

# Church Survey Results



# Agenda

- Recommendation
- Key Observations
- General Survey Data
- Specific Survey Results
- Review Recommendations
- Questions/Discussion

# Recommendation

The LUMC Church Council establish a committee that conducts research to provide options that meet the Lansing Community Care of Children need with some form of On-site Childcare.

The Explorers Group will provide the Council with the names of those interested in assuming a leadership role on the committee as well as any and all information collected relating to Care of the Child during our research.

# Key Observations

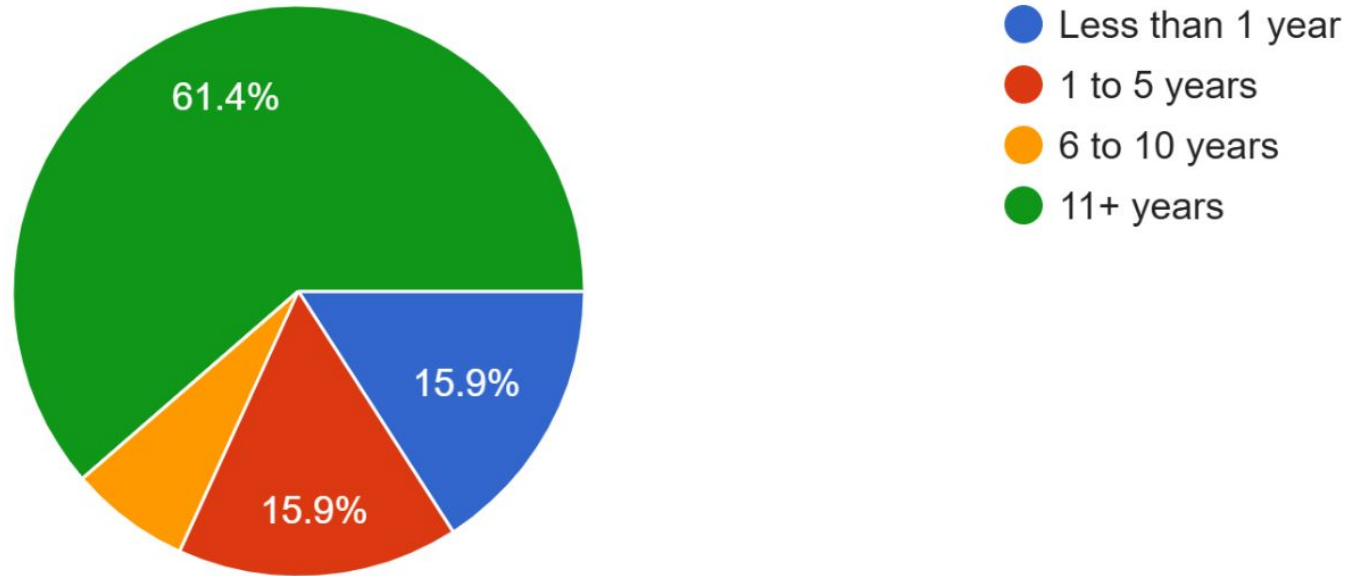
-The Explorers Group identified an interest among LUMC members for a thrift store either on-site or off. This may provide a wanted service to the community however; we did not identify a need for affordable clothing and furniture or life transition assistance during our research. It is recommended that if the Council decides this a desired ministry, it begin a feasibility study.

-Providing pick-up and delivery services for groceries, food pantry items, and prescriptions was highly rated but that overall **transportation** needs were below **care of the child**. Additionally, this idea was developed during brainstorm sessions and not through the Group's research. If those church members who expressed interest in this service wished to pursue this as their own ministry, we would facilitate their initial efforts.

-The Group discovered many LUMC members want to know more about what is going on with the money that has been willed or gifted to LUMC; and that improved, general communication would be appreciated.

# How long have you been a part of Lansing United Methodist Church?

44 responses



# Methods

Written surveys were added by manually filling out online forms:

1. For questions 2 and 3:

If the respondent only checked a ranking question the checked item was entered as a “1” and the other 2 items were put in as “3”;

If there was no answers they were entered as “2”

2. If the yes/no questions (4 - 19) were left blank, they were entered as “no”
3. Comments were put in verbatim, including punctuation and spelling errors (however, if words were underlined they were entered as all caps)
4. If they did not indicate how many years they have been with the church, it was entered as “<1”
5. The survey number was entered as (or after) the respondent’s name for written surveys
6. If they answered both yes and no, it was entered as ‘maybe’

# Comment Codes

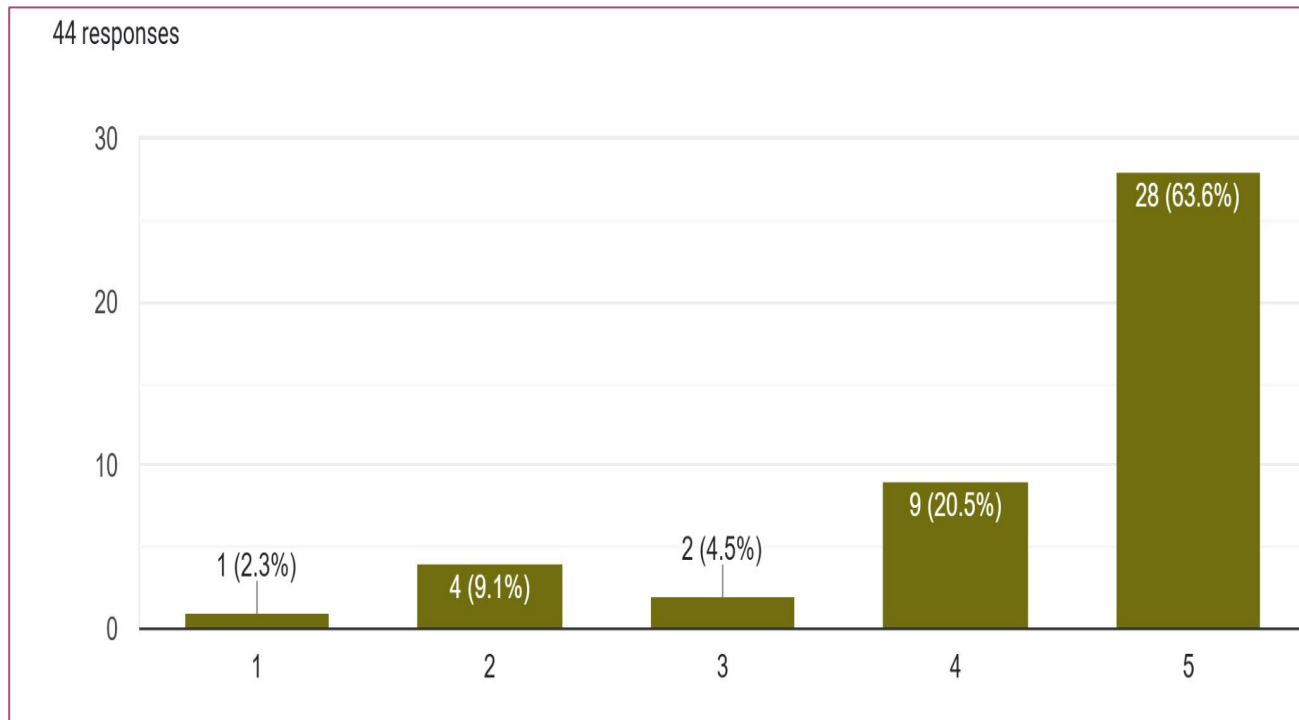
1. Comment codes were created to meaningfully sort comments
2. **Positive**: coded to indicate that the comment showed an interest to participate or provide funding (including “maybe”). Also to show appreciation for the project so far.
3. **Negative**: coded to indicate that the respondent did not have interest, or that the idea was not seen as viable.
4. **Other**: coded to indicate that the comment was off-topic, or showed a neutral interest without passion.

**Question 1:** On a scale of 1 to 5, how important do you think it is for our church to commit to help meeting one of the needs (Housing, Transportation, Care of Children) within our community?

- 1 Least Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 No Opinion
- 4 Important
- 5 Very Important

**84.1%**

**Of respondents  
see this as  
important!**



# Question 1 Positive Comments

- Our church does better when we work together to achieve a common goal
- We are commanded to do so
- Lansing must do something in the community, for the community
- I think our church needs to put our faith into action within our community.
- We have a long history of doing service in Lansing but it feels like the last few years that we have focused inward and God is calling us back outward.
- I believe that we are called to serve others as Jesus did, our community has needs and we have the ability to help... we should do just that
- I think it's important to be the hands + feet of Christ in the world.
- This committee took a lot of time to identify these needs so we should commit to at least one.
- Meeting community needs is an essential part of LUMC's mission to serve.

# Question 1 Negative Comments

None

# Question 1 Other Comments

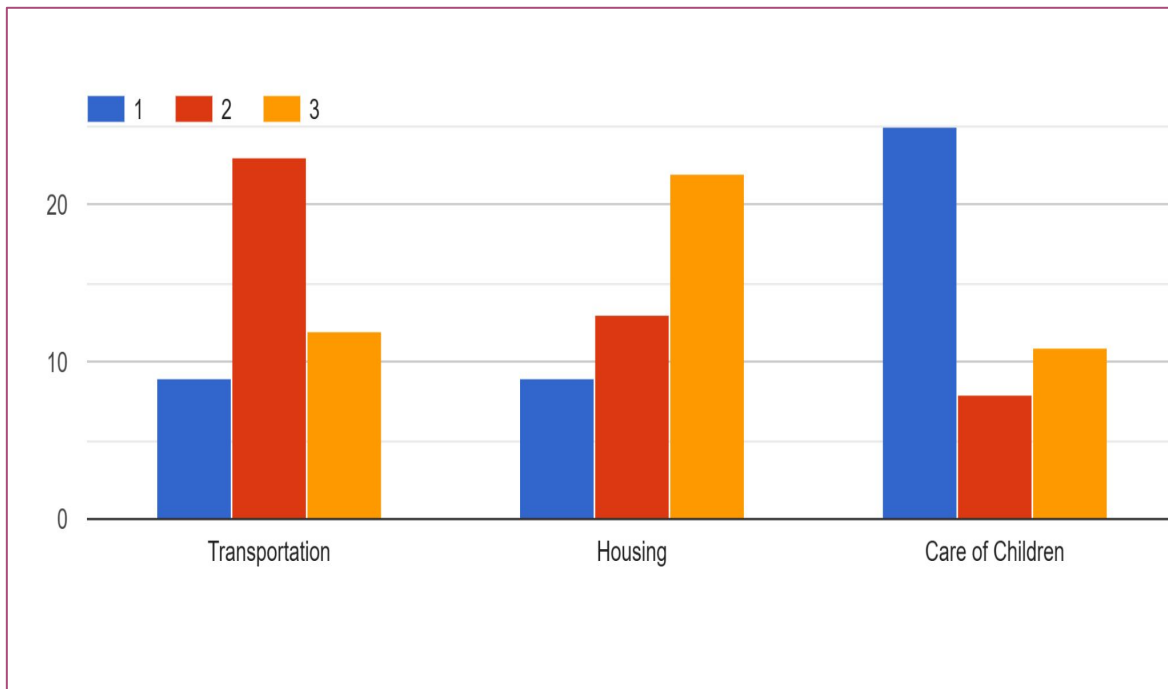
- None of these 3 areas of need (transportation, childcare, housing) is among the top needs I perceive within/around our congregation. However, projects in any of these 3 areas could become the vehicle for addressing the top needs I see within/around our congregation. Priorities I currently rank highest for congregational growth (spiritual and numerical) include:
  1. Building/repairing relationships between members of the congregation, and within families within the congregation, based on treating one another with mutual respect and kindness.
  2. Friendship with, care for, prayer for, outreach to, mentoring, and basic assistance to people in our congregation who are in need.
  3. Creating and presenting meaningful worship experiences that help meet the needs of the current congregation. (I hear grumbling that the current worship isn't doing that, and our attendance is way down from where it was a few years ago.)
  4. Creating and presenting new kinds of worship for outreach to unchurched people in our community.
  5. Nurturing interfaith friendship, understanding, and cooperative community service.
- I would like to see something constructive done w/Hillis \$\$

**Question 2:** What does the Lansing Community need most? Please rank order (1 to 3, with 1 being most needed) the needs below.

