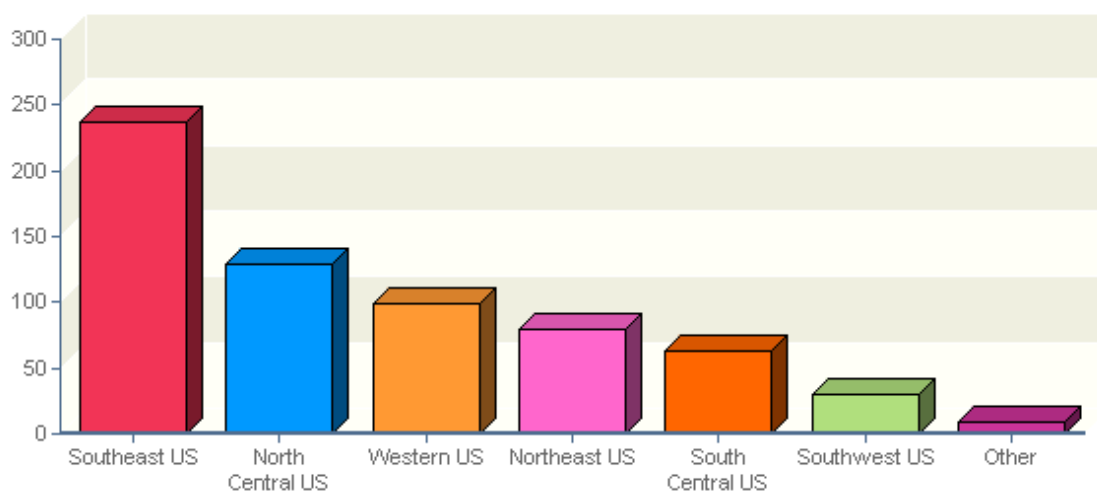


Response Summary Report

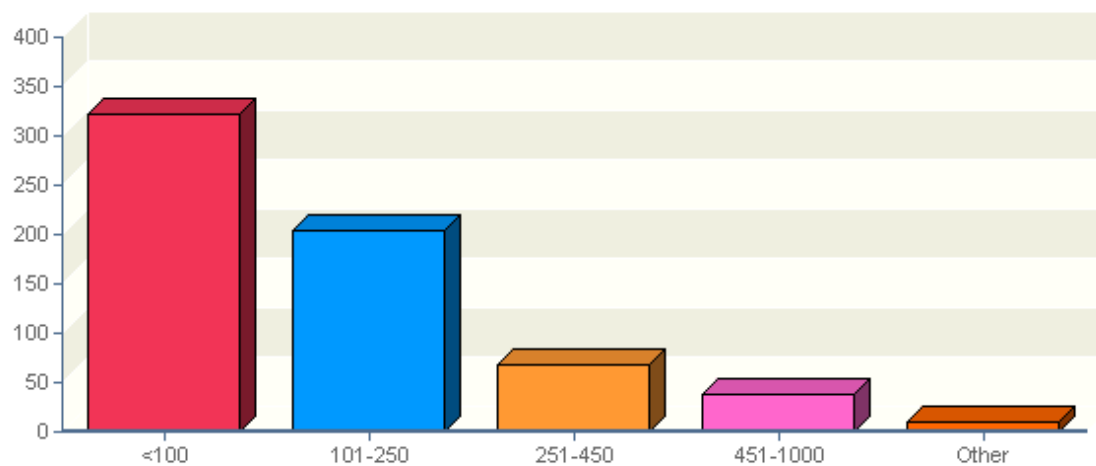
February 03, 2010

1. Location of Congregation



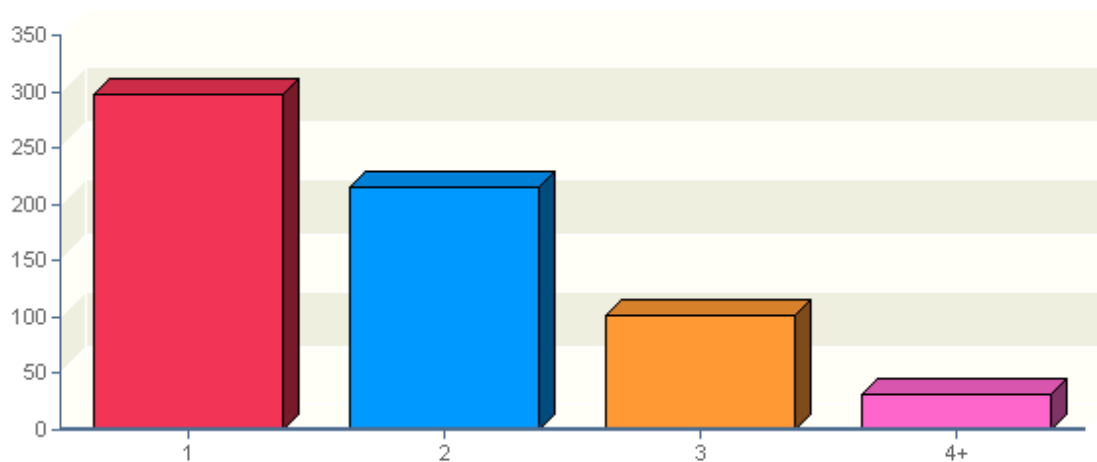
Item	Count	Percent %
Southeast US	237	36.69%
North Central US	129	19.97%
Western US	99	15.33%
Northeast US	79	12.23%
South Central US	63	9.75%
Southwest US	30	4.64%
Philippines	5	0.77%
Europe	4	0.62%

2. Size of weekly worshipping congregation (all services)



Item	Count	Percent %
<100	322	49.85%
101-250	205	31.73%
251-450	69	10.68%
451-1000	39	6.04%
1001+	11	1.70%

