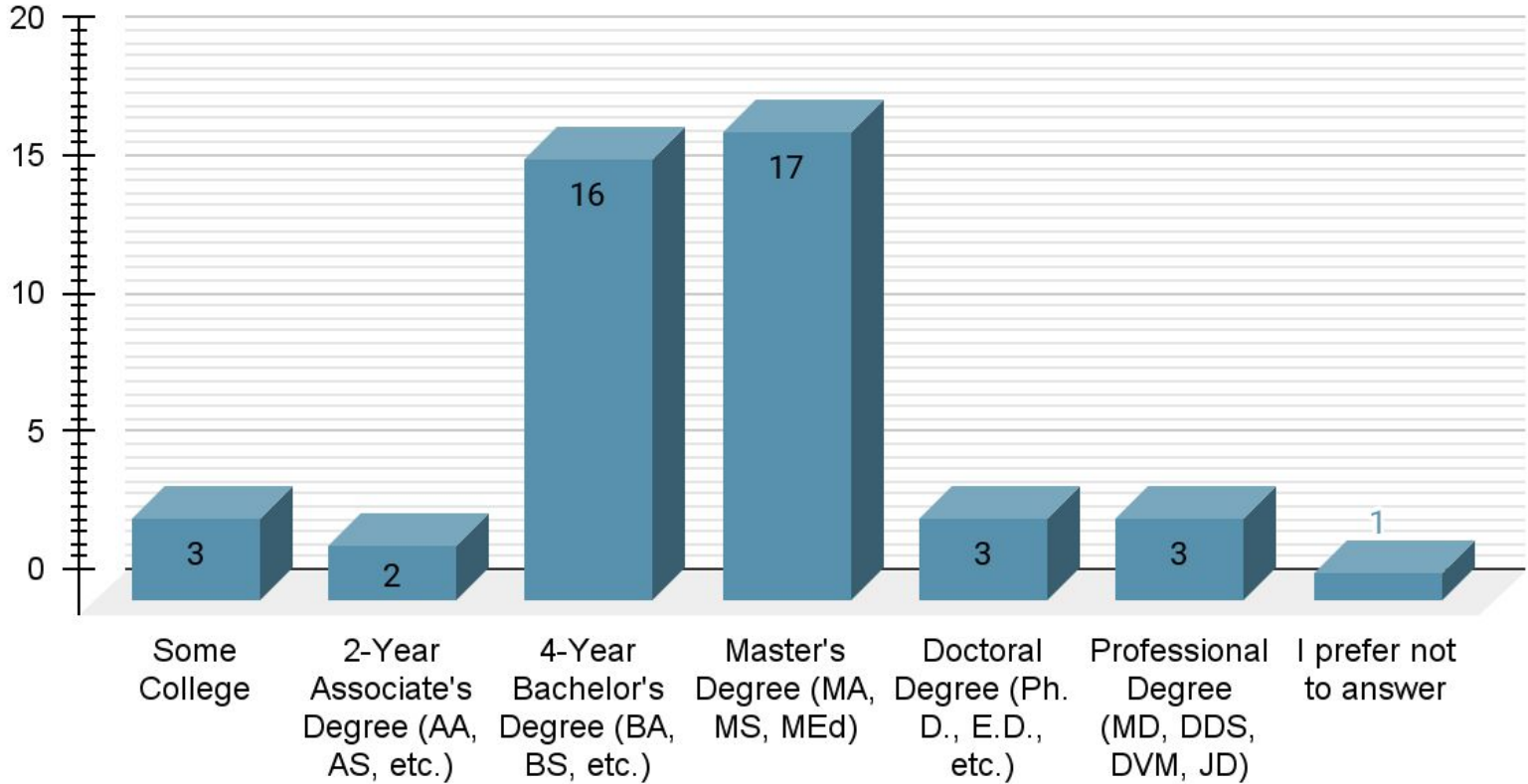
17. How many children under the age of 18 are there in your family?



18. If you have children under the age of 18 in your family, how many of them are currently participating in the Religious Exploration program or Youth Group at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough?

