

How did you find out about this survey?	Invited by a pastor or teacher	129	6%
	Saw the post on social media	1199	59%
	Invited by a family member	275	13%
	Invited by a friend	383	19%
	Other please explain:	53	3%
<i>Missing: 7</i>			2039

What is your age? <i>(this is the only question that includes responses from people over 35 years old in this report)</i>	Under 18	1	0%	26 Years	214	10%
	18 Years	17	1%	27 Years	181	9%
	19 Years	48	2%	28 Years	156	8%
	20 Years	201	10%	29 Years	169	8%
	21 Years	204	10%	30 Years	27	1%
	22 Years	210	10%	31-35 Years	45	2%
	23 Years	210	10%	36-40 Years	18	1%
	24 Years	183	9%	Over 40	24	1%
	25 Years	170	8%			
	<i>Missing: 11</i>					

What is your gender?	Male	683	34%
	Female	1332	66%
	Other	6	0%
<i>Missing: 25</i>			2021

In what community type did you grow up?	Rural	332	16%
	Small City/Town	715	35%
	Suburban	785	39%
	Urban	198	10%
<i>Missing: 16</i>			2030

In what community type do you now live?	Rural	171	8%
	Small City/Town	615	30%
	Suburban	622	31%
	Urban	612	30%
<i>Missing: 26</i>			2020

Comparison: Current vs Home Community		Current Community			
		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Suburban</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Home Community	<i>Rural</i>	31%	24%	28%	17%
	<i>Town</i>	4%	52%	29%	15%
	<i>Suburban</i>	5%	16%	72%	7%
	<i>Urban</i>	4%	17%	22%	58%

(Percentages are based on the totals from "home community" | rows = 100%)

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Approximately, how far do you currently live from the community where you graduated high school?	I still live in the general area	668	33%
	I live within an hour drive	189	9%
	Between 1-2 hour drive	205	10%
	Between 2-5 hour drive	319	16%
	Between 5-10 hour drive	223	11%
	Over 10 hours driving	437	21%

Missing: 5

2041

In what grade were you confirmed in the LCMS?	12th Grade	6	0%	<i>Pct w/o 8th</i> 1%
	11th Grade	8	0%	1%
	10th Grade	12	1%	2%
	9th Grade	88	4%	15%
	8th Grade	1458	72%	--
	7th Grade	170	8%	29%
	6th Grade	76	4%	13%
	5th Grade	18	1%	3%
	4th Grade	2	0%	0%
	3rd Grade	7	0%	1%
	I was never confirmed in the LCMS	105	5%	18%
	Confirmed after graduating high school	60	3%	10%
	Confirmed, but don't remember when	25	1%	4%
	I am not sure if I was confirmed	2	0%	0%

Missing: 9

2037

If confirmed, how long was your confirmation process?	Couple weeks	40	2%
	Couple months	143	7%
	A Full Year	339	17%
	Multiple Years	1406	70%
	I dont recall	79	4%

Missing: 39

2007

What is your current religious affiliation?	LCMS	1659	81%	<i>Breakdown of "Other"</i>	
	ELCA Lutheran	44	2%	Methodist	11
	Other Lutheran	34	2%	Baptist	10
	Other Protestant	63	3%	Presbyterian	7
	Non-Denominational	107	5%	LCMC	5
	Orthodox Christian	3	0%	ELS	4
	Roman Catholic	8	0%	WELS	4
	I believe but am not affiliated with any church	63	3%	Anglican	4
	Non-Christian faith	1	0%	E-Free	3
	Agnostic	36	2%	UCC	3
	Atheist	18	1%		

Missing: 10

2036

	Just need to be a good person to be saved	23	1%
Which of the following statements is closest to your view of salvation?	Many paths faiths can lead to salvation	119	6%
	You must believe in Jesus Christ	1803	88%
	I do not believe in any need to be saved	28	1%
	I do not believe in any afterlife	20	1%
	I believe something else	50	2%
<i>Missing: 3</i>		2043	

How often do you read the Bible on your own?	Daily	435	21%
	Weekly	736	36%
	Few times a month	376	18%
	Couple times a year	182	9%
	hardly ever	240	12%
	Never	69	3%
<i>Missing: 8</i>		2038	

How often do you pray on your own?	Daily	1274	63%
	Weekly	498	24%
	Few times a month	145	7%
	Couple times a year	26	1%
	hardly ever	51	3%
	Never	43	2%
<i>Missing: 9</i>		2037	

