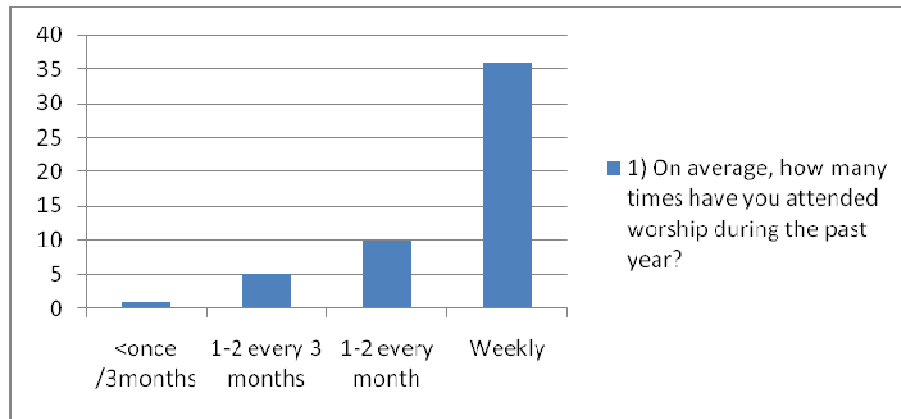


Harwell Congregational Survey Results

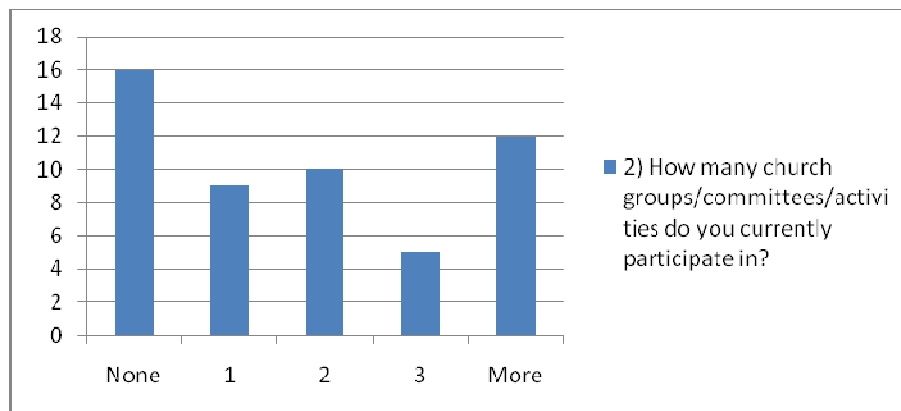
The following information summarises the results of the survey of the congregation of St. Matthew's, Harwell carried out in November 2009.

A total of 153 surveys were distributed to members on the electoral roll. 52 were returned, giving a return rate of 34%. **(These results did not take into account the age of people completing the questionnaires so there may be some bias)**

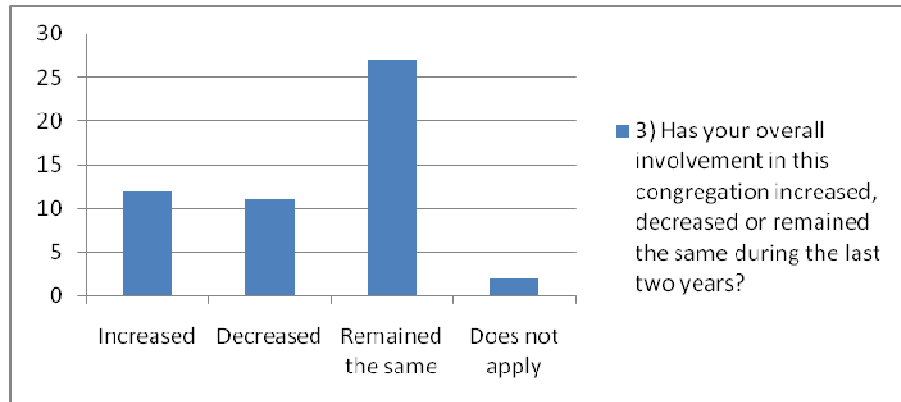
Q1. On average, how many times have you attended worship during the past year?