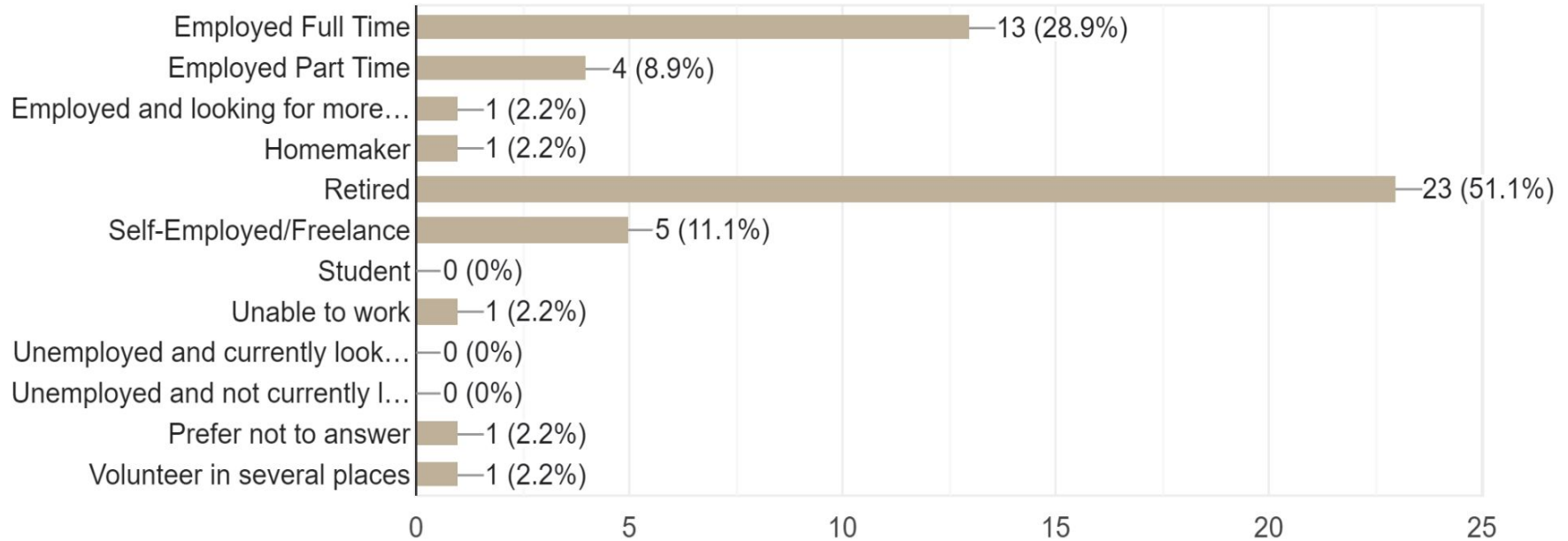


19. What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?



20. What is your current employment status? Please check all that apply.

45 responses

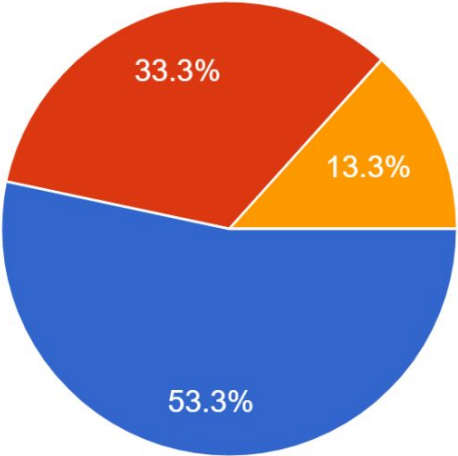


21. If you currently pledge, what do you take into consideration when deciding on an amount to give?

- How much I can give
- Current Financial Situation
- Out of pocket medical expenses, home repairs
- Our current financial stability (or lack thereof)
- How much can I possibly give and still meet basic frugal needs
- the overall health and financial well being of the church
- my income
- Want to support church, even though I'm not very involved
- The value of our church life and community
- How much money I have to give away.
- Church's budgetary need and what I can afford
- Basic 10% tithe
- my ability to support the church's stability
- My home budget
- Supporting the church I value, so it will be here for the next generation.
- My limited resources of a pension
- What fits in my budget
- My budget and the value of the church to me
- If I enjoy the ministers sermons
- Our dis
- posable income, the needs of the church, the value of the church in our lives
- As much as my budget can afford
- My own personal income, not household, bc it's only me that is a member
- My finances and the church's needs
