

ANSR POLL

Social Values and Attitudes in the Church of the Nazarene Winter 2008

Part I

The following questions are meant to help us understand the diversity of membership within the Church of the Nazarene.

- Please order the following items about the church's mission from 1 to 6, placing a "1" in front of the item you feel is the most urgent and important and which deserves the church's highest priority, a "2" for the next highest, and so on until you place a "6" next to the item on the list you feel is the least important.

Getting people saved and sanctified through revival campaigns and evangelistic preaching.

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	311	
	55%	52%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	15%	12%	Second most urgent and important
	7%	8%	Third most urgent and important
	6%	9%	Fourth most urgent and important
	6%	10%	Fifth most urgent and important
	11%	9%	Least important

Actively supporting efforts to reinforce the family and reinstate moral values in our society.

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	311	
	18%	12%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	27%	18%	Second most urgent and important
	19%	16%	Third most urgent and important
	19%	22%	Fourth most urgent and important
	12%	19%	Fifth most urgent and important
	5%	12%	Least important

Binding through prayer the spirits that are at work in our world.

	Members	Pastors	
N	281	311	
	16%	16%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	15%	12%	Second most urgent and important
	19%	16%	Third most urgent and important
	15%	8%	Fourth most urgent and important
	16%	16%	Fifth most urgent and important
	18%	31%	Least important

Note: Percentages throughout this report may not equal 100 due to rounding.

The winter 2008 ANSR Poll was mailed early in January to senior pastors (726) of a random sample of Nazarene congregations in the United States and Canada and to a representative sample of active, adult members (768). This survey was a partial replication of the Winter 1996 ANSR Poll and the Winter 2004 ANSR Poll designed to examine change over the last four and twelve years. A follow-up mailing was sent in mid-March. By May 6, 2008, responses had been received from 293 (38%) members and 317 (44%) pastors. While these levels of response are good, some caution should be exercised in generalizing results. With sample responses of this size, the margin of error is within plus or minus 6%.

Addressing the life issues of people who live in the community in such a way that the church can be relevant in ministering to their needs.

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	311	
	21%	18%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	17%	23%	Second most urgent and important
	20%	24%	Third most urgent and important
	16%	19%	Fourth most urgent and important
	13%	12%	Fifth most urgent and important
	13%	5%	Least important

Calling people to commitment to both the personal and social dimensions of the gospel including devotion to Christ and ministry to the poor.

	Members	Pastors	
N	281	312	
	17%	27%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	20%	22%	Second most urgent and important
	12%	18%	Third most urgent and important
	21%	16%	Fourth most urgent and important
	23%	14%	Fifth most urgent and important
	7%	3%	Least important

Living in Christian community and faithfully observing the practices of the Christian faith (e.g. the Lord's Supper, hospitality, and ministries of peace and justice).

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	312	
	12%	16%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	7%	13%	Second most urgent and important
	15%	12%	Third most urgent and important
	12%	16%	Fourth most urgent and important
	18%	16%	Fifth most urgent and important
	36%	27%	Least important

- In the same way, please order the following list about worship, again placing a "1" by the highest priority, down through "6" for the least priority item.

Worship services with "Nazarene" hymns and old-time holiness preaching.

	Members	Pastors	
N	282	310	
	29%	13%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	9%	9%	Second most urgent and important
	6%	15%	Third most urgent and important
	14%	11%	Fourth most urgent and important
	21%	22%	Fifth most urgent and important
	22%	31%	Least important

Clear preaching and teaching about traditional moral and family values.

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	311	
	38%	30%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	26%	22%	Second most urgent and important
	16%	20%	Third most urgent and important
	13%	16%	Fourth most urgent and important
	4%	11%	Fifth most urgent and important
	3%	1%	Least important

Spiritual power in worship through singing praises to God and through the discovery and use of spiritual gifts.

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	311	
	25%	28%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	23%	27%	Second most urgent and important
	25%	19%	Third most urgent and important
	15%	14%	Fourth most urgent and important
	9%	7%	Fifth most urgent and important
	4%	6%	Least important

Relevant, contemporary worship that is sensitive to people outside the church, offered in language and music that people in the world can relate to.