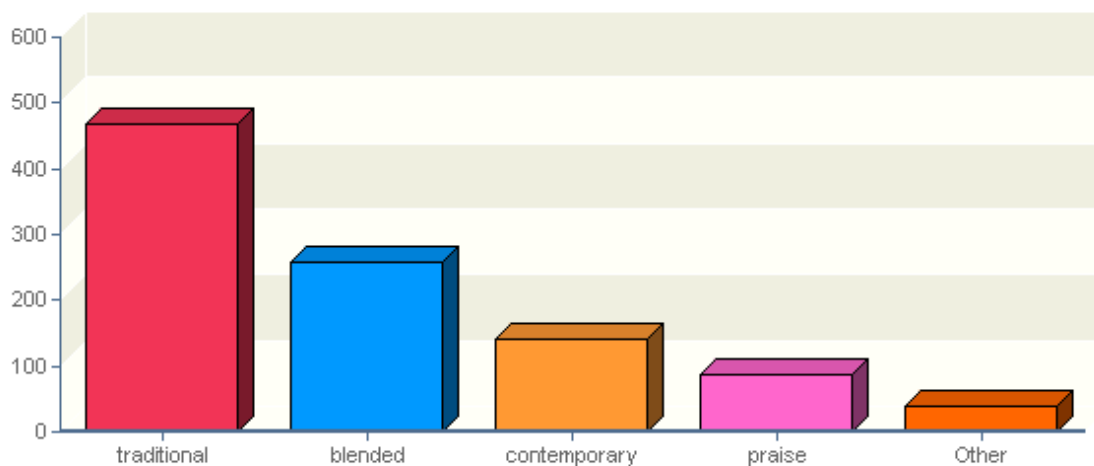
3. Number of weekly services



Item	Count	Percent %
1	297	45.98%
2	216	33.44%
3	102	15.79%
4+	31	4.80%

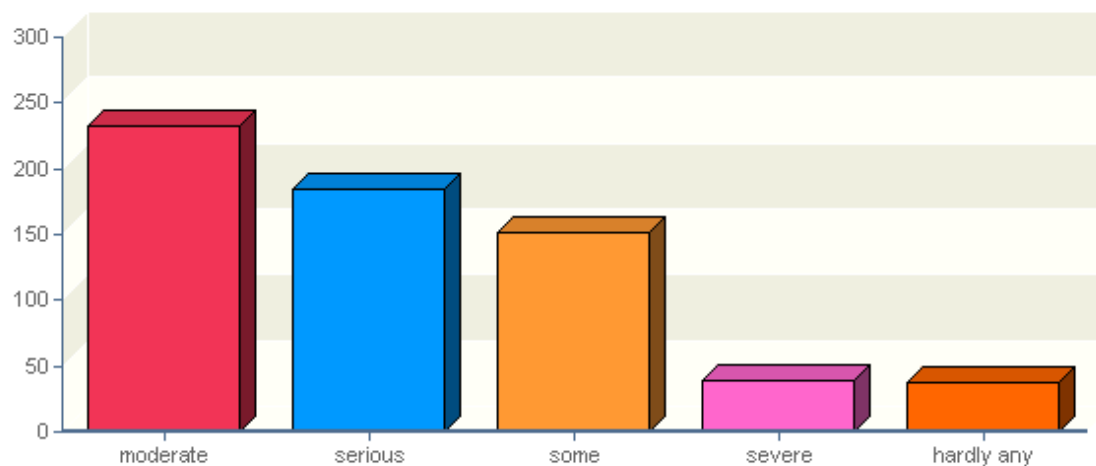
Average: 1.60

4. Styles of services (check all that apply)



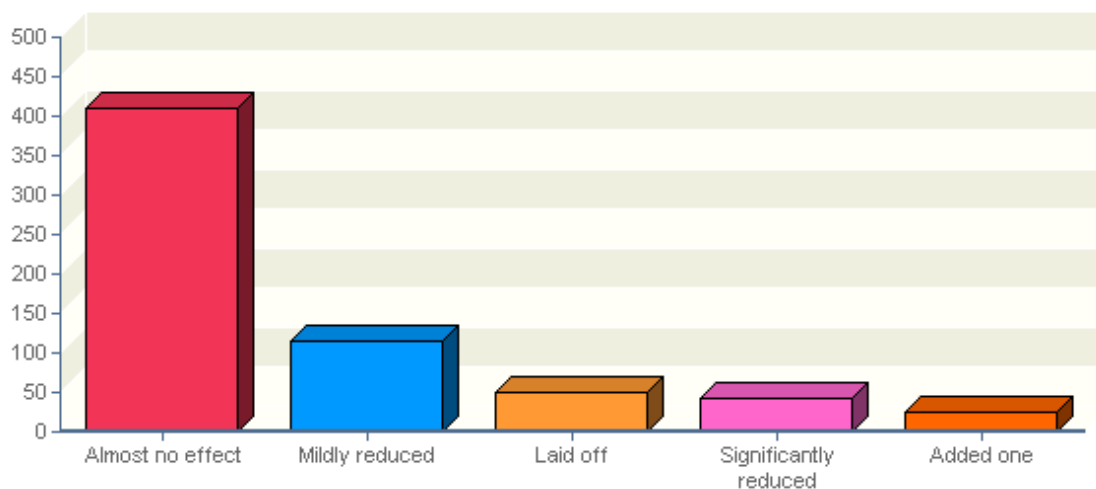
Item	Count	Percent %
traditional	467	72.29%
blended	259	40.09%
contemporary	141	21.83%
praise	88	13.62%
emergent	18	2.79%
indigenous	13	2.01%
Taizé	8	1.24%

