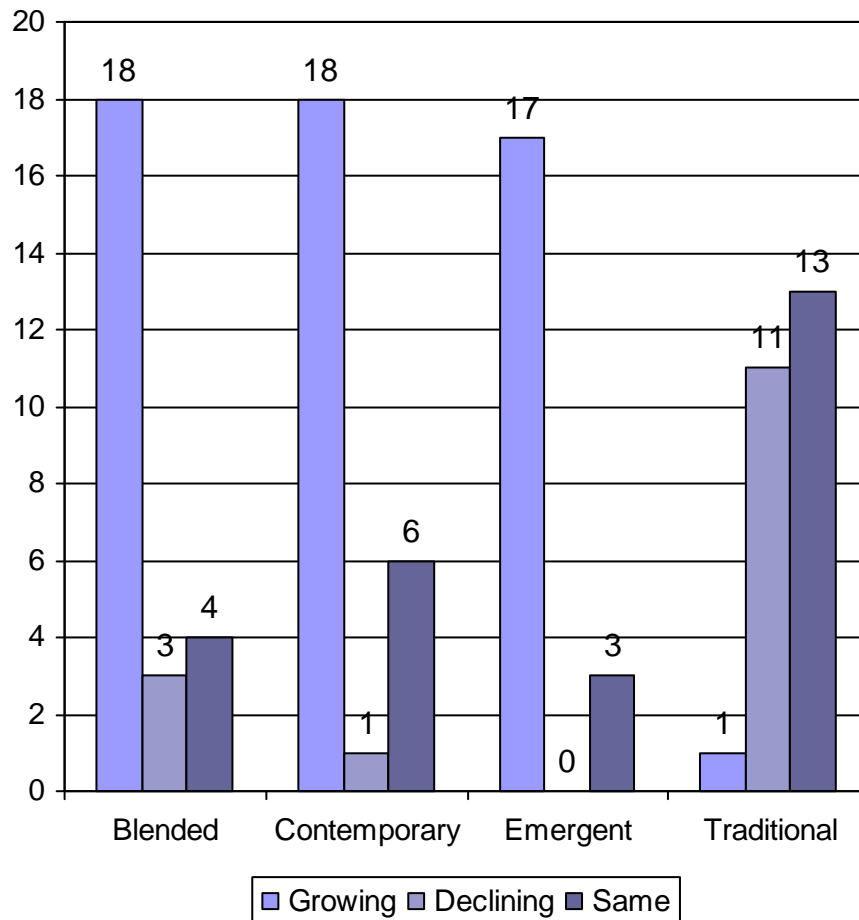


# BISHOPS

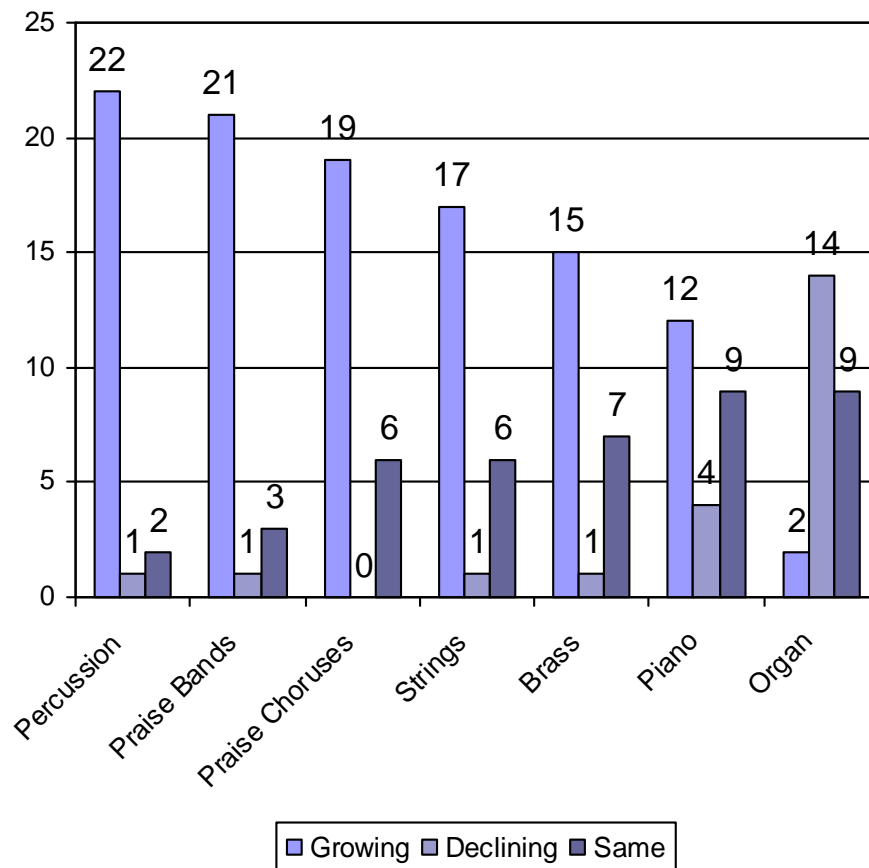
- 25 United Methodist Bishops responded to this twelve-question survey.
- Questions were the same as for academics, though without some of the demographic inquiries asked of professors.
- Findings for this survey are reported in raw numbers, because of the small sample size.

