

# Survey Concerning the Data Collection by the Southern Methodist Church

## 1. Introduction

- a. This survey seeks to help us as the Southern Methodist Church to better understand our current needs and situation as a denomination.
  - i. All Southern Methodists are invited to complete this survey.
  - ii. Individuals are free to copy and to distribute this form among the various Southern Methodist church body.
  - iii. Mail completed surveys to the address below by July 31.

Ad Hoc Committee on Southern Methodist Forms  
C/O Deborah Westbury  
541 Broughton St.  
Orangeburg, SC 29115
  - iv. This survey can also be completed online at: [www.mysmc.org/data](http://www.mysmc.org/data)
- b. The data reported in the Annual Conference Journals and the Church Forms provide a snapshot into the status, strength, and weakness of our Church at a given point in time. Our local church leaders, pastors and conference officials should be able to consult this data and use it to more effectively serve our church.
- c. By participating in this survey, you will help us to improve our understanding of the Journal and related reports. You will also help us to determine what information is useful or not useful for your service to God within the Southern Methodist.

## 2. Instructions: There are three types of question in this survey.

- a. The first type of question are simple “Yes/No” questions. Here just circle the option that best reflects your answer.
- b. The second type of question asks for particular data from the 2014 Journal. Just look up the answer for the church where you are a member or where you serve in the Journal and record it. If you are unable to find the information, simply write “did not find.” If you are a General Conference Officer who is not assigned to a church Simply write “N/A”
- c. The third type of question are short answers. Here list or state your responses. If you have nothing to say about a particular question, just leave the space blank.

**3. Tell us about yourself.**

- a. Are you a member of a local Southern Methodist Church? (Yes/No)
- b. Which Annual Conference are you in? (AFG, EC, MS, SW)
- c. Are you a minister within the Southern Methodist Church? (Yes/No) If "Yes" please check your ministerial status.
  - i. Ordained Elder \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. Ordained Deacon \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. Licentiate \_\_\_\_\_
  - iv. Lay Minister \_\_\_\_\_
  - v. Approved Supply \_\_\_\_\_
  - vi. Other \_\_\_\_\_ Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Are you an Annual Conference office holder or board-member? (Yes/No)
- e. Are you a General Conference office holder or board-member? (Yes/No)
- f. Are you a member of a Southern Methodist Auxiliary body such as the Woman's Missionary Society, Cartwright Men's Fellowship, or Epworth League? (Yes/No) If "Yes" please check all that apply.
  - i. WMS \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. Men's Cartwright \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. Epworth League \_\_\_\_\_
  - iv. Other \_\_\_\_\_ Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. General Awareness of Information Published in Journal**

- a. Which of the following information may be found in Annual Conference Journal?
  - i. Street addresses for the local churches (Yes/No)
  - ii. Mailing addresses for the local churches (Yes/No)
  - iii. Pastoral assignments (Yes/No)
  - iv. Home addresses for local pastor (Yes/No)
  - v. Name and contact information for the chairman of the board of stewards for each local church. (Yes/No)
- b. How many annual conferences are there in the Southern Methodist? \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Statistical Table 1 - Christian Life and Work**

- a. What is the total membership of your church reported in the 2014 Journal? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Does this number seem correct to you? (Yes/No)
  - ii. If not correct, does the number seem too high or too low? (High/Low)
- b. Is this table useful for you? (Yes/No)

**6. Statistical Table 2 - Christian Life and Work Continued**

- a. What is the average Sunday Morning attendance for your church listed in the Journal? \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Does this seem correct to you? (Yes/No)
  - ii. If not correct, does the number seem too high or too low? (High/Low)
- b. Does this table reasonably represent the attendance at your Sunday evening worship? (Yes/No)