How often did you attend church last year?	Almost every week	1440	71%
	Once or twice a month	303	15%
	Every couple of months	172	8%
	Only once or twice	90	4%
	Not at all	30	1%
<i>Missing: 11</i>		2035	

How often did you attend Bible Study last year?	Weekly	673	33%
	Once or twice a month	403	20%
	Every couple of months	201	10%
	Only once or twice	202	10%
	Not at all	557	27%
<i>Missing: 10</i>		2036	

Are you active in a serving or leadership role in your church?	Yes professional ministerial	199	10%
	Yes professional admin/support	40	2%
	Yes volunteer leadership	292	14%
	Yes volunteer service	457	22%
	I do not have a leadership or service role	823	40%
	I am not at a church right now	224	11%
<i>Missing: 11</i>		2035	

Does your current church have a dedicated young adult ministry?	Yes	810	40%
	No	1008	49%
	I am not at a church right now	220	11%
<i>Missing: 8</i>		2038	

Is your significant other (spouse or partner) religious?	I am single	890	44%
	My significant other is not religious	108	5%
	We belong to the same faith/denomination	839	41%
	We are of different faiths/denominations	202	10%
<i>Missing: 7</i>		2039	

During high school who did you live with?	Both my parents	1815	89%
	Mostly my mother	150	7%
	Mostly my father	28	1%
	Equally with both parents but not together	35	2%
	In an adoptive or foster family situation	1	0%
	In an alternative family setting	13	1%
<i>Missing: 4</i>		2042	

Were your parents/guardians in leadership roles?	Pastor	270	13%
	Commissioned	224	11%
	Other church staff	497	24%
	Lay Leader	510	25%
	No	805	39%
<i>Missing: 4</i> <i>(total exceeds number of respondents because respondents could pick more than one option)</i>		2042	

Did you regularly pray with your parents?	Not at all	259	13%
	At meal times or bedtimes only	1464	72%
	We prayed together regularly	316	15%
<i>Missing: 7</i>		2039	

Did you regularly read the Bible with your parents?	Not at all	662	32%
	Only on holidays or special occasions	420	21%
	Not together but I was expected to read	617	30%
	We regularly read the Bible together	343	17%
<i>Missing: 4</i>		2042	

When you were in high school did your parents/guardians attend church?	I had only one parent and they attended	75	4%
	My parent(s) did not attend church	65	3%
	Both parents attended together	1541	76%
	Both parents attended separately	78	4%
	Mostly one attended, the other sometimes	139	7%
	Only one parent attended, the other didn't	143	7%
<i>Missing: 5</i>		2041	

Does one or both of your parents/guardians currently attend church?	Attend and very involved in church	1106	54%
	Attend church regularly	657	32%
	Attend church sometimes	181	9%
	Do not attend church	86	4%
	I dont know	15	1%

Missing: 1 **2045**

When you were in high school, did your church have a youth ministry program?	Yes and I was actively involved	1162	57%
	Yes and I attended on and off	372	18%
	Yes but I was not involved	191	9%
	We did not have a youth ministry	314	15%

Missing: 7 **2039**

When you were in high school, did your church have a pastor/staff member dedicated to young people?	Full-time staff member just for youth	625	31%
	Part-time staff member just for youth	175	9%
	Staff member with other responsibilities	371	18%
	Volunteer youth workers	447	22%
	Not really	418	21%

Missing: 10 **2036**

What is your current occupation status?	Full-time employed	1143	56%
	Part-time employed	493	24%
	Full-time student	645	32%
	Part-time student	84	4%
	Serving Military	30	1%
	Stay-at-home parent	113	6%

Missing: 7 **2039**

(total exceeds number of respondents because respondents could pick more than one option)

What kinds of schools did you attend?	<i>Elementary School</i>		<i>Middle School</i>		<i>High School</i>		<i>College</i>	
Public school	968	47%	994	49%	1417	70%	1004	51%
Lutheran school	968	47%	837	41%	415	20%	723	36%
Other Christian school	82	4%	72	4%	97	5%	184	9%
Other Private school	28	1%	18	1%	33	2%	202	10%
Homeschool	171	8%	173	8%	140	7%	--	--
	2038		2037		2030		1982	

(total exceeds number of respondents because respondents could pick more than one option)

