



**Summary Report
2009 Parish Survey**

**The Church of
Saint David of Wales**

September 9, 2009

Submitted by the Rector, Vestry, and Strategic Planning Committee

Executive Summary: St. David of Wales Parish Survey 2009

Attached are the results of the 2009 parish survey. Of more than 400 surveys distributed, 148 were completed and returned. The Rector, Vestry and the Strategic Planning Committee pray that this information can serve as a helpful tool in planning our future and in helping us understand who we are and who we hope to be. In fact, it already has been instrumental in our decision to improve opportunities for our youth such as the youth emphasis at this year's July 4th celebration.

A few highlights of this year's survey include:

- The average age of survey respondents was 61.7 years and less than 20 percent were under 50 years of age. A majority were female (59%), and well educated (70 % with at least a college education).
- Although most (69%) are cradle Episcopalians, 26 percent of parishioners come from a Protestant background.
- A strong majority of parishioners responded that they are traditional Anglicans, conservative, and religious. Many also consider themselves Anglo-Catholic and/or Orthodox.
- Most parishioners agree with the current mission of St. David's, supporting traditional Anglican Worship, community-minded service, Bible teaching, the proclamation of Jesus, and welcoming seekers.
- Top priority was given to Christian education, growth, hiring an Assistant Priest, and improving our current property. Many also expressed, as mentioned above, improving our offerings to youth and young married couples.
- Most (75 %) prefer not to support planting a new mission parish or relocating St. David's at this time.
- In terms of our affiliations, a strong majority (78 %) expressed being comfortable with the Anglican Communion, while a smaller majority are uncomfortable with the Episcopal Church (56 %) or with the Fort Worth Diocese associated with it (59 %). However, there was substantial ambivalence and/or uncertainty about some of these affiliations and a great deal of diversity when it comes to religious self-characterization and comfort with various church affiliations.

We hope you will read this information carefully and thoughtfully, appreciating the great diversity that is present in the family of St. David of Wales. And we hope that you will pray for this church family, that we may become more self aware, more dedicated to the Divine purposes that bring us together, and more committed to our life and growth together.

ST. DAVID OF WALES PARISH SURVEY 2009

[148 respondents (N=148) Unless otherwise noted, percentages are of those who responded to each particular question, not of total respondents. Some groups do not add to 100 due to rounding error.]

Age: Range from 16 to 99
(n=139) Average age of 61.7
19.4 % of respondents under 50

Sex: Male 41 %
(n=147) Female 59 %

Education: LT High Sch. .7 %
(n=147) High School 5.4 %
Some Coll. 23.8 %
College 34.7 %
Graduate Sch. 35.4 %

Marital Status: Single 6.8 %
(n=147) Married 80.3 %
Divorced 3.4 %
Widowed 9.5 %

Membership: Baptized/not confirmed 2.7 %
(n=147) Confirmed/member 88.4 %
Member oth. parish .7 %
Member oth. denom. 4.1 %
Other 4.1 %

Years Confirmed: Average 38.4 years

Years Member: Average 14.8 years

Previous Affiliation: Other Episc/Anglican 69.0 %
(n=142) Roman Catholic 4.2 %
Protestant 26.1 %
Other .7 %

Service Attend:	8:00 a.m.	36.7 %
<i>(n=139)</i>	10:30 a.m.	57.6 %
	5:00 p.m.	5.8 %

Classes Attend:	7 a.m. Morning Prayer	1
<i>(number)</i>	Wed. p.m. Healing	19
	Thurs. a.m. Eucharist	5
	Thurs. a.m. Bible Study	4
	Thurs. p.m. Bible Study	9
	Inquirer's Class	3

Number of Children: Seventeen respondents reported having children, with an average of two children per respondent.

Preferences for children: *(number responding affirmatively)*

Improved curricula	10
Educ. opportunities outside class	5
Social Activities	8
Service opportunities	9
Nothing	12

Other improvements: Better acolyte training
(for children) Improve size and number
 Less drivel, more substance
 More young families
 Youth group
 Older children

Self					
characterization:	Not at all	(% of those responding)			Very well
Trad. Anglican	2	3	12	23	60
Liberal	68	13	11	6	2
Conservative	7	4	15	25	49
Anglo-Catholic	15	11	19	26	30
Evangelical	31	24	25	13	8
Religious	4	6	15	38	37
Orthodox	19	8	18	20	34

How willing are you to help establish a new mission church?(number responding affirmatively)

Planning	22
Temporary attend	18
Financial	18
Perm. transfer	3
Vol. services	22

Add liturgies? (number responding affirmatively)

Sat. Rite I	34
Sat. Rite II	27
Sun. Rite I	13
Sun. Rite II	10
None	46

Add classes? (most common categories)

- Adult Bible Study Sunday 9:15
(church history, church fathers, orthodoxy, apologetics, Old Testament, C. S. Lewis, heresies)
- Adult weekday evenings
- Confirmation classes on Sunday

Comfort with St. David Affiliations: (% of those responding to each, DK=don't know)

	<i>Very Uncomfortable</i>			<i>Very Comfortable</i>		<i>DK</i>
The Episcopal Church	36	22	8	6	18	10
Anglican Communion	2	1	6	18	60	14
Diocese of Dallas	8	12	16	24	26	14
Diocese of Ft. Worth (Iker)	16	8	5	17	31	24
Diocese of Ft. Worth (TEC)	49	10	8	2	2	29
Anglican Province of North America	10	3	8	12	33	34