**#1: Care of Children (25)**

**#2: Transportation (23)**

**#3: Housing (22)**

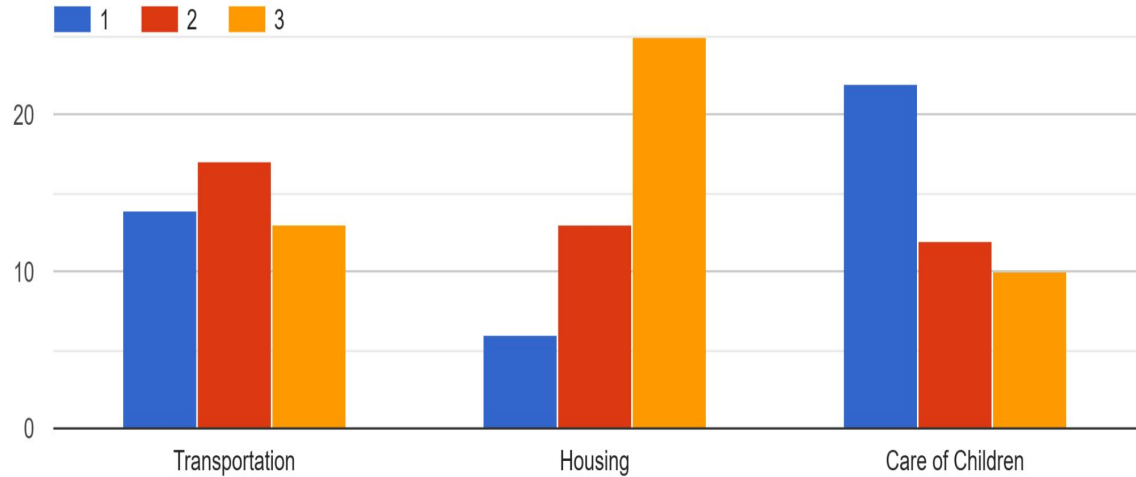


**Question 3:** Which need are you most passionate about helping to meet? Please rank order (1 to 3) the needs according to your level of passion in helping to meet them.

**#1: Care of Children (22)**

**#2: Transportation (17)**

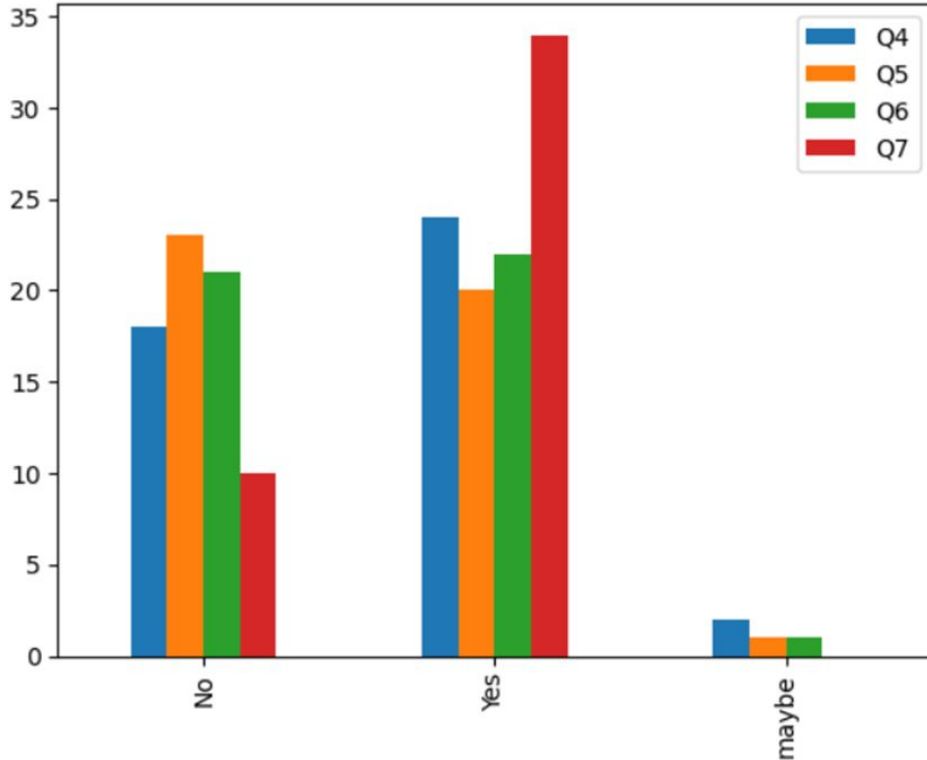
**#3: Housing (25)**



**Care of Children ranked 1 or 2: 34**

**Transportation ranked 1 or 2: 31**

# Analysis of Transportation



**Q4:** expand existing transportation services like Gadabout and FISH

55% Yes

41% No

5% Maybe

**Q5:** providing/coordinating volunteer drivers for deployment

45% Yes

52% No

2% Maybe

**Q6:** transports people the “first mile/last mile”

22% Yes

21% No

1% Maybe

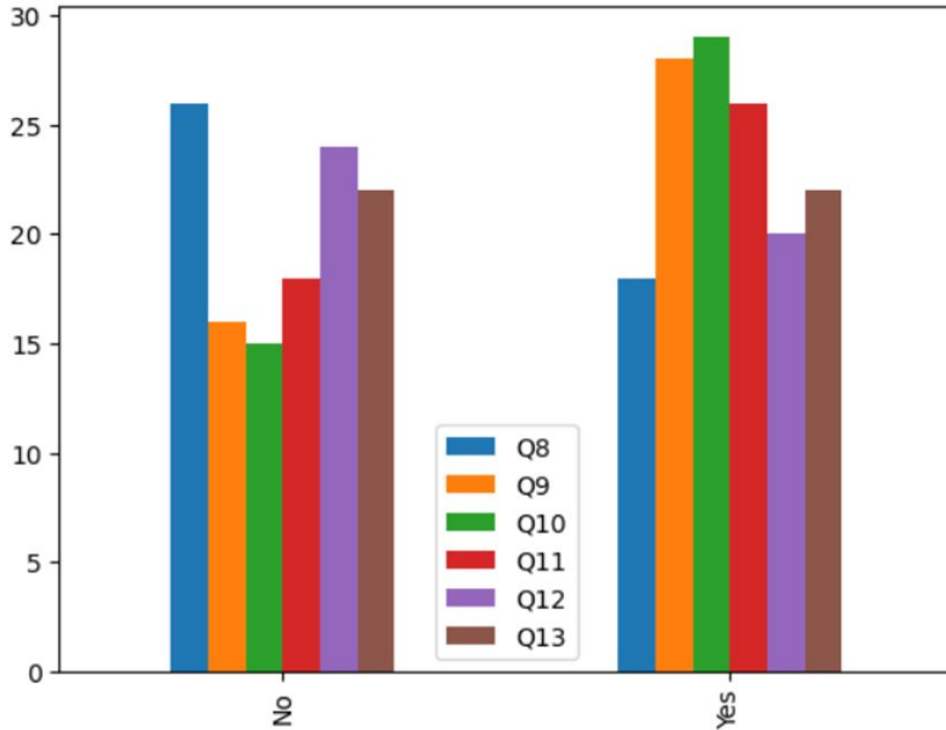
**Q7:** pickup and delivery services for groceries, food pantry items, or prescriptions

77% Yes

23% No

This idea was generated during brainstorm sessions, not as a researched need. Several programs already exist to support this need. The group will be ready to connect all who expressed interest.

# Analysis of Care of Children



**Q8:** expand summer Vacation Bible School

41% Yes,

59% No

**Q9:** developing an on-site childcare program

64% Yes,

36% No

**Q10:** provides food support to existing family daycare programs

64% Yes,

36% No

A program already exists for this and is expanding.

**Q11:** provides tutoring to school age kids

59% Yes

41% No

**Q12:** matches foster grandparents to children

45% Yes,

55% No

**Q13:** delivers gap transportation for children to and from daycare/camp

50% Yes, 50% No

# Recommendation

The LUMC Church Council establish a committee that conducts research to provide options that meet the Lansing Community Care of Children need with some form of On-site Childcare.

The Explorers Group will provide the Council with the names of those interested in assuming a leadership role on the committee as well as any and all information collected relating to Care of the Child during our research.

## Question 2 Positive Comments

- Access to transportation helps meet all different types of needs.
- These needs are ranked in light of those best within the ability of the Church to meaningfully address.
- Housing is too challenging to help with. The others are doable
- Childcare
- Frankly, I would rank all 3 equally

## Question 2 Negative Comments

None

## Question 2 Other Comments

- These are guesses. I really have no idea of the needs.
- Based on requests that come to the church, affordable housing is very scarce in Lansing. Based upon the community response to Milton Meadows, it would be more fruitful for our congregation to invest in relationships with people currently living in affordable housing in Lansing, rather than in building additional housing. The church could also focus on apartment buildings, mobile home parks, and assisted living residences as places to minister to lower income persons. Affordable housing may be the most glaring need, but poverty's ancillary problems do not disappear when housing is provided, Many of those problems are better addressed by relationships rather than by more buildings. If the Lansing United congregation could build and maintain positive relationships with residents of Milton Meadows in ways that help repair their woundedness, lack of skills, (or inappropriate coping skills), those positive relationships would help improve our community in Godly ways.
- Concerns are liability, getting elderly into vehicle
- Hard to rank these ALL important
- Since I do not live here I can't really comment on this one

# Question 3 Positive Comments

- Care of children might be easier to fulfill than housing, even though housing is a more pressing need.
- I am most passionate about a ministry that builds and nurtures healthy relationships and helps children/families. Issues that people (with and without children) currently present with most often at the church include:
  - 1- mental/behavioral/emotional illness
  - 2- family dysfunction (often due to mental/behavioral/emotional illnesses, esp. addictions, which include alcohol, drugs (legal and illegal), pornography, gambling, etc.)
  3. stress (emotional, financial, physical) due to all of the above and/or to age-related healthcare needs and costs which are skyrocketing, and the difficulty of managing children, aging parents, and a career all at the same time.
  - 4- financial concerns, often connected to the above-- often due to inability to keep a job (due to health of self or family members), exorbitant healthcare costs, one spouse leaving another (and taking all the money, or leaving all the debt behind, and doubling the family's housing costs; or all of the above, and sometimes also abusive behaviors, legal issues, etc.)
- I would help with any
- I personally would probably commit time to transportation but find them equally important
- I'm willing to help with transportation to appointments, etc. I would support all 3 financially.

