

# Extensions of Grace



Volume IV, Issue 3, April 2009

Building a Beloved Community Through "Extensions of Grace"

## Report on Congregational Survey

On March 22, the congregation participated in a survey regarding the new Sunday morning service format. Questions covered basic demographics and attendance, as well as worship, learning, and personal growth. 263 surveys were completed and compiled to obtain the information given here.

This issue is dedicated to the information gathered from that survey. The survey was by no means robust or scientific! It gave the staff and Elders a "snapshot" of one Sunday morning, and some general trends to on which to follow up.

The staff and Elders have learned many things, and we hope to learn more as we study the results and have further conversations with individuals in the congregation. Thank you all for your participation! If you were not in service on March 22 and would like to let your voice be heard, please feel free to email the Elders at [elders@highpointchurch.org](mailto:elders@highpointchurch.org).

**Annual  
Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, May 31  
6:00 p.m.**

**Spaghetti Potluck  
4:45 p.m.**

## Congregational Survey Questions

Below are the questions from the congregational survey given on March 22.

1. *I attend the Worship Celebration at 9:30 a.m.*  
a. Weekly    b. 2-3 time/month  
c. Monthly    d. Occasionally    e. Never

***Please choose the number that most closely matches your answer on a scale from 1 (strongly agree) to 5 (strongly disagree):***

3. *I feel more connected to others at HPC since the service format change.*  
4. *I feel I have grown spiritually by learning from the Bible on Sunday morning.*  
5. *I feel the new service format change enables me to worship effectively.*  
6. *I feel my kids benefit from attending church with me on Sunday morning.*  
7. *The music we sing encourages me to participate in worship.*  
8. *The sermons encourage me to think biblically.*  
9. *I participate in the Adult Bible Fellowships.*  
a. Weekly    b. 2-3 time/month  
c. Monthly    d. Occasionally    e. Never  
10. *If (e), why not?*  
a. Too long to stay at church on Sunday  
b. Topics are not interesting to me  
c. Already regularly meet with another study/group    d. Other obligations/unable to stay on Sunday    e. Other

11. *We have completed 2 ABF sessions. Please choose the most applicable status. I have:*  
a. Switched between ABFs  
b. Stayed in the same ABF  
c. Only completed Session 1  
d. Started with Session 2  
12. *I have learned more about the Bible from ABF Bible instruction. (rate 1-5)*  
13. *I feel I have grown spiritually because I have attended an ABF.*  
14. *I can share prayer requests in my ABF.*  
15. *I am a*  
a. Member of High Point Church ( \_\_\_\_ years attending)  
b. Long-time attendee of High Point Church ( \_\_\_\_ years attending)  
c. Recent attendee of HPC ( \_\_\_\_ months attending)  
d. Visitor  
16. *My age group*  
a. 18-29    b. 30-44    c. 45-65    d. over 65  
17. *Number of child(ren) under age 18 at home*  
a. None    b. 1    c. 2    d. 3  
e. More \_\_\_\_  
18. *Ages of child(ren) at home (circle all that apply)*  
a. Birth-2    b. 2-5    c. 6-11    d. 12-14  
e. 15-18

***Other comments about the new Sunday morning service & ABF format:***

### Extensions of Grace

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### In This Edition

Congregational Survey      Calendar of Events      4  
Results      2-3

For up-to-date information on all our ministries, visit our website at [www.highpointchurch.org](http://www.highpointchurch.org)

## Who goes to High Point?

Here is a breakdown of some demographic data gathered from the survey. (Note: these numbers only reflect who was in attendance on March 22.)

### Age of attendees

Ages 18 – 29 =	21	8%
Ages 30 – 44 =	93	35%
Ages 45 – 65 =	107	41%
Ages Over 65 =	42	16%

What type of attendees we have on a Sunday morning

Members	121
Long-time attendee	93
Recent attendee	40
Visitor	9

Number of children (under age 18) living at home

None	108
1	32
2	47
3	22
More	11

Ages of children

Birth to 2	24
2 to 5	58
6 to 11	47
12 to 14	29
15 to 18	30

## Average Sunday attendance figures

These are numbers given to us by the ministry leaders and gleaned from the survey.