“For each of the following **worship styles**, please indicate whether you believe it to be growing, declining, or remaining the same in popularity and use.”



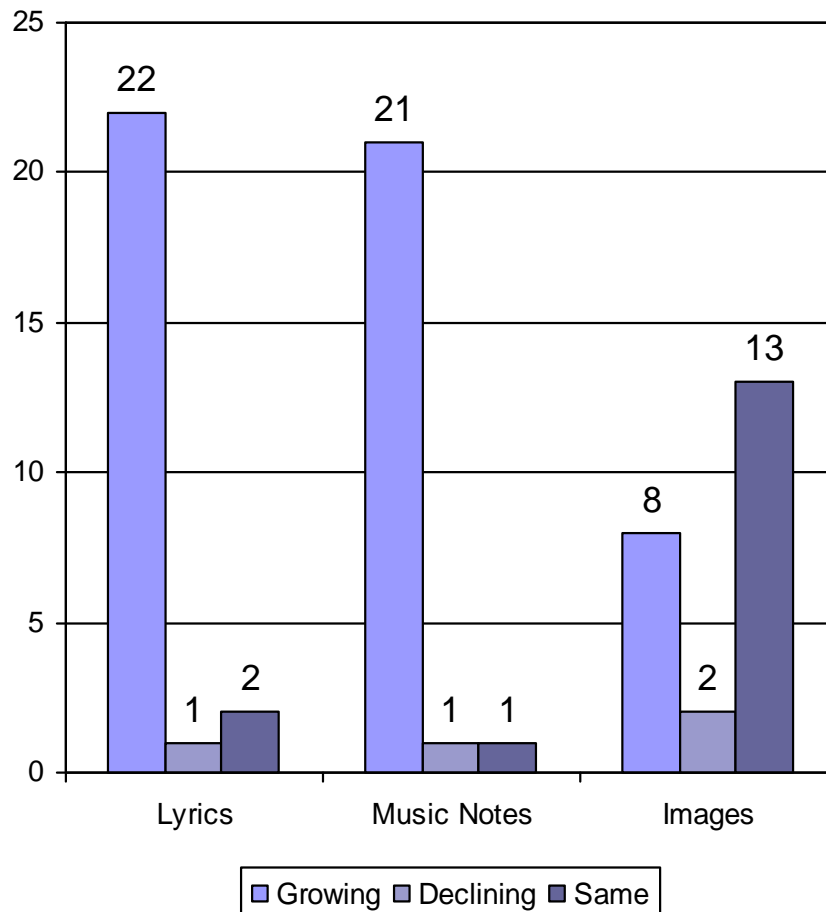
- n=25
- The bishops surveyed see all non-traditional styles as growing, overall, though there are a few who believe contemporary and blended worship to be declining.
- Over half (52%) say the popularity of traditional worship is staying the same, while another 44% say it is declining.

“For each of the following **instrumental options**, please indicate whether you believe it to be growing, declining, or remaining the same in popularity and use.”



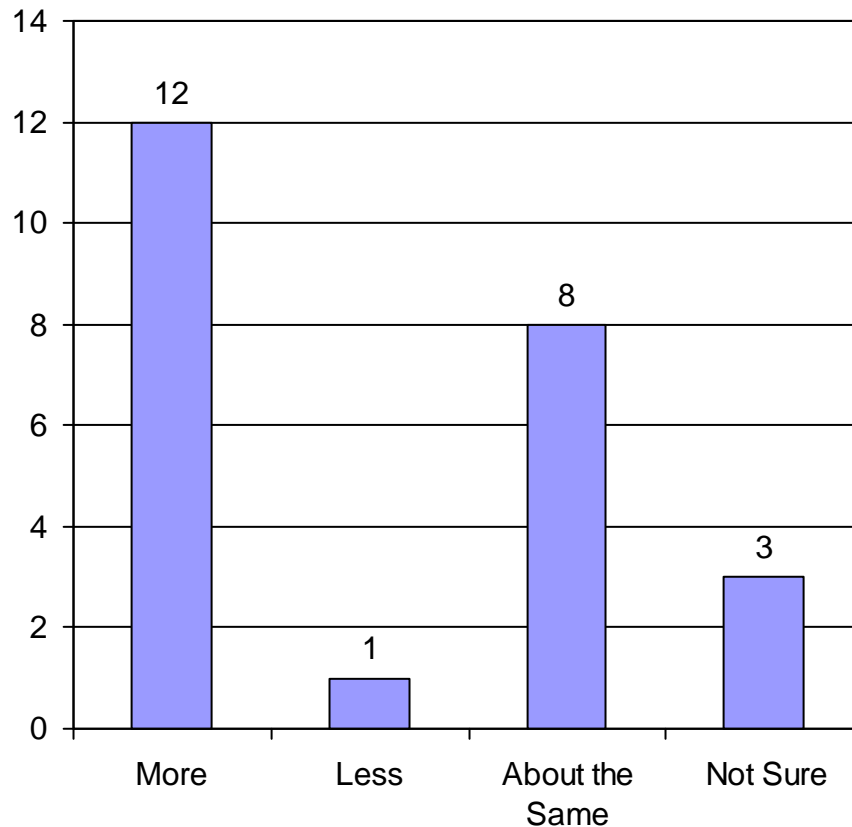
- n=25
- Organ—the mainstay of very traditional worship—is predominantly seen to be declining in usage.
- The popularity of piano, as well, is in question, as fewer than half see it as increasing, while 16% say it is declining, and 36% say there is no change.
- All other instrumental genres are overwhelmingly seen to be increasing.

