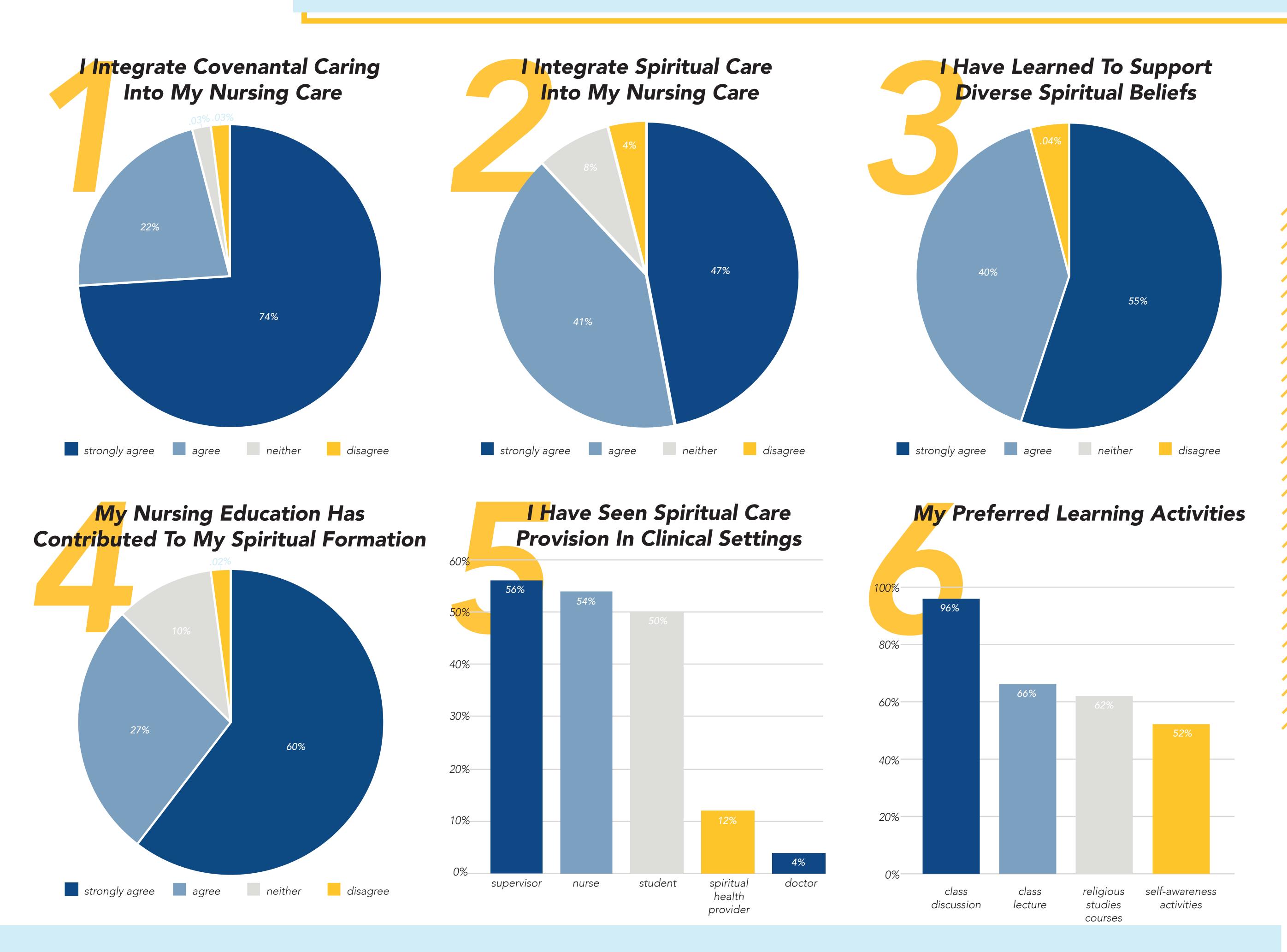
# STUDENT SURVEY 2021- Covenantal Caring & Spirituality



### What did we do?

In Spring 2021, a student-faculty working group conducted a survey with the purpose of seeking TWU nursing students' views on how they are learning about these concepts. 50 students completed the survey (response rate = 22%).

## Why does this matter?

- Contributes to the flourishing of nursing students, and the persons and communities we care for.
- Helps us achieve ethical practice (Code of Ethics).

#### What does this mean?

- Seek ways to learn together as a community & explore diverse learning activities.
- Hear more voices to understand how covenantal caring and spirituality are embodied in the everyday.
- Build connections between theoretical understandings and clinical applications.

#### What did we hear?

- 1. 96% of students agreed that it is important to integrate covenantal caring and spirituality into their nursing care.
- 2. 88% of students agreed that they learned to integrate spiritual care.
- 3. 96% of students agreed they learned to support diverse spiritual beliefs.
- 4. Students agreed their nursing education contributed to their own spiritual formation. Similarly, research shows that spiritual education results in increased spiritual health by helping students clarify complex concepts, develop empathy, and a deeper understanding of peoples' struggles<sup>1</sup>.
- 5. There is a gap between what students learn in theory and how they see spiritual care demonstrated in clinical practice. Students were most likely to have seen spiritual care demonstrated by a clinical supervisor (56%), nurse (54%) or another student nurse (50%). They were least likely to have seen spiritual care demonstrated by a spiritual health practitioner (12%) or a doctor (4%).
- 6. For TWU nursing students, the most effective learning strategies were class discussion, lecture, RELS courses, and self-awareness activities. Other research shows that experiential learning including clinical conversations and role modeling are effective in learning about Covenantal Caring and Spirituality<sup>2</sup>. Other strategies such as role plays, case studies, simulation, and practical discussions are also recommended in the literature.

#### **TWU SON Definitions**

Covenantal Caring: caring that has a moral foundation in God's covenant with humankind

**Spirituality:** a way of being in the world in which a person feels a sense of connectedness to self, others, and /or a higher power or nature, a sense of meaning in life, and transcendence beyond self, everyday living, and suffering<sup>3</sup>.

**Spiritual care:** attending to a person's spiritual or religious needs as they cope with illness, loss, grief or pain, with the aim of helping them heal emotionally as well as physically, rebuild relationships and regain a sense of spiritual wellbeing.

**Spiritual formation:** a transformative process of growth and renewal in spiritual relationships with God and others, as well as in ethical development and self-awareness.

Reference

1: Chiang, Y.-C., Lee, H.-C., Chu, T.-L., Han, C.-Y., & Hsiao, Y.-C. (2020). A spiritual education course to enhance nursing students' spiritual competencies. Nurse Education in Practice, 49, https://doi-org.twu.idm.oclc.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2020.102907

2: White, D. M., & Hand, M. (2017). Spiritual nursing care education: An integrated strategy for teaching students. Journal of Christian Nursing, 34(3), 170–175. https://doi-org.twu.idm.oclc.org/10.1097/

3: Weathers, E. (2019). What is spirituality? In F. Timmins and S. Calderia (eds). Spirituality in healthcare: Perspectives for innovative practice (pp.