## Question 3 Negative Comments

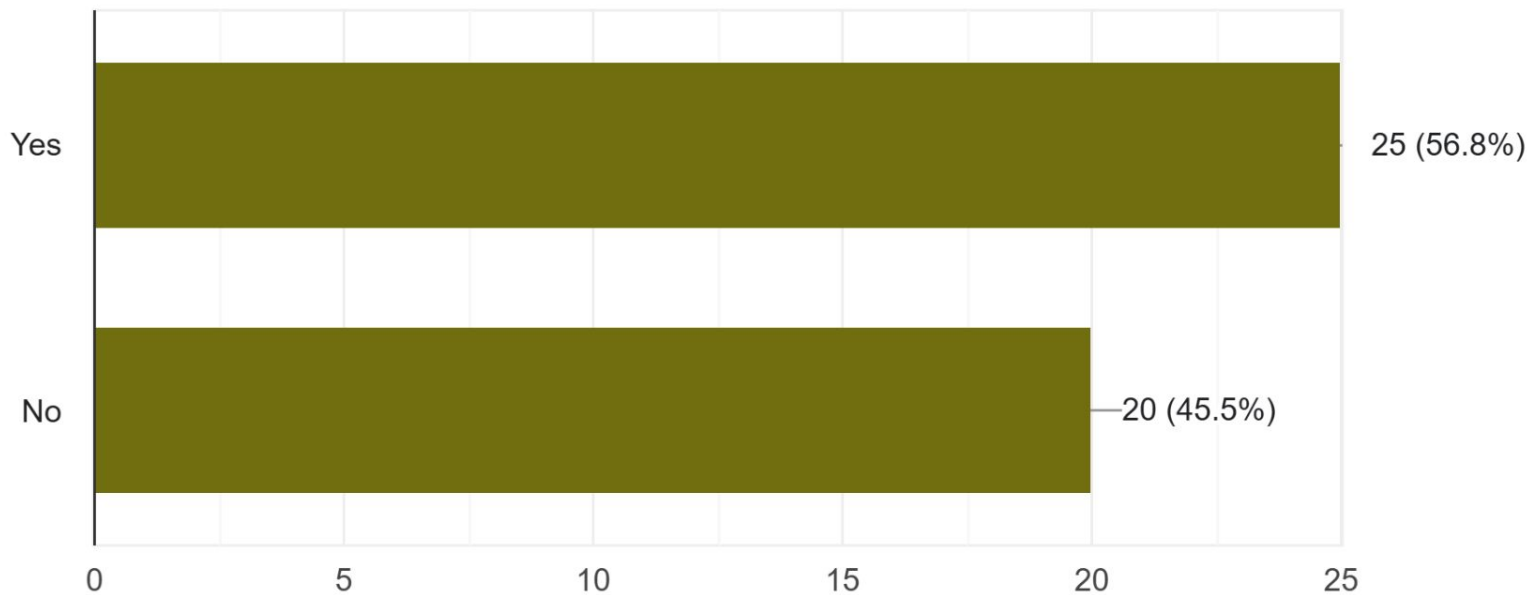
- All of these topics are very important, but I'm personally not passionate about any of them.

## Question 3 Other Comments

None

Question 4: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to expand existing transportation services like Gadabout and ...hose 65+ to medical appts.) into the Lansing area?

44 responses



# Question 4 Positive Comments

- It would be nice if our expansion could be to make it for individuals less than 65
- This seems most efficient to add onto an existing successful program rather than reinventing one.
- I will support whatever the church decides. I have little passion related to transportation as the focus of the church's mission. \n\nTwo of our newer congregants expressed their passion about this issue and took the time and effort to write a proposal to address it in the first cycle of the PEC grants, because they saw it as a persistent unmet need in our community, and they had the time and inclination to help more, but not the finances or the structure. (Reliable vehicles are often an issue, also.) \n\nFor this reason, partnering with FISH or Gadabout may be a direction our church should go regardless of whether it is something the whole church wants to take on, as it could be an avenue to helping get people involved in serving in a way they feel called to serve without having to create a whole new ministry/program.
- Maybe FISH, but Gadabout is a very expensive service and our contribution wouldn't go far
- Not exactly sure how you would do this, but I think it's worthwhile and I would support it
- I could take people to doctors appointments around my schedule
- I'm willing to give both time + money. One caveat - I'm away most of the time from Mid-May => Mid-Oct so would not be able to transport during that time.

## Question 4 Negative Comments

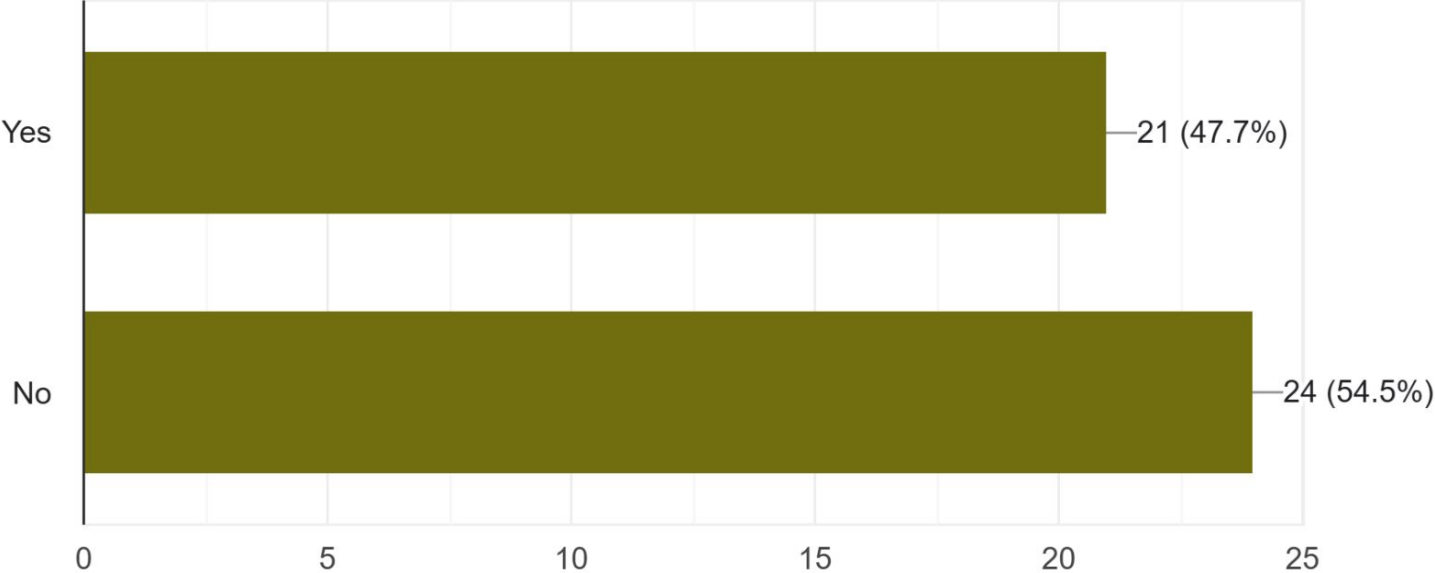
- Not against the idea, but it's not for me.

## Question 4 Other Comments

- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.
- If we have some say

Question 5: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to providing/coordinating volunteer drivers for deployment within the Lansing area?

44 responses



# Question 5 Positive Comments

- I live in Dryden, and have a bookended day (drop off and pick up a child at school) so actually doing driving on a consistent basis might be less of an option for me, but I am willing to help somehow (money or planning?)
- I will support whatever the church decides. My question 4 answer applies here too. It may be a good thing to actively start DOING while working out the details of HOW to do one of the more complex things.
- until 2027
- I thought this was a good idea and one that could be implemented fairly quickly + easily
- I'm willing to give both time + money. One caveat - I'm away most of the time from Mid-May => Mid-Oct so would not be able to transport during that time.

## Question 5 Negative Comments

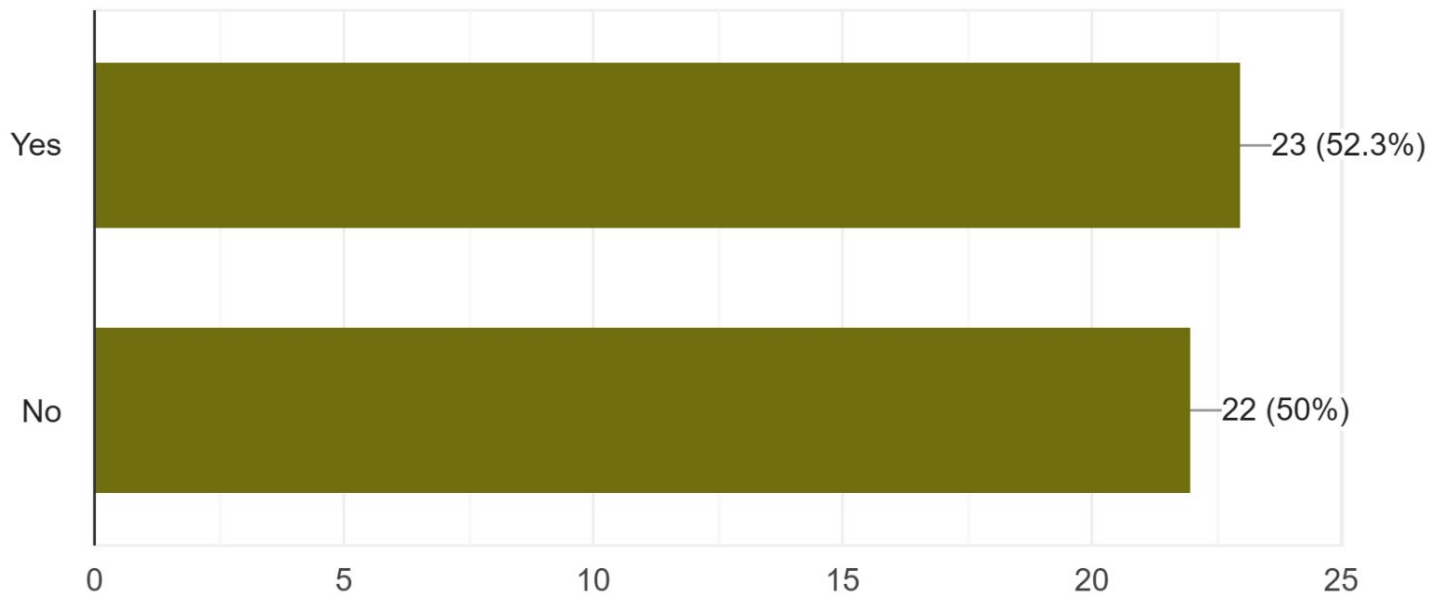
- Not against the idea, but it's not for me.
- Not enough to drive

## Question 5 Other Comments

- There is not a lot in Lansing proper. For jobs and many services people need to get to Ithaca
- Need to establish expectations of what this service can provide and not provide. Not an ambulance service.
- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.

