

PAOC Churches by the Numbers

The results of the 2014 Annual Church Life Report

By Tanya Couch

Observations

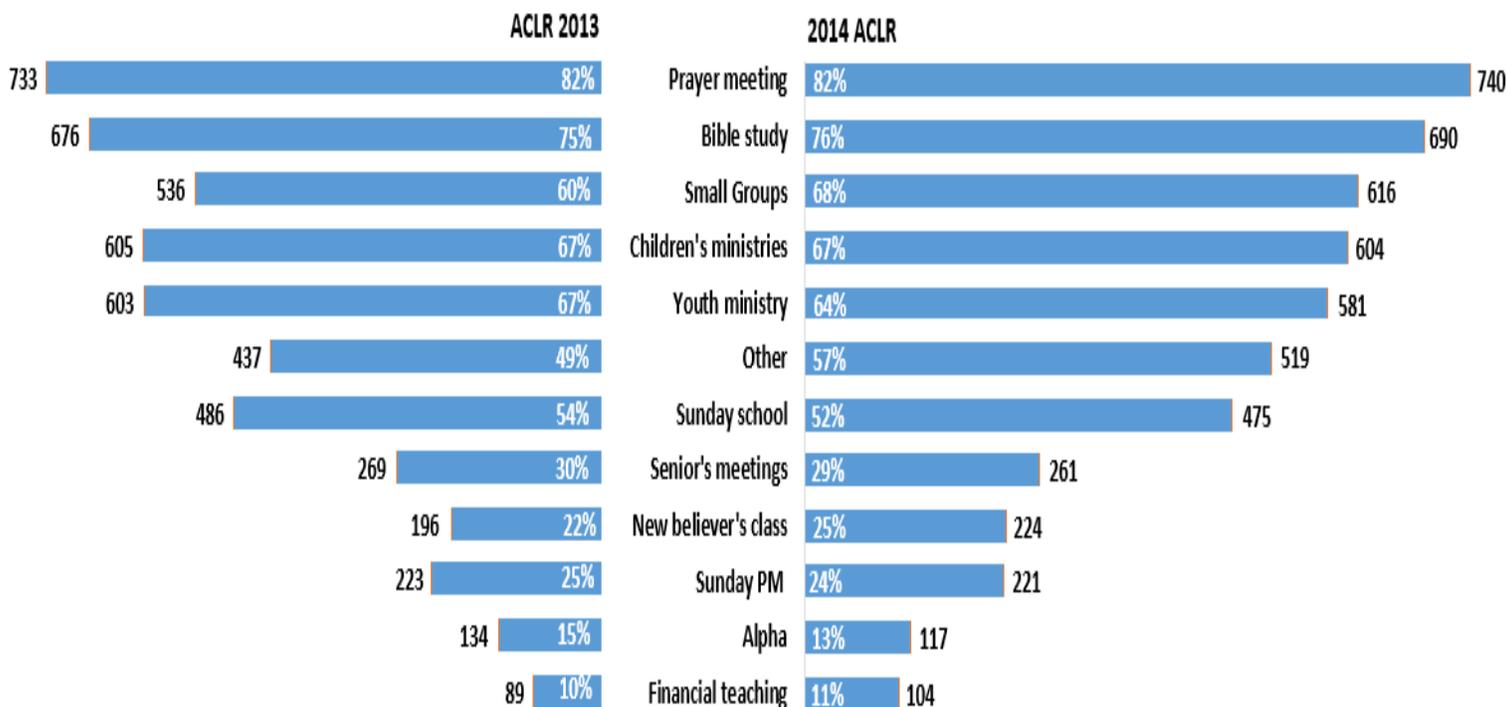
- ⇒ **Traditional ministries** such as: prayer meeting, Bible study, small groups, children's & youth ministries and Sunday school remain **strongly utilized methods of engaging our congregations.**
- ⇒ **36%** of regular attenders **serve as volunteers** (up from 31% in 2013)
- ⇒ Approximately **15%** of PAOC churches **rent** their meeting space.
- ⇒ **68%** of churches have a **strategic initiative to encourage corporate prayer and scriptural engagement.**