	Members	Pastors	
N	285	310	
	19%	27%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	17%	19%	Second most urgent and important
	20%	16%	Third most urgent and important
	13%	15%	Fourth most urgent and important
	14%	14%	Fifth most urgent and important
	18%	10%	Least important

Worship services in which the poor are welcomed, and preaching that emphasizes social justice, racial reconciliation, and compassion for the downtrodden.

	Members	Pastors	
N	282	309	
	15%	14%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	13%	19%	Second most urgent and important
	19%	23%	Third most urgent and important
	27%	25%	Fourth most urgent and important
	16%	14%	Fifth most urgent and important
	11%	5%	Least important

A spirit of reverence in worship facilitated by liturgy and music that reflects the historic creedal traditions of the church universal.

	Members	Pastors	
N	284	309	
	9%	11%	Most urgent and important; deserving the church's highest priority
	11%	7%	Second most urgent and important
	9%	13%	Third most urgent and important
	11%	10%	Fourth most urgent and important
	27%	20%	Fifth most urgent and important
	33%	39%	Least important

3. Please indicate how strongly you personally identify with each of the following. If there is a name you do not recognize, please indicate that at the right.

Members:

	<i>N</i>	<i>I strongly agree with this person</i>	<i>I tend to agree with this person</i>	<i>I tend to disagree with this person</i>	<i>I strongly disagree with this person</i>	<i>I do not recognize this name or I have no opinion about this person</i>
Tony Campolo	276	4%	24%	5%	2%	64%
Jim Cymbala	273	15%	15%	1%	0%	68%
James Dobson	276	58%	32%	4%	0%	5%
Jerry Falwell	268	9%	36%	29%	8%	19%
Billy Graham	282	73%	23%	1%	1%	2%
William Greathouse	276	23%	15%	1%	0%	61%
Stanley Hauerwas	273	0%	3%	0%	0%	97%
Jack Hayford	274	6%	20%	3%	1%	70%
Bill Hybels	269	7%	15%	3%	2%	74%
D. James Kennedy	273	18%	27%	5%	3%	47%
V.H. Lewis	265	13%	11%	2%	1%	72%
Rush Limbaugh	274	6%	38%	20%	16%	20%
John Maxwell	273	16%	25%	2%	0%	56%
Brian McLaren	269	2%	2%	1%	1%	94%
Chuck Milhuff	271	13%	21%	3%	1%	62%
Joel Osteen	271	10%	28%	16%	10%	36%
Tony Perkins	268	3%	10%	1%	1%	85%
Elaine Pettit	266	5%	6%	2%	0%	87%
Pat Robertson	274	3%	40%	25%	7%	25%
Ron Sider	271	0%	1%	1%	0%	97%
Jim Wallis	271	0%	1%	1%	0%	98%
Rick Warren	275	24%	34%	5%	3%	34%

3. Please indicate how strongly you personally identify with each of the following. If there is a name you do not recognize, please indicate that at the right.

Pastors:

	<i>N</i>	<i>I strongly agree with this person</i>	<i>I tend to agree with this person</i>	<i>I tend to disagree with this person</i>	<i>I strongly disagree with this person</i>	<i>I do not recognize this name or I have no opinion about this person</i>
Tony Campolo	309	7%	56%	16%	3%	19%
Jim Cymbala	308	29%	47%	3%	0%	21%
James Dobson	313	50%	39%	7%	2%	2%
Jerry Falwell	306	6%	38%	34%	13%	9%
Billy Graham	310	50%	47%	2%	0%	2%
William Greathouse	312	63%	29%	1%	0%	7%
Stanley Hauerwas	308	5%	13%	1%	1%	81%
Jack Hayford	310	3%	46%	19%	4%	27%
Bill Hybels	310	7%	63%	10%	3%	17%
D. James Kennedy	309	11%	54%	17%	3%	15%
V.H. Lewis	306	30%	30%	3%	7%	36%
Rush Limbaugh	310	5%	43%	26%	16%	11%
John Maxwell	310	30%	52%	7%	3%	8%
Brian McLaren	306	6%	15%	9%	2%	69%
Chuck Milhuff	308	22%	46%	11%	4%	17%
Joel Osteen	311	2%	27%	34%	24%	13%
Tony Perkins	304	3%	20%	6%	3%	68%
Elaine Pettit	309	12%	30%	11%	4%	44%
Pat Robertson	312	0%	29%	44%	15%	12%
Ron Sider	306	2%	8%	3%	1%	85%
Jim Wallis	306	2%	8%	4%	1%	86%
Rick Warren	309	15%	63%	11%	4%	7%

