

**2008 Mainline Protestant Clergy Voices Survey
FINAL Top Line Results (N=2,658 respondents)**

FAITH AND PUBLIC LIFE

1. Generally speaking, how interested are you in politics?

<i>Very Interested</i>			<i>Mildly Interested</i>			<i>Not at all Interested</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
29%	32%	19%	13%	4%	2%	1%	

2. How involved are you in advocating on behalf of social and political issues?

<i>Extremely Involved</i>			<i>Moderately Involved</i>			<i>Not at all Involved</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
5%	17%	23%	30%	14%	9%	2%	

3. If it were possible, would you like to be more or less involved with social and political issues?

<i>More Involved</i>			<i>Same as Now</i>			<i>Less Involved</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
12%	21%	23%	38%	3%	2%	1%	

4. Do you think your denomination needs to be more or less involved in social and political issues?

<i>More Involved</i>			<i>Same as Now</i>			<i>Less Involved</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
8%	10%	20%	38%	13%	5%	6%	

5. We hear a lot of talk in politics about liberals and conservatives. How would you classify yourself?

<i>Extremely Liberal</i>	<i>Very Liberal</i>	<i>Somewhat Liberal</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Somewhat Conservative</i>	<i>Very Conservative</i>	<i>Extremely Conservative</i>
4	21	23	19	18	13	2=100

6. Generally, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or what?

<i>Strong Democrat</i>	<i>Weak Democrat</i>	<i>Independent Lean Dem</i>	<i>Independent</i>	<i>Independent Lean Rep</i>	<i>Weak Republican</i>	<i>Strong Republican</i>
29	10	17	10	13	9	12=100

7. If you have made your views known publicly in any way, how often have you addressed the following issues in the last year?	<i>Very Often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Seldom</i>	<i>Never</i>
a. Alcohol and drug abuse	13	41	40	6=100
b. Hunger and poverty	29	52	17	2=100
c. Teaching about evolution in public schools	3	13	42	42=100
d. War in Iraq	13	40	37	10=100
e. Abortion	5	21	48	26=100
f. Israel and the Middle East	6	30	48	16=100
g. Race relations and civil rights	18	43	33	6=100
h. Gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) issues	10	33	44	13=100
i. Capital punishment	5	21	49	25=100
j. Sexual morality	14	39	39	8=100
k. Environmental problems	15	44	33	8=100
l. Marriage and family issues	27	48	22	3=100
m. Pornography or explicit sexuality in movies, TV, and advertising	7	29	47	17=100
n. Access to health care	15	32	37	16=100
o. Immigration	9	24	45	22=100
p. Sex education in public schools	2	11	44	43=100

8. Have you ever participated in the following activities? Please check how often you have generally undertaken such an activity.	<i>Very Often</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Seldom</i>	<i>Never</i>
a. Wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper	2	12	54	32=100
b. Publicly (not preaching) supported a political candidate	3	17	36	44=100
c. Publicly (not preaching) took a stand on some public issue	11	39	39	11=100
d. Took a stand from the pulpit on some political issue	4	18	42	36=100
e. Organized a study or action group in church related to a public issue	6	22	39	33=100
f. Actively participated in a local clergy council	36	36	22	6=100
g. Participated in a protest march	3	8	38	51=100
h. Actively participated in denominational committees or organizations	33	37	24	6=100

9. Which of the following view is the **BEST** way for religious groups to address societal problems?

- 1 Religious groups should not try to solve societal problems.
- 8 Religious groups should help solve the social problems of their own members.
- 57 Religious groups should help individuals in the larger community solve their social problems.
- 34 Religious groups should be engaged in the political process to solve problems.
- 100 Total

10. Religious communities should concentrate on fostering:

<i>Social Justice</i>		<i>Both Equally</i>		<i>Individual Morality</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
7%	12%	69%	9%	3%

11. What should be the relative importance of evangelism and sociopolitical action in the mission of the church?

<i>Evangelism</i>		<i>Both Equally</i>		<i>Sociopolitical Action</i>
<i>Much More Important</i>		<i>Important</i>		<i>Much More Important</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
13%	26%	51%	8%	2%

12. Generally speaking, when it comes to fostering necessary social change, do you favor incremental reform or fundamental transformation?