### Nursery (infant & toddler)

9:30 a.m. service:	13
10:50 ABF hour:	4

### Early Childhood

9:30 a.m. service:	38
10:50 ABF hour:	18

Children's Sermon:	32
Kid's Celebration:	24

Jr. High Sunday School:	10
Sr. High Sunday School:	12

Worship Celebration:	346
Weekly:	215
2-3 times/month:	35
Monthly:	1
Occasionally:	9

Adult ABFs:	135
Weekly:	89
2-3 times/month:	36
Monthly:	3
Occasionally:	31
Never:	102

## Children & Student Ministry needs

We found out that our children and youth ministries really need some help! Following is a breakdown of ideal vs. reality.

### Nursery Needs vs. Reality

Check-in: (if serve 1x/month)	
Need: 8	Real: 2
Workers: (if work 1x/2 months)	
Need: 72	Real: 59

### Children's Ministry Needs vs. Reality (one month rotations)

9:30 a.m. service	
Need: 64	Real: 28
10:50 a.m. ABF hour	
Need: 28	Real: 11
Children's Sermon	
Need: 8-16	Real: 14
Kid's Celebration	
Need 12	Real: 7

### Youth Ministry Needs vs. Reality

Jr High Sunday School:	
Need: 4	Real: 2
Sr. High Sunday School	
Need: 4	Real: 1
Jr. High mid-week	
Need: 4	Real: 2
Sr. High mid-week: 8	
Need: 8	Real: 4

## Some comments from the surveys

*Love the one service format! Thank you!*

One service seems to feel more energized and positive than the two services that last year.

It enables me to meet and recognize newcomers.

I enjoy being able to worship with the whole church body in one worship service. The ABFs offer a great opportunity to then develop a closer community. Thank you!

*I prefer over 2 services. My family would work better if switched BSF 1st. service 2nd.*

*Switch service back to later time. I travel a distance.*

*Too early, too much time wasted with announcements. We need a new pastor who can preach biblically.*

*Would be so happy to have a weekly altar call and to have the preaching be more about coming to know Jesus.*

*Shorter sermons (more time for ministry in service, not after).*

## Upcoming HPCS Dates

May 8  
HPCS Spring Music Concert

May 15  
HPCS Field Day @  
Elver Park

May 20  
HPCS Band Concert

June 3  
Grades 1-8 Last Day of School/  
Awards Ceremony

Graduation 6:30 p.m. in the  
sanctuary



**HPCS Dinner Night**  
**Tuesday, April 28**  
**3:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

## How we feel about the new worship service format...



### *We feel more connected*

Strongly agree & agree:	52%
Neutral:	33%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel we are growing spiritually, learning from the Bible*

Strongly agree & agree:	80%
Neutral:	12%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel the service format enables us to worship*

Strongly agree & agree:	65%
Neutral:	22%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel our kids are benefiting from being in service*

Strongly agree & agree:	35%
Neutral:	14%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel the music we sing encourages us to worship*

Strongly agree & agree:	83%
Neutral:	<1%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel the sermons encourage us to think biblically*

Strongly agree & agree:	95%
Neutral:	<1%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

*Sermon helpful in understanding the Bible, and how to apply to your life.*

*The only real encouragement of Christian Ed I have ever experienced.*

*I strongly agree that the new format encourages and allows families to worship together and will teach children the value of corporate worship so they can and hopefully will continue this as adults.*

Not sure of what [ABF] topics are; also don't want to join mid-session. More regular listings of ABF options would be nice.

I wish there was more time for prayer and reflection during the service.

One thing that bothers me is the loudness of the music after some services...sometimes we need to virtually shout to be heard. This impedes the fellowship to those around us.

*Time of confession (mourning) – to be exchanged for a “garment of praise” – in service.*

One service precludes anyone who serves from being able to connect with the larger body.

**Concerned about volunteer staffing as various ministries and ABFs themselves maintained year round under this format.**

*Has helped my husband to attend a Bible study regularly.*

I desire to see kids brought into a variety of teaching opportunities and classes.

*I love that our kids can be involved in family worship but that they can attend age-appropriate teaching also. The only downside is not having regular Sunday school teachers for the little ones.*

## ...and the new Adult Bible Fellowships...

(based on number of answers)

### *Why we don't go to ABFs*

Too long to stay at church:	16%
Topics uninteresting:	<1%
Already meet with another group:	1%
Other obligations:	31%
Other:	40%

### *Many of us started with ABFs right away... and stayed with our group*

Switched between ABFs:	33%
Stayed in same ABF:	52%
Only completed session 1:	<1%
Started with session 2:	1%

### *We feel we are learning more about the Bible*

Strongly agree & agree:	77%
Neutral:	21%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel we are growing spiritually in ABFs*

Strongly agree & agree:	78%
Neutral:	18%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

### *We feel we can ask for prayer*

Strongly agree & agree:	65%
Neutral:	28%
Disagree & strongly disagree:	<1%

I REALLY miss the song at the end.