Question 6: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to help coordinate a program/ministry that transports people...connecting them to existing public transportation?

44 responses



## Question 6 Positive Comments

- I live in Dryden, and have a bookended day (drop off and pick up a child at school) so actually doing driving on a consistent basis might be less of an option for me, but I am willing to help somehow (money or planning?)
- I will support whatever the church decides. \nMy answers about transportation in Q4 and Q5 apply here, too.\n\nFirst/Last mile seemed very exciting to the subject matter expert who presented on Transportation. It could be combined with the Gadabout/FISH program(s), to support and expand something already working, rather than creating a new program/ministry.
- Maybe
- just financial contribution
- I thought this was a good idea and one that could be implemented fairly quickly + easily
- I'm willing to give both time + money. One caveat - I'm away most of the time from Mid-May => Mid-Oct so would not be able to transport during that time.

## Question 6 Negative Comments

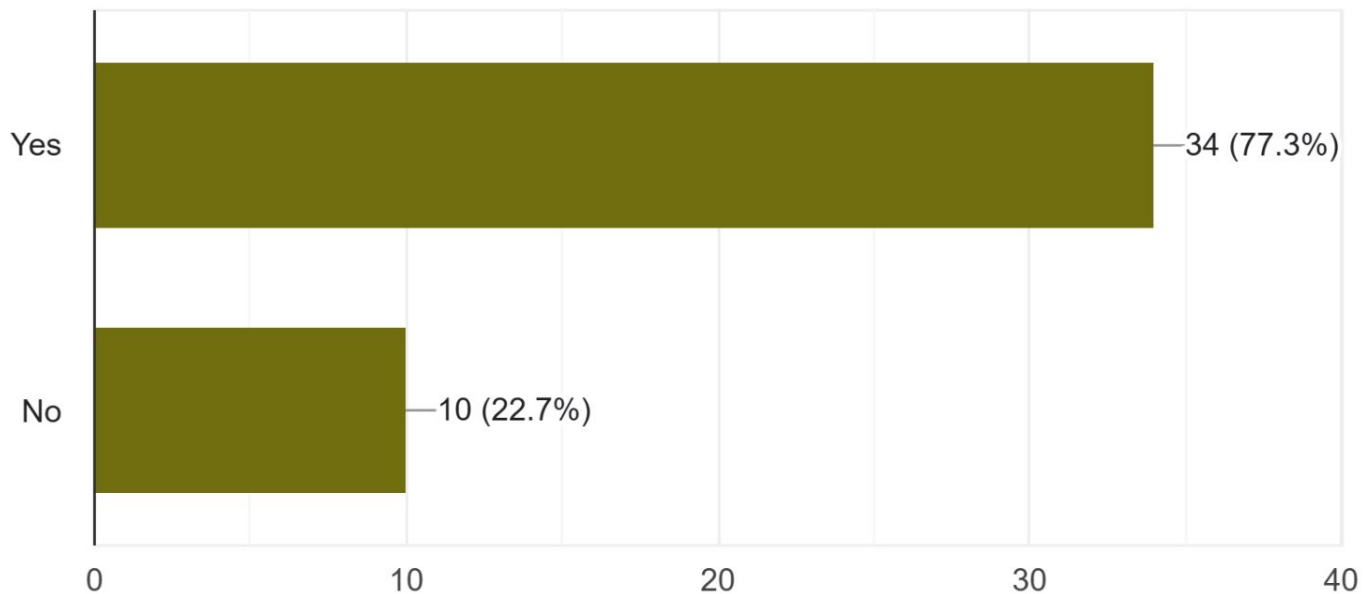
- Not against the idea, but it's not for me.

## Question 6 Other Comments

- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.

Question 7: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to developing a program/ministry that provides pickup...scriptions for those who can't travel themselves?

44 responses



# Question 7 Positive Comments

- These services exist for groceries, but it is novel to have something like this from the food pantry
- I'm glad to drive my vehicle to deliver needed items.
- A gopher service is something I could definitely help with
- With someone
- Again seems useful + easier than some suggestions to start + maintain
- around my schedule
- I'm willing to give both time + money. One caveat - I'm away most of the time from Mid-May => Mid-Oct so would not be able to transport during that time.

## Question 7 Negative Comments

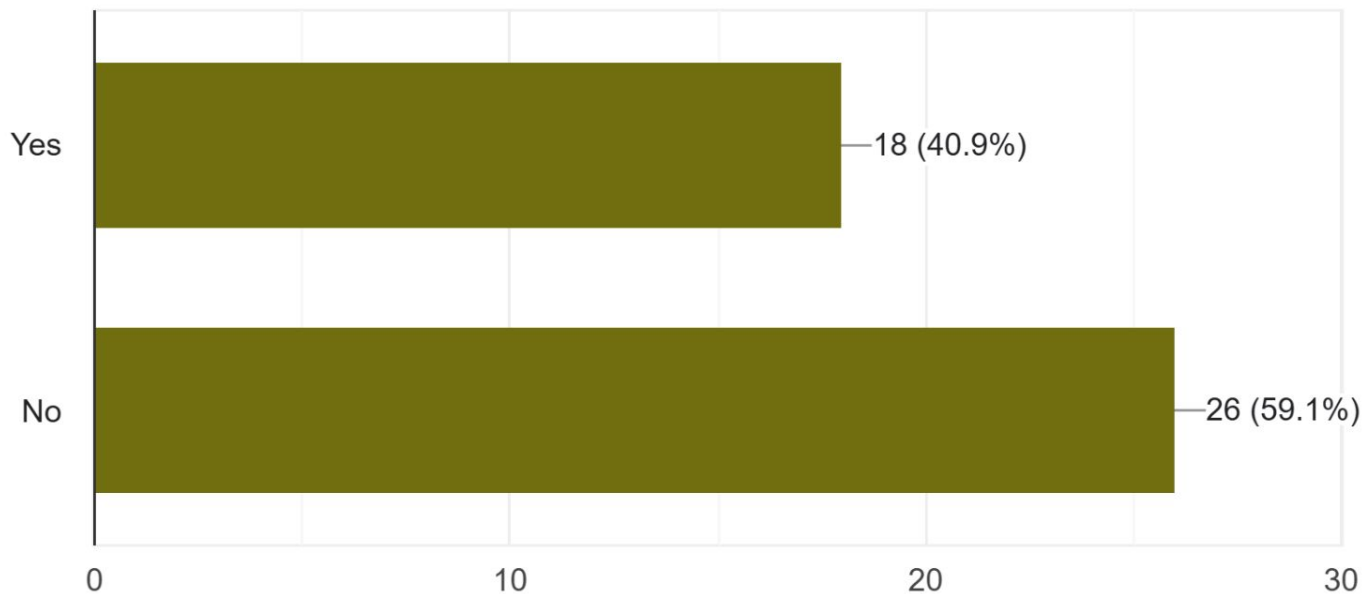
- Not against the idea, but it's not for me.
- Several other programs are already in place to address this need. Grocery stores, pharmacies, etc. already deliver to our homebound members. Assisting with food pantry delivery might be useful, especially to immigrant families, some of whom are trying to live "in the woods" and avoid public places like stores or pharmacies or food pantries. The food pantry in Southern Cayuga is currently doing this. Our church should be a place where people gather and develop friendships, rather than just feeding their bodies. Helping people find available assistance (i.e. grocery delivery) is something the church could do more easily if the people who needed it were already at the church, perhaps to share a community meal.
- Already doing this

## Question 7 Other Comments

- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.

Question 8: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to expand summer Vacation Bible School to more than a wee...or the whole summer?) and during daytime hours?

44 responses



## Question 8 Positive Comments

- I could be available on a regular basis, perhaps one day a week or a couple of half days but not daily.
- Money might be possible, but I would need to be paid to work through the summer.
- Possibly. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.
- ! Would LOVE to help w/time if done in '26 + days we're here. Financially. Time-wise I'm gone 5 weeks in summer of '26 (+ then moving to CA in '27).
- just financially. We will be in California for 5 weeks this July-Aug.
- Money Only Not available to give time during summer months as already have too many commitments
- Unfortunately I'm away most of the summer. Would be willing to give money for the purchase of supplies.

## Question 8 Negative Comments

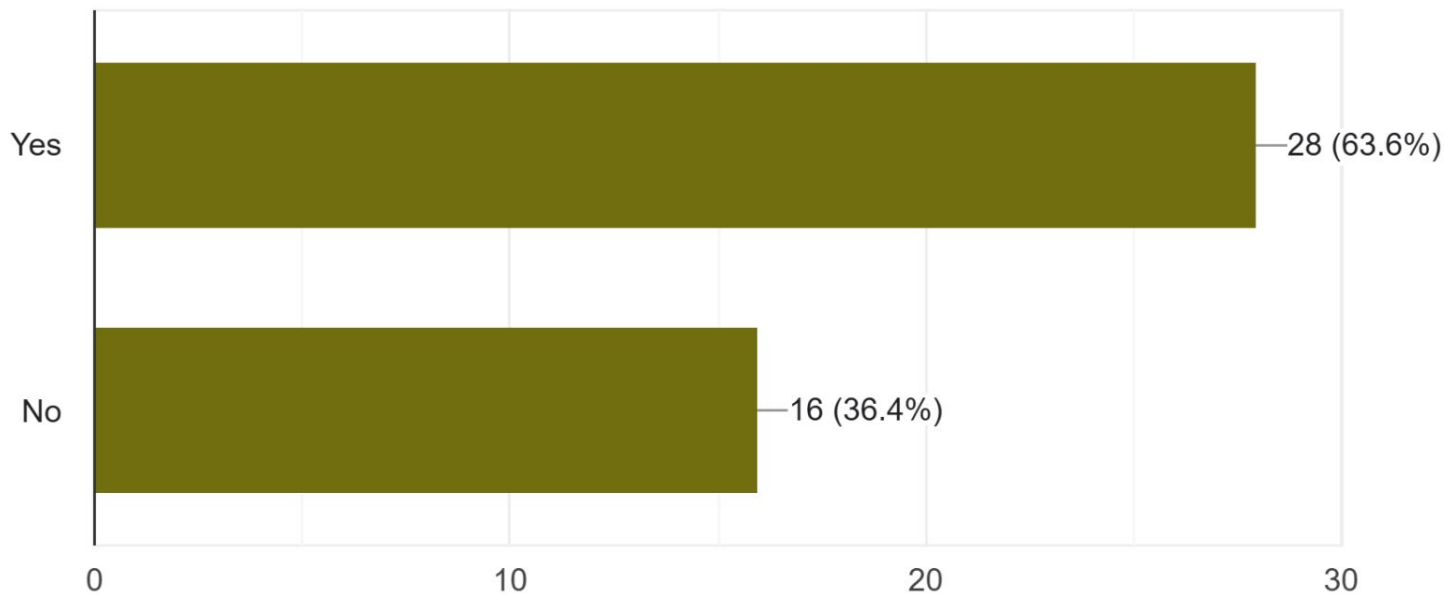
- I suspect this would not result in a significant increase in attendees.
- Personally I can't commit to summer activities with my schedule.
- I don't think this is a feasible idea, having planned and executed a VBS program a few years ago.
- Vacation Bible school is awesome, but it's designed to be a week. Longer efforts like a month or summer are really just Christian Day Care. Not a bad thing, but the effort to doing a quality VBS week is intense...and works best with parental/grandparent involvement. That isn't sustainable for a month. This would just be day care.
- The days of VBS being something parents/kids want to do in the summer seem to be behind us. I don't know of any parents or Sunday School teachers interested in this.
- Although I am a longtime teacher + coordinator of VBS I don't think it really reaches the needs of childcare of the community. It's important for other reasons

## Question 8 Other Comments

- None

Question 9: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to developing an on-site childcare program?