5. Assessment of global economic crisis on local economics and finances of local congregation



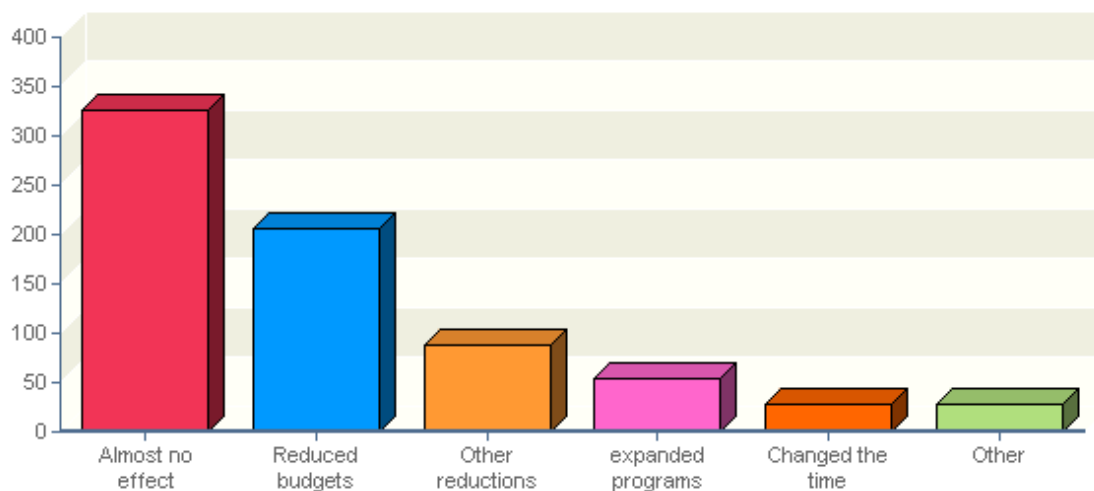
Item	Count	Percent %
moderate	232	35.91%
serious	185	28.64%
some	152	23.53%
severe	39	6.04%
hardly any	38	5.88%

6. How has the recent global economic crisis affected your staffing for worship leadership?



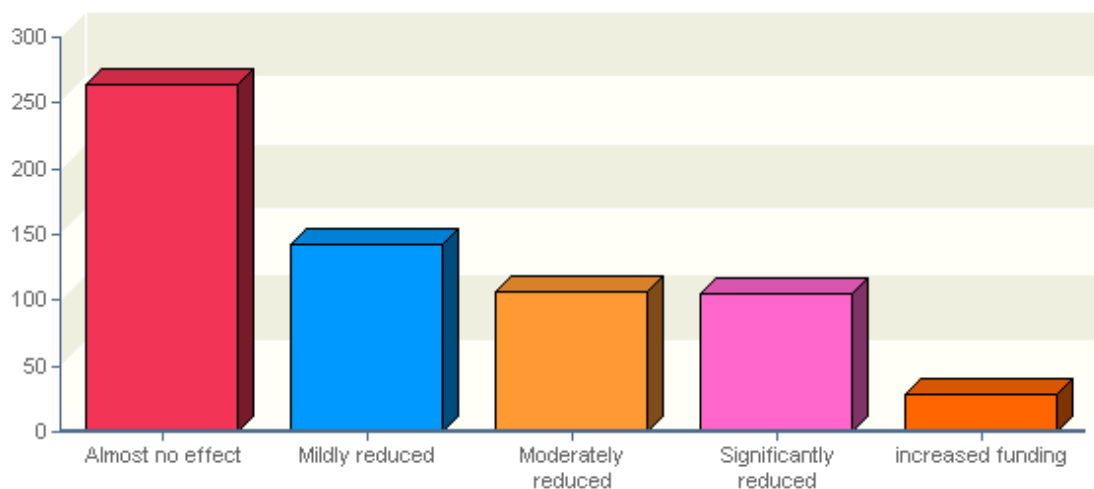
Item	Count	Percent %
Almost no effect	411	63.62%
Mildly reduced	116	17.96%
Laid off	51	7.89%
Significantly reduced	43	6.66%
Added one	25	3.87%