<i>Incremental Reform</i>		<i>Some of Both</i>		<i>Fundamental Transformation</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
2%	8%	13%	51%	14%
				(6)
				7%
				(7)
				5%

13. What worries you more:

- 41 Public officials who *don't pay enough attention* to religion OR
- 59 Public officials who are *too close* to religious leaders?
- 100 Total

14. Some people talk about voting on the basis of moral values, but moral values can mean different things to different people. What comes to mind when you think about moral values?

- 35 Biblical/Religious references
- 25 Moral or ethical references
- 9 Social issues
- 9 Religious Right
- 20 Social Justice
- 2 Other
- 100 Total

15. For which presidential candidate did you vote in 2004, or did you not vote?

- 56 John Kerry
- 40 George Bush
- 1 Other
- 3 Did not vote
- 100 Total

16. For which congressional candidate did you vote in 2006, or did you not vote?

- 57 Democratic candidate in your district
- 34 Republican candidate in your district
- 4 Independent or Third Party Candidate
- 5 Did not vote
- 100 Total

17. Which candidate was your first choice for the presidential nominations in 2008?

Republican Candidates		Democratic Candidates	
6	Rudy Giuliani	21	Hillary Clinton
33	Mike Huckabee	17	John Edwards
27	John McCain	46	Barack Obama
9	Mitt Romney	5	Other
5	Other	<u>11</u>	None
<u>20</u>	None	100	Total
100	Total		

18. During elections, many churches or their members provide materials or opportunities to help other members make important choices. Were these materials or opportunities available in your church in 2004? Are they likely to be available in 2008?	Available In 2004		Probably Available In 2008	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
a. Voter guides from conservative groups like the Family Research Council?	10	90	11	89
b. Voter guides from social justice groups like Sojourners or Bread for the World?	12	88	18	82
c. Materials prepared by you, a church committee, or other internal sources?	6	94	8	92
d. Materials from denominational sources?	17	83	21	79
e. Candidate forums held in your church?	6	94	7	93
f. Voter registration efforts or registered voters in church?	16	84	20	80

19. Do you think abortion should be:

- 13 Legal in all cases
- 38 Legal in most cases
- 42 Illegal in most cases
- 7 Illegal in all cases
- 100 Total

20. Which of the following three statements comes closest to your view?

- 33 Gay couples should be allowed to marry
- 32 Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions, but not marry
- 35 There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship
- 100 Total

21. Would you support allowing gay couples to marry, if the law guaranteed that no church or congregation would be required to perform marriage for same-sex couples?

- 46 Yes
- 54 No
- 100 Total

22. Which of the following three statements comes closest to your view about homosexuality and ordination?

- 45 Lesbian and gay persons should be eligible for ordination as clergy with no special requirements
- 27 Lesbian and gay persons should be eligible for ordination as clergy only if they are celibate
- 28 Lesbian and gay persons should not be eligible ordination
- 100 Total

23. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about social and political policies and problems.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. The federal government should do more to solve social problems such as unemployment, poverty, and poor housing.	42	36	6	13	3=100
b. We need a constitutional amendment to define marriage as between one man and one woman.	19	11	9	17	44=100
c. More environmental protection is needed, even if it raises prices or costs jobs.	28	41	14	13	4=100
d. Creationism should be taught alongside evolution in public school biology classes.	15	21	10	19	35=100
e. Homosexuals should have all the same rights and privileges as other American citizens.	55	24	8	9	4=100
f. We need more regulation of adult content in movies and television.	22	36	17	19	6=100
g. The government should guarantee health insurance for all citizens, even if it means raising taxes.	38	29	12	13	8=100
h. It was the right decision to use military force in Iraq.	10	13	11	18	48=100
i. Blacks and other minorities may need special government help to achieve an equal place in America.	9	40	21	23	7=100
j. Government is providing too many services which should be left to private enterprise.	9	22	21	35	13=100
k. Sex education programs included in the curricula of public schools should teach "abstinence-only" until marriage.	13	25	10	31	21=100
l. A lasting peace in the Middle East will require Israel to make greater concessions to the Palestinians.	18	38	21	15	8=100
m. Immigrants harm society by bringing in strange customs and beliefs.	1	3	7	37	52=100
n. I oppose capital punishment.	45	21	7	18	9=100
o. The U.S. should pass hate crime laws to protect lesbian and gay persons along with other minority groups who might be the targets of violence.	33	34	9	13	11=100