Spiritual and Theological Vitality

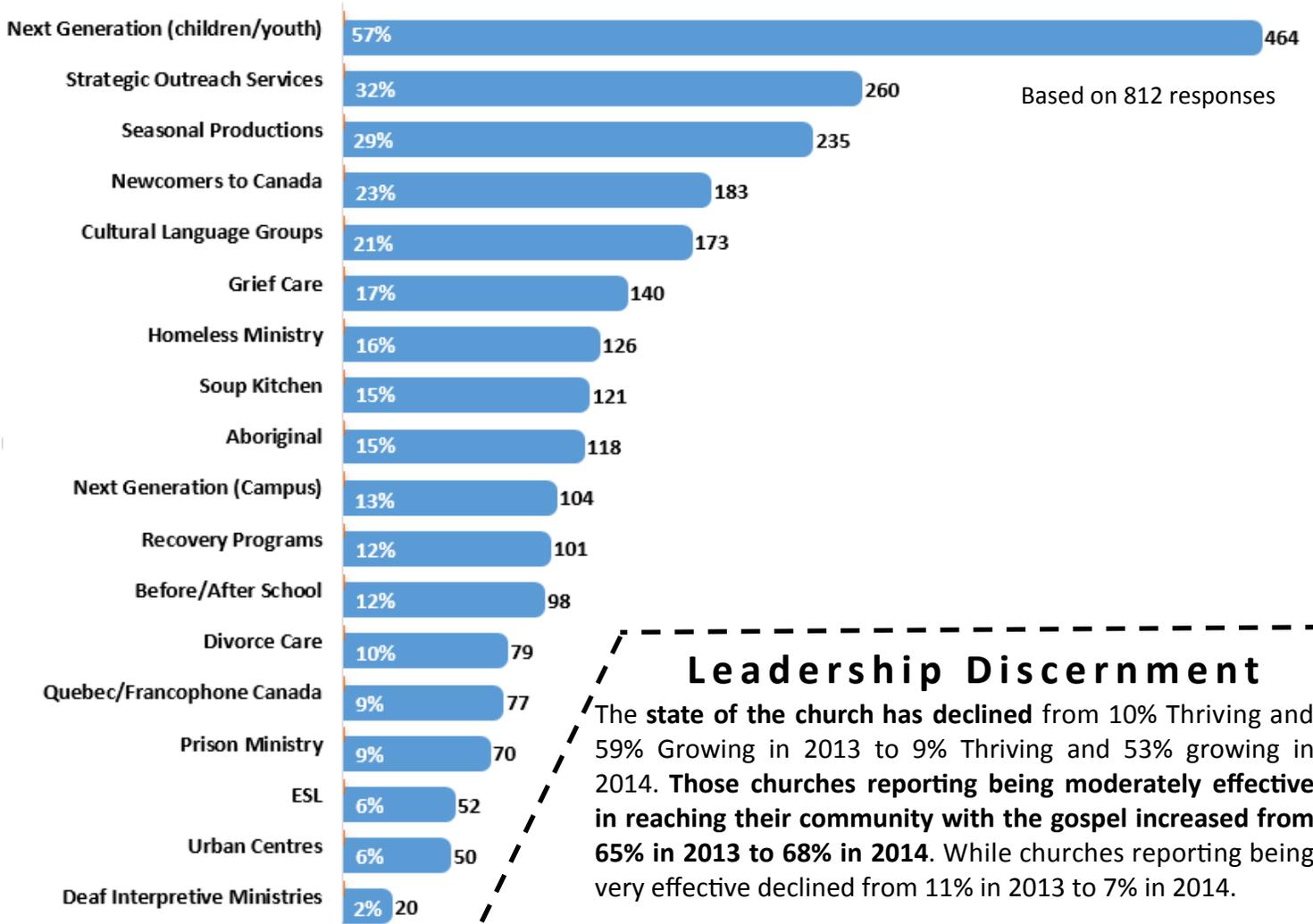
The **Spiritual and Theological Vitality** bar graph describes the activities of the local church throughout the week. Over **52,000 volunteers** serve alongside our pastoral leadership to make these ministries happen. This is an increase from 47,000 reported in 2013.