44 responses



# Question 9 Positive Comments

- While we have talked exclusively about care of the child with respect to young children (those who cannot stay home alone), I had an interesting conversation with an individual in the community about creating a safe space for our community's tweens and teens to hang out. This could be an interesting use of the space (or another community space?) as well.
- Families are the future of the church
- Others have suggested buying Barb Reynold's house for just such an endeavor.
- This is a maybe for me, depending on the details. Again, living in Dryden and having bookended days are tough.
- I feel that LUMC could achieve something great like this for our neighbors.
- Yes, I would provide funding.
- Likely. Need more information and context before a firm decision to commit.
- Maybe
- Financially.
- just financially
- I think having child care for low income families would be a great service, I no longer physically want to participate. I have done it many years in Dryden but would support it financially
- I would contribute money only
- On-site drop-in care, after school care, tutoring, or programs that combine afterschool care (less than 3 hours) with programming to help children grow in faith would be feasible, and something I would support.

## Question 9 Negative Comments

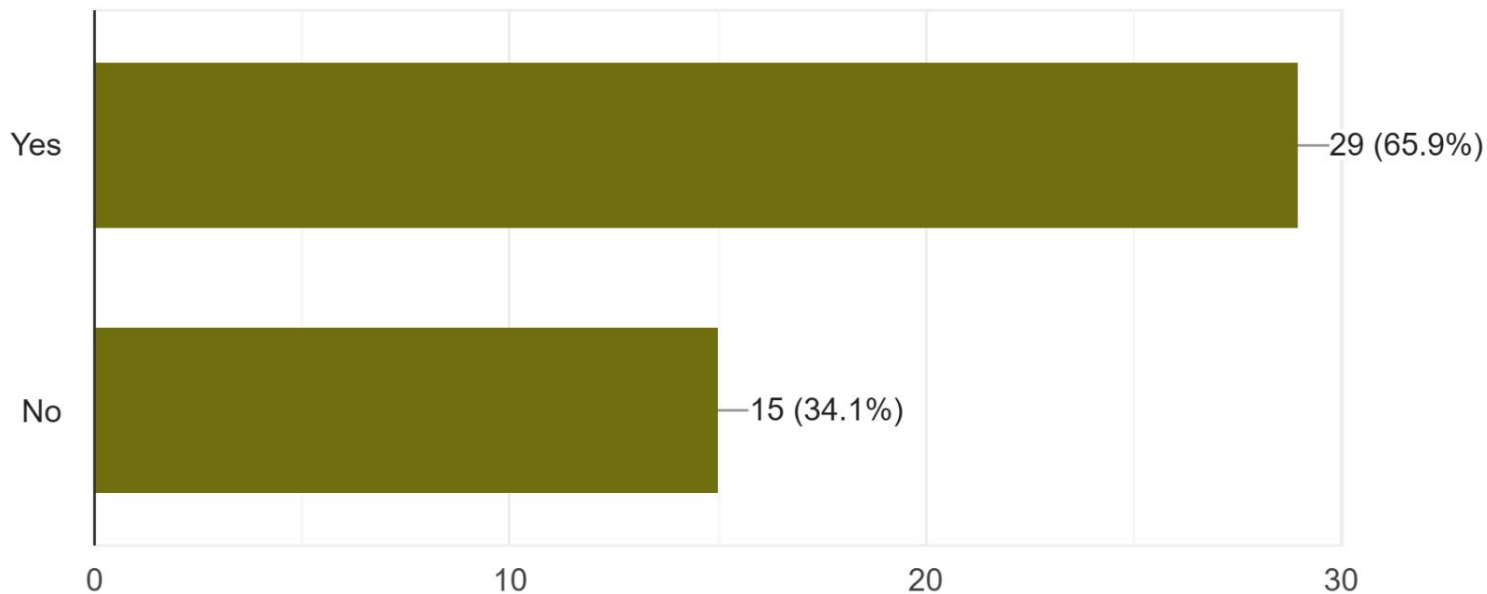
- Providing CHILD CARE onsite at the church for more than 3 hours per day brings many legal requirements . This dissuaded LUMC from building our new children's wing to on-site childcare standards in 2018. That was and is a wise decision.
- I feel this is too much for us to take on
- Already one exists

## Question 9 Other Comments

- Don't know

Question 10: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to building a ministry that provides food support to existing family daycare programs lowering the cost of day care?

44 responses



## Question 10 Positive Comments

- A good way to make an impact quickly and easily
- A weekly or biweekly contribution, purchased while I shop for my own groceries, would be easy.
- I would provide funding to an LUMC sponsored program.
- Financially
- Willing to support financially

## Question 10 Negative Comments

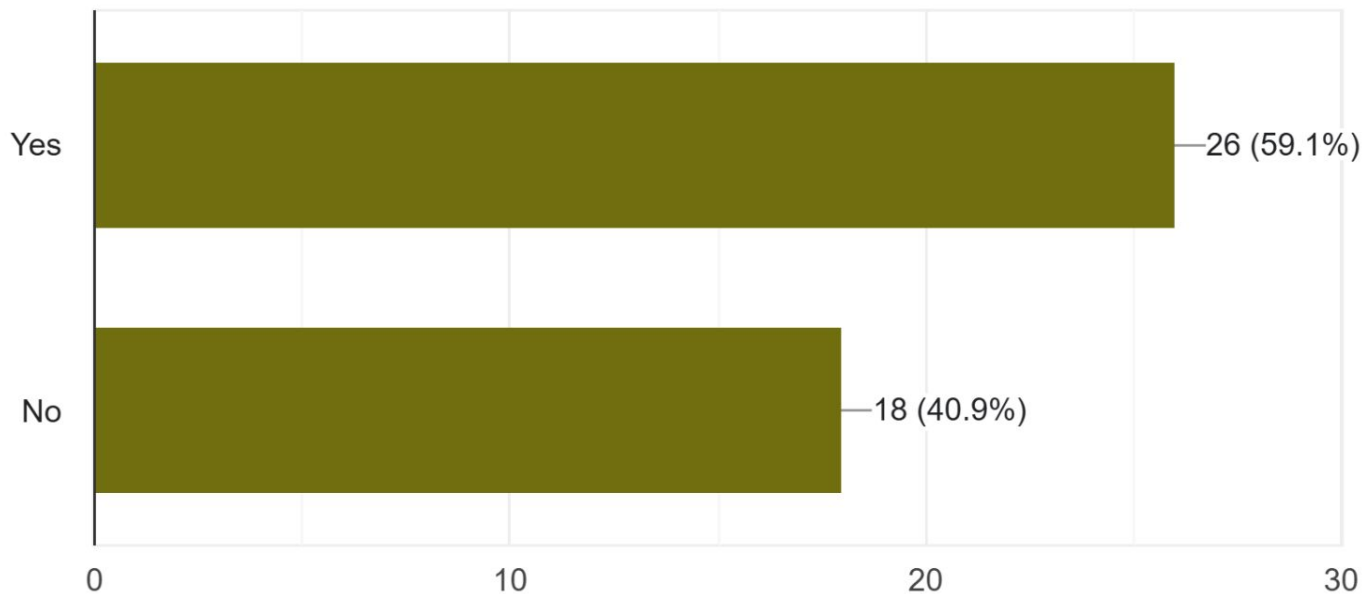
- I wish there were a "maybe" option. Providing lunches/food support to in-home childcare programs seems like a small and inconsequential attempt to make a difference; and would not involve much hands-on relationship building from the congregation.  
  
Proper nutrition is always helpful, especially for the children from lower income households. If there were someone(s) who wanted to run a business like this out of LUMC kitchen, I could be in favor of LUMC being a business incubator for a "Catering for Kids" small business.
- Need more information and context before any decision to commit. I question whether this would actually lower the cost of day care programs in a meaningful way.
- probably not at this time because of my committment to food pantry in Dryden
- I feel parents should pack meals for their children. That way they satisfy the likes or allerries of their child

## Question 10 Other Comments

- Like food snacks for them?

Question 11: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to building a ministry that provides tutoring to school age kids from LCSD?

44 responses



## Question 11 Positive Comments

- I am a teacher and could easily see my skill set used here.
- LUMC used to do this as an after-school volunteer program. Doesn't really require money if the tutoring is at LUMC which would be as good a place as most. Would require committed volunteers which would not be me. I'd support financially, but that would likely just be to provide snacks.
- Tutoring, HW support
- I think we have a good facility to do this + it introduces the community to our church
- I would if it includes any child from any district Our church serves more than LCSD
- This is a good idea for retired teachers

# Question 11 Negative Comments

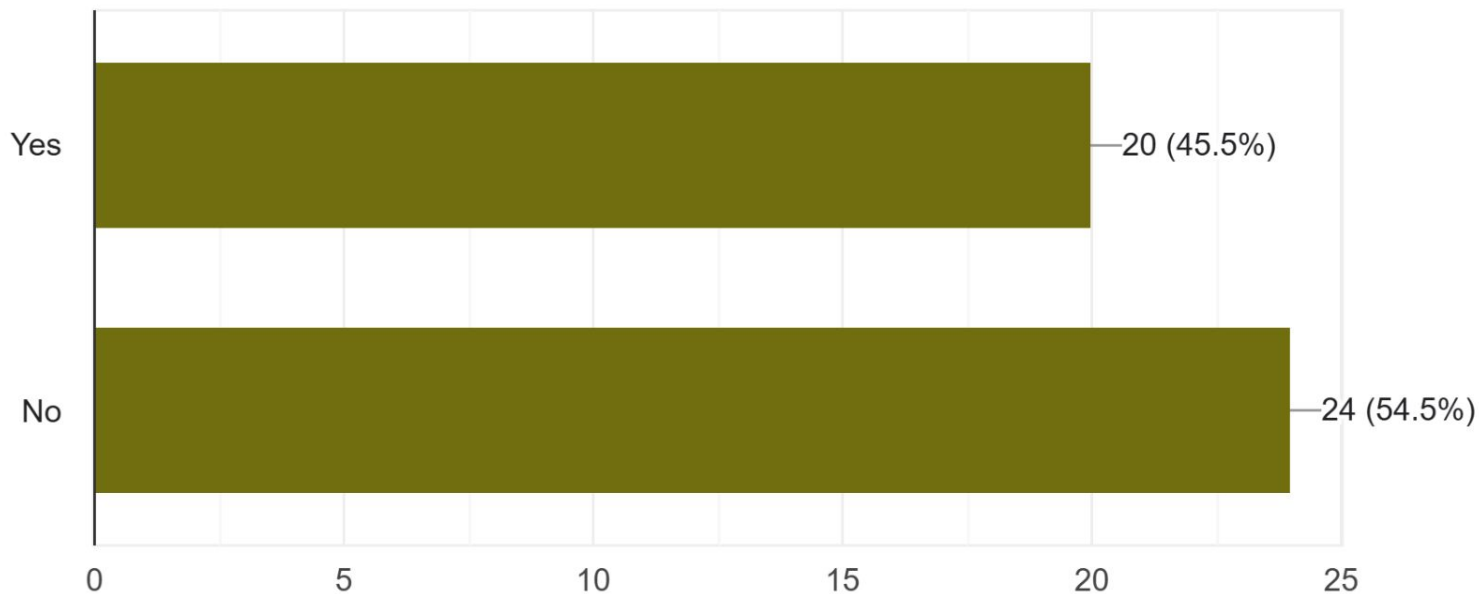
- This should be done within the school

## Question 11 Other Comments

- Possibly. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.
- I have already made a time and financial commitment to the DCC - Dryden Center for Community for the '26 - '27 school year

Question 12: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to a ministry that matches foster grandparents to children in the Lansing community?