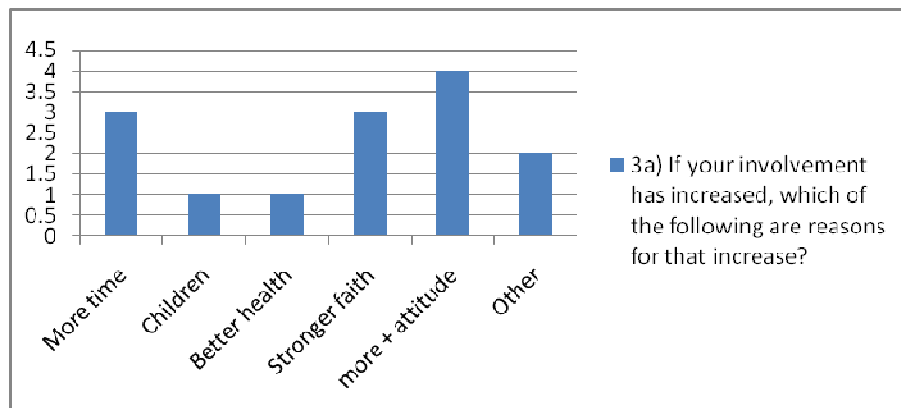
Q2. How many church groups/committees/activities do you currently participate in?



Q3. Has your overall involvement in this congregation increased, decreased or remained the same during the last two years?

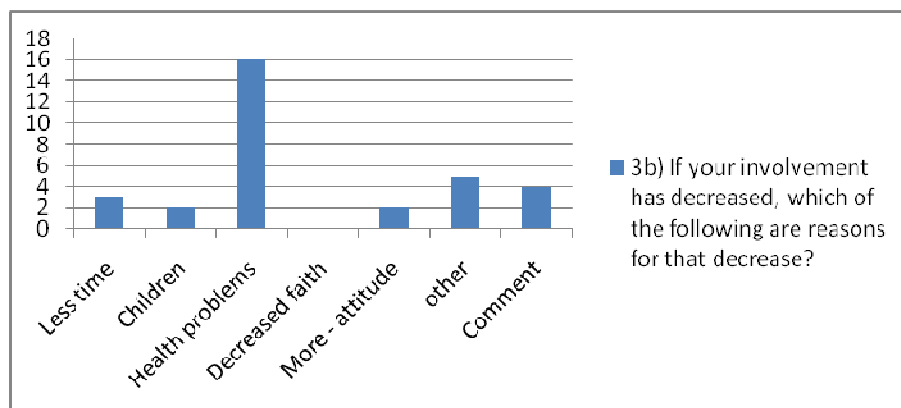


Q3a. If your involvement has **increased**, which of the following are reasons for that increase?



- More demands for current activities
- Assisting Churchwarden

Q3b. If your involvement has **decreased**, which of the following are reasons for that decrease?



- I come away feeling unfulfilled
- Old age x2
- I am searching for a deeper understanding of The Lord perhaps a little deeper than most people at Harwell really want. I have found this understanding at another place of worship some considerable distance away. I am afraid the distance prevents me from doing the obvious thing that is resign from St. Matthews and join Adat Yeshua. So for the present I am trying to play a part in both.

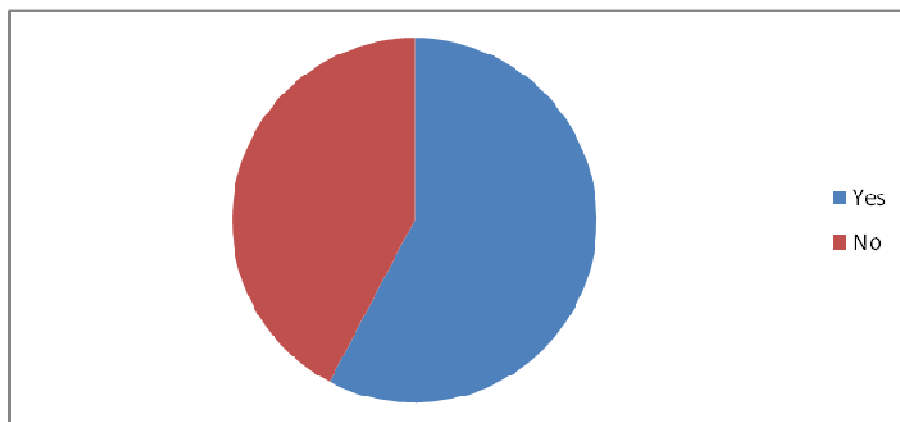
Q4. If you feel that you would like to increase your overall involvement in the congregation, what one thing could the church/others in the congregation do to help you to do so?

