

2020 Little Rock Congregations Survey

Welcome to the Little Rock Congregations Study, a web-based survey on religion and community! You know this is a legitimate, academic research study because there is all kinds of federally-mandated, university red-tape language we need to put here before you can get started on the survey. Thank you for your patience!

Before taking part in this study, please read the consent form below and mark “I Agree” at the bottom of the page if you understand the statements and freely consent to participate in the study. Participation is completely voluntary. If you decide to participate you will be asked to complete this survey. We think this will take you no more than 14 minutes. Some questions may make you uncomfortable, given that some questions are about your congregation and the survey may have been shared with you by a religious leader. Please know that your responses are not linked to any identifiable information. You are free to skip questions and/or stop participation at any time.

Benefits of participation include the opportunity to reflect on your own faith and community, which you may find helpful in your lives. Your congregation leader will also receive a report on the aggregate, anonymous responses of your congregation, and comparative data from the full sample, which may lead to more responsive and informed leadership. The data may also contribute to furthering our social science understanding of religion. No identifying information will be collected in the congregant survey. Only the CITI-certified researchers approved to handle data for this study will have access to the data. We will make every effort to keep information about you confidential. The data will only be reported in the aggregate. Researchers will retain already collected data if you stop participating partway through. The survey data will be stored on a password-protected University Qualtrics account. All of the electronic data will be stored on the PI’s password-protected University laptop. Any physical surveys (for those without internet access) will be stored in the PI’s locked office. Data will be stored for three years past the life of the study. Please take whatever time you need to ask the researchers questions about the study. You can stop participating at any time. You are free to stop participation at any time without any penalty.

This study has been reviewed and approved by UA Little Rock’s Institutional Review Board (IRB). The IRB has determined that this study meets the ethical obligations required by federal law and University policies. If you have questions or concerns regarding this study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Rebecca Glazier, at 501- 813-2079. If you have any questions regarding your rights as a research participant, please contact the Research Compliance Officer at 501-569-8657 or irb @ualr.edu. If you are 18 years of age or older, understand the statements above, and freely consent to participate in the study, mark “I agree” to begin the survey.

I agree I decline

Name of the Congregation where you worship: _____

Political Efficacy and Community Connection

Thinking about your community beyond your congregation, please mark how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about community engagement:

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I do things to make the community a better place.					
I am aware of the important needs in the community.					
I rarely talk with my friends and/or family about community problems.					
Becoming involved in political or social issues is a good way to improve the community.					
Government is too complicated for me to understand.					
I believe that I can personally make a difference in my community.					

In the past month, how many hours of unpaid service have you given <i>outside</i> your place of worship?
<input type="checkbox"/> 0
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 6-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 11-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 15+

In the past month, how many hours of unpaid service have you given <i>to</i> your place of worship?
<input type="checkbox"/> 0
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 6-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 11-14
<input type="checkbox"/> 15+

Thinking about the city of Little Rock, how much would you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
People in Little Rock are willing to help each other out.					
Little Rock has a problem with racial division.					
I am hopeful about the future of Little Rock.					
I think that race relations are likely to improve in Little Rock in the future.					

Congregational Connection

Now we would like to ask you a few questions about your congregation.

How long have you been attending this congregation?

<input type="checkbox"/> One year or less	<input type="checkbox"/> Two to four years	<input type="checkbox"/> Five to nine years
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-19 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 or more years	

Thinking now of “normal” times, that is, not during a pandemic, are you regularly involved in any group activities here?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in Sunday school, church school, Sabbath school, or similar.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in prayer, discussion, or Bible study groups.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in fellowships, clubs, or other social groups.
<input type="checkbox"/> No, we have no group activities.
<input type="checkbox"/> No, I am not regularly involved in group activities.

Thinking now of “normal” times, that is, not during a pandemic, do you regularly take part in any activities of this congregation that reach out to the advocacy)?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in community service or advocacy activities of this congregation.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in evangelism or outreach activities.
<input type="checkbox"/> No, we don't have such activities.
<input type="checkbox"/> No, I am not regularly involved.

