

PAOC Churches by the Numbers

The results of the 2013 Annual Church Life Report

By Tanya Couch

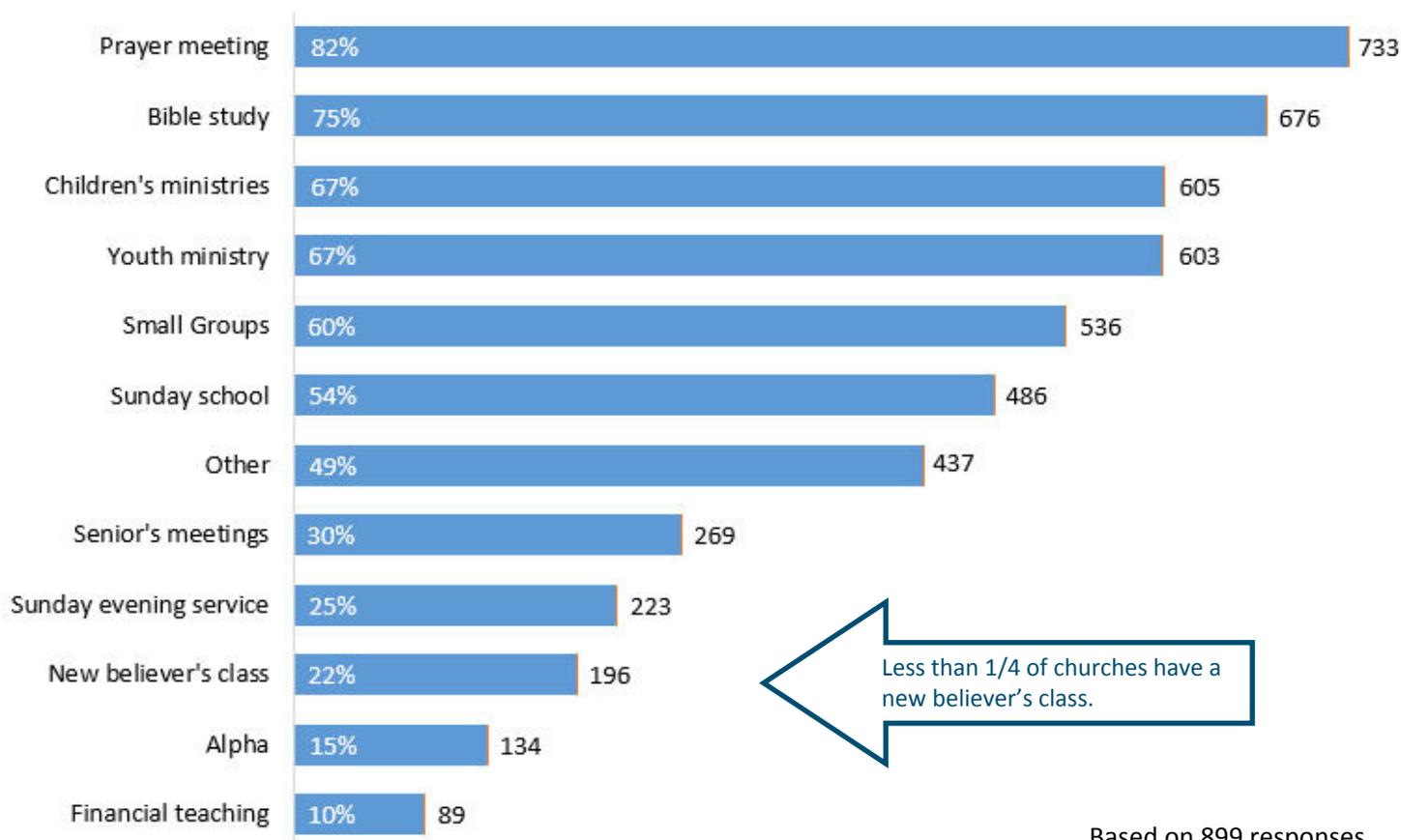
Observations

- ⇒ **Traditional ministries** such as: prayer meeting, Bible study, children & youth ministries, small groups and Sunday school remain **strongly utilized methods of engaging our congregations.**
- ⇒ **31%** of regular attenders **serve as volunteers.**
- ⇒ **Well over 2/3** of our churches report they are effective at reaching their communities yet **only 1/3 reflect the community in their demographics.**
