



# Our Next Pastor

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Who We Are

# Demos

- Affluent
- Educated
- Urban
- Churched
- Older



What we believe

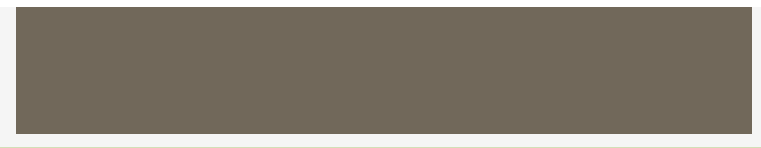


# Congregation view of the Bible

- 69% see the Bible as the record of many different people's response to God and because of this, **people and churches today must interpret** the Bible's basic moral and religious teachings **for themselves**.
- 22% believe Bible is written by wise and good people. It is not God's word, but it can teach us many moral precepts.

## Congregation view of the Bible (cont'd)

- 79% *agree* that there are other ways to salvation than through belief in JC
- Over half *do not believe* that JCs resurrection was an actual event.
- 20% believe that it was.



Only 55% believe that it is  
*ESSENTIAL* that the new pastor  
believe in God.

Respondents were given the choice  
between: essential, very important, not  
very important, or not at all important.



Why we come/stay at MPC



# Why we're here and Why we stay

## Original attraction to MPC

The Pastor	72%
The social activism	50%
Filling a spiritual need	48%
Celebration	45%
The Inclusivity	44%

## Keeps Us Here

My friends are here	62%	↑
Filling a spiritual need	60%	↑
The Pastor	57%	↓
Celebration	57%	↑
The Inclusivity	56%	↑



# Our Identity

# We're not looking for radical change

Strongly Agree/Agree with:

- *MPC's identity, as it is, is one with which I agree* 93%
- *I have a strong sense of belonging to MPC* 89%



# What we want in a Pastor



## Critical Priorities of the Pastor

Preparing and preaching inspiring sermons

- 99% want challenging and thought-provoking
- 75% don't want based on a clear, unambiguous religious authority

Planning and leading Celebration sensitive to the needs of the congregation

## Important Priorities of the Pastor

- Holding social justice issues before members
- Providing administrative leadership
- Visiting the sick, shut-in and bereaved
- Pastoral counseling of members
- Directly involving laity in the planning and leadership of MPC programs and events

## Preferred Style of New Pastor

- ◉ Relaxed interpersonal style
- ◉ Helps people figure things out for themselves
- ◉ Outgoing and socially engaging
- ◉ Welcomes new approaches and ideas
- ◉ Interactions tend to be thought-provoking and challenging



We're not all quite the same  
...really



# FOF needs of Pastor

<u>FOF priorities for a pastor: top 2 box</u>	<u>FOF</u>	<u>ALL %</u>	<u>PT Diff</u>
Visit members at their homes-- higher priority	45%	15%	30
Pastor participate in Montclair issues— higher priority	48%	28%	20
Holding social justice issues before congregation-- lower priority	54%	80%	-26
Provides administrative leadership for MPC Ministry—lower priority	52%	79%	-27

# U-54 Needs

## Observation

U-54 originally more attracted to child or youth programs

U-54

ALL

Diff

52%

29%

23

U-54 cite child and youth programs as #1 reason for staying at MPC

70%

20%

50

## Under 10 years at MPC Needs

<u>Observation about FT-10</u>	<u>FT-10</u> <u>%</u>	<u>ALL %</u>	<u>PT Diff</u>
Slightly prefers Pastor's style of ministry emphasizes Bible vs. contemporary issues	39	17	22
Prefers new pastor--Believe in God	72	55	17
Adult Ed not important to initial attraction	4	23	-19