Based on 907 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**.



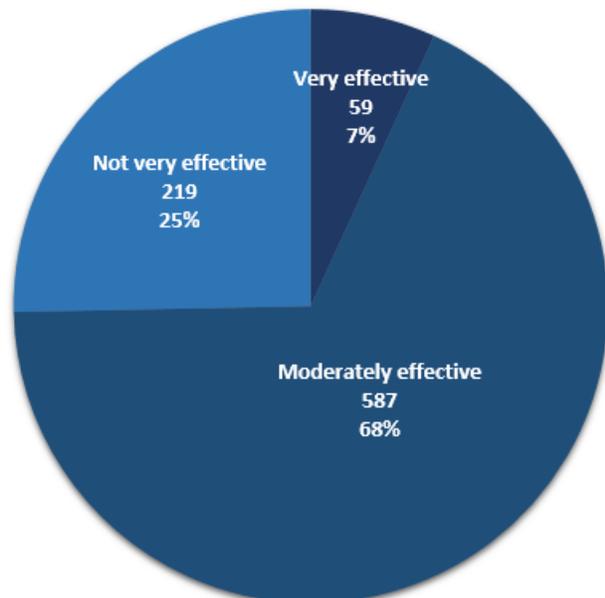
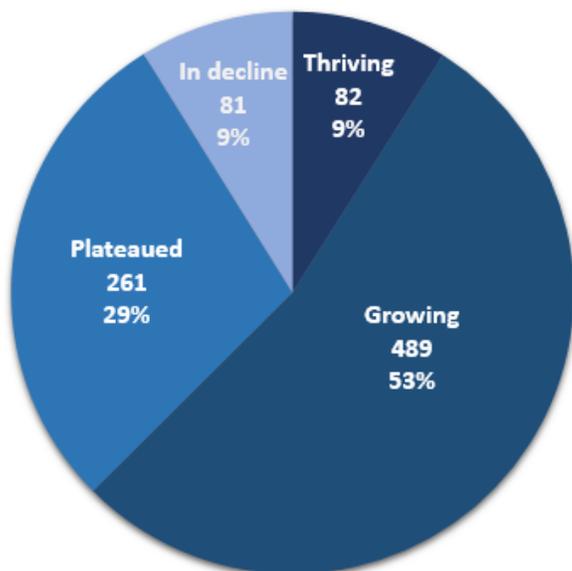
Based on 812 responses

Leadership Discernment

The state of the church has declined from 10% Thriving and 59% Growing in 2013 to 9% Thriving and 53% growing in 2014. Those churches reporting being moderately effective in reaching their community with the gospel increased from 65% in 2013 to 68% in 2014. While churches reporting being very effective declined from 11% in 2013 to 7% in 2014.