“For each of the following **uses of projection**, please indicate whether you believe it to be growing, declining, or remaining the same in popularity and use.”



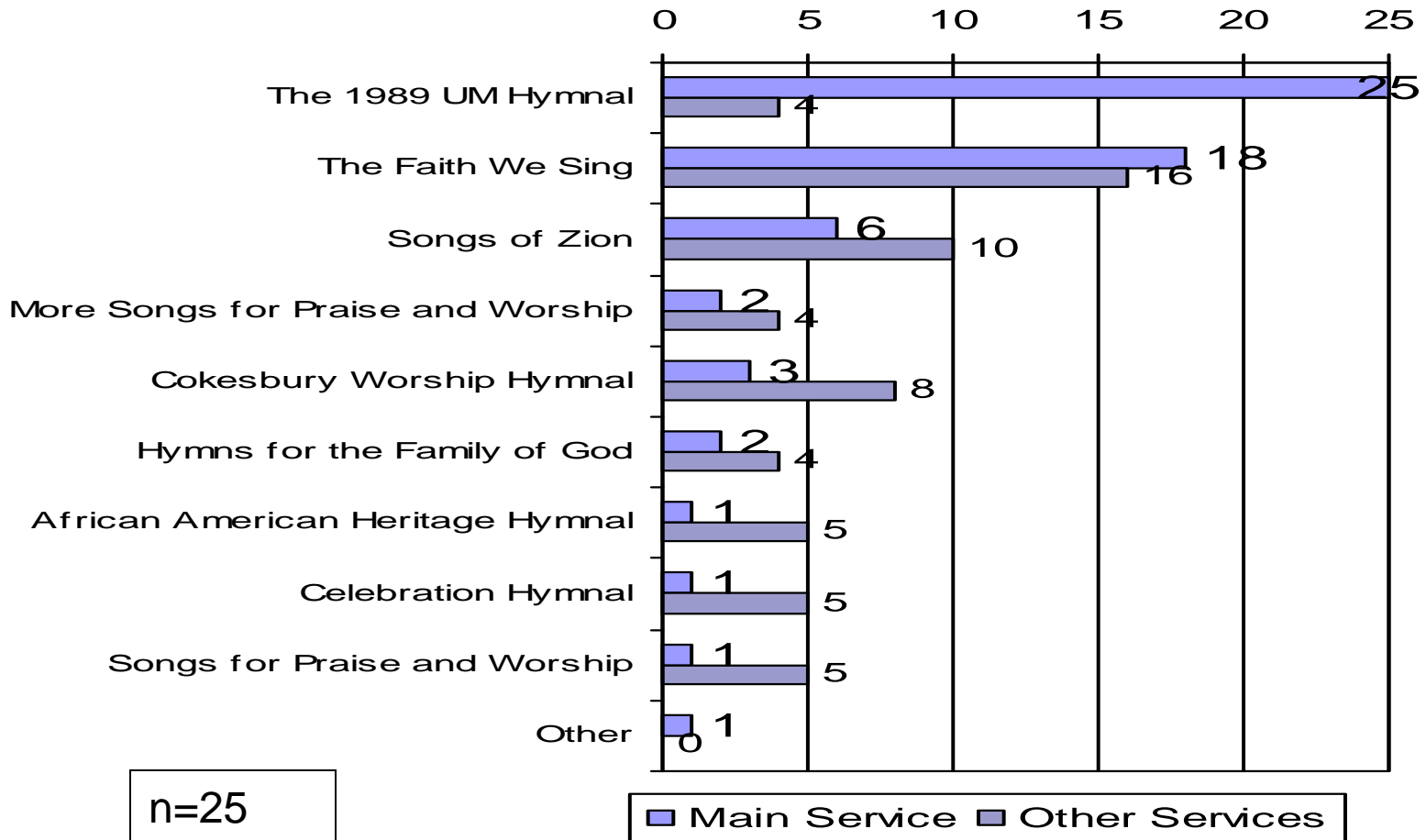
- n=25
- Respondents overwhelmingly see growth in projection of lyrics and music for congregational singing.
- Over half, however, say projection of images is neither growing nor decreasing in popularity.

