

Survey Results

The Election Committee conducted a survey that was open to all members of the Diocese of Springfield. The purpose of the survey was to acquire information based on the opinions and comments of the people of the Diocese.

General Information about the Survey Respondents

The number of surveys returned to the Election Committee was **846**. This constitutes 40.61% of the Diocese's average Sunday attendance of 2,083 taken from the 2008 Parochial Reports.

In **Section 1** of the survey: **Information about you (the respondent)** the following information was quantified from the **846** respondents:

1. Gender of Respondents:

Male	351
Female	494

One (1) individual reported as transgender.

2. Age Groups:

Age Groups	No. of Respondents
17 and under	29
18 to 34	50
35 to 64	399
65+	366
Unidentified	2

3. Statement: “I have been a Christian for”:

No. of Years	No. of Respondents
Unsure	4
Less than 5	3
5 - 10	16
More than 10	822
Unidentified	1

4. Statement: “I have been an Episcopalian for”:

No. of Years	No. of Respondents
Unsure	11
Less than 5	53
5 - 10	62
More than 10	716
Unidentified	4

5. Church Membership:

Listed on a Church Membership Role	816
Attend church, but not a member	30

6. Statement: “I am a part of the Church’s Leadership (Vestry, Office, Bishop’s Committee)”:

Yes	219
No	626
Declined to Answer	1

7. Statement: “I am a deacon or a priest in the Episcopal Church”:

Clergy	38
Lay	808

No. of Years of Ordination of the 38 Members of the Clergy:

No. of Years Ordained	No. of Respondents
Less than 5	4
5 - 10	6
11 - 20	7
21 - 30	3
30+	18

8. Respondents identified by Deaneries:

Name of Deanery	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Darrow (Western - Metro East St. Louis area - Alton, Belleville, Edwardsville, Glen Carbon, Granite City, O’Fallon)	141	16.67
Eastern (Albion, Centralia, Effingham, Mt. Carmel, Mt. Vernon, Olney, Robinson, Salem)	58	6.86
Hale (Southern - Cairo, Carbondale, Harrisburg, Marion, McLeansboro, West Frankfort)	72	8.51
Northern (Bloomington, Havana, Lincoln, Morton, Normal, Pekin)	116	13.71
Northeastern (Champaign-Urbana, Danville, Paris, Mattoon, Rantoul)	183	21.63
Northwestern (Carlinville, Chesterfield, Decatur, Jacksonville, Springfield)	237	28.01
Other (Outside of Diocese or respondents not wish to identify)	39	4.61

Section 2: Theological and Philosophical Ideals

In this section, the questions were related to the **personal beliefs** of the respondents about what type of person should be considered when selecting the new Bishop of Springfield.

Question: In regards to the next Bishop of Springfield, please indicate the five (5) most important items to you below - in your opinion - using 1 for most important, 2 for second most, etc.

There were 736 counted surveys. 110 surveys (13%) were incomplete in this area¹ or marked other than 1 through 5.

This table shows the positions and rank order of the respondents taking the survey.

Position	Number who rank this position	% of Responses marking this item	Average rank (1-5) as indicated
Has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ	475	64.54%	1.84
Believes in the authority of Holy Scripture, the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and the 39 Articles	465	63.18%	1.88
Supports The Episcopal Church (TEC)	314	42.66%	2.84
Promotes traditional Episcopal/Anglican teachings: 1979 Book of Common Prayer	356	48.37%	2.87
Will strive to heal and strengthen relationships within the diocese	455	61.82%	3.18
Will strive to heal and strengthen relationships between the diocese and The Episcopal Church (TEC)	378	51.36%	3.30
Will promote membership growth in parishes and missions	425	57.74%	3.40
Supports the Anglican Communion	220	29.89%	3.70
Supports the American Anglican Council	62	8.42%	3.73
Will make Youth Ministry a priority	332	45.11%	3.87

¹ Fifty-seven entered all checks, 38 respondents made multiple identical entries that prevented tabulation, and 15 respondents made no entries for this question.

Section 3: Working Style – Personality

In regards to the next Bishop of Springfield, please indicate the five (5) most important items to you below - in your opinion - using 1 for most important, 2 for second most, etc.

738 surveys were counted and 108 were not marked or incorrectly marked².

Position	Number who rank this position	% of those who mark this area	Average rank (1-5) as indicated
Communicates openly with all diocesan clergy and church members	675	91.34%	2.15
Includes all ages, races, genders and economic backgrounds in decision making	451	61.03%	2.79
Is more concerned about people of the Diocese than the politics	597	80.78%	3.27
Is approachable by any member as to their concerns	498	67.39%	3.36
Provides pastoral care to the clergy and their families	426	57.65%	3.43
Focuses time and energy within the Diocese	501	67.79%	3.50
Supports and, when possible, participates in Provincial meetings of The Episcopal Church (TEC) as well as the House of Bishops	288	38.97%	3.50
If married, has a spouse who is interested in and supportive of diocesan activities	120	16.24%	3.94

² Forty-nine entered all checks, 39 respondents made multiple identical entries that prevented tabulation, and 20 respondents made no entries for this question.

Section 4: Social-Sexual Opinions

These should be answered by: A=Agree, N=Neutral or no definite stance, D=Disagree

796 surveys were tabulated³

Position	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total No. of Respondents
The Bishop must be heterosexual	391 49.68%	214 27.19%	182 23.13%	787
The Bishop can be a woman	501 63.10%	176 22.17%	117 14.74%	794
The Bishop will support civil unions and same-sex blessings	238 30.28%	209 26.59%	339 43.13%	786
The Bishop will support the ordination of partnered gay and lesbian clergy	205 26.21%	178 22.76%	399 51.02%	782
The Bishop can be single and celibate	518 65.49%	213 26.93%	60 7.59%	791
The Bishop should be married	137 17.43%	463 58.91%	186 23.66%	786
The Bishop has never been divorced and remarried	171 21.70%	382 48.48%	235 29.82%	788

³ Twelve respondents did not answer but provided comments, 25 had no answers or comments, 6 entered all checks, and one respondent entered numbers only. Of the 796 tabulated surveys, 10 respondents did not answer all questions.

Section 5: Administrative Skills

In regards to the next Bishop of Springfield, please indicate the two (2) most important items below - in your opinion - using 1 for most important, 2 for second most.

762 surveys were counted and 84 could not be tabulated⁴

Position	Number who rank this position	% of those who marked this	Average rank (1-5) as indicated
Takes ultimate responsibility for problems within the Diocese and the Diocesan Center, i.e., “the buck stops here”	651	85.43%	1.23
Is skillful in delegating authority	455	59.71%	1.70
Is technologically proficient with computers, the internet, and other electronic devices	93	12.20%	1.71
Is a strong advocate of clergy, especially in regards to adequate compensation and benefits	295	38.71%	1.75

⁴ Twenty-one entered all checks, 36 respondents made multiple identical entries that prevented tabulation, and 27 respondents made no entries for this question.