7. How has the recent global economic crisis affected your program expenses for worship? (check all that apply)



Item	Count	Percent %
Almost no effect	326	50.46%
Reduced budgets	207	32.04%
Other reductions	89	13.78%
expanded programs	54	8.36%
Changed the time	28	4.33%
Ended choirs	16	2.48%
Ended worship	12	1.86%

8. How has the recent global economic crisis affected your resource expenses for worship



Item	Count	Percent %
Almost no effect	264	40.87%
Mildly reduced	142	21.98%
Moderately reduced	106	16.41%
Significantly reduced	105	16.25%
increased funding	29	4.49%

Appendix 2: Describe other program reductions (optional)

Open Text Responses:

Moved to a space more easy to cool/heat.

Entier budget slashed 5% across the board.

no use of A/C for any building use.

Spending freeze

I would encourage you to look at the CEO of the Kennedy Center and how he is working with arts groups to turn them around in down times. he gave some really great tips on what nonprofit groups SHOULD do to assist us with what we need to do as churches--in other words NOT cut programming!

We simply aren't doing optional things like buying new music. Some copyright licenses may be dropped.

No increase in budget over the previous year!

1) retirement account suspended

2) 1 week non-paid work furlough

3) loss of 1 staff person

4) all travel suspended

We are in the process of evaluating our ministry for areas to reduce expenditures. However, we expect no reductions in ministry expenditures for our growing area.

More volunteers are being used

Stopped weekly Bible Study groups for the summer months. Starting them back with the school year.

Budgets for 2009 and 2010 have been cut drastically. It's almost as if we are unwilling to dream and vision because issues of money and loss of jobs take up our time.

Less building maintenance

We no longer hire outside musicians, our organist is no longer paid, Director has to double up on leading music groups when volunteers can't be found. No money for new music, hymnals exxcept what comes from dedicated funds.

Giving increased- programs added

We are expanding as we see a greater need for spiritual strength and deepening awareness of relationship with God in these times.

Have had to rely on volunteer musicians ... have cut back on educational curriculum ... moved meetings to daytime hours (less participation for those who do work) ...

full time paid staff is covering all events rather than part time and custodians.

All programming budgets too a 5% cut

We have reduced two staff positions and program support related to our Council on Ministries

We joined another small church to have a VBS this summer. Other wise we have borrowed VBS programs from larger churches when they are finished.

postponement of building expansion

We are discussing reductions in staff, but have not taken any steps. We are using principal of endowment.

none

none

none

none

none

none

none

none

Church office staff hours

no budget for Worship or Missions

We can't reduce any more. All we pay are the Pastor, and custodian.

Your questiosn ask about "recent."

Our difficulties are LONG standing!

Reductions were made one two years ago. So . . . NO EFFECY RECENTLY !

We are a new church and growing. Giving is excellent...people are giving more than we expected and planned for.

Reduced Building maintenance and moved it to the 2010 budget

No other changes.

we have cut program budgets across the board

we had begun better stewardship practices 8 years ago. We were anticipating some times of decline in the world economic condition.

limit overall expenses

Open Text Responses:

Why are you only concerned about worship? Education has felt a huge hit with reduced teacher volunteers for the adult, youth and children classes. People are less willing to give their time.

Pastor's salary frozen for the year

We discontinued our pre-printed bulletin standing order; are burning our candles lower; not buying new music; etc.

We also had to cancel our plans for employee health and retirement benefits and there will be no raises this next year. We have discussed reducing the pay of our director of music.

Just a general "tightening of the belt"

Actually, we added Vacation Bible School and expanded our efforts in children's ministries (Sunday School and children's choir), using volunteer adult leaders.

Need to consider reduction in pay for some staff.

Due to our Bishop campaigning against our sheriff and for illegal immigration, I am cutting back on giving.

The church has stopped paying for class materials.

Some repairs to church buildings have been put on hold until 2010.