44 responses



## Question 12 Positive Comments

- And/ or some sort of Big Brother program
- Will support if this is chosen, just don't think it addresses a the most major needs
- Foster Grandparenting sounds like fun. It may too small to be "a program/ministry that will shape our church community going forward." Yet, if it were one part of a ministry/program that helps children and older adults, it might be great! It could be done in concert with a congregant feeding site at the church, an after-school program at the church, tutoring in school subjects, an intergenerational worship service, etc. It might even coordinate with transportation to/from the church.
- I want to be a foster grandparent too!
- Financially
- Really passionate about it.
- financially

## Question 12 Negative Comments

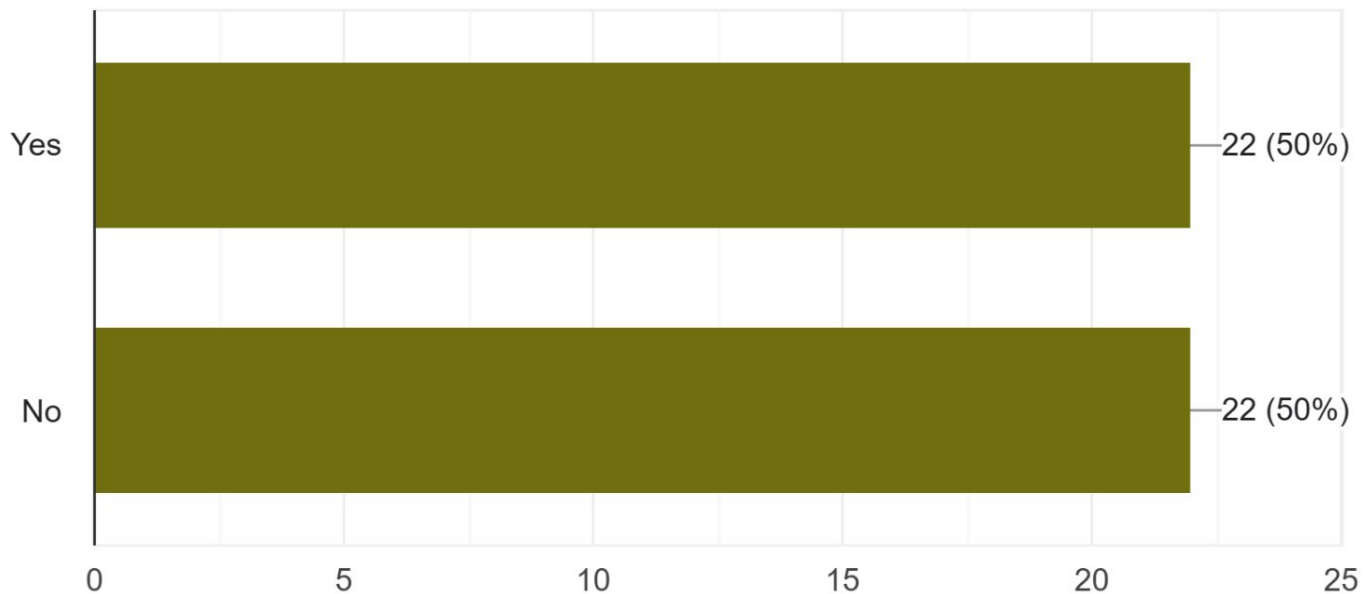
- A high risk proposal from a safe sanctuary perspective
- I don't feel passionate for this or against it. Wouldn't be where I would put my time or energy

## Question 12 Other Comments

- Not against the idea, but it's not for me.
- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.
- Dont know how

Question 13: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to the development of a program that delivers gap transportation for children to and from daycare/camp?

44 responses



## Question 13 Positive Comments

- Transportation is not my passion. (see responses to Q4, Q5, Q6) The insurance/liability of transporting children is concerning. Yet if the congregation chooses to do this I will support it.
- financially
- It's important that someone looks into the liability of this, but it's something I would assist with
- If it fits my schedule
- money

## Question 13 Negative Comments

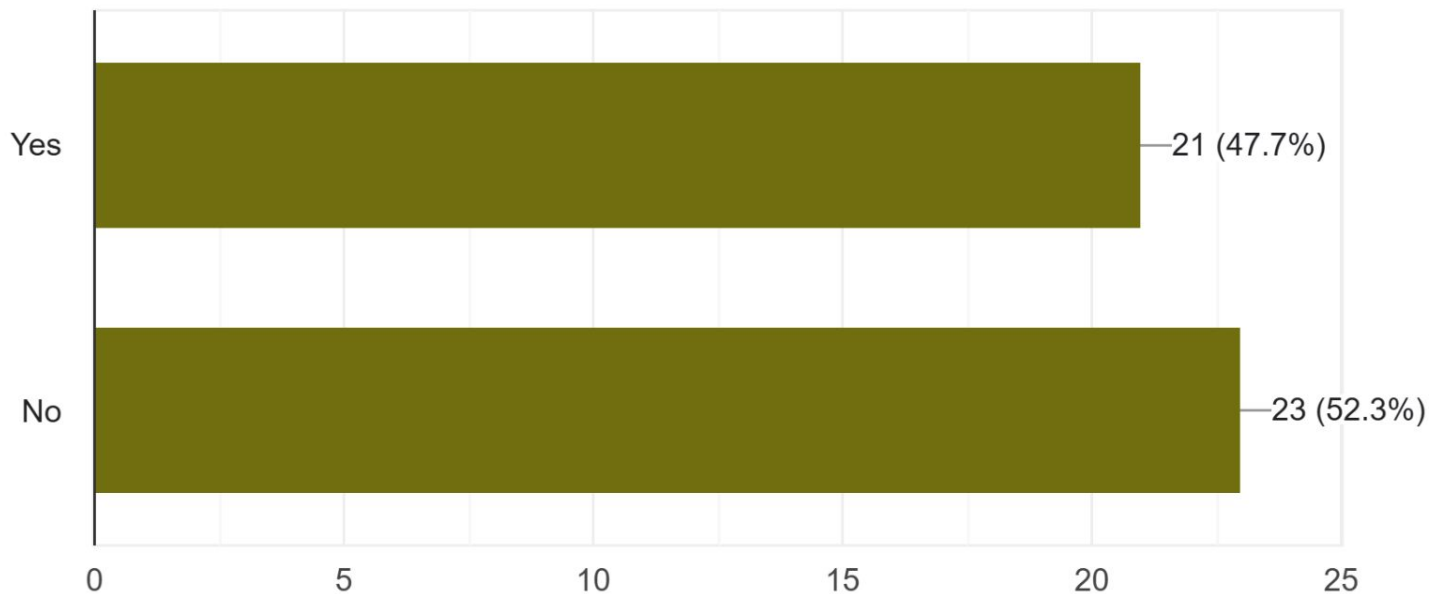
- Too complex.

## Question 13 Other Comments

- hard to assess this need; school age is provided by busses, so this is for infants to PreK
- Not against the idea, but it's not for me.
- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit.
- Can't drive

Question 14: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to a ministry that would build more affordable housing in the Lansing area (apartments, tiny homes village)?

44 responses



## Question 14 Positive Comments

- I'd support Habitat for Humanity efforts if sponsored by our congregation.
- I think this is worthwhile + would support it. I also think it needs people + government expertise to start with.
- It is a needed project
- Time and/or money. My skills are quite limited

# Question 14 Negative Comments

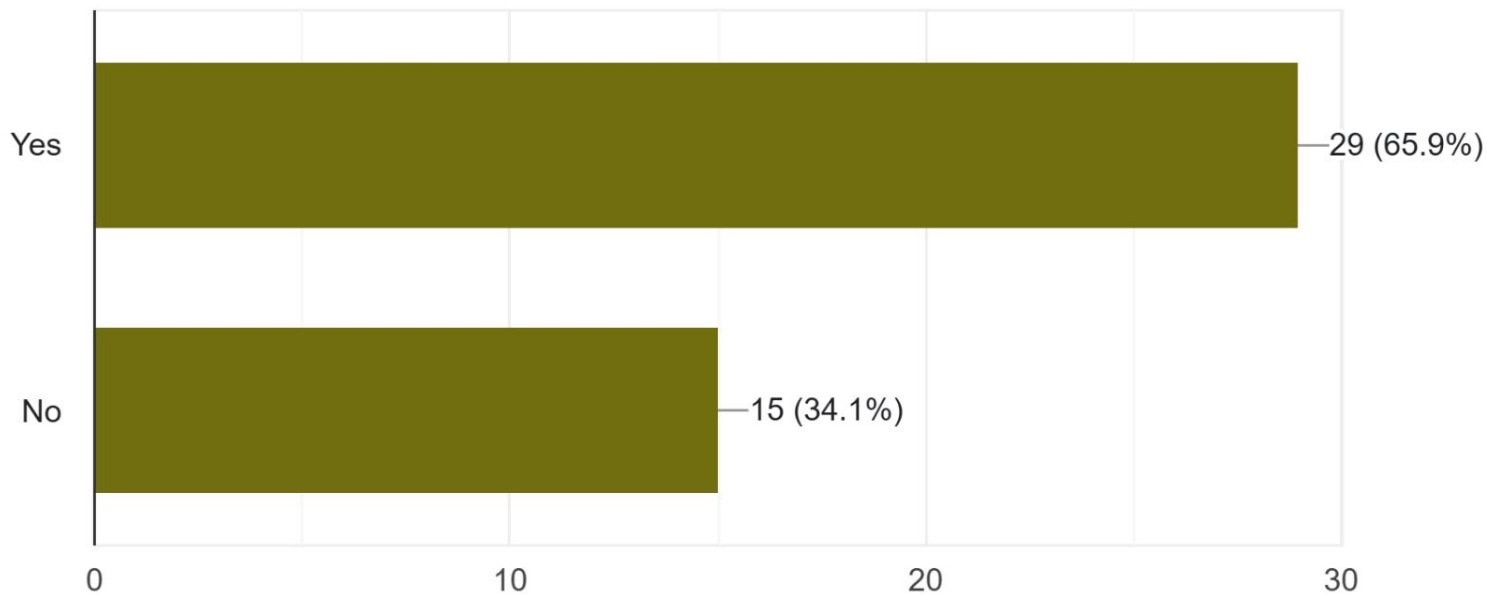
- Would assist a limited amount of individuals
- Too big an undertaking
- Building more affordable housing in Lansing a delightful idea, and well intentioned. But it will not put many of our current members into closer relationship with community members outside the church. It runs the risk of having congregation members see themselves as "saviors" who come in to do something others would find impossible to do for themselves, rather than as friends who come alongside others in their time of need. If "Providing more affordable housing" is one of the goals decided, I hope it will include partnering with many other agencies, to spend more time/money assisting, rather than recreating systems already in existence.
- Need more information and context. So-called "workforce housing" to serve the "missing middle" is what is needed, and the gap in the overall Tompkins County community that is not being met. Building "affordable housing, while an admirable goal, can have unintended consequences, such as what is seen in the City of Ithaca, and I believe is beyond the scope of the Church to impact in a meaningful way.