24. Many religious and advocacy groups have been active in public life recently. Please tell us: (1) <u>How close</u> you feel towards the group; and (2) Whether or not you are a <u>member</u> ?	To this group I feel:						Member or Contributor?	
	Very Close	Close	Neutral	Far	Very Far	Don't Know*	Yes	No
a. Focus on the Family/Family Research Council	6	19	19	14	41	1	6	94
b. Sojourners/Call to Renewal	10	34	35	8	8	5	18	82
c. Institute for Religion and Democracy (IRD)	2	8	43	10	24	13	2	98
d. Americans United for Separation of Church & State	3	15	33	17	23	9	2	98
e. Prison Fellowship	5	33	42	6	6	8	8	92
f. Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC)	3	13	36	14	25	9	2	98
g. American Family Association	3	13	34	14	24	12	4	96
h. Religious LGBT Rights Groups	7	18	28	13	25	9	8	92
i. National Association of Evangelicals	4	19	27	21	22	7	3	97
j. Bread for the World	14	42	30	3	5	6	19	81
k. National Right to Life Committee	5	17	27	17	27	7	3	97
l. Interfaith Alliance	5	24	44	9	9	9	7	93
m. Pro-gun rights group	3	10	21	17	44	5	3	97
n. Women's Rights Group (e.g., NOW)	5	20	29	16	24	6	2	98
o. Concerned Women for America (CWA)	1	7	46	13	19	14	1	99
p. ACLU	6	22	24	14	29	5	7	93
q. National Council of Churches	13	35	24	12	12	4	19	81
r. Non-religious LGBT Rights Groups (e.g., HRC, PFLAG)	6	17	28	14	27	8	6	94
s. NAACP	6	30	34	11	13	6	5	95
t. Christian Coalition	1	10	32	17	31	9	1	99
u. Network of Spiritual Progressives/Tikkun	2	8	43	13	21	13	2	98
v. People for the American Way	2	7	37	15	27	12	2	98
w. Moveon.org	5	14	35	10	27	9	8	92
x. The religious right or conservative Christian movement	3	13	19	17	43	5	2	98
y. The religious left or progressive Christian movement	11	26	22	15	21	5	11	89

*Don't know response was not a designated category but determined by calculated by who answered some items in the battery but skipped others.

YOUR CONGREGATION

25. How many adult members are in your congregation?

- 16 Less than 100
- 43 100-299
- 18 300-499
- 23 500 or more
- 100 Total

26. Average Sunday worship attendance?

- 41 Less than 100
- 45 100-299
- 9 300-499
- 5 500 or more
- 100 Total

27. Which of the following best describes the nature of your congregation? Is it primarily:

- 14 Working class
- 14 Lower-middle class
- 29 Upper-middle class
- 43 Mixed
- 100 Total

28. Which of the following best describes the ethnic/racial composition of your congregation? Is it primarily:

- 87 White/European
- 2 Black or African American
- 1 Latino/Hispanic
- * Native American
- * Asian
- 10 Mixed race/ethnicity
- 100 Total

29. What are the THREE most important issues in our country today that the church should engage?

Most Important	Second Most Important	Third Most Important	
38	41	34	Social Welfare
14	17	19	Economic and Domestic Problems
4	9	10	Public Order Problems
10	12	11	Cultural Issues
19	10	13	Foreign Policy
2	2	4	Political Problems
<u>13</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	Religious, Church problems
100	100	100	Total