- At 84 1/2 no thank you
- Previously used to attend weekly. Dropped off due to number of aspects of style of worship and "underlying assumptions" of some of ministry team/clergy
- More people need to be involved to spread the load
- Let the congregation know when there are "vacancies" so they can pray for the right person to do the job

Q5. How could we communicate things that are happening in a better way?

- Short regular statement re PCC actions in the news sheet
- Broadsheet is ok
- Newsheet and service sheet fine
- Keep talking, stay active
- By proper communication from the "Top"
- Remind congregation about noticeboard & use email more
- Email
- By ensuring that everyone in the appropriate loop all have the same information
- More news in the Broadsheet
- Noticeboards in appropriate places
- Display on posters on church
- More pictures & symbols
- Info sheets @ the back of the Church
- More informal communication and thought about who should be informed about church related matters & people
- More interaction between members of the congregation. Crèche rarely mentioned
- Focus on specific topics in service
- e-newsletter or noticesheet
- More info in Broadsheet
- More email
- Wall diary of activities
- Email noticesheet if not at service

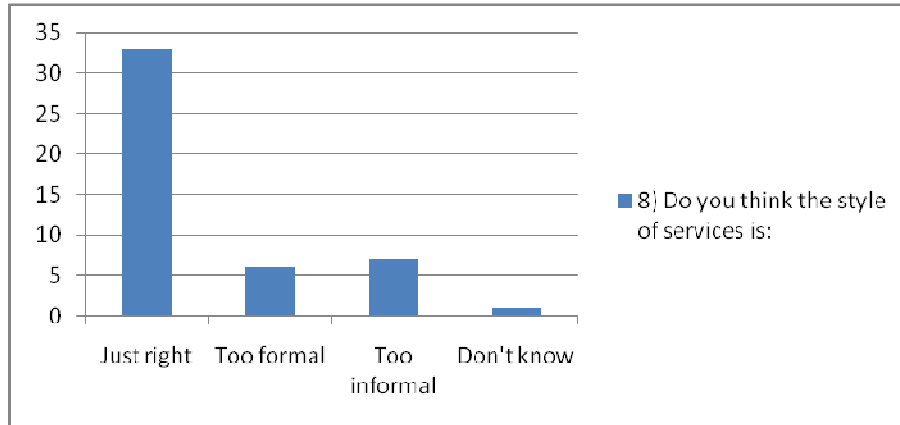
Q6. Do you always know who does what in your church?



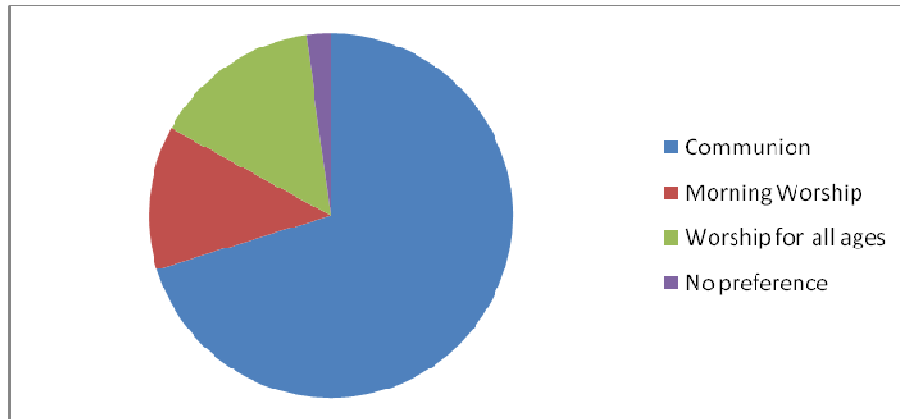
Q7. What other information would you like to have?