- I base it on the services we use and the way they better our lives.
- What we can afford
- We make the church one of our top philanthropic priorities and then determine what that means for us in a giving year/ recent events/ time of the year (giving wise)
- How much I can afford to give.
- Balancing the many benefits we derive from being part of the church with how much we can afford to give.
- Is comfortable with my income
- my budget and what I can afford
- church importance to me and its needs, personal finances
- My income
- What I'm able to afford
- what I consider fair and generous
- Income and ability to be involved
- Current bills
- Our financial means and the importance of a liberal religious presence and voice in the community
- My ability to give and the needs of the church
- Last year's pledge, the church's vision for the coming year
- our income and needs of church
- Our budget, and the needs of the congregation
- What the church is doing for the world helps me decide.
- What I can afford as a monthly commit

22. On average how long does it take you to travel to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough from your home?

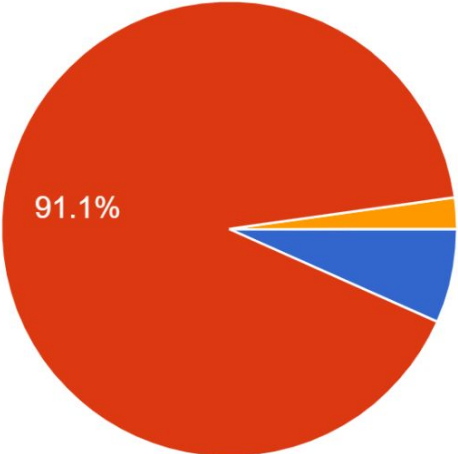
45 responses



- Less than 15 minutes.
- 15-30 minutes.
- 31-45 minutes.
- 45-60 minutes.
- More than 60 minutes.
- I prefer not to answer.