## Question 14 Other Comments

- Maybe

Question 15: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to coordinating volunteer groups that help with housin...lping with the local Habitat for Humanity chapter?

44 responses



# Question 15 Positive Comments

- Habitat for Humanity is the answer for me. I'd support efforts that LUMC backs.
- Like working with Gadabout/FISH, This is something that could be happening whether or not it becomes a "focus of the church". Some churches have Mission Teams that provide opportunities for community service projects every Saturday. Projects can be those led by other organizations, but there needs to be a person in the congregation who researches and advertises opportunities to the congregation, and recruits people to participate. Developing relationships with volunteers is the way we become disciples of Jesus Christ; not by building houses.
- While more information and context would be helpful, housing repairs is an area that would be within the scope of what the Church could accomplish.
- Maybe
- Financially
- financially
- I'm not very handy, but I would support financially with transportation + meals for the workers.
- Maybe. Definitely interested in helping with the local Habitat for Humanity
- money

## Question 15 Negative Comments

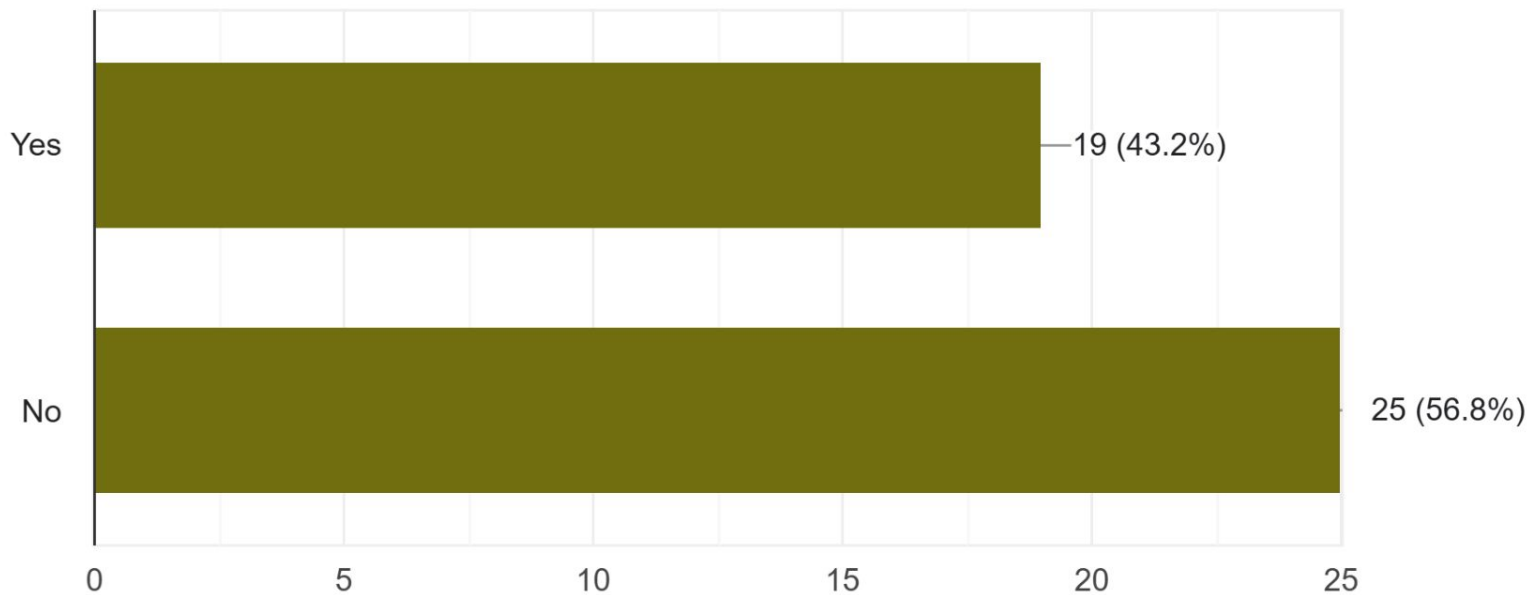
- Seems difficult to begin, would take away from those making a living
- Not my strength

## Question 15 Other Comments

- Our congregation + neighbors have the same needs. We could do more for our members.

Question 16: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to a ministry that builds transition housing for those c..., rehab, or homelessness in the Lansing community?

44 responses



## Question 16 Positive Comments

- Building and establishing transitional housing could be an excellent project to help reshape our congregation. Transitional housing - and even more so, transitional mentoring, is greatly needed. Transitional housing could be "tiny homes" or group homes... it would be good to partner with other groups that are already doing this outside of the Lansing area. \n\nThe ministry is not the tangible buildings created, but the ongoing relationships that are created that help save people's lives, or rebuild their lives after time "out of society."
- maybe
- money

# Question 16 Negative Comments

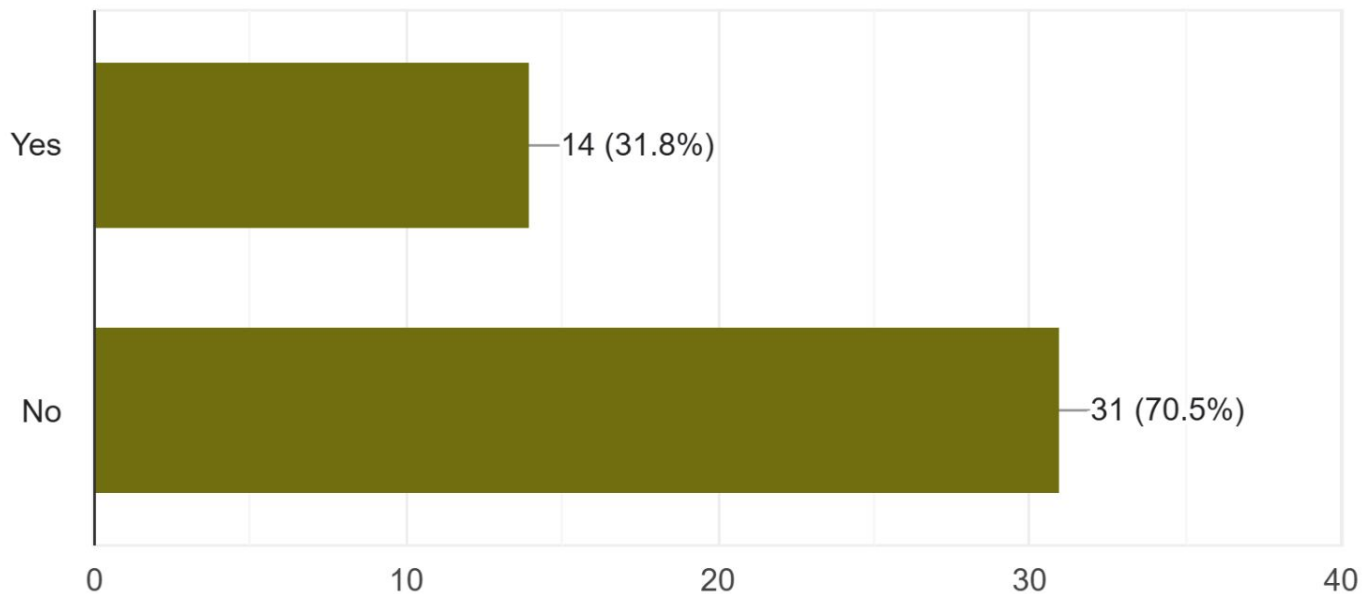
- Challenges in getting them to move forward and in selection.
- Too large an undertaking.
- I don't feel like our community has the supports yet for people transitioning.
- Homelessness is a major problem in many places. The answer, however, is not as simple as transitional housing. Second Wind Cottages could probably use support, but this issue is so complex that it really gives me pause. IMO this is not a ministry where a well-intentioned, but totally inexperienced, congregations should start. To my knowledge, we have maybe 1 or 2 people in the entire congregation that have some experience in this area. I would not be in favor of going effectively from zero to 100 mph on something this complex without a lot more in-house expertise and internal passion. Like sponsoring the Haitian family (well done, by the way), you need to start small and learn. It's a project that if you undertake it, you shouldn't just walk away when it gets hard...and these issues get VERY hard. It takes a lot of funding and a lot of mental toughness which I do not think our congregation is up for. They may like the idea, but they won't like the reality. So, if we are talking about actively joining a Habitat for Humanity project, that seems achievable. But dealing directly with the underlying people in need...I don't think the vast majority of our congregation have it in them. And those that do don't need LUMC to support their work. They are doing it already.
- While an admirable goal, this is beyond the scope of the Church to accomplish. Tompkins County government and its associated non-profit agencies, such as OAR (Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources) worked for years to put such transition housing in place and it was not an easy process. Also, once built, significant ongoing support services would be needed to produce success.
- !! *[this was to emphasize a "no" response]*
- I think this is important, but again needs more coordination + support than we can provide as LUMC.

## Question 16 Other Comments

- None

Question 17: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to a ministry that purchased an apartment building or e... be converted into affordable housing in Lansing?

44 responses



## Question 17 Positive Comments

- I think this is a big undertaking and we need people in charge that know what they are doing. But very worthwhile + needed + I would support
- It's needed
- maybe
- money

# Question 17 Negative Comments (1 of 2)

- We just sold 2 houses. Why would we buy another?
- Do not want to be a landlord, serving a limited amount. How would you choose on limited availability
- This would be a huge undertaking. Start in the shallow end of the pool, to make sure you can swim.
- No, I do not think LUMC should effectively become a property management organization for people in need. Like other suggestions in this survey, it requires real expertise. Ministry is about connection. Purchasing things of this scale (or writing checks at this level) is charity, not ministry. And the social issues involved are complex. I fund charities every year. Affordable housing is something really needed. But LUMC has no experience being a charity of this sort. We are good at many types of ministries. But property management and conversion require full-time, traditionally paid, staff. Please do not get me wrong. I fully support trying to figure out how our church can better support the needs of the community, but we should not confuse charity on this level with ministry. While they overlap, they have different scalability. Homelessness, affordable housing, and similar needs are too large for half a dozen committed people to carry out under LUMC's banner even with broad financial support from the rest of the congregation. Most people I know want to help, but they do not want to give 100% effort to the cause...those that do give 100% make it their life's work and get jobs in the appropriate field. IMO, we can actively support professional charities who have the needed expertise, but we should not try to become one of those charities.