Please mark how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about your congregation:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My congregation feels like family to me.					
My congregation meets my spiritual needs.					
I feel like an outsider in my congregation.					
It is important to me that my congregation is involved in the community.					
I find it difficult to approach religious leaders in this congregation.					
Congregation members are given the opportunity to participate in decision-making here.					
I would be prepared to invite friends or relatives to a worship service here.					
My congregation makes a deliberate effort to be welcoming to racial and ethnic groups that are different from the majority here.					

About how much do you give financially to this congregation?
<input type="checkbox"/> I give 10% or more of net income regularly.
<input type="checkbox"/> I give about 5% to 9% of net income regularly.
<input type="checkbox"/> I give less than 5% of net income regularly.
<input type="checkbox"/> I give a small amount whenever I am here.
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not contribute financially here.

Places of worship have many different priorities during these challenging times. Please rank (1-4) the following items according to what you would like to see your congregation focusing on right now:
Spiritual Growth and Development
Social Connection and Fellowship
Helping those in need
Other _____

Spiritual Health

About how often do you spend time alone praying outside of religious services?
<input type="checkbox"/> Never
<input type="checkbox"/> Only certain occasions
<input type="checkbox"/> Once a week or less
<input type="checkbox"/> A few times a week
<input type="checkbox"/> Once a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple times a day

Outside of attending religious services, about how often do you spend time alone reading the Bible, Koran, Torah, or other sacred texts?
<input type="checkbox"/> Never
<input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 to 3 times a month
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a week
<input type="checkbox"/> A few times a week
<input type="checkbox"/> Daily

How often do you attend religious services?
<input type="checkbox"/> Never
<input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally
<input type="checkbox"/> About once a month
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 to 3 times a month
<input type="checkbox"/> Every week
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple times a week

Is that more or less often than you were attending a year ago?
<input type="checkbox"/> More
<input type="checkbox"/> Less
<input type="checkbox"/> About the same

What is the main reason why you are attending [more/less] often now?

Would you say your religion provides some guidance in your day-to-day life, quite a bit of guidance, or a great deal of guidance in your day-to-day life?
<input type="checkbox"/> Some guidance
<input type="checkbox"/> A great deal of guidance
<input type="checkbox"/> Quite a bit of guidance
<input type="checkbox"/> Religion isn't that important to me

Please mark how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:
God has a plan and I have a part to play in it
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree
<input type="checkbox"/> Agree
<input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree
<input type="checkbox"/> Disagree
<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree

Spiritual Well Being

How often do you feel a deep sense of spiritual peace and well-being?

<input type="checkbox"/> Many times a day	<input type="checkbox"/> Every day	<input type="checkbox"/> Most days
<input type="checkbox"/> At least once a week	<input type="checkbox"/> Once or twice a month	<input type="checkbox"/> Seldom
<input type="checkbox"/> Never or almost never		

Compared to a year ago, do you feel closer to God or further from God today?

<input type="checkbox"/> I feel much closer to God today than I did a year ago.
<input type="checkbox"/> I feel somewhat closer to God today than I did a year ago.
<input type="checkbox"/> I feel about the same today as I did a year ago.
<input type="checkbox"/> I feel somewhat further from God today than I did a year ago.
<input type="checkbox"/> I feel much further from God today than I did a year ago.

I feel thankful for my blessings
<input type="checkbox"/> Many times a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day
<input type="checkbox"/> Most days
<input type="checkbox"/> At least once a week
<input type="checkbox"/> Once or twice a month
<input type="checkbox"/> Seldom
<input type="checkbox"/> Never or almost never

I feel God's love for me, directly, or through others.
<input type="checkbox"/> Many times a day
<input type="checkbox"/> Every day
<input type="checkbox"/> Most days
<input type="checkbox"/> At least once a week
<input type="checkbox"/> Once or twice a month
<input type="checkbox"/> Seldom
<input type="checkbox"/> Never or almost never

Physical/ Mental Health

Now thinking about your <i>physical</i> health, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health <u>not good</u>?
<input type="checkbox"/> None
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-10 days
<input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 days
<input type="checkbox"/> 21-29 days
<input type="checkbox"/> All 30 days

Now thinking about your <i>mental</i> health, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health <u>not good</u>?
<input type="checkbox"/> None
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-10 days
<input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 days
<input type="checkbox"/> 21-29 days
<input type="checkbox"/> All 30 days

All things considered, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days, on a scale from 1-100? What number would you say? _____

Clergy Messages

How often do the worship service messages by your religious leader:

	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
Focus on the importance of marriage and family?					
Focus on advocacy or social action?					
Encourage you to serve or volunteer in the community?					
Encourage you to help those less fortunate in your own community?					
Encourage you to help those less fortunate around the world?					
Focus on personal spiritual growth?					
Urge you to register to vote?					