- Reports on church groups in news sheet. Newcomers may not know about them
- Who does what and when
- More communication when roles/jobs affect others
- Only know what is going on as husband on PCC
- Need a who's who with photos
- Contact list/directory
- Participants introduce themselves

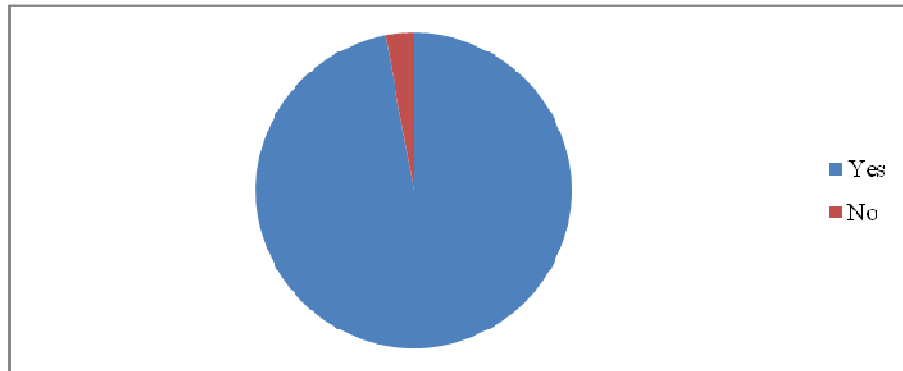
Q8. Do you think the style of services is:



Q9. Which is your favourite service?

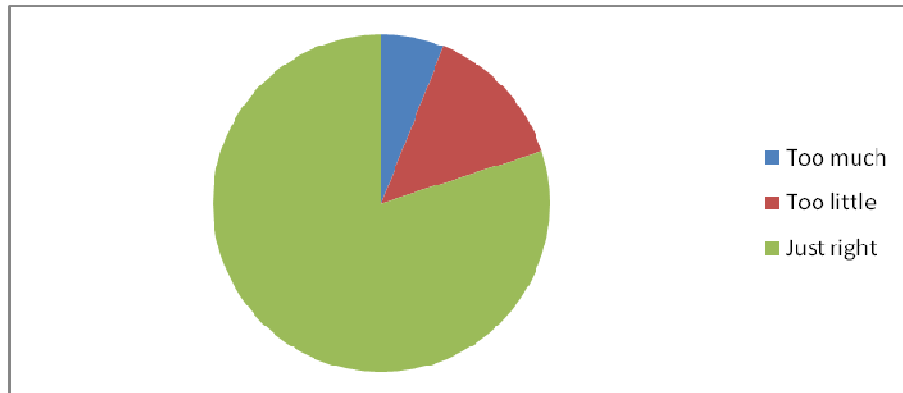


Q10. Do you think the services are easy to follow?



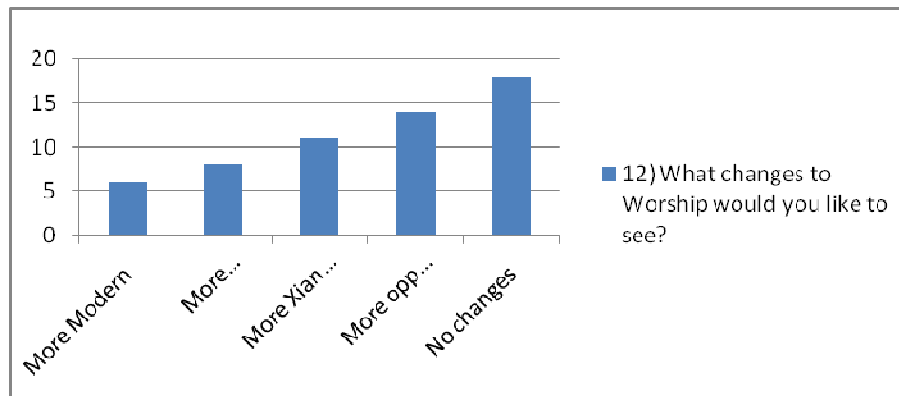
- No- Just keep the bibles, use projector for the rest
- Put hymns up on a display screen. It is a faf with the books and dropping them
- Pictures/signs & symbols

Q11. Is the amount of opportunity for socialising before and after the service



- More daytime social activities for all ages
- What a great church
- Want more b & S lunches and BBQ in Summer
- Possibly too much before service making it noisy
- Needs to be quieter before service
- Relocate coffee so not so much of a crush
- Sometimes too little time to reflect on service before being accosted
- Tends to be too noisy before service
- Larger designated coffee area
- Congested coffee area
- Too much before
- Coffee area too congested

Q12. What changes to Worship would you like to see?