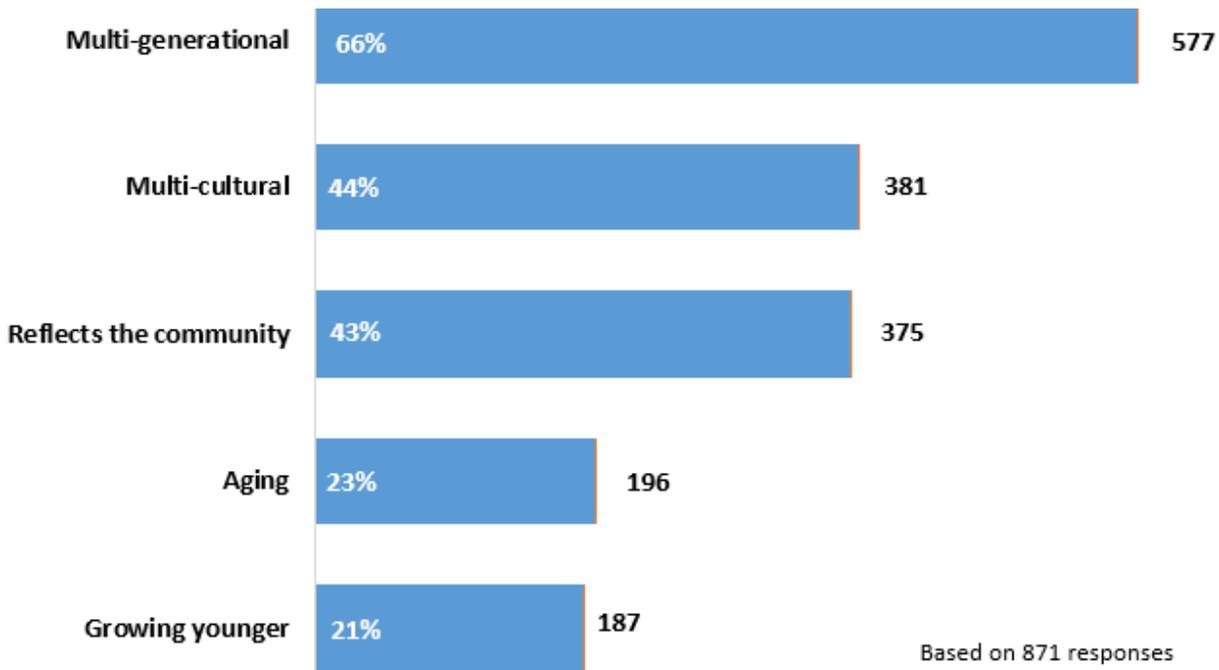
State of the church
2014 ACLR
(out of 913 responses)

Effectiveness of reaching people in the community
2014 ACLR
(out of 865 responses)



Make-up of the Local Church

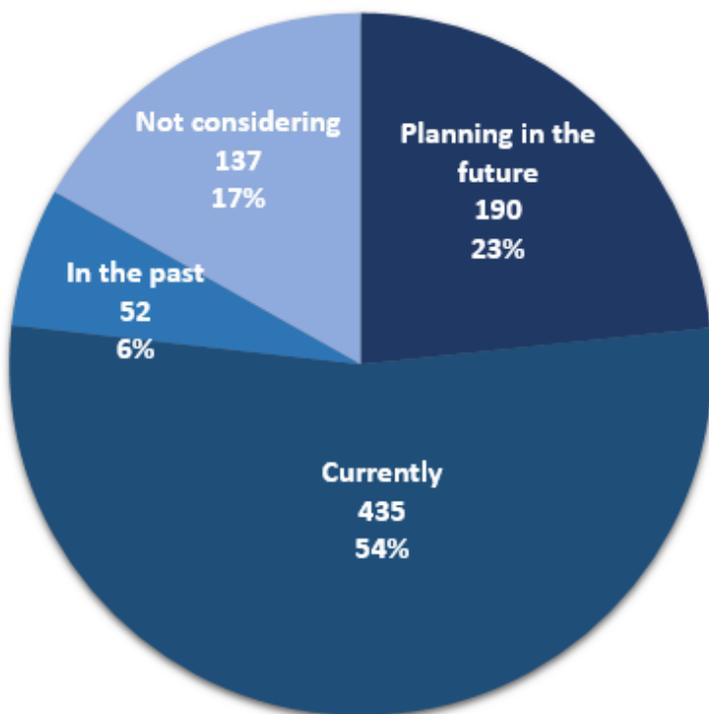
Churches are made up of many dynamics. The 2014 ACLR asked whether churches are: **multi-generational**, **multi-cultural**, **reflecting the community in demographics**, **aging**, **growing younger**, or any combination of