Would like to sing more powerful contemporary songs.

Wish we would sing more hymns.

"Okay, the only fair way to do it this morning is . . . heads it's the hymnal, tails it's choruses."

## Church calendar for May & June, 2009

If your event is not listed here, please contact the church office at 836-3236 or [scheduler@highpointchurch.org](mailto:scheduler@highpointchurch.org)

### Worship Celebration

Get Connected for new attendees

### Sundays

May 17, June 28

9:30 a.m.

10:50 a.m.

### Special Events

Mother's Day	May 10	
Town Hall Meeting	May 18	6:30 p.m.
<i>Spaghetti Potluck</i>	<i>May 31</i>	<i>4:45 p.m.</i>
<i>Annual Congregational Meeting</i>	<i>May 31</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
Memorial Day	May 25	Office Closed
<i>The Centurion</i>	<i>June 12</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>
Attic Angels	June 18	
Father's Day	June 21	

### Student Ministries Steve Dale (358-6375)

Sunday School (Jr. & Sr. High)	Sundays	10:50 a.m.
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### Children's Ministries Kathleen Shrader (836-3236 x129)

Infant & Toddler Nursery	Sundays	9:30 & 10:50 a.m.
Early Childhood Sunday School (ages 2-5)	Sundays	9:30 & 10:50 a.m.
Kid's Celebration (grades 1-5)	Sundays	10:50 a.m.
Awana	Wednesdays (ends May 13)	6:30 p.m.
Sing, Dance & Play	Thursdays (ends May 14)	9:30 a.m.
Revive! Special Needs Respite	May 16	9:00 a.m.
<i>Vacation Bible School - Rome: Paul and the Underground Church</i>	<i>June 22-26</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>

### Adult Ministries

Bible Fellowships	Sundays	10:50 a.m.
West Side Men's Bible Study	Mondays (ends May 18)	6:30 a.m.
First Place 4 Health ( <i>Moving Forward Together</i> )	Mondays (ends May 18)	7:00 p.m.
Men's Manuscript Study	Tuesdays (bi-weekly)	6:30 a.m.
Women at the Well	Tuesdays (ends May 12)	9:00 a.m.
Precepts (men & women)	Tuesdays (ends May 12)	7:00 p.m.
Men's Fellowship	Wednesdays	6:30 a.m.
Precepts (women)	Wednesdays (ends May 13)	12:00 noon
BASIC Singles Ministry	Fridays (do not meet May 22)	7:00 p.m.
Men's Monthly Breakfast	May 9, June 13	7:30 a.m.
BASIC Leadership Meeting	May 3, June 7	12:30 p.m.
Adult Christian Ed. Committee Meeting	May 22, June 22	7:00 p.m.
BASIC Cook Out	May 23	1:00 p.m.

### Care Ministries

HPC Communal Prayer	Thursdays	7:00 p.m.
Divorce Care & DC for Kids	Wednesdays (starts May 13)	7:00 p.m.

### Outreach Ministries

Global Missions Team Meeting	May 27, June 24	4:00 p.m.; 6:30 p.m.
Men's Shelter Meal Prep	May 1, June 5	6:30 p.m.
Missional Church Leadership Team Meeting	May 7 & 20, June 4 & 17	4:00 p.m.
<i>DR Partnership Presentation</i>	<i>May 31</i>	<i>12:15 p.m.</i>

### Music & Worship Arts (John Georgeson, 836-3236 x119)

Celebration Choir Rehearsals	Wednesdays (ends June 10)	6:45 p.m.
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### Administrative Ministries

Deaconess Meeting	May 11, June 8	7:00 p.m.
Elder Meeting	May 14	7:00 p.m.
Finance Team Meeting	May 20	7:00 a.m.

### High Point Christian School 836-7170

HPCS Committee Meeting	May 18	7:00 p.m.
Spring Concert	May 8	7:00 p.m.
Band Concert	May 20	7:00 p.m.
<i>Last Day of School</i>	<i>June 3</i>	
<i>8th Gr. Graduation</i>	<i>June 3</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>