- Interaction between young and old in services
- Regular choir
- Involve & nurture those who come, remember we are a family
- I would like more teaching but I know if Chris et al gave me what I want they would lose most of the congregation.
- Categories too vague, worship should be inspiring, challenging and reassuring to judge adequately
- Shorter sermons
- Use of Canticles. Slow down Lord's Prayer & creed
- More modern songs
- More songs, shorter sermon

Q13. What do you like most about Worship at St Matthew's?

- The variety x5 (Leaders & services)
- It is a big friendly family
- Feeling of friendship and caring
- Friendliness and youngsters involvement. Clarity of speakers and sermons
- There is an atmosphere that is/can be open
- The feeling of belonging
- The informality
- Not sure that this quite answers the question but this needs to said somewhere. I know that in case of bereavement , illness any other serious emergency all I have to do is contact Chris or other senior member of the ministry team and help will be on its way. This is priceless.
- Good bible based teaching, a mixture of modern & trad hymns, interaction with congregation, involving all ages in services
- Bible based teaching, involves all ages
- People are very friendly
- Everything
- A friendly congregation x3
- Hymns/singing and people's personal testimony
- Wonderful building to worship in
- It is local
- Friendship & fellowship
- Sharing the peace and music
- Wording in the book of Common Prayer
- Variety of services
- To be with most of the "family"
- True Christian Love
- There is something to suit all ages
- Chris! Children are made welcome
- Relaxed and generally informal

- Community - Caring- Genuine concern
- The over all ambience
- Opportunities for all ages to participate
- Warm comforting, reliable not too high or low
- Friendly and made welcome x2
- 8am service
- Nice atmosphere and pews
- Embraces all ages
- Balance of types of services
- Fairly good community spirit

Q14. What do you like least about Worship at St Matthew's?

- Would prefer not to have collection in service, I feel it is off putting to visitors
- Noise (Children during communion)
- Interactive participation
- Difficult sermons too intellectual
- PA system too loud
- Too predictable
- Too noisy
- Speakers are too loud
- Some services could be confusing for some less committed Christians
- Old people overlooked and disrupted by noise
- Lack of reflection and peace
- Small Congregational services
- No Choir
- Sermons too long
- Too many trad hymns
- Too formal
- The hymn books with 2 in one folder
- Organ too sombre
- Bossy loud mouth sidesmen who think they have a right to interfere
- Lack of reverence by some chatting in HC
- too long for children
- Too noisy in Eucharist service
- Sometimes orchestra too loud especially the trumpet, it drowns out the congregation singing
- Any worship is good
- Why does the organist have play a tune immediately after the service. It spoils that critical few moments after the formalities have ended and you able introduce yourself to the person sitting next to you whom you don't know. Unfortunately I am unable to do this I can't hear though the noise. In a similar vein, can the bell ringers stop ringing 10 minutes before the service, so those of us with sensitive hearing can enter the building without felling stressed by the noise.

Q15. If you could change just one thing about All Saints, what would it be?

- More comfortable seating
- I would like to see the energy of the church increase
- A choir
- A choir please
- Take the pews, the bells and the book of common prayer and have a big bonfire with them
- Removing the pews
- If church to be used as multifunctional meeting place the pews need to be removed/replaced by chairs for greater flexibility
- Would like to hear the organ more often & choir & more popular hymns
- Sermons of 10-15 minutes max

- Christian rock music group is needed
- Get more people involved in performing jobs ie share responsibilities around more
- Its cliquiness and the related lack of interest in other people's perspective/spirituality
- More opportunity to communicate
- Replace the weather vane on top of the tower
- Like it as it is
- Reintroduce the Te Deum
- Better communication between the various groups
- To move outside our "Comfort Zone" Less initiative speak from the Diocese and more practising Christian Life in action.
- Less busy services, juggling 4 books/sheets
- More of congregation sharing the workload
- I know we have a visiting team but there are still a lot of people that we need to reach out to
- Nothing but we must be open to change
- As traditionalist would like to see clergy wearing vestments
- Something to attract younger people
- More use of the Chancel
- Members of cong actually practising their faith thoroughly
- Reintroduce robes for more service
- Short, fun and visual services
- Pews for chairs
- More use of visuals for hymns.
- Bigger car park