“Do you believe church **congregations sing** more, less, or about the same as five years ago?”

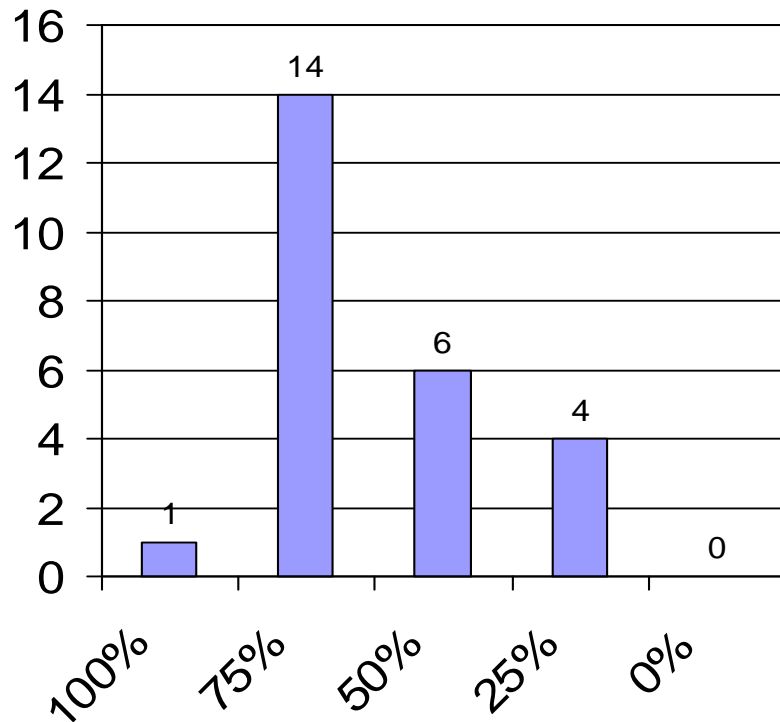


- n=24
- Half of the bishops polled say congregations sing more than they did five years ago.
- One third have noticed no significant change.

“What **hymnals or songbooks** do you regularly see being used in United Methodist worship service(s)?”