What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?	Less than high school diploma	4	0%
	High school diploma or equivalent	110	5%
	Some college but no degree	440	22%
	Associates Degree	111	5%
	Bachelors Degree	911	45%
	Some post-graduate work	186	9%
	Post-graduate degree	276	14%

Missing: 8 **2038**

If you attended college, were you involved in a campus ministry?	I attended college but not a campus ministry	855	43%
	LCMS Campus Ministry	625	32%
	Other Lutheran Campus Ministry	180	9%
	CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ)	131	7%
	IV (InterVarsity)	61	3%
<i>Missing: 77</i>	Other Campus Ministry	493	25%
<i>(total exceeds number of respondents because respondents could pick more than one option)</i>			1969

If you attended college, what is/was your field of study?	Math, IT, Science, Engineering, Architecture	406	20%
	Medicine/Health	154	8%
	Law/Politics	62	3%
	Business/Marketing/Communications	221	11%
	Humanities/Art	589	29%
	Education (except for religious, such as DCE)	383	19%
	Religion (includes Pre-sem, DCE)	197	10%
<i>Missing: 34</i>		2012	

Have you ever attended any of the following:	Lutheran Camp	1083	53%
	LCMS Youth Gathering	1323	65%
	Mission Trip	1023	50%
	Servant Event with your church	1302	64%
	Other Christian retreats/conferences	1285	63%
	None of the above	98	5%
<i>Missing: 7</i>		2039	

		<i>Possible</i>	<i>Emails</i>	
Provided Email Address	Current LCMS Lutheran	1499	816	54%
	Low Attendance LCMS Lutheran	159	16	10%
	No longer LCMS Lutheran	377	180	48%
	All	2035	1012	50%

(percentages are based on the total number from each group)

In what state...

		<i>...did you grow up?</i>		<i>...do you live now?</i>	
AL	12	MT	3	AL	20
AK	2	NE	110	AK	2
AZ	24	NV	7	AZ	20
AR	20	NH	3	AR	16
CA	85	NJ	12	CA	83
CO	39	NM	4	CO	39
CT	7	NY	28	CT	2
DE	1	NC	11	DE	1
DC	0	ND	17	DC	15
FL	46	OH	49	FL	58
GA	9	OK	33	GA	20
HI	2	OR	15	HI	2
ID	6	PA	13	ID	12
IL	247	RI	0	IL	195
IN	148	SC	6	IN	138
IA	91	SD	20	IA	76
KS	57	TN	13	KS	48
KY	10	TX	115	KY	10
LA	7	UT	0	LA	9
ME	0	VT	0	ME	0
MD	19	VA	16	MD	22
MA	5	WA	30	MA	4
MI	187	WV	2	MI	160
MN	152	WI	163	MN	130
MS	2	WY	9	MS	5
MO	155			MO	167

800 (40%) live in a different state than where they grew up

By Region of the Country

	Region	Grew Up		Currently	
ME,NH,VT,CT,MA,RI,DE,NY,NJ,PA	North East	69	3.4%	74	3.7%
MD,DC,VA,WV,NC,SC,GA,FL	South East	109	5.4%	165	8.3%
TX,LA,MS,AL,TN,KY,AR	South	179	8.9%	215	10.8%
WI,IL,MI,IN,OH	Great Lakes	794	39.5%	702	35.2%
MN,IA,MO,OK,KS,NE,SD,ND	Great Plains	635	31.6%	598	30.0%
NM,AZ,CO,UT,NV,ID,MT,WY	Mountains	92	4.6%	110	5.5%
AK,WA,OR,CA,HI	West Coast	134	6.7%	129	6.5%

Three to five people who have been influential in your spiritual journey

					LCMS Lutheran	Other Christian	Not Christian	I Don't Know
Parent	1992	29%	Positive		86%	6%	0%	0%
			Negative		4%	2%	1%	0%
Other Family Member	819	12%	Positive		71%	19%	1%	0%
			Negative		3%	3%	2%	1%
Home church pastor	858	13%	Positive		73%	5%	0%	0%
			Negative		21%	1%	0%	0%
Youth Minister	712	10%	Positive		76%	12%	0%	0%
			Negative		10%	2%	0%	0%
Teacher	840	12%	Positive		61%	25%	2%	3%
			Negative		5%	2%	1%	1%
Other pastor or minister	776	11%	Positive		61%	20%	0%	0%
			Negative		15%	3%	0%	0%
Scholar/Author	277	4%	Positive		22%	63%	6%	6%
			Negative		1%	1%	1%	0%
Media Figure	106	2%	Positive		17%	40%	9%	3%
			Negative		2%	10%	8%	11%
Other	421	6%	Positive		56%	29%	2%	1%
			Negative		8%	3%	1%	0%
All	6801		Positive		70%	16%	1%	1%
			Negative		8%	2%	1%	1%
				<i>Total</i>	78%	18%	2%	1%