Froze spending on Christian Education, Worship and Music

Have combined resources across two charges served by one pastor. No significant additions for more than three years.

less budget

less givings

no salary increase for staff

less office personnel

We live in a very warm climate. We installed programmable thermostats for all buildings and carefully control our cooling costs as a result of the current economic conditions.

No special music guests or outside groups...

I reject the term "crisis" used in the questionnaire. That is too dramatic, if you have any historical perspective of economics. We have had small cuts in program budgets, but nothing that is crippling us or our ministry.

Have had to seriously curtail our childrens ministry

Budget cuts in many areas, reduced curriculum and supply budgets, for example. Music budget was cut.

no reductions primarily because we have not fallen prey to the false info regarding an "economic crisis" that has been manufactured and manipulated by un-christian political factions

length of time air conditioning is on limits the time spent in services to the community (food distrbtution, neighborhood meetings, morning prayer meetings, choir practice , ect.)

In this small community, letters went out for stewardship drive, which received good results. Attendance is the same, at times a result of happenings in community. Contributions are good, along with Memorial funds. Not too noticeable as yet.

We support a preschool/kindergarten which is struggling to remain viable as we serve the working poor.

Our people have been able to be faithful up til now. Am noting that it is hitting more people now as it has gone on so long and so know that in six months time my responses to this survey could be very different. We have not had to make many changes now but recently more of my people are experiencing big changes and are running out of their reserves. We will be hit when those reserves are gone.

Has caused an inability of purchasing materials needed to support Sunday Morning Worship, Bible Study, Church School, Confirmation Classes, and various other ministries within the church i.e. SPPR, Trustees, Finance etc.

Cut back on flowers, and other "extras" ie. decor. We still burn candles, 2 seven branch candelabras for Morning Prayer & Evensong, and 2 for Holy Communion, but candles are about our only worship enhancement as cannot afford fresh flowers, other than roses we clip from the rose bushes in the church lawn.

If the economy does not improve the reduction will be larger. We are at the point of talking about some reductions in worship staffing. We hope it does not come to that.

The only thing we have to fear is fear itself. FDR

charging a fixed price for high school lunch/out reach program as opposed to donations, also cutting back curriculum expense

Have cut spending on education for all ages. Have curtailed spending on music for the choir and congregation. Have reduced the budget for all other program areas to the bare bones. No new purchases of anything other than office supplies such as paper.

Programs reduced

Began monthly Free Dinner

Eliminating office secretary position for six months. Unable to pay all bills.

We have suffered the most from reductions in staff through not being able to replaced persons who left. Our young people were a key part to our contempory service and we are as stong in this area as we once were. On the brighter side our music ministry is alive and has help to keep people coming to Church.

Committees that are less that 10 persons need to meet in places other than the church, for instance, in homes or over meal times.

Open Text Responses:

We have redirected funds from optional worship resources (video, CD's, etc.) towards helping local congregants.

outreach, mission and service ministries have greatly been reduced. have seen our yearly budget cut in 1/2

When our previous secretary moved, we had planned to hire a new staff person, but are unable to do so at this time.

Administrative support for the worship service is done by the pastor and church members

My answers to 6 & 7 weren't BECAUSE of the global economic crisis, but in spite of it. We added a half-time admin ass't and a worship service last January, after the crisis hit.

Although we originally (in Feb) reduced pay for senior pastor and part-time associate pastor, and reduced hours for office manager, this summer we received enough increased pledges to support increasing the associate pastor position from quarter-time to half-time. Not directly related to worship, but that has been the impact we've experienced.

There is a larger issue than the current economic crisis for the future. This has to do with our apportionments. The current way of funding ministry beyond the local church must change. For the first time in 32 years the church I pastor does not pay apportionments in full.

reduced \$ for outreach, Christian Education, Pastor's Reimbursable account

Program expansion with youth ministry due to use of Restricted funds

Global economic crisis has effected our church in reduced offerings. Many jobs in our area have been eliminated and others have been reduced giving less income to families. Many families don't see the benefit of church instead they see it as another way to have less money. They feel that they are sending their money else where when it should be used here in our local church. Given the choice of supporting a fundraiser for a local project or church hands down the fund raiser gets the support. Local churches are not equiped to help families in need.