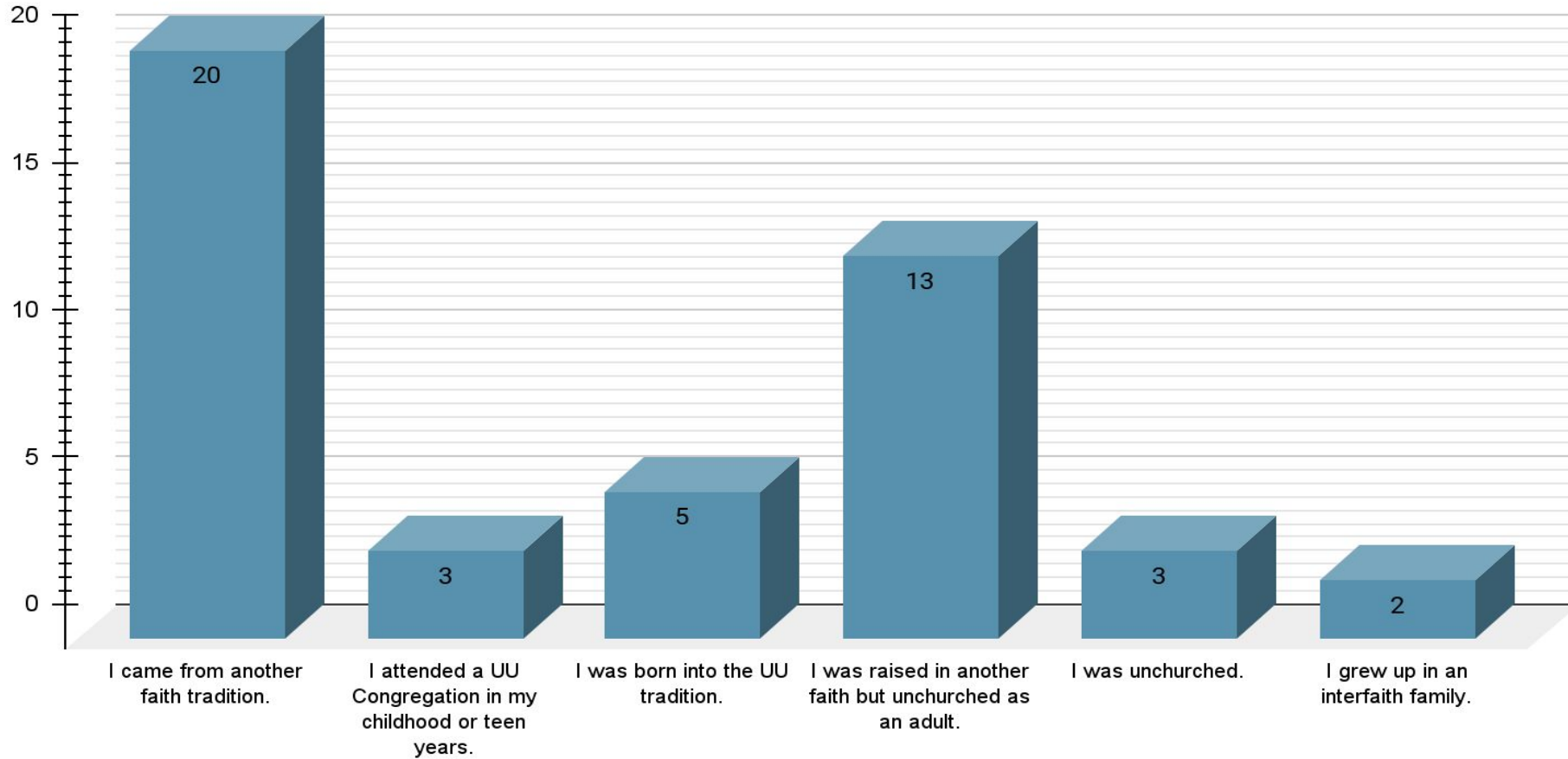
23. Besides this congregation are you a member of another congregation?

45 responses



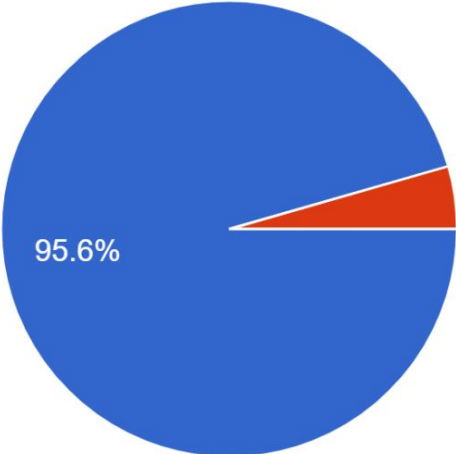
- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer.

24. What is your faith background?



25. When you attend services, do you typically attend services in person or online?

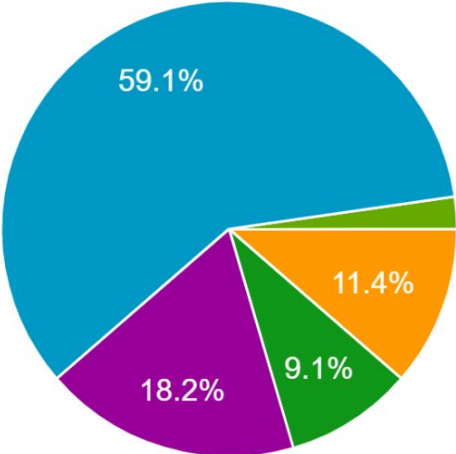
45 responses



- In person.
- Online.
- I don't typically attend services.
- I prefer not to answer.