* The survey explained that:

Positive means you want to be more like them+

Negative means you want to be less like them

<i>In High School (HS) compared to today (Now)</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	
HS: had a good relationship with mom	48%	40%	9%	3%	0%	2038
Now: have good relationship with mom	65%	28%	4%	1%	1%	2036
HS: had a good relationship with dad	41%	42%	11%	5%	2%	2038
Now: have good relationship with dad	55%	33%	5%	3%	4%	2031
HS: comfortable talking life issues with mom	30%	41%	21%	8%	0%	2034
Now: comfortable talk life issues with mom	43%	40%	12%	4%	2%	2032
HS: comfortable talking life issues with dad	20%	41%	27%	11%	2%	2033
Now: comfortable talking life issues with dad	30%	44%	15%	7%	4%	2032
HS: comfortable talking about faith w/ parents	45%	40%	13%	2%	0%	2036
Now: comfortable talking about faith w/parents	52%	35%	9%	3%	1%	2032
HS: parents open to questions & doubts	32%	45%	16%	4%	4%	2033
Now: parents open to questions & doubts	35%	43%	13%	4%	4%	2032
HS: parents supported me	67%	29%	3%	1%	0%	2032
Now: parents support me	70%	27%	2%	1%	1%	2025

<i>How often did you attend church during the following stages of life:</i>	Weekly	Once a month	Every few months	Once or twice a year	Not at all	
...as a child	92%	5%	1%	1%	1%	2044
...in high school	87%	9%	2%	1%	1%	2042
...right after high school (19-21)	59%	24%	12%	4%	2%	2035
...early twenties (22 - 24)	63%	18%	10%	4%	4%	1684
...mid twenties (25 - 28)	67%	13%	7%	5%	8%	1182
...late twenties/early 30s	62%	11%	5%	4%	17%	581

<i>In the church you were confirmed...</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
The pastor cared about me personally	44%	26%	18%	4%	5%	2%	2025
Handled conflicts positively	11%	26%	31%	10%	14%	7%	2012
Handled mental health issues well	9%	23%	34%	10%	17%	7%	1976
Supportive of my faith development	28%	37%	24%	3%	6%	2%	2019
Prepared me well for defending my faith	18%	27%	28%	8%	14%	5%	2013
Looked out for my best interest	20%	32%	30%	5%	9%	4%	2015
I felt comfortable inviting friends to come to church with me	20%	27%	26%	8%	13%	6%	2008
Deliberately ministered to me during life transitions (such as going to college, moving away, finding a job, etc.)	10%	16%	24%	18%	21%	11%	2005
There was a minister or leader with whom I felt safe discussing difficult topics or questions	25%	23%	20%	13%	11%	8%	2012

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
I rely on God when making life decisions	39%	36%	18%	2%	3%	2%	2037
I just haven't found the right church for me	6%	10%	15%	27%	13%	29%	2033
I feel judged by the church	7%	9%	16%	29%	14%	24%	2030
I am well-prepared for leadership in a church	14%	26%	30%	9%	14%	7%	2035
I don't see a need for religion in my life	2%	1%	2%	13%	5%	76%	2030
I'm pretty satisfied with my life these days	16%	38%	28%	5%	11%	2%	2034
I want to read my Bible and pray more often	43%	35%	14%	2%	3%	3%	2035
I'm too busy for church right now	1%	4%	11%	28%	15%	42%	2033
Church makes me feel guilty or inadequate	2%	3%	7%	31%	10%	47%	2029
My relationship with God is fine w/o church	2%	4%	10%	27%	14%	43%	2031
I don't believe God could ever love me	1%	1%	3%	23%	6%	67%	2025
Confirmation was helpful in my faith growth	20%	28%	28%	8%	10%	6%	2021
The Bible is the word of God, without error	66%	16%	7%	2%	5%	3%	2032