30. What are the THREE biggest problems facing the church today?

Biggest Problem	Second Biggest Problem	Third Biggest Problem	
20	20	20	Institutional Issues
31	37	38	Activity, circumstance issues
14	16	15	Theological issues
23	12	12	Values issues
8	8	8	Social issues
4	6	6	Economic, domestic issues
*	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Foreign policy issues
100	100	100	Total

31. Over the last two years, has there been any significant conflict within your congregation?

31	Yes
<u>69</u>	No
100	Total

If YES, was that conflict over any of the following (*Check all that apply*)

	<u>Yes, Applies</u>	<u>No, Does not</u>
Pastoral leadership	13	87
Worship	10	90
Building/Grounds	7	93
Women's roles	1	99
Finances	13	87
Homosexuality	5	95
Race	1	99

32. How would you compare the positions of the members of your congregation on SOCIAL issues to your own positions on such issues?

<i>Much More Liberal</i>	<i>Somewhat More Liberal</i>	<i>About The Same</i>	<i>Somewhat More Conservative</i>	<i>Much More Conservative</i>
9%	17%	42%	30%	2%

33. How would you compare the positions of the members of your congregation on ECONOMIC issues to your own positions on such issues?

<i>Much More Liberal</i>	<i>Somewhat More Liberal</i>	<i>About The Same</i>	<i>Somewhat More Conservative</i>	<i>Much More Conservative</i>
6%	16%	47%	30%	1%

34. Now, we would like to ask about your support of or involvement in the following kinds of programs. (Please check all that apply.)	<i>Personal Support</i>	<i>My church Sponsors</i>	<i>I've urged my church to develop</i>
a. Food pantries	26	12	11
b. Homeless shelters	48	50	14
c. Alcohol and/or drug treatment	36	38	14
d. Ministry to lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT) persons	34	14	11
e. Child care	31	44	14
f. Education programs, such as tutoring or literacy	28	33	21
g. Pregnancy counseling	20	15	8
h. Marriage enrichment	38	31	14
i. Youth sexuality education programs	27	26	12
j. Race relations programs	31	20	13
k. Environmental programs	38	27	17
l. Disaster relief assistance	57	70	14
m. AIDS ministry or support program	22	16	9
n. Adult sexuality education programs	13	8	7
o. Prison ministry	31	29	12
p. Health care provision, parish nurse	22	23	18
q. Ministry or programs for immigrants	23	17	16

THE CHURCH AND SEXUALITY ISSUES

Issues related to sexuality, especially the issue of homosexuality, have been heavily debated in Mainline Protestant denominations. We are interested in getting a detailed understanding of clergy views on these issues. In the following questions, the acronym “LGBT” stands for “lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender.”

35. Does your congregation have difficulty talking openly about LGBT issues?

- 55 Yes
- 45 No
- 100 Total

If YES, what is the BIGGEST barrier to your congregation having more open conversations about LGBT issues?

- 5 Denominational policies limit options,
- 25 Congregation’s belief that the Bible is already clear on these issues,
- 34 Congregational discomfort with sexuality issues in general,
- 32 Concerns about creating divisions within the congregation,
- 4 Other
- 100 Total

36. Would any of the following help you lead your congregation in discussing LGBT issues more openly? (Check all that apply.)

- 35 Congregants willing to share personal experiences
- 20 Denominational support
- 36 Theological resources (e.g., Bible study, sermon materials)
- 27 Congregational leadership and support
- 10 Local clergy support

37. In the last two years, did your church sponsor programs or activities related to human sexuality?

- 34 Yes
- 66 No
- 100 Total

If YES, which of the following activities has your church sponsored? (Check all that apply.)

