

DEMOGRAPHIC AND RELIGIOUS INVOLVEMENT VARIABLES

397 people participated in the survey

1. Age of Respondents (We have 227 children in the church rolls 13 or under.)

Age Range	14-18	19-25	26-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 and over
Survey	14	6	17	29	57	72	191
Church Rolls *	107	167	104	132	197	162	318

* 224 people do not have birthdays in church database. Hence ages are not available for them.

2. Gender? (151) Male (230) Female

3. Martial Status:

- (27) Single, never married
- (62) Widowed
- (24) Separated or divorced
- (274) Married
- (6) In a committed relationship

4. Race? (377) White (4) African-American (1) Hispanic (1) Asian () other

5. What is your highest level of formal education?

- (117) high school graduate or less
- (88) college graduate
- (75) some college or technical training
- (107) post graduate work or degree

6. What is your approximate HOUSEHOLD income? (Only ONE person per family respond!!)

- (49) under \$25,000
- (68) \$25,000 to \$50,000
- (63) \$50,000 to \$75,000
- (31) \$75,000 to \$100,000
- (53) over \$100,000

7. Employment status:

- (198) retired
- (39) employed part time
- (15) full time "homemaker"
- (13) student
- (121) employed full time

8. Do you have children in any of the following groups? (Only ONE person per family respond!!)

- (16) birth-4 years old 11 number
- (18) 5-10 years old 17 number
- (21) 11-14 years old 23 number

8a. Do your children attend Sunday School?

- (30) weekly (9) once a month (11) never

8b. Do your children participate in any youth activities at Immanuel?

(20) frequently (18) occasionally (12) never

9. Do you teach or attend any Sunday School classes?

- (218) none
- (17) about once a month
- (15) about once or twice a year
- (47) about 2-3 times a month
- (14) once or twice every 3 months
- (45) 4 or more times a month

10. Choose the statement that most accurately describes **your** theological beliefs.

(Please check only one)

- 55 I tend to be theologically conservative.
- 105 I tend to be theologically moderate to conservative.
- 76 I tend to be theologically moderate.
- 59 I tend to be theologically moderate to liberal.
- 45 I tend to be theologically liberal.
- 31 I tend to be quite diverse theologically.
- 5 other

11. Choose the statement that most accurately describes the theological beliefs of **the congregation at Immanuel**.

(Please check only one)

- 27 the congregation tends to be theologically conservative.
- 96 the congregation tends to be theologically moderate to conservative.
- 74 the congregation tends to be theologically moderate.
- 97 the congregation tends to be theologically moderate to liberal.
- 23 the congregation tends to be theologically liberal.
- 33 the congregation tends to be quite diverse theologically.
- 4 other

12. Frequency of religious practices ~~~~ How often do you participate in or do the following activities:

	Weekly or More	Once a Month	Few Times a Year	Never
private prayer & mediation	295	22	27	19
Bible reading	97	42	115	73
serve in Outreach (e.g. Soup Kitchen; Crop Walk; etc.)	20	40	117	129
seek converts & new members	5	7	76	205
spiritual reading and study	93	47	91	91

13. How many years have you lived in this general area?

(0) one year or less

- (12) 2 - 4 years
- (25) 5 - 9 years
- (48) 10 - 19 years
- (308) 20 or more years

14. How long have you been a member of Immanuel UCC?

- (18) not a member
- (11) less than 2 years
- (35) 2-4 years
- (46) 5-9 years
- (73) 10-19 years
- (208) 20 or more years

15. On the average, how many times have you attended worship services during the past year?

- (5) none
- (21) about once or twice a year
- (28) once or twice every 3 months
- (36) about once a month
- (117) about 2-3 times a month
- (179) weekly

16. How many times have you received communion during the past year?

- (11) none
- (61) 1-2 times
- (165) 3-6 times
- (148) 7 or more times

17. Has your involvement in the church increased, decreased or remained the same in recent years?

- (94) increased
- (180) remained the same
- (115) decreased

17a. **If your participation has increased**, which of the following are reasons for that increase

(check all that apply):

- (40) more time available
- (7) better health
- (14) because of children
- (44) stronger faith
- (45) accepted office or other responsibility in the church
- (32) more positive attitude toward the church

17b. **If your participation has decreased**, which of the following are reasons for that decrease

(check all that apply)

- (42) less time available
- (35) health problems
- (13) because of children
- (3) decreased faith
- (16) given up office or other responsibility in the church
- (48) more negative attitude toward the church