4. Which one statement best describes you?

	Members	Pastors	
<i>N</i>	272	313	
42%	60%		I cannot imagine a time when I will not be a Nazarene.
22%	18%		I am committed to the Church of the Nazarene but might attend a church in another holiness denomination someday.
19%	13%		I am committed to the Church of the Nazarene but might attend another evangelical church someday.
10%	7%		Although I am Nazarene now, I could easily see myself attending a church in another denomination.
7%	2%		I don't really think of myself as Nazarene.

5. If you were no longer pastoring, and moved to a place that had many churches from which to choose, which of the following would most nearly describe your search for a new church home?

	Members	Pastors	
N	278	314	
	9%	18%	I would only consider Nazarene churches in my search.
	73%	70%	I would first consider Nazarene churches in my search and then consider others only if there was not a suitable Nazarene congregation.
	17%	12%	I would consider Nazarene churches in my search along with other churches.
	0%	1%	I would probably not consider attending a Nazarene church.
	1%	0%	I would definitely look to attend a church of another denomination.

6. When I think about evil in our world, I usually think in terms of:

Satanic power and spiritual warfare

	Members	Pastors	
N	281	315	
	41%	39%	Very often
	35%	33%	Often
	20%	27%	Sometimes
	5%	1%	Never

Immorality and personal responsibility

	Members	Pastors	
N	282	311	
	61%	61%	Very often
	32%	34%	Often
	6%	5%	Sometimes
	1%	0%	Never

Systemic evil and social justice

	Members	Pastors	
N	273	312	
	19%	21%	Very often
	39%	45%	Often
	34%	31%	Sometimes
	8%	3%	Never

7. Which one statement best describes your usual opinion about sin?

	Members	Pastors	
N	277	310	
	49%	46%	Sin is always a clear issue of right and wrong.
	42%	43%	Probably some of the things that would be sin for me are not sin for some other people.
	7%	8%	There are a lot of issues where it is not easy to know what is right or wrong.
	3%	3%	I tend to think more in terms of shades of gray rather than black and white, when it comes to sin.

8. Please complete the following sentence by choosing one item from each pair listed for question 8A thru 8D.

I am probably most comfortable in a church that is:

Members:

	N	%		%	
A.	229	71%	ministering to others.	29%	ministering to members of the church.
B.	220	67%	outreach oriented.	33%	nurture oriented.
C.	223	37%	a word of truth to a hostile world.	63%	a "kingdom presence" in a hurting world.
D.	208	72%	an advocate for traditional values.	28%	an agent of social change in the community.

8. Please complete the following sentence by choosing one item from each pair listed for question 8A thru 8D.

I am probably most comfortable in a church that is:

Pastors:

	N	%		%	
A.	305	88%	ministering to others.	12%	ministering to members of the church.
B.	298	80%	outreach oriented.	20%	nurture oriented.
C.	305	19%	a word of truth to a hostile world.	81%	a “kingdom presence” in a hurting world.
D.	298	51%	an advocate for traditional values.	49%	an agent of social change in the community.

9. Which of the following best describes your preference in a worship service?
(Percentages total more than 100 since respondents were asked to mark all that applied.)