Programs are effected due to reduced tithing. We are probably better off than most churches in our area.

Many small reductions across a variety of programs, parish development resources etc.

Virtually all program expenses have been zeroed or reduced extensively.

Ministry areas are basically working off of no budget and are asked only to spend money that is a must have. No frills, no resources being ordered, going paperless with the newsletter and bulletinless since it is all up on screen anyway.

less sunday school books, literature,
less yard work

We have added program in children's ministry

Eliminated infant day care, senior day care, and slots for youth build/job training and apprentice program. We are struggling to keep up our apportionment payments for the first time in many years.

Offering is lower, thus affecting apportionment payments. Note questions 6 & 9 have little bearing on our churches as there is only 1 paid staff. Again offering is down.

Congregation afraid to spend any money for facilities or new programs, in case they need it later to pay the bills.

We do not pick people up for worship.

One staff person may be laid off.

Missions, evangelism

We're trying to provide a variety of experiences to reach more people. The limited funds have NOT caused us to reduce, but it has made it difficult to add music staff.

I served a three point charge until this year. Now I serve a five point charge. This is only due to the economy. With rising costs of utilities, food, housing, etc. and with job losses in the area people are giving less to the church and charities in general.

Demands on our food pantry have exceeded 600 individuals every weekend

not at this time

Cuts made were largely in program areas for materials, etc. Generally a watchfulness on expenses more than anything else.

there are no changes as far as I know

Had to let go our hired pianist and janitor. May be letting go our lawn care service and snow removal this winter.

struggling to pay the pastor his salary

Worship is central, other ministries have been cut.

NA

Ended offering food at church programming.

We have cut back on literature and music purchases as well as trimming our office cost.

We changed our Food Pantry (which is fully funded with monetary donations) from opening every other week to just twice a month. This eliminated 4 open days/year. We have also considered only offering this service once a month if our funds get too low. Thankfully, that hasn't happened to date.

Eliminated mission giving to 2 outreach ministries, cut down Sunday School supplies, froze Pastor salary for 1 year

We are so small, less than 20, that economy is not an issue. We have committed our portion and give it up front.

Open Text Responses:

The major change we see across the board is in being aware of the budget and sticking to it. The budget for 2010 is expected to be the same as 2009, but not to decrease. This includes salaries, program resources and worship related resources.

We're at a bare bones budget. Trying not to spend any money. Which in effect is ministry stopping.

We were already running our worship on a shoestring, so what could we lose? We pay our 2 pianists \$60/week, plus we have a paid music director who uses most of her church income to buy music for the choir. Two-point charge.

Renegotiating with utilities for lower rates. Cutting all overhead costs. Freezing pastoral pay (no COLA) and reducing hours for other staff.

We adopted a flat Budget for 2009, relative to the 2008 Budget.

Less available for outreach helps

Limited our conference apportionments. Put a restraint on our evangelism budget.

purchasing needs not wants

We did not have any budget for worship expenses before!

I serve 2 small membership, rural churches comprised of many older adults who are on fixed incomes. The economic crisis has made them cautious about how they spend their money. Instead of purchasing items to enhance worship, ie., banner stands and banners, they are using their skills to make them. The only change in staff has been that one church decided to not hire a choir director when their director took another job, and the pianist not directs and plays.

Eliminated all new Education Curriculum; user fees for previously free programs

We have increased programming for evangelism but this is not related to the global economic crisis.

Vacation Bible school reduced to four days instead of usual five.

The number of fellowship gatherings has been reduced.