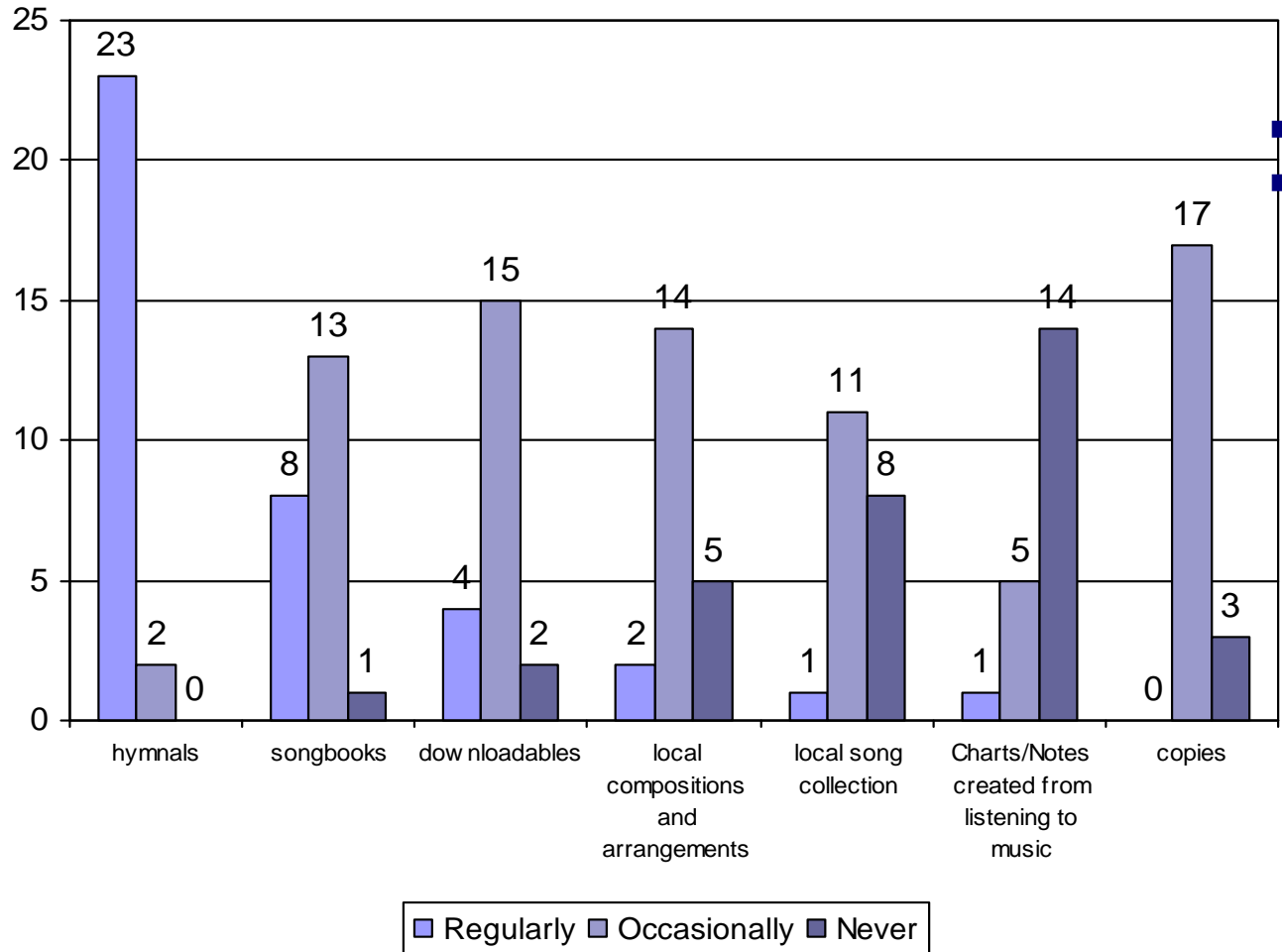


“What percentage of the time do you see the **Lectionary** being used as the basis for planning worship in United Methodist churches?”



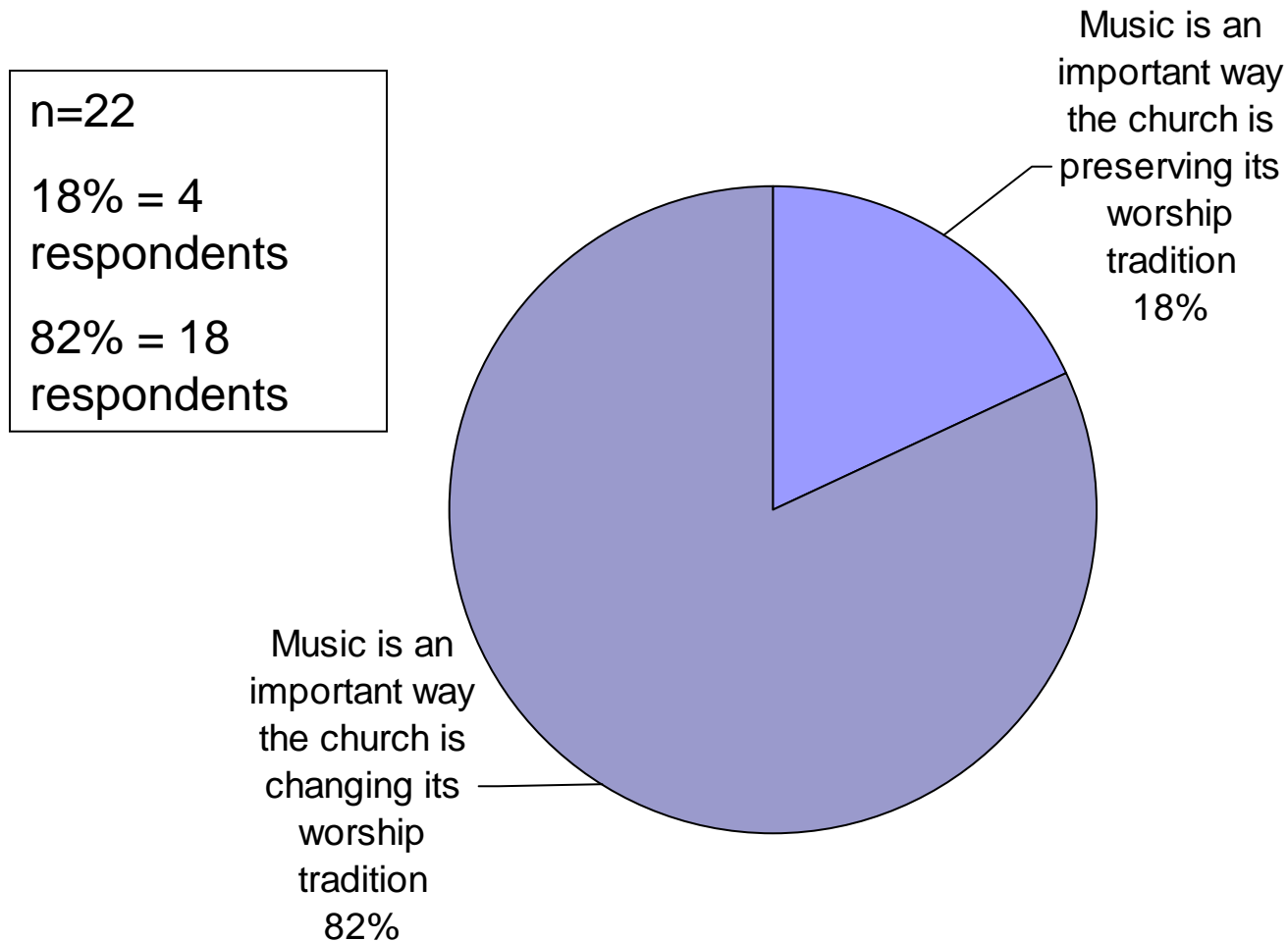
- n=25
- Most respondents say churches use the Lectionary for 75% of their services.
- One-fourth say the Lectionary is used only half of the time.