- ⇒ Almost **70% of churches** report they are **thriving or growing, 70% report new believers coming to Christ** and **22% have a new believer's class .**
- ⇒ If **every church grew by 13% per annum, we would exceed our multiplication goals for 2020.**



Spiritual and Theological Vitality

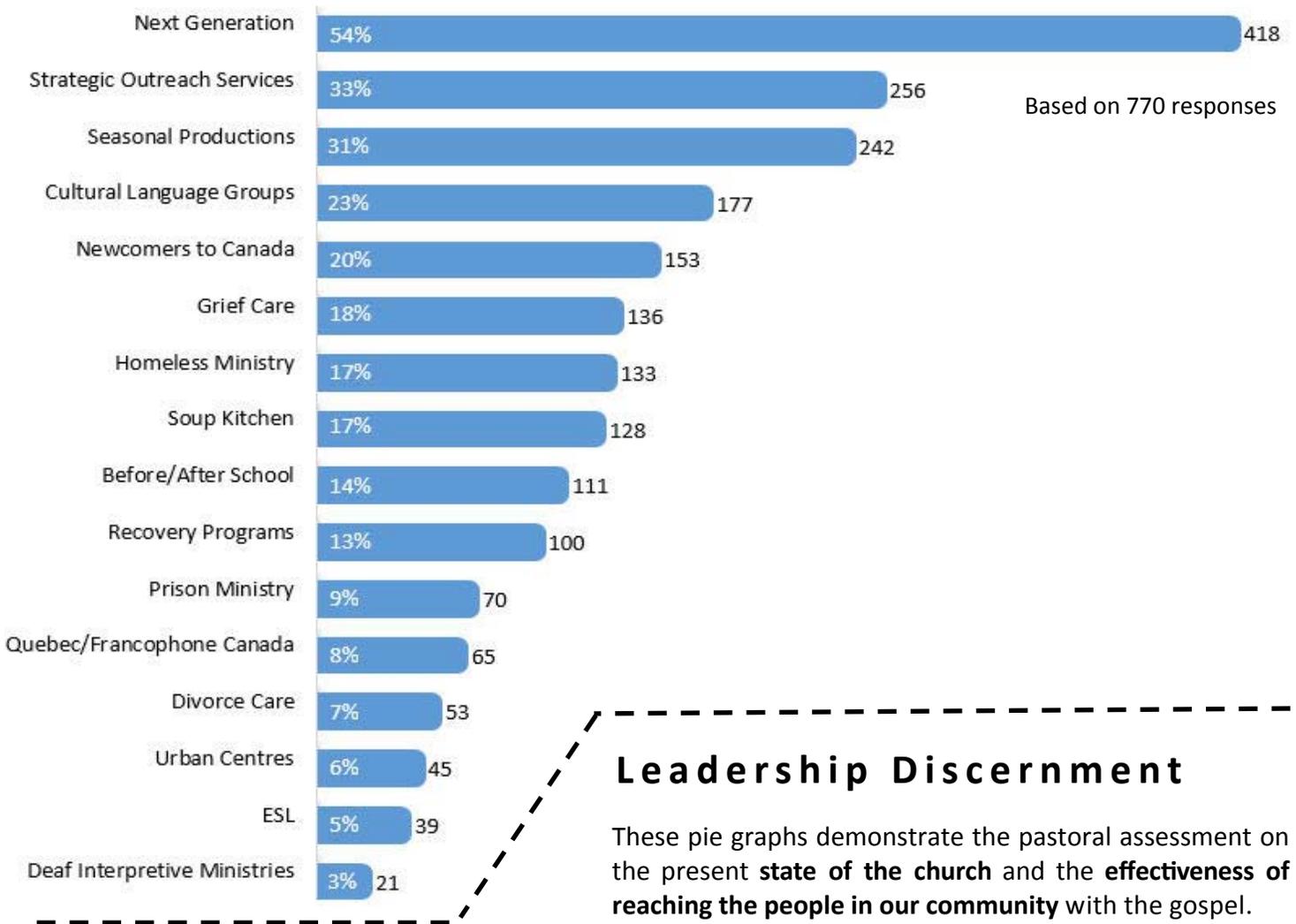
The **Spiritual and Theological Vitality** bar graph describes the activities of the local church throughout the week. Over **47,000 volunteers** serve alongside our pastoral leadership to make these ministries happen.