Community Issues

Please indicate how important each of these issues is to you:

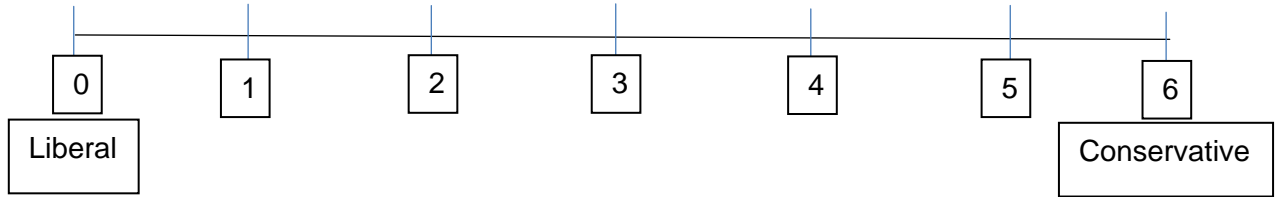
	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Slightly Important	Unimportant
Race Relations					
Crime					
Access to Healthcare					
Education/Schools					
Income Inequality					
Marriage/Families					
Housing/Homelessness					
At-risk children/Foster care					

Please list any of these issues on which you would like to see you congregation get involved to help address the issue: _____

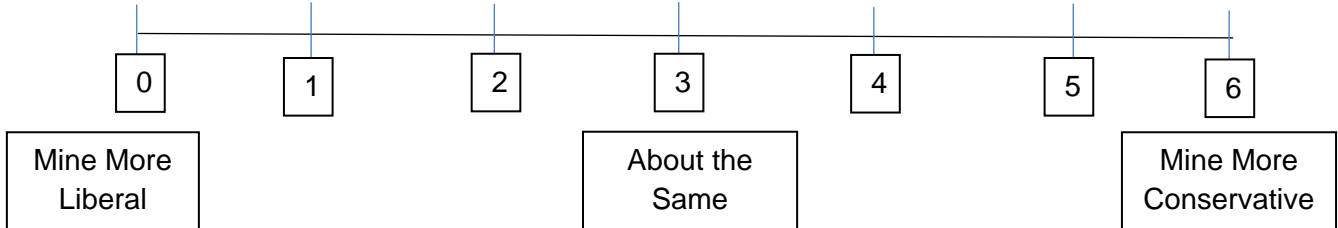
Please list any of these issues on which you would be willing to volunteer to help your congregation's efforts to address the issue: _____

Political Questions

Many people use the terms liberal, moderate, and conservative to recognize different political opinions. On a scale from 1 to 6, where 1 is the most liberal position and 6 the most conservative, where would you rank yourself when you think of your general political views?



How would you compare your views with other congregation members' on political issues?



In the past year, have you:	No	Yes, once or twice	Yes, a few times	Yes, many times
1. Tried to persuade someone to vote				
2. Donated money to a political candidate or campaign				
3. Signed a petition				
4. Participated in a local political or community group				
5. Participated in a national political group				
6. Contacted public officials on a political or social issue				
7. Posted or shared something political through social media (like Facebook or Twitter)				

Personal Characteristics

What is your gender?

Male

Female

Other

What is the highest year in school/degree you have achieved?

Less than high school

High school

Associates degree

Undergraduate degree

Post graduate

In what year were you born?

What is your zip code?

By your best estimate, what was your total household income last year, before taxes?

\$10,000 or less

\$10,001 to \$20,000

\$20,001 to \$35,000

\$35,001 to \$50,000

\$50,001 to \$100,000

\$100,001 to \$150,000

More than \$150,000

What is your race/ethnicity?

White

Black or African American

Hispanic

Asian

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Native American

Other _____