“How often do you believe each of the following types of **resources** are being used for worship in United Methodist churches?”

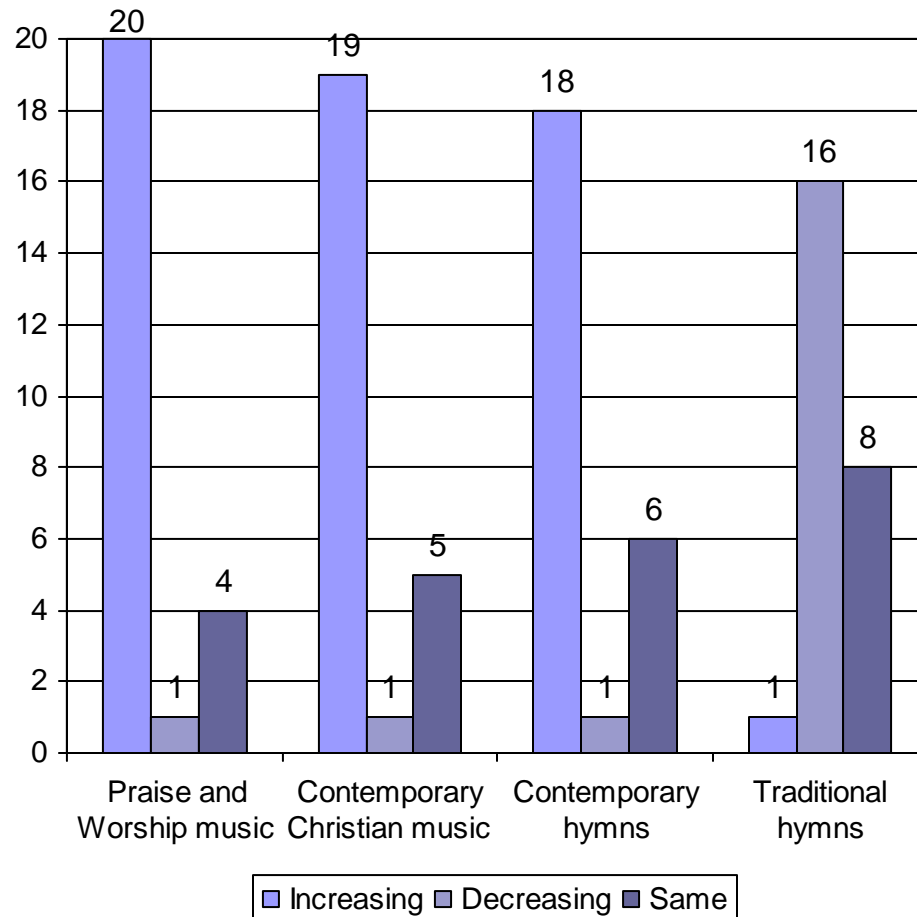


n=25  
 Download-ables, copies, and local music are used occasionally, most respondents say.

“In your opinion, which statement best describes **the role of music today** in United Methodist churches?”