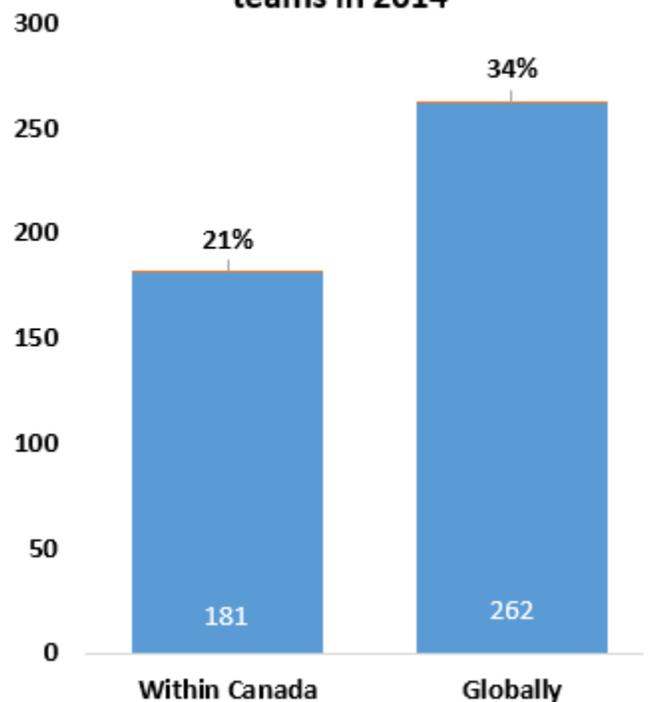
Other Vitality Indicators

On the 2014 ACLR, **54% of churches** reported that they are **currently involved in a revitalization process** and an additional 23% are planning a revitalization process in the future. In addition, **21% of churches** have **sent out missions teams within Canada** and **34% have sent out short-term missions teams globally**.

Engaged in a Revitalization Process
(out of 814 responses)