<i>It is important to me to find a church...</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
...I can be a part of a close-knit community	49%	31%	14%	2%	2%	1%	2029
...that has sound doctrine	65%	21%	10%	1%	2%	1%	2025
...with racial diversity	13%	21%	32%	12%	16%	7%	2018
...that uses a liturgy in worship	30%	25%	23%	8%	11%	4%	2019
...that is involved in community service	34%	37%	23%	1%	4%	1%	2022
...that is active in social justice issues	16%	19%	29%	12%	18%	6%	2021

<i>I would be more likely to go to church if...</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
...the sermons helped me improve my life	16%	23%	27%	10%	16%	8%	2015
...people there were more real	21%	24%	25%	10%	13%	9%	2012
...there was less gossip	19%	22%	26%	10%	16%	8%	2016

<i>Churches today...</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
...are trustworthy	8%	38%	36%	6%	11%	2%	2026
...are boring	2%	8%	26%	26%	31%	7%	2008
...are safe places to discuss differences	4%	16%	28%	16%	26%	10%	2020
...are a positive environment	13%	39%	35%	3%	9%	1%	2018
...do more harm than good	1%	3%	9%	37%	22%	28%	2018
...promote positive values	22%	45%	26%	2%	4%	1%	2018
...support the poorest and neediest	8%	24%	35%	12%	17%	4%	2024
...are too focused on money	8%	15%	28%	19%	25%	6%	2018
...talk too much about politics	9%	13%	23%	22%	27%	8%	2012
...are supposed to be counter-cultural	19%	22%	26%	9%	20%	4%	1978
...actually are counter-cultural	3%	8%	35%	15%	33%	6%	1982

<i>LCMS Lutherans / churches...</i>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
...should only commune with LCMS Lutherans	21%	15%	12%	18%	11%	22%	2029
...are too closed-minded	12%	12%	26%	19%	17%	14%	2027
...have too many rules	7%	7%	18%	27%	22%	18%	2022
...have strayed too far from tradition	4%	5%	12%	37%	21%	22%	2016
...are out of touch with the times	12%	12%	25%	20%	18%	13%	2021

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
My time and/or money is put to better use in causes other than the church	3%	5%	12%	34%	24%	21%	2023
There is no reason for church to exclude women from ordination as pastors	15%	9%	11%	18%	12%	35%	2021
All life, including humans, evolved over millions of years from a common ancestor	8%	6%	8%	16%	7%	54%	2015
When it comes to abortion, a woman should always have the right to choose	9%	6%	10%	16%	10%	49%	2027
Sexual activity before marriage is ok as long as both people consent	7%	7%	12%	19%	10%	45%	2024
Sexual activity between two people of the same sex is ok as long as both consent	10%	6%	10%	14%	7%	54%	2026
Legal marriage should only be reserved for heterosexual couples	31%	15%	12%	12%	11%	20%	2025
Generally, our country needs more strictly enforced laws regarding immigration	13%	18%	26%	14%	16%	14%	2020
Changing one's biological sex, or identifying as the opposite of one's biological sex, is always wrong	37%	19%	12%	8%	10%	14%	2025

Regardless of your stance on these issues, how passionate are you about each of the following?

	Most Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Somewhat Un-Important	Not Important	
Abortion	32%	39%	23%	5%	1%	2030
Community Service	20%	46%	30%	4%	1%	2026
Diversity / Prejudice / Racism	15%	31%	35%	14%	5%	2027
Human Origins (Evolution / Creation)	9%	24%	32%	23%	12%	2029
LGBTQ Issues	13%	24%	32%	19%	12%	2024
Mental Health Issues	29%	41%	23%	6%	1%	2023
Poverty, Hunger, Homelessness	28%	44%	23%	3%	0%	2030
Talking about my faith / beliefs	34%	36%	22%	5%	2%	2030
Women's Rights / Gender equality	17%	25%	30%	19%	10%	2027

Did you ever experience a "pivotal moment in your faith life? If so, briefly describe when it occurred and the impact it had on your faith