	Members	Pastors	
N	293	317	
	7%	11%	Liturgical
	41%	22%	Traditional
	61%	78%	Blended
	26%	31%	Contemporary
	4%	4%	No preference
	1%	1%	Other

10. Please indicate your opinion about each of the statements below.

Contemporary culture is mostly evil.

	Members	Pastors	
N	274	308	
	7%	8%	Strongly agree
	35%	42%	Agree
	27%	21%	Neutral
	25%	25%	Disagree
	6%	4%	Strongly disagree

The world is getting worse.

	Members	Pastors	
N	286	310	
	40%	26%	Strongly agree
	48%	50%	Agree
	8%	14%	Neutral
	4%	10%	Disagree
	0%	1%	Strongly disagree

The only hope for the world is Christian revival.

	Members	Pastors	
N	279	309	
	57%	60%	Strongly agree
	38%	32%	Agree
	4%	5%	Neutral
	2%	2%	Disagree
	0%	1%	Strongly disagree

The church can and should make a significant difference in the social conditions of the world (i.e. poverty, hunger, homelessness, race relations).

	Members	Pastors	
N	285	314	
	52%	59%	Strongly agree
	41%	38%	Agree
	5%	2%	Neutral
	1%	1%	Disagree
	0%	0%	Strongly disagree

I think our denomination's holiness message is what the world needs today.

	Members	Pastors	
N	286	315	
	59%	71%	Strongly agree
	31%	24%	Agree
	8%	4%	Neutral
	2%	1%	Disagree
	0%	1%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should actively take a stand against abortion.

	Members	Pastors	
N	287	315	
	62%	55%	Strongly agree
	24%	38%	Agree
	11%	5%	Neutral
	2%	2%	Disagree
	0%	0%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should actively support prayer in public schools.

	Members	Pastors	
N	287	314	
	61%	39%	Strongly agree
	27%	28%	Agree
	11%	19%	Neutral
	2%	13%	Disagree
	1%	2%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should strongly support the war effort and the troops in Iraq.

	Members	Pastors	
N	286	313	
	29%	19%	Strongly agree
	32%	36%	Agree
	30%	28%	Neutral
	6%	12%	Disagree
	3%	6%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should actively work to eliminate poverty in the world.

	Members	Pastors	
N	286	314	
	29%	29%	Strongly agree
	45%	47%	Agree
	20%	18%	Neutral
	5%	6%	Disagree
	1%	1%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should be actively involved in the effort to reduce crime in the community.

	Members	Pastors	
N	281	313	
	20%	26%	Strongly agree
	52%	58%	Agree
	21%	12%	Neutral
	7%	4%	Disagree
	0%	1%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should strongly support the war effort in Iraq.

	Members	Pastors	
N	279	310	
	17%	10%	Strongly agree
	30%	31%	Agree
	34%	35%	Neutral
	14%	14%	Disagree
	4%	10%	Strongly disagree

I think the church should strongly support the troops in Iraq.

	Members	Pastors	
N	280	314	
	59%	52%	Strongly agree
	32%	40%	Agree
	7%	7%	Neutral
	2%	1%	Disagree
	1%	0%	Strongly disagree

11. Theologically, I feel that the Church of the Nazarene is:

	Members	Pastors	
N	273	312	
	1%	2%	Much too liberal
	12%	9%	Too liberal
	82%	83%	About where it should be
	4%	6%	Too conservative
	1%	1%	Much too conservative

12. Politically, I feel that the Church of the Nazarene is:

	Members	Pastors	
N	270	310	
	0%	1%	Much too liberal
	9%	7%	Too liberal
	77%	74%	About where it should be
	11%	13%	Too conservative
	2%	5%	Much too conservative

13. In regards to rules and standards as set forth by the Church of the Nazarene Manual, I feel that the Church of the Nazarene is:

	Members	Pastors	
N	276	312	
	0%	2%	Much too liberal
	7%	2%	Too liberal
	80%	79%	About where it should be
	13%	14%	Too conservative
	1%	4%	Much too conservative

14. Please indicate your opinion about each of the items below.

Members:

	<i>N</i>	<i>Very favorable</i>	<i>Favorable</i>	<i>Unfavorable</i>	<i>Very unfavorable</i>	<i>Don't know/unfamiliar with</i>
<i>Holiness Today</i> (magazine)	276	30%	49%	3%	1%	17%
<i>Christianity Today</i> (magazine)	276	12%	47%	2%	1%	38%
<i>GROW</i> (magazine)	271	3%	14%	2%	0%	81%
Nazarene Theological Seminary	275	23%	44%	2%	1%	31%
Asbury Theological Seminary	271	10%	29%	0%	0%	60%
Nazarene Bible College	274	30%	44%	2%	1%	23%
Nazarene Headquarters	277	23%	52%	5%	1%	20%
Nazarene Publishing House	273	31%	51%	2%	0%	16%
Nazarene Compassionate Ministries	272	50%	37%	0%	0%	13%
Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)	272	7%	37%	21%	5%	29%
U.S. food stamps program	277	8%	42%	26%	6%	18%
World Vision	270	23%	50%	3%	1%	23%
Focus on the Family	278	55%	38%	3%	1%	3%
The Christian Coalition	272	14%	37%	11%	3%	35%
Planned Parenthood	270	7%	26%	11%	39%	18%
Habitat for Humanity	270	27%	59%	3%	2%	10%
The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)	270	1%	9%	13%	54%	23%
The Roman Catholic Church	269	2%	29%	36%	12%	22%
The National Council of Churches	270	2%	16%	12%	19%	51%
Government subsidized housing for the poor	279	8%	52%	22%	5%	13%
Food stamps	275	10%	49%	22%	7%	13%
Affirmative Action	261	4%	17%	28%	19%	32%
Deporting illegal immigrants	276	28%	44%	11%	4%	13%
Care for the environment	275	24%	60%	6%	3%	7%

14. Please indicate your opinion about each of the items below.

Pastors:

	<i>N</i>	<i>Very favorable</i>	<i>Favorable</i>	<i>Unfavorable</i>	<i>Very unfavorable</i>	<i>Don't know/unfamiliar with</i>
<i>Holiness Today</i> (magazine)	313	30%	62%	7%	2%	0%
<i>Christianity Today</i> (magazine)	312	11%	71%	9%	0%	9%
<i>GROW</i> (magazine)	310	22%	63%	9%	3%	4%
Nazarene Theological Seminary	312	34%	54%	6%	2%	4%
Asbury Theological Seminary	310	16%	58%	3%	1%	22%
Nazarene Bible College	312	37%	54%	5%	1%	4%
Nazarene Headquarters	312	23%	60%	13%	2%	2%
Nazarene Publishing House	314	28%	59%	10%	3%	1%
Nazarene Compassionate Ministries	313	51%	45%	2%	0%	1%
Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)	313	2%	34%	35%	5%	24%
U.S. food stamps program	312	1%	43%	38%	5%	13%
World Vision	309	16%	61%	9%	2%	14%
Focus on the Family	313	40%	51%	6%	3%	0%
The Christian Coalition	309	7%	47%	25%	6%	16%
Planned Parenthood	311	2%	11%	20%	59%	8%
Habitat for Humanity	310	17%	69%	7%	3%	5%
The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)	309	0%	7%	18%	65%	9%
The Roman Catholic Church	309	1%	34%	44%	14%	7%
The National Council of Churches	309	1%	12%	30%	33%	24%
Government subsidized housing for the poor	311	5%	58%	24%	4%	9%
Food stamps	309	4%	58%	25%	5%	8%
Affirmative Action	309	2%	22%	41%	21%	15%
Deporting illegal immigrants	312	19%	44%	22%	9%	7%
Care for the environment	309	18%	70%	7%	2%	2%

15. *Members:* Do you regularly take part in any activities of this congregation that reach out to the wider community (e.g., visitation, evangelism, outreach, community service, social justice)?

Pastors: Does your congregation regularly sponsor activities that reach out to the wider community (e.g., visitation, evangelism, outreach, community service, social justice)?