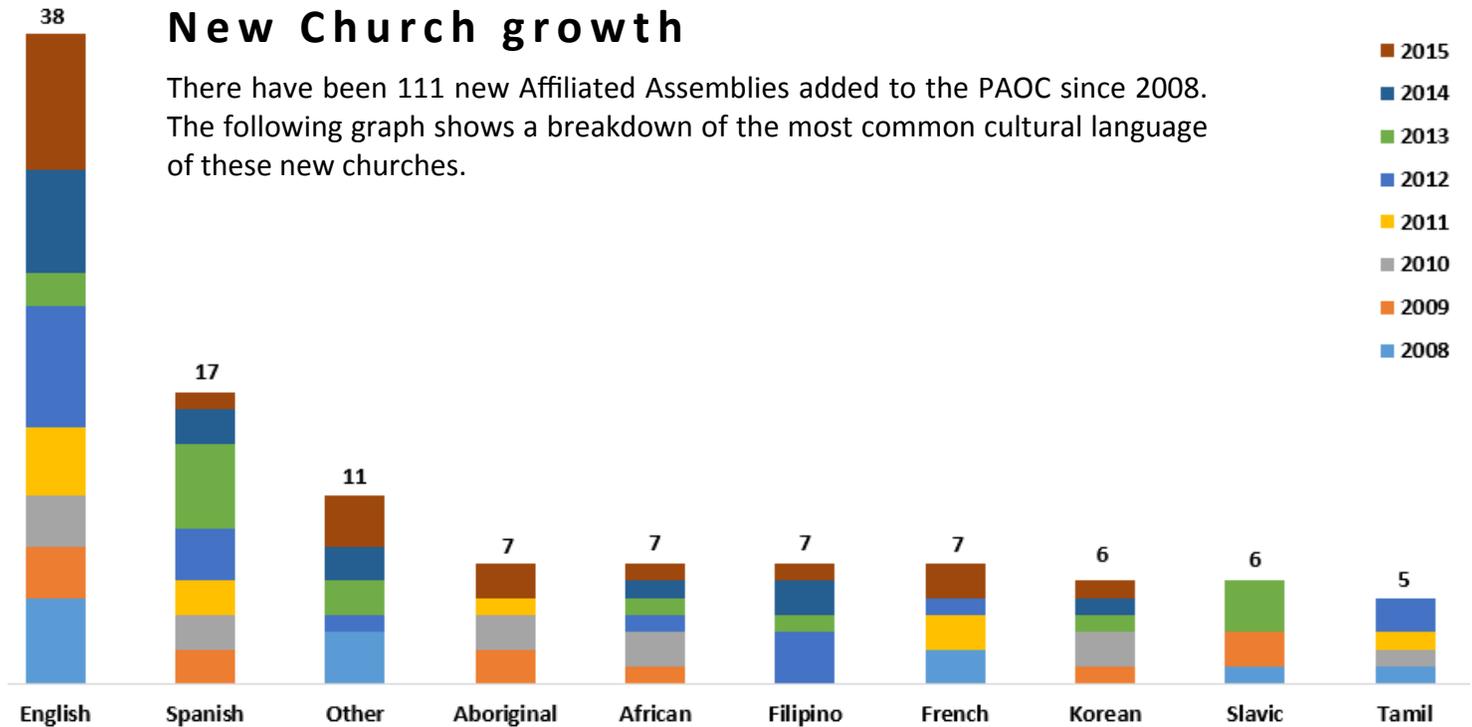


Churches who sent out missions teams in 2014



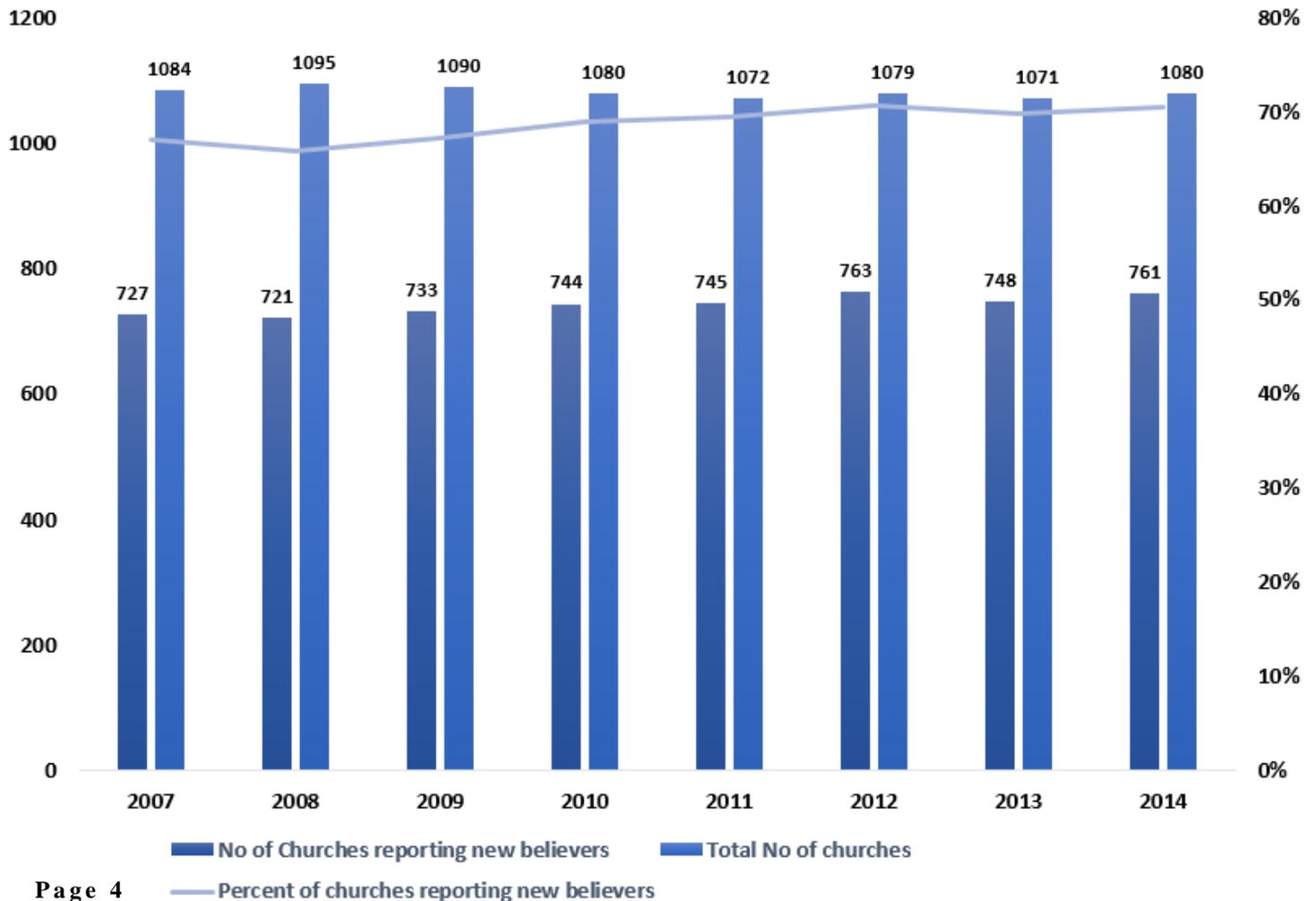
New Church growth

There have been 111 new Affiliated Assemblies added to the PAOC since 2008. The following graph shows a breakdown of the most