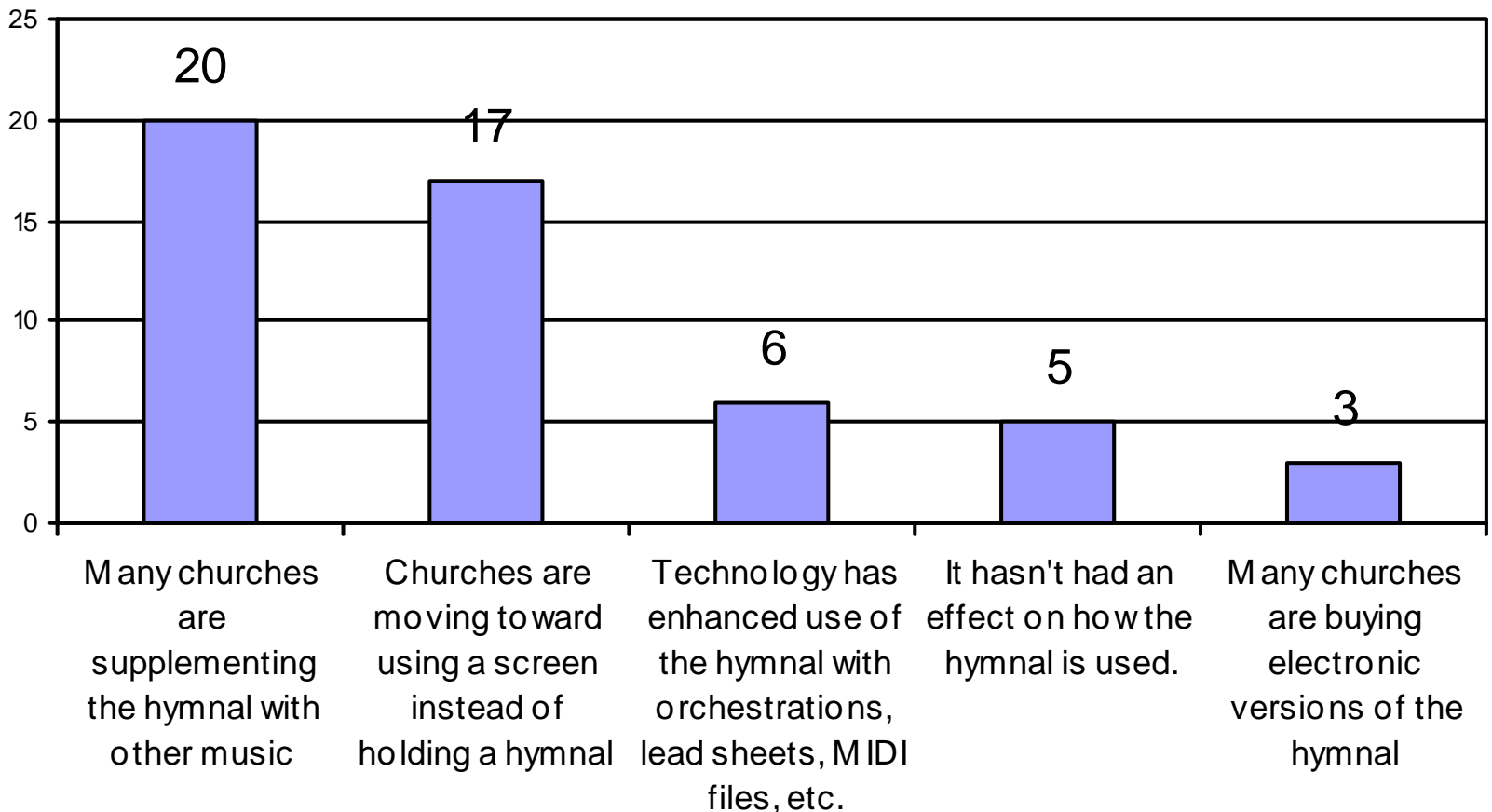


“For each of the following **musical styles**, do you see them increasing, decreasing, or staying the same in popularity?”



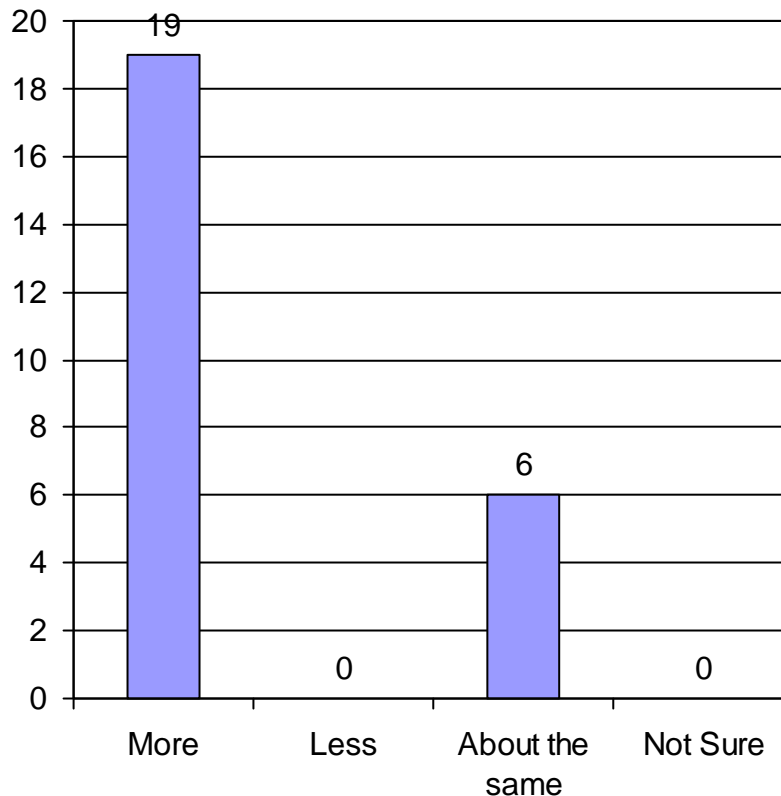
- n=25
- Most respondents see traditional hymns as either declining (64%) or staying the same (32%).
- Most respondents believe that other types of hymns and music are increasing, though one respondent asserts that these are actually declining.