Based on 899 responses

Missional Vitality

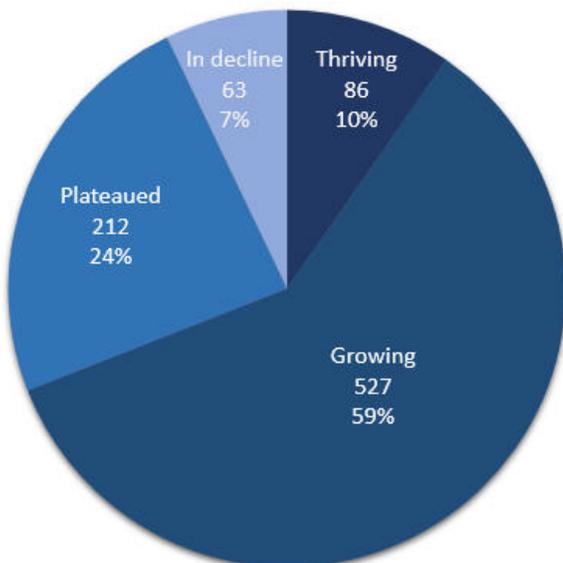
Our **Missional Vitality** describes the way we seek to serve our communities. The bar graph shows a wide variety of ministries to reach those around us. A significant focus remains on the **Next Generation**.



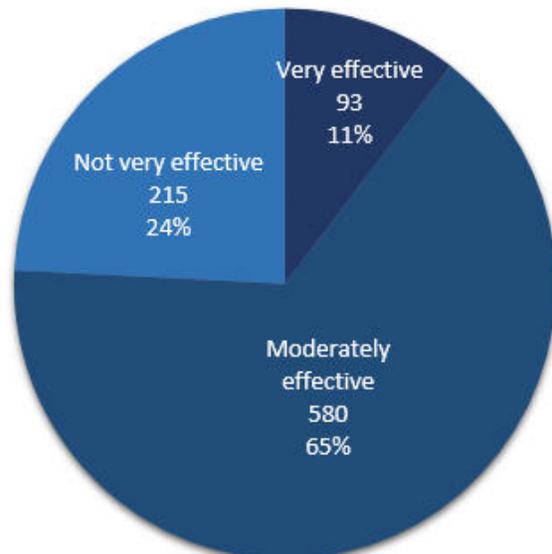
Leadership Discernment

These pie graphs demonstrate the pastoral assessment on the present **state of the church** and the **effectiveness of reaching the people in our community** with the gospel.

State of the church
(out of 888 responses)



Effectiveness of reaching people in the community
(out of 888 responses)