common cultural language of these new churches.



Number of conversions reported 2007–2014

On average, 69% of churches have reported new believers annually over the past 7 years.

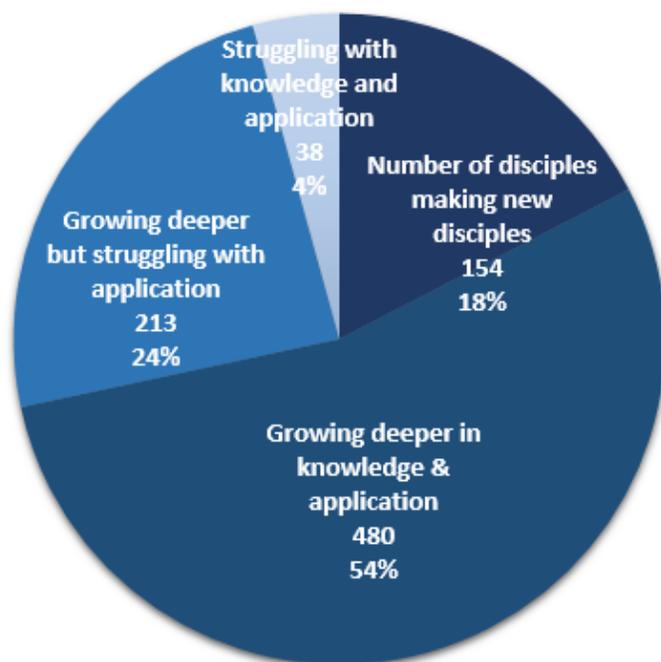


How churches describe the disciple-making process:

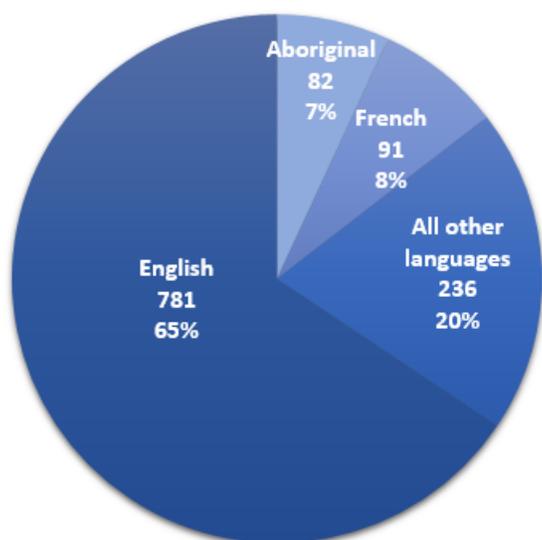
Questions asked on the ACLR:

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

Disciple-making process
(out of 885 responses)



1190 DM Communities by Language
at November 11, 2015

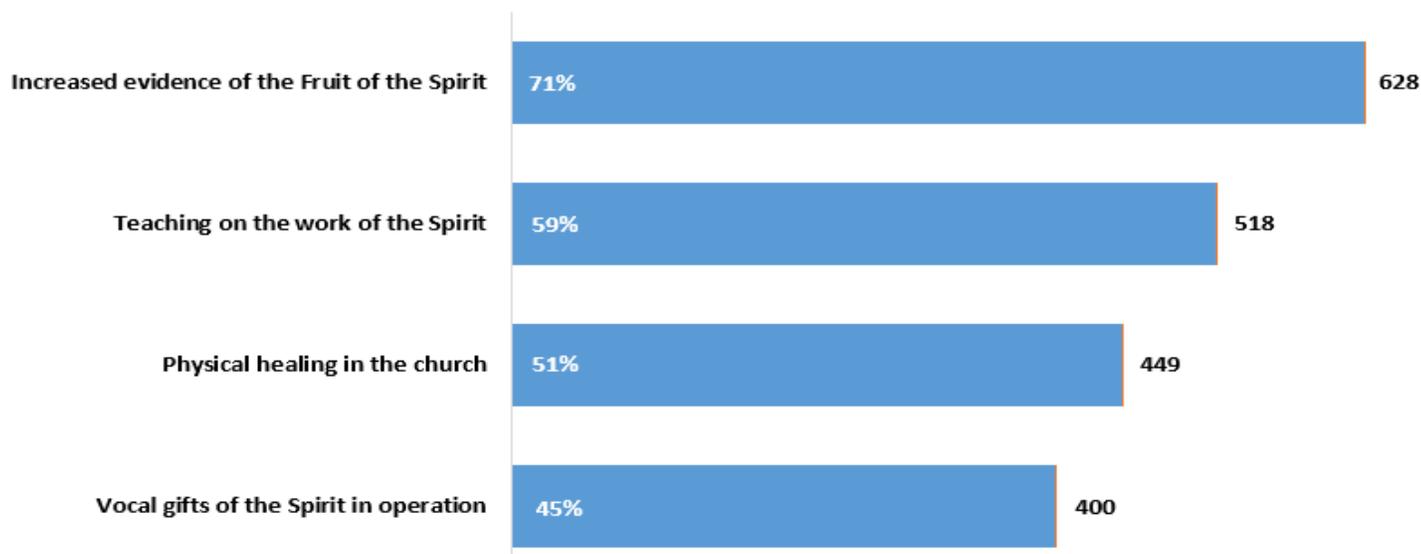


A disciple-making community is defined as:

“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.”

Churches describe the work of the Spirit in their gatherings:

Based on 883 responses



Leadership Development

Over 3/4 of our Lead Pastors who completed the 2014 ACLR are developing their leadership skills through reading books. Almost 2/3 attended their District Conference and 1/4 attended General Conference in 2014. Just under half of respondents use online learning or resources to continue their leadership development while just over 1/5 are continuing their education through College or Seminary courses.