26. How many years have you been a Unitarian Universalist?

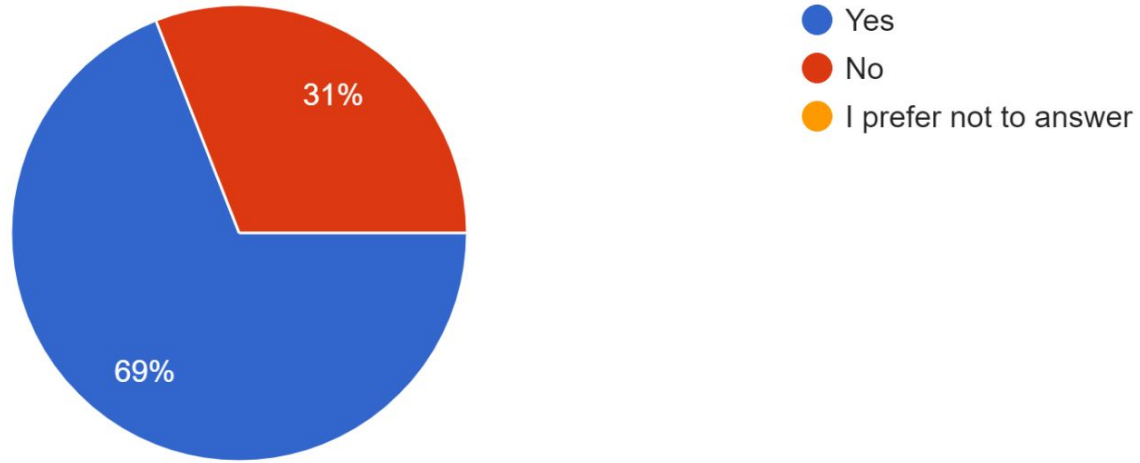
44 responses



- Less than 1 year.
- 1-2 years.
- 3-5 years.
- 6-10 years.
- 11-20 years.
- 20+ years.
- I do not consider myself a Unitarian Universalist.
- I prefer not to answer.

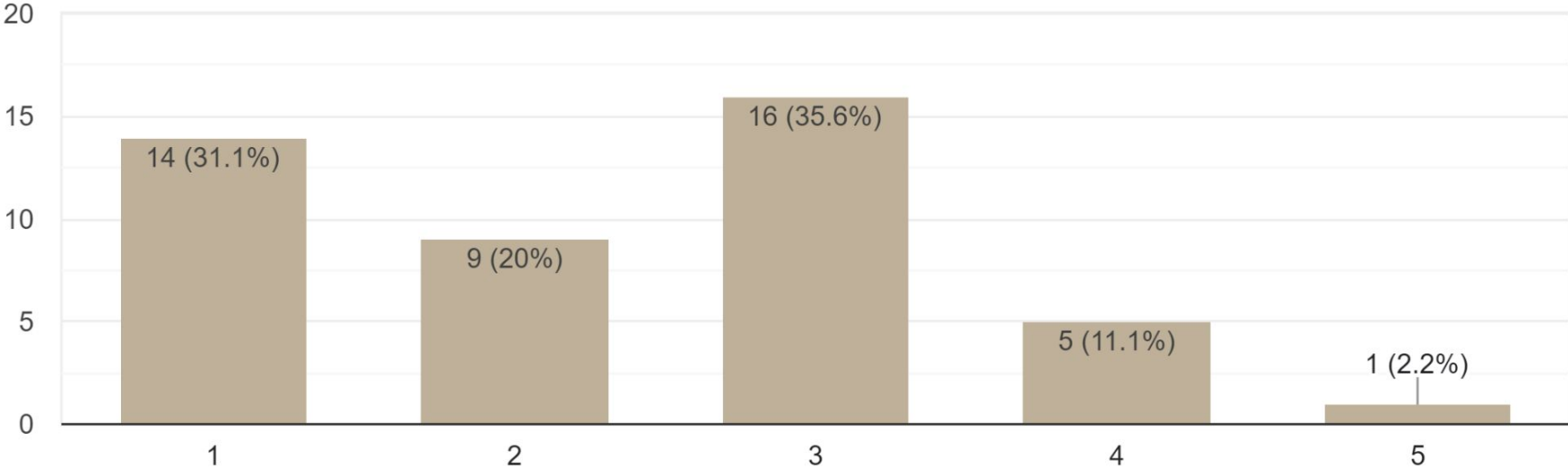
27. Do you have some kind of regular spiritual practice?