Make-up of the Local Church

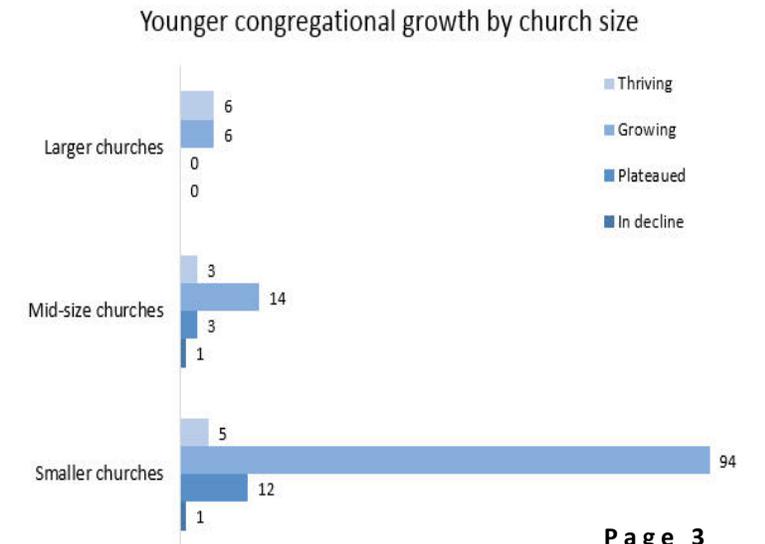
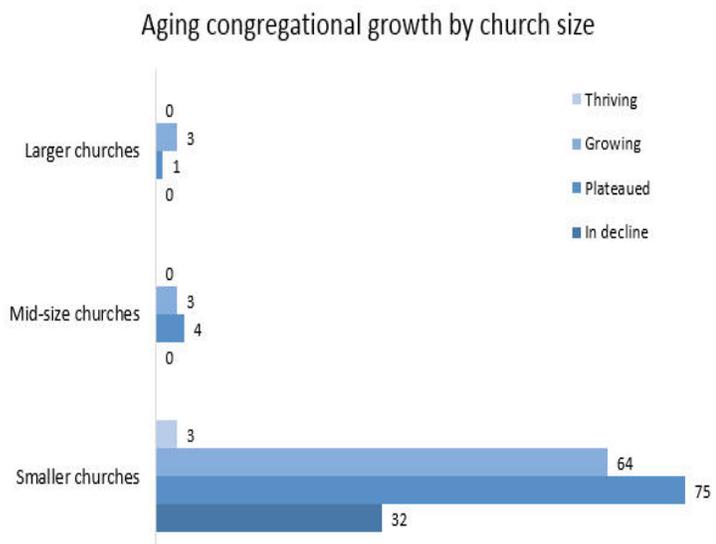
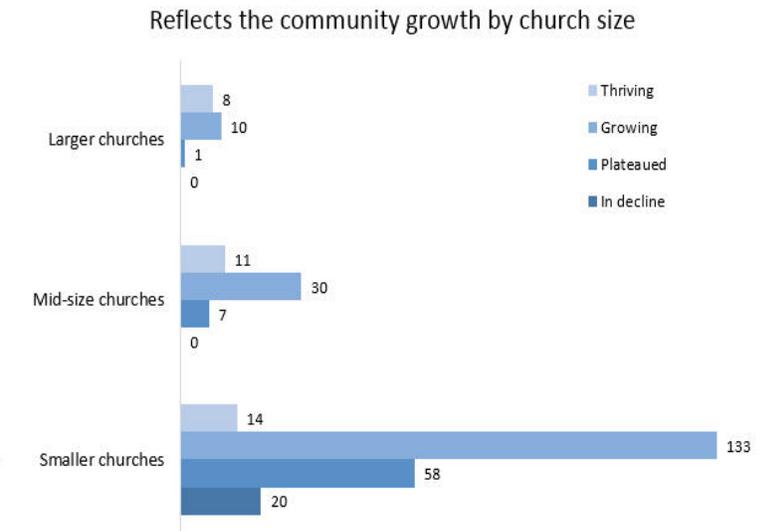
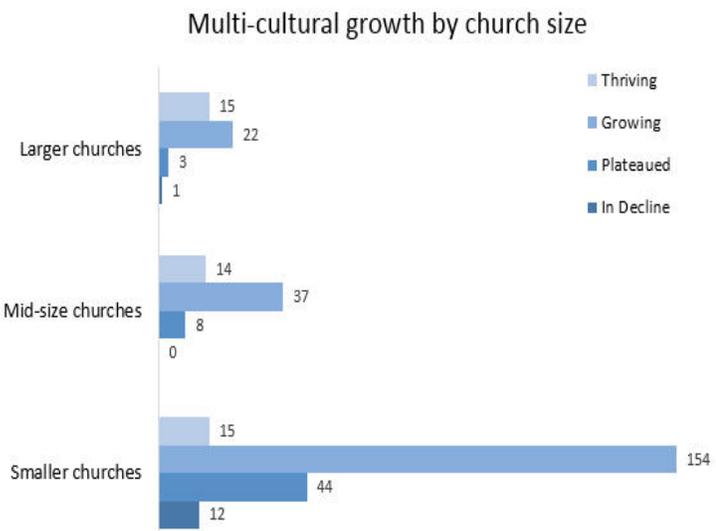
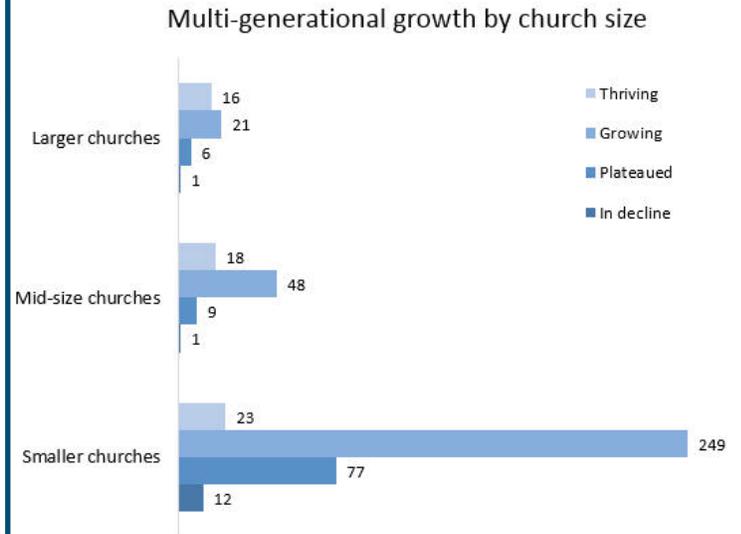