18. In how many church organizations, committees, and groups do you participate?
 (142) none (185) 1-3 (45) 4-6 (5) 7-10 (1) 11 or more
19. How long does it take you to travel from your home to Immanuel UCC?
 (129) 5 minutes or less
 (141) 6 - 10 minutes
 (86) 10 - 20 minutes
 (30) 20 - 30 minutes
 (5) more than 30 minutes
20. How many persons or families have you invited to visit or join Immanuel in the past year?
 (240) none (54) one (57) 2-4 (8) 5 or more
21. How important would you say spiritual belief is in your own life?
 (283) very important
 (99) somewhat important
 (2) somewhat unimportant
 (0) not important
 (6) unsure
22. How important would you say worship is in your own life?
 (224) very important
 (141) somewhat important
 (9) somewhat unimportant
 (7) not important
 (9) unsure
23. The music program is integral to the overall worship experience. What is your preference in worship music style?
 (158) traditional worship music
 (21) contemporary worship music
 (201) a blend of contemporary and traditional worship music
 (6) other
24. I prefer to sing hymns:
 (136) with the "inclusive" language as found in the *New Century Hymnal* currently being used.
 (182) with the traditional/original hymn text as found in former editions of the hymnal.
 (93) other
25. Additional topics of concern to me include: **All concerns were given to the Consistory.**

26. Personal Beliefs ~ Select ONE response per question!!!

A. Which of the following best expresses your belief about God?

- 3 I do not believe in God.
- 19 I really don't know what to believe about God.
- 18 I do not believe in a creating and saving God, but I do believe in a higher power of some kind.
- 28 God is the creator of an orderly world, but does not now guide it or intervene in its course of affairs or the lives of individuals.
- 22 Although God has and can act in history and communicate with persons directly, it is not something that happens very often.
- 87 God is constantly at work in the world from "above" directing people, nations, and events.
- 177 God is the world and is in every person, thing, and event.

B. Which one of the following best expresses your view of the Bible?

- 1 The Bible was written by men who lived so long ago that it is of little value today.
- 9 The Bible is a valuable book because it was written by wise and good persons, but I do not believe it is really God's Word.
- 152 The Bible is the record of many different persons' response to God and because of this persons and churches today are often times forced to interpret for themselves the Bible's basic moral and religious teachings.
- 164 The Bible is the inspired Word of God and its basic moral and religious teachings are clear and true, even if it does contain some human error.
- 33 The Bible is the actual Word of God and is to be taken literally.

C. Which of the following best expresses your belief about sin and salvation?

- 3 Sin and salvation really don't have much meaning to me personally.
- 35 Sin is a helpful way of talking about people's capacity to harm themselves and others, and salvation is a helpful way of talking about hope for a better future.
- 99 I believe all people are inherently good, and to the extent sin and salvation have meaning to all, it has to do with people realizing or not realizing their human potential for good.
- 30 Although people are sinful, all people participate in God's salvation regardless of how they live their life, even if they do not believe in God.
- 142 All people are sinful but need only to believe in and ask for God's forgiveness to be saved.
- 44 All people are sinful and if they are to be saved they must earn it through living a good life, devoted to God.

27. Congregational Identity

Listed below are several alternatives touching upon important dimensions of a church's identity. Using the seven (7) point scale between each set of alternatives, place an "X" under the one number that best describes Immanuel. A "1" means that the Immanuel congregation is most like the characteristic on the left while a "7" means most like the characteristic on the right.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Immanuel is more influenced by history and tradition 4.07								Immanuel is more influenced by contemporary ideas and trends
Members are similar in values and lifestyle to the people who live immediately around Immanuel 3.06								Members are very different in values and lifestyle from people who live immediately around the church
Immanuel is very involved with the community around the church 2.71								Immanuel is not at all involved with the community around the church.
Immanuel is primarily oriented to serving our members. 3.98								Immanuel is primarily oriented to serving the world beyond our membership.
Our congregation feels like one large family. 4.13								Our congregation feels like a loosely knit association of individuals and groups
Our church is known as a prestigious one in the area. 2.68								Our strengths notwithstanding, our church is not considered one of the "status" churches in the area.
The church's approach to social issues is basically educational, leaving any action to individual conscience. 3.62								The church's approach to social issues is decidedly "activist". We have a proven history of taking a stand on social issues as a congregation.
The congregation's approach to individual salvation emphasizes education, nurture and gradual growth in the faith 2.16								The congregation's approach to individual salvation stresses conversion and a born-again experience.
Our congregation gives strong expression to its denominational identity and heritage 3.27								It would be difficult for a visitor to know to which denomination the congregation belongs.
Our theology respects and encourages individual, lifelong faith journeys 2.34								Our theology is highly doctrinal and tied to creedal definitions of truth