- 19 Sex education for youth
- 16 Study groups on human sexuality
- 11 Study groups on LGBT issues
- 4 Use of church building for community based LGBT groups
- 4 Support groups for families with LGBT members
- 6 Organized political support for LGBT rights
- 2 Organized political opposition to same sex marriage

38. Please indicate <u>YOUR VIEWS</u> and how a <u>MAJORITY OF YOUR CONGREGATION</u> would respond to the following statements.	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
a. LGBT persons are welcome in our church.	60	34	3	2	1
b. Homosexuality is a sin.	26	17	7	18	32
c. Homosexuality is a choice.	17	14	14	25	30
d. Homosexual orientation can be changed through therapy and prayer.	13	17	18	19	33
e. Sexual orientation is determined at birth.	20	21	26	21	12
g. Homosexual behavior is inconsistent with Christian teaching.	30	19	7	20	24
h. Sexual diversity is part of God's plan.	19	16	21	22	22
i. Our church should not bless and conduct same-sex marriages.	38	17	9	16	20
j. LGBT issues are an essential part of a prophetic social justice agenda.	17	25	18	22	18
k. The church must hold its ground and oppose efforts to make homosexuality acceptable.	26	15	8	21	30
l. The gospel message requires full inclusion of LGBT persons in the church.	39	24	8	15	14

39. Has your congregation gone through a process of becoming a “welcoming and affirming congregation” with regard to LGBT persons?

13 Yes
87 No
100 Total

40. Thinking about other major issues American churches have addressed in the past, which of the following issues provides the best example for how the church should be approach LGBT issues?

10 Slavery
11 Women's issues
44 Human/civil rights
11 Divorce
17 Alcoholism
7 Other
100 Total

41. Many people talk about the disagreement over homosexuality in the church as a “crisis.” Do you believe it is a crisis?

51 Yes
49 No
100 Total

If YES, which of the following comes CLOSEST to your view? The disagreements over homosexuality reveal...

40 A crisis about how to read the Bible
23 A crisis about the core of the Christian doctrine
27 A crisis about what the church is supposed to be
10 Other
100 Total

42. Please indicate <u>YOUR VIEWS</u> on the following statements.	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
a. I feel I am well-informed about transgender persons and issues.	22	50	14	14	*
b. If lay people in my congregation requested more discussion about LGBT issues, I would be responsive.	33	59	5	2	1
c. Our church should do more to help our members think carefully about LGBT issues.	12	47	22	16	3
d. Our congregation risks losing many members by talking too much about homosexuality.	8	30	24	31	7
e. The church is alienating adults in their twenties and thirties by being too judgmental about LGBT issues.	11	31	24	26	8
f. Becoming more welcoming to LGBT persons could hinder our congregation's ability to reach racial/ethnic minorities.	2	14	35	40	9
g. We are putting teenagers at risk if we do not address LGBT issues more openly.	11	37	23	24	5
h. The LGBT affirming organizations within our denomination are hurting the church.	16	21	16	31	16
i. If one opposes homosexual practice for theological reasons, one should also oppose legal rights for gay and lesbian people.	6	10	16	44	24
j. The best approach to homosexuality in the church is "don't ask, don't tell."	2	7	13	52	26
k. Qualified LGBT persons should be eligible for lay leadership positions in our church.	33	29	10	14	14
l. The Bible does not directly address what we understand today as sexual orientation.	22	28	6	19	25
m. The best approach to homosexuality in the church is to "love the sinner but not the sin."	19	29	10	24	18
n. Our denomination's position on LGBT issues has had a positive effect on our church.	5	16	29	33	17
o. Even if it were legal, I would not be willing to perform a civil union or marriage for a same-sex couple.	33	18	9	16	24
p. Otherwise qualified gay people should be allowed to adopt children.	29	26	14	14	17
q. Our church is more welcoming of LGBT persons than our denomination.	7	16	30	34	13
r. Our denomination is spending too much time on gay and lesbian issues.	23	33	18	19	7
s. The U.S. should pass laws that would make it illegal for employers to discriminate on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity.	34	32	13	13	8

43. Please respond to the following statements.	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Unsure</i>
a. I have performed a civil union, marriage, or commitment ceremony for a same-sex couple.	7	92	1
b. I have declined to perform a civil union, marriage, or commitment ceremony for a same-sex couple.	12	87	1
c. I have preached about a sexuality issue.	76	22	2
d. I have counseled congregants who are struggling with sexual orientation issues.	61	38	1
e. I have made referrals to ex-gay ministries.	10	88	2
f. I have made referrals to LGBT community groups.	25	74	1
g. There are gay and lesbian adults in my congregation.	64	12	24
h. There are transgender persons in my congregation.	8	56	36
i. There are teens who are struggling with their sexual orientation in my congregation.	42	20	38