(Percentages total more than 100 since respondents were asked to mark all that applied.)

	<i>Members</i>	<i>Pastors</i>	
<i>N</i>	293	317	
	42%	76%	In evangelism or outreach activities
	33%	51%	In community service, social justice or advocacy activities of this congregation
	8%	4%	We don't have such activities
	38%	15%	Our church is not regularly involved in any of these kinds of ministries

16. *Members:* Are you involved in any community service, social service, or advocacy groups not connected to this congregation?

Pastors: Are you personally involved in any community service, social service, or advocacy groups not connected to your congregation?

(Percentages total more than 100 since respondents were asked to mark all that applied.)

	Members	Pastors	
N	293	317	
	29%	61%	Social service or charity groups
	7%	14%	Advocacy, justice, or lobbying groups
	64%	35%	I'm not involved with such groups

17. *Members:* In the last 12 months, have you done any of the following?

Pastors: In the last 12 months, have you personally done any of the following?

(Percentages total more than 100 since respondents were asked to mark all that applied.)

	Members	Pastors	
N	293	317	
	26%	52%	Loaned money to someone outside your family
	30%	57%	Cared for someone outside your family who was very sick
	23%	64%	Helped someone outside your family find a job
	64%	84%	Donated or prepared food for someone outside your family or congregation
	86%	88%	Voted in the last presidential election
	76%	86%	Donated money to a charitable organization (other than this congregation)
	23%	60%	Worked with others to try to solve a community problem
	26%	46%	Contacted an elected official about a public issue

18. What are your personal feelings about a Christian response to environmental concerns?

It should be a matter of personal conviction with each Christian making a decision on their own.

	Members	Pastors	
N	278	314	
	23%	19%	Strongly agree
	51%	48%	Agree
	12%	13%	Neutral
	12%	19%	Disagree
	2%	2%	Strongly disagree

It is a distraction from the Christian mission of evangelism.

	Members	Pastors	
N	279	310	
	7%	4%	Strongly agree
	15%	18%	Agree
	33%	25%	Neutral
	38%	43%	Disagree
	8%	10%	Strongly disagree

It is mostly a liberal social agenda and isn't an important part of the Christian's priorities or responsibilities.

	Members	Pastors	
N	278	312	
	6%	3%	Strongly agree
	15%	14%	Agree
	25%	19%	Neutral
	41%	49%	Disagree
	14%	15%	Strongly disagree

It is part of the mission of the church to care for God's creation.

	Members	Pastors	
N	283	312	
	35%	30%	Strongly agree
	52%	55%	Agree
	11%	12%	Neutral
	2%	3%	Disagree
	1%	1%	Strongly disagree

19. How important to you is the issue of the history of the authorship of a Bible book?

	Members	Pastors	
N	285	315	
	60%	61%	Very important
	26%	31%	Somewhat important
	10%	4%	Neutral
	3%	4%	Not very important
	1%	0%	Not important at all

Part II

The following questions are meant to help us understand the variety of characteristics among Nazarene pastors.

20. What is your gender?

	Members	Pastors	
N	288	315	
	66%	4%	Female
	34%	96%	Male

21. What is your age?

	Members	Pastors	
N	289	315	
	3%	0%	Under 25 years old
	19%	24%	25 – 44 years old
	43%	64%	45 – 64 years old
	35%	11%	65 or older

Members (N=289)		Pastors (N=315)	
Median = 58 years		Median = 53 years	
Mean = 57 years		Mean = 52 years	
Standard deviation = 16		Standard deviation = 11	

22. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

	Members	Pastors	
N	285	311	
	6%	1%	Less than high school graduate
	21%	3%	High school graduate
	24%	15%	Some college
	6%	3%	Vocational school
	9%	7%	2 year college degree
	19%	27%	4 year college degree
	15%	44%	Graduate degree or more

22a. If you've had "some college" education or more, did you ever attend a Nazarene college or university?

	Members	Pastors	
N	235	304	
	28%	79%	Yes
	72%	21%	No