42 responses



28. How would you describe your spirituality?

45 responses



1 is Spirituality is integrated into everything I do.

5 is Spirituality is not important to me.

29. What brought you to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough?

- After my son was born I went church shopping. The service I attended at FUUSM was lay-led, by a quirky elderly retired dentist who was devoting his later years to doing pro bono dentistry to residents of a Caribbean island. The service went way over time. I decided immediately that any church who would let Otto Raboff speak so much longer about something he cared so passionately about was a church I wanted to be part of. At coffee hour some elderly women asked me to climb up and dust the high window wells. This seemingly odd treatment cemented my sense of being included and needed, and I've been here ever since.
- I was married in this church years ago and returned when I had a family.
- Location
- Bud Soul asked me to tape services.
- Soulful Sanctuary
- Recycling and Welcoming Church efforts
- Looking for a church for my family and religious education for my children
- Location, plus this church needed by skills.
- A search for a spiritual community that isn't dogmatic, promotes freedom and respect, head and heart and action in equal measures in our personal lives, local community and the world at large--but a terrific free concert is what first brought me in the door!
- Need for community, music program, need for spiritual grounding
- social activism
- The warm welcoming of the congregation
- Acceptance of me as a lesbian and my family with a child with 2 moms, one of them being agnostic so also a church that she'd be willing to attend now and then. I joined the morning of our child's dedication.
- The warm welcoming feeling and acceptance
- Looking for a comfortable vibe that. I could relate to!
- Freedom to pursue my path
- Read about UU Middleboro and thought it would be a good fit
- We had moved into the area
- A female friend in the NOW organization brought me here.
- Acceptance of multiple religions

29. What brought you to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough?

- Family was actively involved at the church.
- CUUPS and the choir
- moved to area, wanted to continue UU practice, friend belonged to FUUSM
- I am a lifelong UU and choose to remain involved in the denomination.
- I am a UU
- Family
- My children
- Geography
- Two members of the Chalice Choir
- Remembrance of All Souls Service
- Seeking a spiritually minded community
- search for community
- Curiosity and meeting Elizabeth Tarboro in the community.
- The music program and size of church with full-time minister and music director. My last church had no minister, no music director, and no RE when I finally left.
- A desire to find a place where I felt we fit and could raise our children.
- relocation
- Focus on spiritual growth
- Desire for community and the philosophy
- A desire to participate in an active spiritual community and have RE for our children
- my wife
- Article in the Middleboro Gazette that you were having a mid-week service called "Making Peace with the Holidays."
- Family connection
- ATTENDED A FUNERAL
- Family

30. What keeps you here?

- Music, social justice, and a caring community
- The caring people and youth services.
- A sense of place; that it suits our schedule and family needs; that the sermons are thought provoking and helpful
- Not much
- minister, music
- mission-based work with friends and colleagues
- Spiritual community
- Inertia, plus sense of purpose.
- Community, inspiration, beauty, hope, comfort, challenge, good friends and values
- Community, music, thoughtful ritual, intelligent leadership, interim minister is wonderful
- my need to make a difference
- The community the congregation provides and the efforts to turn our values into daily actions
- Community for my child and me
- Friendship
- Hope of a better future for our church
- Same thing and relationships
- The people
- feeling part of the community
- The fact that there is always HOPE keeps me here!
- Perspective of an open-minded leader
- Close ties of friendship and common values and goals. Stimulating and inspiring music program where I can fulfill my joy in making music!
- Choir and CUUPs