44. How have your **CURRENT VIEWS** on LGBT issues changed, as compared to your views **TEN YEARS AGO**?

<i>More Liberal</i>		<i>Same as Now</i>			<i>More Conservative</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
10%	12%	23%	41%	6%	3%	5%

45. If your views about LGBT persons have changed, please indicate how important each of the following factors was in that change?	<i>Not at All Important</i>		<i>Somewhat Important</i>		<i>Extremely Important</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
a. Additional knowledge of human sexuality	9	8	35	31	17
b. Additional Bible study	6	9	26	36	23
c. A family member who is gay or lesbian	45	13	14	14	14
d. A friend, congregant, or colleague who is gay or lesbian	17	11	22	29	21
e. Opinions of fellow clergy	21	22	36	17	4
f. Outcomes of denominational deliberations	28	24	28	15	5
g. Opinions of friends and/or family (non-clergy)	22	24	35	16	3
h. Personal sexual experience	54	18	16	9	3
i. Discernment through prayer and reflection	5	5	23	39	28

46. Which of the following theological themes are MOST RELEVANT to your views on homosexuality? (Choose UP TO THREE):

- 70 Jesus' teachings and ministry in the gospels
- 35 An "open table" theology of welcome to all
- 37 An understanding that God is still revealing new truths
- 37 Paul's teachings in Romans on homosexual acts
- 32 Texts in the Hebrew Bible that define homosexual acts as sin
- 25 The Golden Rule ("Love your neighbor as yourself")
- 22 A theology of creation
- 12 Weight of church tradition against homosexual acts

47. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.		<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
a.	There is no other way to salvation but through belief in Jesus Christ.	40	21	9	22	8
b.	All the great religions of the world were equally good and true.	2	10	12	41	35
c.	The Bible is the inerrant Word of God, both in matters of faith and in historic, geographical, and other secular matters.	15	14	4	35	32
d.	Human nature is best understood as being basically good rather than as being basically evil.	9	34	10	33	14
e.	We must maintain a strict separation of church and state.	15	40	15	25	5
f.	The Devil actually exists.	32	29	12	15	12
g.	The Bible is one of many important books about the divine.	13	35	4	28	20
h.	Jesus will return to earth one day.	51	29	13	4	3
i.	Evolution is the best explanation for the origins of life on earth.	13	31	13	20	23
j.	If enough people were brought to Christ, social issues would take care of themselves.	12	26	21	33	8
k.	Feminist and liberation theologies provide valuable insights about being a Christian.	21	43	12	15	9
l.	Social justice is at the heart of the gospel.	30	43	7	16	4
m.	Churches should not try to influence or lobby public officials.	6	17	15	50	12
n.	Many mainline churches are declining because they become theologically liberal.	14	24	16	30	16
o.	Many mainline churches are declining because they have lost the courage to take prophetic stands for social justice.	12	35	18	28	7
p.	On most political issues there is one correct Christian position.	3	10	11	51	25

ABOUT YOU

48. What is your denomination?

- 38 United Methodist Church
- 20 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- 12 Presbyterian Church in the USA
- 13 American Baptist USA
- 9 Episcopal Church in the USA
- 5 United Church of Christ
- 3 Disciples of Christ
- 100 Total

49. How many years have you been in the ministry?

- 14 Less than 10 years
- 24 10-19 years
- 32 20-29 years
- 24 30-39 years
- 6 40 years or more
- 100 Total

50. Years at your present church?

- 23 Less than 3 years
- 30 3-5 years
- 21 6-9 years
- 26 10 years or more
- 100 Total

51. What is the highest year in school/degree you have completed?

- * High school/GED
- 1 Some college
- 3 College graduate
- 75 Graduate degree (seminary)
- 21 Graduate degree (other than seminary)
- 100 Total

52. Please describe your seminary education:

- 1 None
- * Bible College
- 5 Some seminary
- 72 Seminary graduate (M.Div.)
- 22 Post-seminary graduate degree (D.Min., Th.D., Ph.D., etc.)
- 100 Total

53. If a seminary graduate, what was the name and denominational affiliation (if any) of the seminary you attended?

OPEN-ENDED, ANALYSIS IN PROCESS

54. If you attended seminary, how do you feel about these statements? My seminary education adequately prepared me:	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Sure</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
a. For dealing with sexuality issues in my church.	12	37	8	34	9
b. For dealing with LGBT issues in my church.	9	32	10	36	13

55. While no one likes religious labels, do any of the following describe your religious identity? (Check all that apply.)

