

**To: All Woods members**

**From: The Pastors and Envisioning Team**

**Help us in our Season of Envisioning for Woods - the Next Step: “Dotting”**

### Interviewing

We have completed the “interviewing phase” of our envisioning in this interim time, collecting memories and experiences and perceptions of what is most vital and essential to the Woods congregation. Over 100 interview response sheets were filled out with well over 200 statements of perceived core values. Thanks to everyone who participated by interviewing, being interviewed, or “self-interviewing.”

### Prioritizing (“Dotting”)

We are still in the phase of our envisioning project called Discovery, and we continue to seek input from our members in taking up the next steps. An Envisioning Team, along with the Pastors, has culled through the many interview responses, combined or condensed where called for, and identified the 57 that seem to best express what was being said in the interviews. Now it is time to learn which of these our congregation views as 1) essential core values of our church, 2) important values to maintain, and 3) good strengths to continue.

We hope you will be part of this next step either A) by coming to church on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> for what we are calling a “Dotting Day,” or B) by doing your dotting using the downloadable form that can be found at this link: [<http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/551/WebSurvey.pdf>]

**A) At Church, December 13:** The 57 responses are printed on large foamboards and will be mounted on walls in the Founders Room (across the corridor from Fellowship Hall) and accessible from 9:00 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have not already “dotted” your priorities, plan to stop in Founders Room during that time and register your preferences.

**Here is how to register your view of what you believe are the priority core values of Woods:**

1) Each participant should pick up, from the desk in the narthex, a pack of 30 self-stick dots, 10 green – 10 yellow – 10 red.

2) Place these below the statements you believe are most important as follows:

**Green** dots – the *most essential core values* of our church, building blocks for our vision

**Yellow** dots – *Important strengths* of our church to maintain and further develop

**Red** dots – *Good aspects* of our congregational life that should be continued

**B) By downloading the form** at [<http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/551/WebSurvey.pdf>]

Instead of sticking on dots, use the columns marked “Green,” “Yellow,” or “Red” to indicate your “dot” preferences. See above for what the 3 dot colors indicate about your priority choices. Write in the number of “dots” you would assign to a given statement in the corresponding column – but remember, you have a total of only 30 “dots,” 10 of each color, for the entire document of 57 responses and so the numbers in each of the 3 columns cannot exceed 10. For example, if you feel strongly about a particular statement and want to assign it 4 top priority dots, write “4” in the green column, but be aware that you have but 6 green “dots” remaining to divide up among any other statements you may want to dot.

When you have completed the form, drop it off or send it to the church office before the end of the year.

**Please Note:**

- 1) There are no negatives, only three levels of priority. Red is good but 3<sup>rd</sup> level.
- 2) The categories of ministry (Worship, Belonging, etc) that appear on the foamboards and on the downloadable form are only for the purpose of clustering; you need not distribute your dots across them proportionately.
- 3) You can distribute your dots any way you like (for example, as many green dots as you wish may be placed on one statement). Responses that do not receive high priority are not aspects of our ministry that will be devalued or eliminated. We have a large tapestry of ministry here with many strands, all important. The determination of our most vital core values will aid us in framing a vision for Woods. This vision will eventually help us identify the pastor who will best serve our congregation.