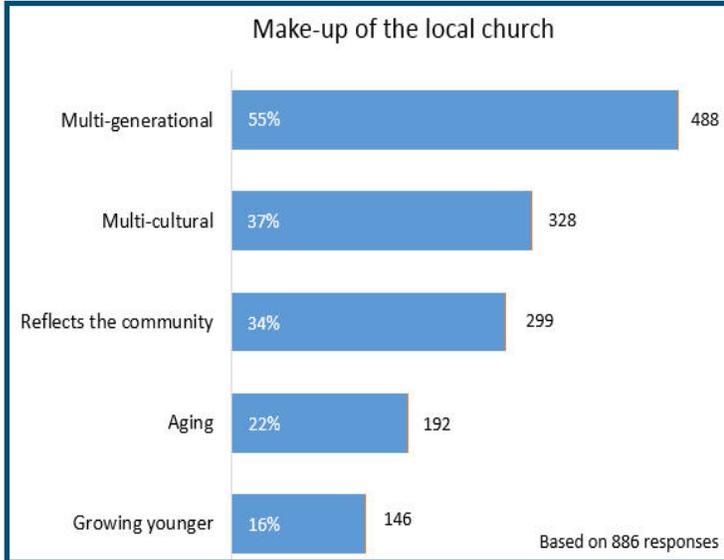
Churches are made up of many dynamics. The ACLR asked whether churches are: **multi-generational, multi-cultural, reflecting the community in demographics, aging, growing younger**, or any combination of those.