30. What keeps you here?

- community, beliefs, thought provoking
- The fellowship
- The people
- Community
- Spiritual ideas, music, community, friends, liberal voice, something my husband and I share.
- Loyalty and hope
- Music
- The community
- The hope that it will evolve into what I originally sought.
- community and personal growth, particularly as it relates to the support we give each other and the presence in and impact we can make on the community at large
- People even though many have changed. The church seems to draw good people
- Music, community, fun activities
- My connection at this point is tenuous.
- Like what the church stands for
- My spiritual home
- music, relationship, desire for intellectual & spiritual stimulation
- thought provoking sermons, good community, RE
- my friends (here)
- The community.
- Deep ties to my closest friends
- faith community
- Deep connection with people who share my values

31. Why should a candidate for our ministerial position consider serving our congregation?

- Despite my son's description of our congregation as "crazy" and "opinionated," I think our acceptance of one another as we are, and our passions, are also strengths.
- For a candidate/ there's a real chance to grow and shape a congregation, to introduce new ideas, to work with existing congregants to expand and plan for the future. I would think many candidates would find that professionally fulfilling
- Don't have a good answer.
- The members will offer a wide variety of talents, intellectual stimulation, and hard work. The location is convenient to Boston and Cape Cod.
- It's a place an ambitious minister could make a big difference.
- We are an interested and interesting group of people, moving and kind and we want to help the world be a better place
- It's a great little church with great potential.
- Because we include such a thoughtful, loving, fun and interesting variety of people from a wide variety of backgrounds who want to work together to make our world a better place for all, and we need a good leader to pull us together and harness our energy and potential.
- We have a bright and caring congregation, and some very committed leaders
- They will grow here and be supported
- The number of committed people willing to assume major responsibility for the diverse needs of the church community
- We have a strong social justice and music program and need someone to help us reach out to the greater community to grow our church, especially in bringing in families and those of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.
- We are a group who when given the proper leadership can grow and prosper.
- Will feel the compassion and caring that our members exude!
- I have no idea
- Vibrant community that tries hard to meet the needs of others
- we are a caring community.

31. Why should a candidate for our ministerial position consider serving our congregation?

- The fact that there is always HOPE will require a candidate to consider serving us!
- Overall: we are good people in a good congregation looking to improve
- We are a warm, friendly, welcoming congregation with deep commitment to common values and to service for the greater good.
- We have a nice group of people from the surrounding community, a church family.
- Many dedicated, caring people in the church willing to work to continue congregation
- We're committed to the faith and we are a strong socially active community.
- We put love at the best of everything we do.
- We have a tight knit community and have overcome some significant struggles over the years that seemed divisive but the minister and congregation worked together to get through it (flag controversy, membership)
- There's a wonderful spirit here that the right minister could energize
- Good-heartedness and Potential
- We are a small but determined congregation that wishes to continue with a vibrant church and to provide a safe place for all to be themselves and worship in a way that is meaningful to them
- Ideally someone younger & idealistic who is up for a real challenge.
- growth - in numbers - of our congregation; expanding our appeal in the larger community
- I think they would feel supported.
- Because we are a fully engaged congregation. We are always endeavoring to do better, to challenge ourselves, and to walk together in love and service. We do this really well and we always show up.
- "There are many very committed and well meaning congregants. We have a deeply felt desire to do good in the community. The congregation seems to be committed to paying our staff fair and equitable salaries.

31. Why should a candidate for our ministerial position consider serving our congregation?

- I have grown more and more distant over the course of the past decade, not only due to covid circumstances. I have felt frustrated at the focus on political issues during Sunday services. I have needed a place where spiritual practice could nurture and heal my soul. The more tumultuous things have been in society, the less I have felt like coming to church was a help. It often has actually served to intensify my negative feelings. I don't need services that are ""challenging"" as much as I need services that remind me that there is always hope.
- Also, I feel that we need someone who can help us attract younger congregants and to work together effectively. Thank you for reading! "
- People are accepting and welcoming; good programming; active participation of many in the congregation
- Interesting members who are committed to the church in multiple ways.
- The need for younger and more members, the need to change with the times, the need to balance priorities and provide guidance to the congregation
- we are a talented and challenging congregation and we can learn a lot from each other
- I don't know.
- We have the spirit and the potential to be a powerful force in the lives of our members and our community, given skillful leadership.
- offers a progressive outlook in community
- We have spirit waiting to be awakened