## Question 17 Negative Comments (2 of 2)

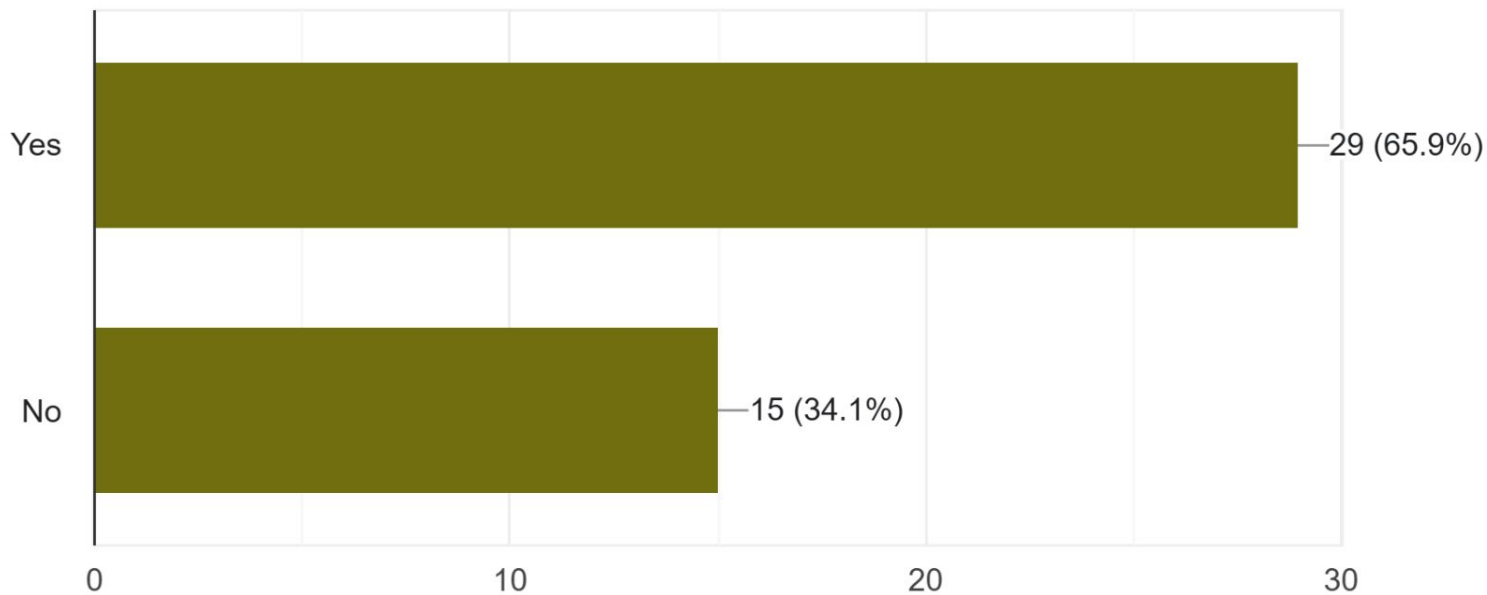
- I might change my mind if I understood how this would work.\n\nHow we would do a better job of affordable housing than what Milton Meadows is already doing? Why would we not join in ministry to the people Milton Meadows has already brought to our neighborhood, or to the several mobile home parks or apartment complexes that are here, before building additional affordable housing to further exacerbate the divide between rich and poor?\n\nHands on carpentry/rehab work is often meaningful to people. Habitat for Humanity is a great organization. We should partner with them, but let them do the part they do. People are transformed by real life relationships (with God and one another), not by hammers and nails and bricks and mortar. \n
- Unsure. Need more information and context. See my comments in Question 14, above.
- not sure

## Question 17 Other Comments

- None

Question 18: Would you commit to actively contributing (giving your time and/or money) to a ministry that partners with “Love Living at Home” (...or build our own organization based on this model?)

44 responses



## Question 18 Positive Comments

- We should partner with existing organizations.
- "Love Living at Home" seems like an organization we should learn from, and partner with, before we decide to replicate or expand.
- financially
- Transportation would be important to this too and that's something I can provide
- money

## Question 18 Negative Comments

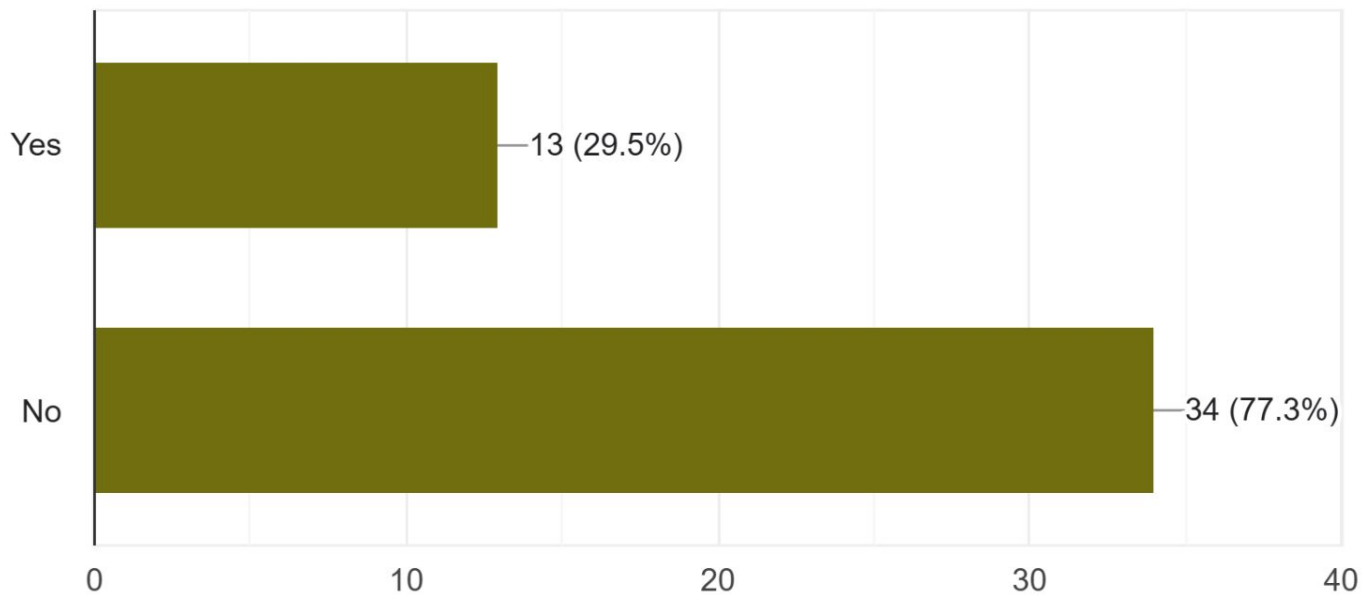
- Again, not against the idea, but it's not for me. This does, however, seem like a potential caring ministry for those who are inclined.
- Unsure. Need more information and context before any decision to commit. How would our involvement expand/enhance what "Love Living at Home" already does?
- Again we have members of church that can be our goal.

# Question 18 Other Comments

- Coordination between medical professionals

Question 19: Are you interested or have a passion for being a part of a leadership team that will carry on the work of building a new ministry within Lansing United?

44 responses



# Question 19 Positive Comments

- This is more of a maybe - it really depends on which direction this winds up going because I don't necessarily have the skillset to be a part of a leadership team for all of the current ideas!
- I'm interested, but I would need to decide if I could meet the time/work demands of the Leadership team on an on-going basis OR if I would prefer volunteering on the actual project(s) that are created.
- would hope to join a group of 10-15 energetic people representing a cross-section of the congregation working together to engage a majority of the congregation in some way to carry out a new ministry
- I think lumc does not provide a valuable ministry to people in our own community beyond Sunday worship. We are called to serve our community, and by doing so we are closer to god.
- Maybe :-)
- If the need we choose to meet is care of children, I am interested.
- I say 'no' with caveats. I'm not good at "corralling cats". But if the congregation heads in a direction where I can see my talents being genuinely helpful, I would step up.
- I will support the ministries and leadership of the church.
- I do not "have a passion" for this at this point; however, based on the ministry, I could become involved.
- Maybe when im older I can.
- In childcare
- I would like to be a part of the ministry, but not leadership
- Not interested in a leadership role but will assist in work

## Question 19 Negative Comments

- I want to be that person, but realistically, my work and home schedule takes a lot out of me. I am becoming an empty nester soon so that might change. I'll keep in touch.

## Question 19 Other Comments

- This sounds so cold. I feel I need another year or so to become more familiar with LUMC and recover from the closing of DUMC.

# Additional Positive Comments

- I think money is easier to accumulate than finding the people that have the time to dedicate year round. Partnering with existing organizations that have employees and/or volunteer systems would bolster and expand already successful programs.
- I think this group has started something very important. Thank you for your work.
- I am grateful for the willingness of the Explorers group to initiate this process. I hope that feedback from the congregation regarding what people do/do not feel called to do is extensive; as well as items about which people need more information. Some way of calling on congregation members who did not respond should be considered.
- Dave & I are gone for 5 weeks in summer of '26; and we are moving some time in 2027. So - my commitment to what ministry is decided on will have to be temporary. I do have a passion for any ministry that supports children, but all 3 areas are wonderful areas in need of a ministry! This was tough to fill out - honestly all the areas noted (related to housing, transp. + childcare) are valuable!! THANK YOU all for doing this valuable work!!!
- Our time commitment would be at most for a year before we're gearing up to move to California. We are likely to contribute "seed money" to help whatever ministry is chosen to get off the ground.
- I feel I can't afford to give monetary to these ideas and at my age, I could only do some of these ideas
- Kudos to you all! This entire process has taken much of your time. The surveys, meetings with the congregation, and members of the greater Lansing Community have left no stone unturned. Well done and Peace be with YOU!!

# Additional Negative Comments

- Our church has many ministries and we only have so many people who will show up. Are getting stretched to thin?? I have concerns of liability, insurance, etc with all of the needs.

# Additional Other Comments

- Some process-related comments that I hope the group will accept in the constructive aspect in which they are given. You will note that in response to most questions I have indicated that more information and context is needed. I believe an important step was skipped in this process, that is to compile, organize, and report back to the congregation (or those who are interested) on cumulative results of the brainstorming sessions, common/related points among groups, etc., and also provide a bit of information on what each proposed/potential ministry area involves. I attended all three of the presentations on the areas of need and took part in the brainstorming for each one (which I thought went quite well); however, I have no information regarding what came out of the other groups and where strength of the suggestions lies. A report-out and compilation of the overall results, as well as some elaboration of the options that are now suggested based on those results, would have been valuable and instructive prior to asking people to commit support. Also, in this survey document it would have been helpful to ask which of these elements (in theory) would you think should be a priority for the Church to support, and which would you personally be willing to support? Thanks to all members of the Explorers Group for your work throughout this process!

# Additional Other Comments

- I support and thrift store too but in a different place not on church property its too busy for there. I think its better some place near by.
- No on LUMC property a thrift store. Bring too much traffic and Ithaca already has many thrift stores. We'd be stealing their clients. Support ones already up + running!!
- I am active with the food pantry in Dryden and still live in Dryden which might limit my availability for some of these jobs
- Not in favor of Thrity store on property. Should be located elsewhere.
- No thrift store on church property!!