Worship attendance giving down

Our giving is OK because we tithe

We would have had to stop ordering education materials except we began asking for recyclable cans and bottles and that has funded our education program.

use of media projection and purchase of a new sound system have been delayed

Stopped purchasing choir music, wrote our own VBS material, etc.

Our churches are small and we don't have many programs that can be cut back. We're doing more fund raisers.

Pastor has received no monetary increase in salary but twice in 7 years. Church does not pay for DSL, cable TV or Cell phone or any educational reimbursements for Course of Study--which is not completed.

Reduced hours of both daycare ministries.

reduced # of outreach programs

youth have to raise their own way

outreach means we have to pay as we go-no putting in the budget, but that is not bad..

Closed building on Fridays. Eliminated contract labor and replaced with volunteer help. Raised awareness of "Going Green" to conserve energy etc.

Because of lack of finances the church has now rented out a portion of the build to maintain pastoral support.

Limited the time in holding mid-week bible-study. Were doing 1 and 1/2 hour. We now come together for 1 hour.

We are about to build and expand.

Finding that we cannot do as much outreach without doing extra fund raising

Lost 2 staff persons and a 11% across the board reduction in budget

All program money is hardly spent so we can keep staff salaries.

We are not spending anything on any program unless we have to - we have borrowed VBS materials, made sure we are not over-ordering Sunday School supplies, and "made do" with resources on hand. Reducing mailing costs and phone costs is next.

Change funding for and discussed discontinuing radio broadcast

Made minor reductions but we were moving toward those changes anyway (like doing reuse of bulletins for our second service). One major issue is that we were looking to upgrade to a permanent screen and projector in the sanctuary (rather than a temporary cart brought out when needed) and many folks have (rightly) questioned whether this is the time to invest in that ministry. However, our overall giving for this year is up \$20,000 from last year. Go figure!

Our children and youth groups now meet at same time, after Sunday worship with lunch and then separate programs.

Lunch Programs for Senior Citizens ceased during the summer.

Mission Team work within local community instead of going away.

in the midst of ongoing budget reductions for staffing, and not spending budgeted amounts for all programs.

Combined 3 churches into parish and released assistant pastor.

We've stopped using color bulletin covers except for the holidays or for funerals/weddings. We've switched to the "One Room Sunday School" curriculum to reduce cost as well as to fit more appropriately in a small Sunday School.

Wage freeze. No seed money for new programs. Program money deducted from budget to pay for increasing health care and utility costs.

Open Text Responses:

no hiring of youth director/contemporary worship coordinator

Delayed hiring needed staff for children's and youth ministry

we are trying to reduce spending on resources such as printed music and saving our money to support and hire musicians and other artists.

Food Pantry operation has been reduced because of the slow down of food donations. We have had no reduction in personnel or physical resources.

Less monies spent on program expenses.

UMW having difficulty meeting pledge.

Recently built new sanctuary - pledge amounts received are less.

BUDGET CUTS IN CHILDREN'S, ADULT'S AND WORSHIP PROGRAMMING.

Nothing is purchased for worship at this time. Anything that we do is based on what we have.

Over-all, we have had to reduce all spending throughout the entire church.

We had a big emphasis on servant evangelism, which we have virtually had to stop due to a lack of resources.

None - if necessary we have a Bean Supper or something to raise the needed funds.

not buying new music

Have not been able to hire additional staff for Children's ministry.

Have postponed a needed debt reduction campaign and building campaign

Cut down hours building in use to cut HVAC cost. Tithes are down due to number of families losing jobs, houses. Others are not able to give as much.

Decrease of children, youth, and worship staff

Building maintenance is being deferred. No new activities are being added and we are holding off on a capital improvement project. We opened a line of credit to handle some electrical maintenance that could not be deferred.

No

Just cut back more.

Each program had to reduce budget for 2009

Affected giving to the Annual Conference.

Finances: no money for programs - only pastor's salary (full time elder); musician resigned - no money to replace;

No unnecessary expenditures

Reduced budgets in all programs.