

Survey Statement

In the month of March, the congregation asked the Church Council to run a survey focussed on combining the 0915 and 11 am worships and also examining the diversity of members worship style preferences to see if combining of services was possible.

The survey was available to the members in paper form or on the web.

We, the Church Council of Glen Waverley Uniting Church would like to thank all the participants in sharing their thoughts and participating in the survey.

A full analysis is available at <http://wiki.gwuc.org.au/gwuc/ServicesSurvey2023>.

Below are the key results of the survey we would like to share with you.

- 1) 118 people submitted their views and participated in the survey compared to 152 in the 2015 survey.
- 2) Respondents valued organs, choirs, band, modern songs, inclusion of children, use of electronic media and decorum in these services.
- 3) For combining, 82% of participants chose 10 am as acceptable time however, only 58% were okay with 10:30 am.
- 4) It seems that people are happy with their worship times. In particular, 21% of people attending 11 am, said that they would not attend combined service.
- 5) Members of 0915 and 11am value their time highly, but have difference in choice of music, congregational involvement, Children, and sense of holy.

The Survey showed diversity in our congregation based on styles of worship which means, it would be difficult to meet the mixed needs of people in a single service.

We would also like to share, 92 people watch our YouTube channel for the 11 am services, and when we have a 10 am combined service, this number also drops as does our overall church attendance. That means there are some people comfortable with this timing only.

So, What are the church council final views on the survey?

The Council believes that the new ministry team will be in place in a few months' time. It would be advisable to leave decisions about combining services to then. Also being mindful of the situation of parking, we would prefer to refrain from taking any such decision at this time.

Thank you again, for participating in the survey and we look forward to your support as always.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you and your family. Amen