The other bar graphs show each response broken down by **church size** and their assessment of whether they are **thriving, growing, plateaued** or **in decline**.

Larger churches = over 500

Mid-size churches = 200 to 500

Smaller churches = under 200



How churches describe the disciple-making process:

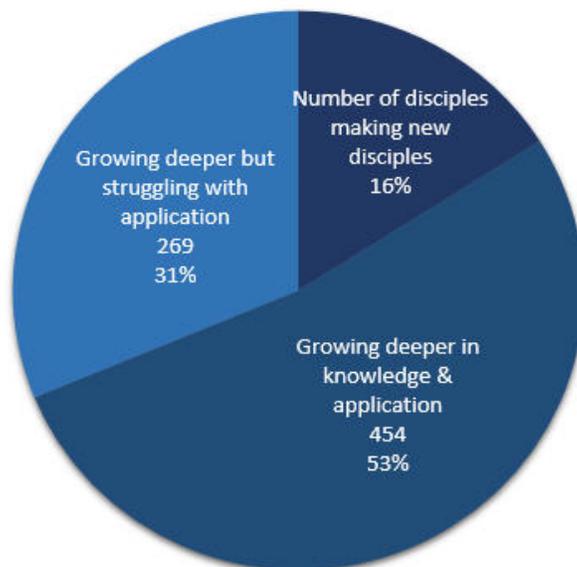
Questions asked on the ACLR:

1. People are **growing deeper** in their knowledge but **struggling with their application**.
2. People are **growing deeper in their knowledge and application** of the Bible.
3. People are growing deeper and it is resulting in the **disciples of the church making new disciples** themselves.

We envision...



Disciple-making process
(out of 861 responses)



To reach our 2020 Initiative goals:

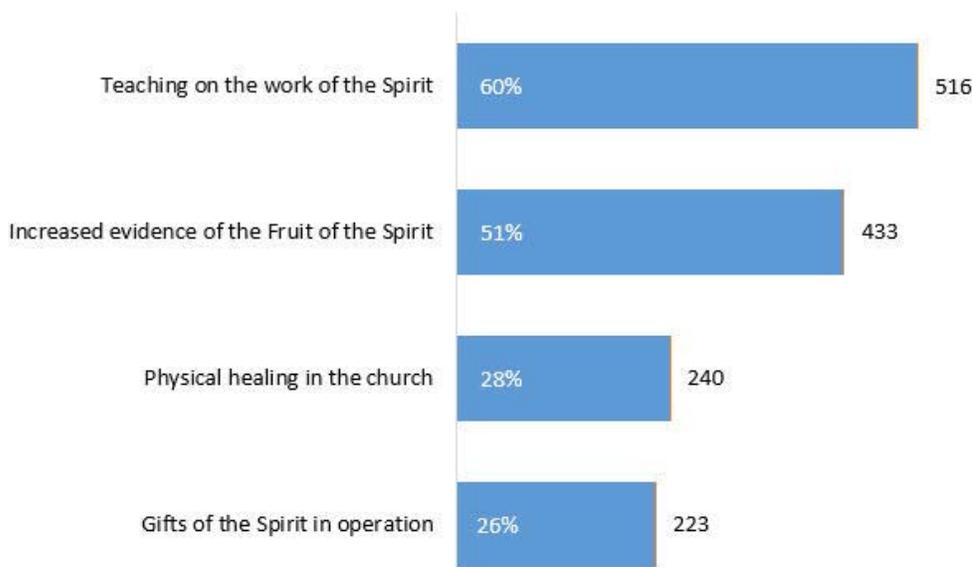
Church Attendance must increase by **33,340** a year and **disciple-making communities** must increase by **63** a year.

A disciple-making community is defined as:

“A Christ-centered gathering of people, with the support of leadership, meeting regularly for worship, caring, teaching, praying, and actively engaging in mission with the intention of continuing to meet for these purposes indefinitely.”

How churches describe the work of the Spirit in their gatherings:

Based on 857 responses



Questions asked on the ACLR:

1. We experience regular moments where the vocal **gifts of the Spirit are in operation** (tongues & interpretation / prophecy).
2. We have seen the work of the Spirit expressed through **physical healing** in our church.
3. There is **increased evidence of the fruit of the Spirit** in people's lives at our church.
4. There has been a focused **teaching time on the work of God's Spirit**.