- 60 Mainline
- 26 Conservative
- 41 Ecumenical
- 43 Evangelical
- 31 Progressive
- 24 Liberal
- 23 Born Again
- 12 Emerging Church
- 11 Charismatic
- 1 Fundamentalist

56. In what state do you reside?

25	Northeast
29	Midwest
32	South
<u>14</u>	West
100	Total

57. What is the kind of community in which your congregation is located?

41	Farm, rural, or small town (under 15,000)
27	Small or medium city (15,000 to 100,000)
15	Suburb of large city
<u>16</u>	Urban
100	Total

58. What is your gender?

80	Male
<u>20</u>	Female
100	Total

59. What was the year in which you were born?

9	Under 40 years old
17	40-49 years old
20	50-54 years old
23	55-59 years old
<u>31</u>	60 years or older
100	Total

60. Do you personally know or work with anyone who is gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender?

87	Yes
<u>13</u>	No
100	Total

If YES, is that person (all responses are strictly confidential, check all that apply):

51	A church member
26	Co-worker
52	Acquaintance (non-church member)
25	Family member
37	Close friend
<u>2</u>	Myself

61. What is your marital status?

85	Married
1	Domestic Partnership
<u>14</u>	Not Married
100	Total

62. Are you parenting a child under 18?

31	Yes
<u>69</u>	No
100	Total

63. What is your race?

93	White
3	Black or African American
1	Hispanic or Latino
<u>3</u>	Other
100	Total

64. Approximate family income in 2007:

21	Under \$50,000
36	\$50,000 - \$75,000
22	75,000 - \$100,00
<u>21</u>	Over \$100,000
100	Total

END SURVEY

ABOUT THE SURVEY

The Mainline Protestant Clergy Voices Survey (CVS) is the largest survey of Mainline Protestant clergy conducted in the last seven years. CVS was conducted by Public Religion Research and funded by a grant from the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, which aims to fulfill its founders' vision of a just and caring society where all people are able to live, work, and raise their families with dignity. Dr. Robert P. Jones, president of Public Religion Research, served as the principal investigator for the survey. Daniel Cox, research director for Public Religion Research, oversaw data analysis. Dr. John C. Green, Director of the Bliss Institute for Applied Politics at the University of Akron, served as advisor to the project and supervised the data collection. The CVS builds upon previous studies of clergy political and social engagement conducted in 1989 (Guth et al. 1997) and 2001 (Smidt 2004).

The data was weighted to reflect the relative size of each denomination in the general population (e.g., UMC clergy, members of the largest denomination, were weighted more heavily than Disciples clergy from the smallest denomination). This method allows us to have a sense of the relative influence of clergy from each denomination.

CVS was conducted as a mail survey. The sample was generated by obtaining a random sample of 1,000 senior clergy from each of the seven largest Mainline Protestant denominations (UMC, ELCA, ABCUSA, PCUSA, Episcopal, UCC, and DOC). Four waves of questionnaires and a cover letter under the signature of Dr. Jones and Dr. Green were mailed to clergy between March 3 and September 15, 2008. This process yielded a final data set of 2,658 respondents, representing a 44% response rate. The margin of error for analysis based on the entire sample is +/- 2.0%.

ABOUT PUBLIC RELIGION RESEARCH

Public Religion Research is a consulting firm specializing in public opinion polling and research-based strategic advice at the intersection of religion, values, and public policy. We also work with clients to develop strategies to engage people of faith for social change. For more information, visit www.publicreligion.org.