“Which statements do you think describe how growing/changing use of technology is affecting use of the 1989 UM Hymnal?”



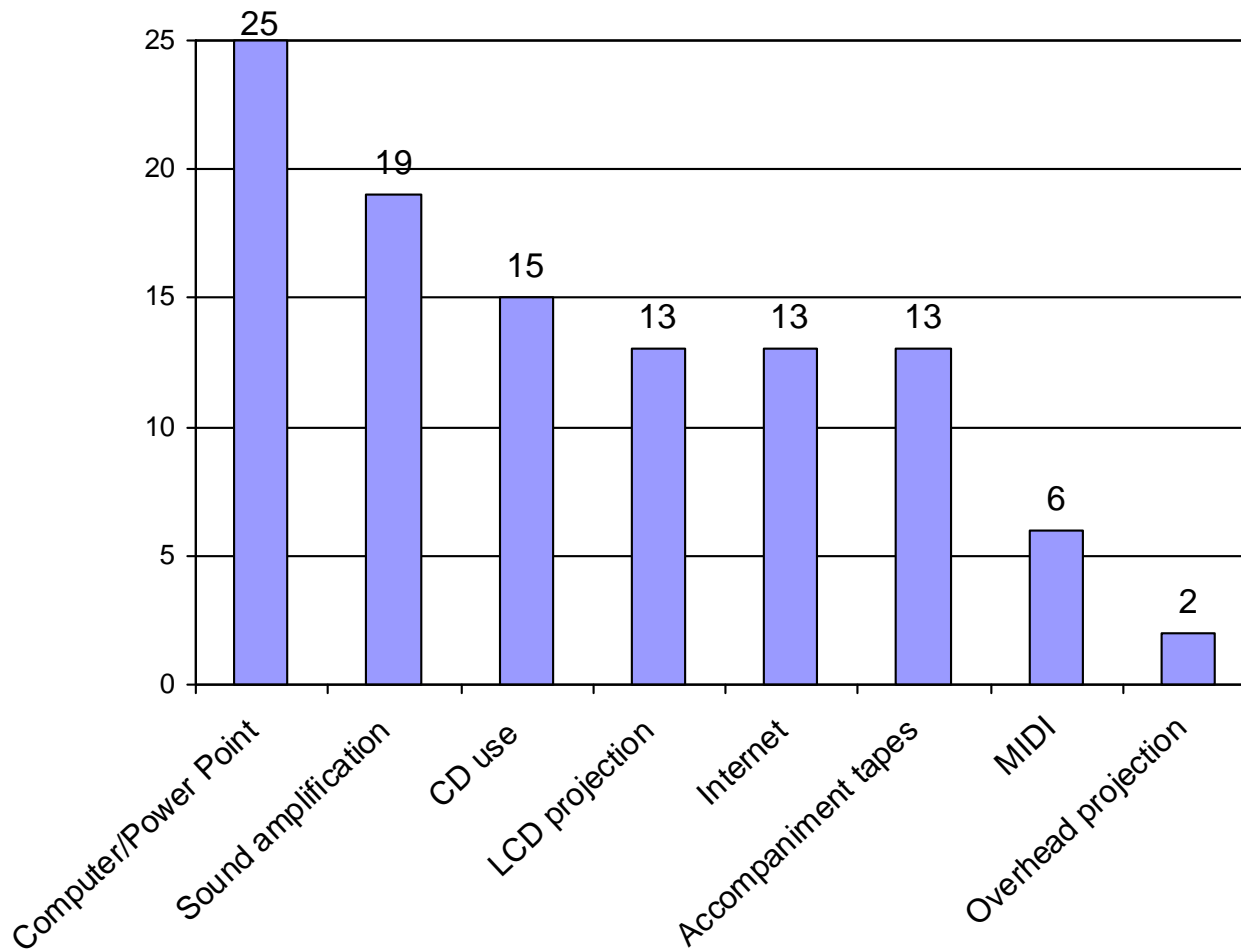
n=25

“Do you believe UM churches are using more, less, or about the same **level of technology** as three years ago?”



- n=25
- Clearly, most respondents believe adoption of technology in churches has increased in the past three years.
- However, close to one quarter feel that technology use has stayed the same in recent years.

“In what areas of technology do you expect to see growth in the church in the next 3-5 years?”



- n=25
- Most respondents believe use of computers and sound equipment will increase in coming years.
- 50-60% expect increases in use of other technologies as well, though MIDI and overhead projection are generally not expected to increase.

“What do you see as the greatest need in the UMC today regarding...”

	Most frequent response	Second most frequent response	Other common responses
Worship? n=21	Openness to change and variety in worship styles (8)	Better leadership and preaching/ training of leaders (6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better resources for worship (4)</li> <li>• Inclusive language (2)</li> </ul>
Music? n=20	Use of a variety of musical styles—different styles appeal to different people (6)	Higher skill level among both worship leaders and accompanists (5)	Higher quality music— theological and stylistic improvements (4)