Some sort of major life crisis (often health related)	159	14.6%
Some sort of major realization	79	7.2%
An event that challenged their faith (by strengthening or questioning)	68	6.2%
Recounted an experience of getting involved in Christian community	60	5.5%
Cited their baptism	53	4.9%
Influence of parents	46	4.2%
Struggled with mental health (anxiety, depression, suicide, etc.)	39	3.6%
Influence of a non-parent adult (usually pastor)	28	2.6%
A negative experience with the church	30	2.7%
Impact made by changing church or visiting a new church	28	2.6%
Cited their confirmation experience	31	2.8%
Being ignored or "dismissed" when discussing questions, doubts or differences of view	24	2.2%
They made their faith their own	28	2.6%
Realized a call to ministry	19	1.7%
Impact of a youth ministry	22	2.0%
Experienced a "conversion" or significant change in beliefs	20	1.8%
Read a book	21	1.9%
Moved to a new community	17	1.6%
Influence of boy/girl-friend, fiancé or spouse	13	1.2%
Cited the importance of going to a particular school	13	1.2%
Provided theological reasons why this was a bad question	13	1.2%
Someone took time to listen to them and acknowledge their doubts	8	0.7%
Supernatural experience (such as a miracle or a vision)	6	0.5%
The result of a scandal in the church	3	0.3%
Giving birth / becoming a parent	3	0.3%
Starting their career	1	0.1%
An opportunity where they shared their faith	1	0.1%
Specifically cited that the experience took place...		
...in Middle School	8	0.7%
...in High School	70	6.4%
...in College	188	17.2%
...on Mission Trip or Servant Event	80	7.3%
...at camp or retreat	101	9.3%
...at a conference or event	46	4.2%
...at an LCMS Youth Gathering	97	8.9%

Total Comments: 1091

Would you be willing to share some of the main reasons why you left the LCMS?

Stance on LGBTQ Issues	62	17.3%
The church is judgmental	61	17.0%
The church is closed minded	48	13.4%
Felt the LCMS/Lutherans were "fake" / "hypocrites"	44	12.3%
Stance on ordination of Women	42	11.7%
There was no church in the area (or at least not one they liked)	43	12.0%
The church is too exclusive, even of other Christian groups	37	10.3%
Felt that they were given no support from LCMS	37	10.3%
Result of a bad personal experience	37	10.3%
Preferred contemporary worship	34	9.5%
Not enough people their age	33	9.2%
They had a change of beliefs	31	8.6%
Felt the LCMS was too wrapped up in politics	31	8.6%
Because of a spouse's views or spouse's church preference	31	8.6%
Different view on social issues (not specific)	27	7.5%
Got involved with a new church	28	7.8%
Disagree with closed communion	28	7.8%
They experienced sexism, denigrating women (not specifically about ordination)	22	6.1%
Sermons are not applicable or relevant	21	5.8%
Some variation of "being with God is more important than with a denomination"	21	5.8%
LCMS has too many rules	20	5.6%
The church is not involved or focused on the community	20	5.6%
Disagreed with LCMS doctrines (not specified)	17	4.7%
Feel that LCMS Pastors/Lutherans act superior, like they have all the answers	16	4.5%
Stance on creation/evolution	14	3.9%
Felt that the Bible was taken more seriously/taught better elsewhere	14	3.9%
Disagreed with Infant Baptism	13	3.6%
Church has a poor view of "science" (generic)	11	3.1%
Felt the LCMS was too focused on money	10	2.8%
Result of a scandal in the church	9	2.5%
There is not enough passion / church is boring	10	2.8%
Stance on Abortion	8	2.2%
Stance on Climate change	7	1.9%
Can't fit church into their schedule	7	1.9%
Their parents stopped going so they did too	5	1.4%
The LCMS is moving away from traditions	4	1.1%
The church is not diverse racially	2	0.6%

Total Comments: 359

What, if anything, could make you consider coming back to the LCMS?

Be more welcoming (generically)	56	15.5%
Change stance on social issues	41	11.3%
Focus on Christ and the Kingdom, rather than itself	34	9.4%
If the church was more intentional with young adults	35	9.7%
Nuance how we talk about our views (not necessarily change them)	22	6.1%
Be more contemporary in worship	19	5.2%
Be more active in the community / world	18	5.0%
Care more about "social justice"	16	4.4%
Be more racially diverse	13	3.6%
Stop being wrapped up in politics	12	3.3%
If I had some way to get involved / use me	11	3.0%
The church needs more passion / be less boring	9	2.5%
The main thing keeping them away is there is no church in their area	8	2.2%
Change stance on doctrine	6	1.7%
Change worship (not specified how)	5	1.4%
They are too busy or do not have enough time/motivation right now	4	1.1%
Return to traditional worship	3	0.8%
They are doing "fine without church"	1	0.3%
I might return when I have kids	1	0.3%
Stated they would never come back	32	8.8%
Stated they are not likely to come back	21	5.8%
They specifically stated something positive about the LCMS	38	10.5%

Total Comments: 362