



Welcoming All to Passionately Pursue Jesus
and Share God's Love with Others

**WHATCOAT (CAMDEN)
SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE**

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2016

7:00 PM

**REV. LARRY JAMESON
FOR THE DOVER DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT**

**REV. DR. PATRICK BOWMAN GORDY-STITH
PASTOR**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VISIONING TASK FORCE CHARTER	1
MEETING SCHEDULE AND MEMBERSHIP	2-3
DEMOGRAPHIC HANDOUT	4-5
BLUE SKY BOOMERS	6-7
GOLDEN YEAR GUARDIANS	8-9
DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW – SWOT ANALYSIS – SPIRITUALITY WHEEL	10
SNAPSHOT OF CHURCH FINANCES	11-12
CAMDEN AREA CHURCHES	13-14
PROPOSED MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS AND CORE VALUES	15-16
WHATCOAT-CAMDEN UMC VISION ACTION PLAN (DRAFT).....	17

Whatcoat United Methodist Church – Visioning Task Force Charter

Approved by Administrative Board December 1, 2015

The Administrative Board of Whatcoat United Methodist Church charters a Visioning Task Force (VTF) to **discern and articulate a statement of our Core Values, Vision and Mission of Whatcoat UMC**, specifically outlining a **plan of ministry focus for the next one to three years (2017-19)**, and to present their report to the Administrative Board on or before June 1, 2016. This charter states the rationale and process of the work of the Visioning Task Force, as well as the minimum composition of the membership.

Rationale

After an eight year period of healing and restoration under the pastoral leadership of the Rev. Dr. Bob Rowe, **Whatcoat UMC is poised to articulate a more intentional plan of ministry to launch a new season of health and growth in mission and ministry to our neighbors in Christ's name.** Our present general statement of mission does not address our current spiritual growth and ministry context. A discernment process that takes into account the factors that affect the spiritual health and growth of our congregation will **enable us to more faithfully use the gifts God has provided to us to love our neighbors and glorify God.**

Process

This group will **meet at least monthly** in plenary and task smaller groups as necessary to gather information about Whatcoat's present condition of spiritual gifts and vitality and the demographics and spiritual/physical needs of our surrounding community. They will use **Aubrey Malphurs' *Advanced Strategic Planning: A New Model for Church and Ministry Leaders* (2nd edition –2005, Baker Books)** as a guide. After collecting information about Whatcoat's present state (including our core values) and our context of ministry, the group will prayerfully discern a Vision (long-term statement of purpose) and Mission (path toward our Vision) that will focus our collective ministry efforts in 2017-19 to bear witness to the love of God in our community.

Throughout the process, **the VTF will intentionally communicate their progress and findings to the congregation** (through worship, Administrative Board meetings, "town hall" gatherings, word of mouth and all regular church communication channels).

Composition

The group will include but not be limited to the following persons: **Administrative Board Chair, Lay Leader, Pastor, other staff and key leaders (official and unofficial), as well as persons representative of a diversity in gender, membership longevity, age, and church experience.** The Administrative Board Chair and Pastor will serve as co-leaders of the group, and will **invite specific persons by letter and extend an open invitation to any member or friend of the congregation.** All members of the team will gather for an initial meeting as soon after the new year as possible to outline expectations and create a team covenant.

Whatcoat Visioning Task Force Plan (Revision 1)
(all meetings 2:00-3:30 p.m.)

1. Sunday, January 3, 2016 - Opening Meeting - Expectations and **Discovering Core Values**: Why We Do What We Do (church/personal assessments and story board)
Offline - demographic study of community and congregation
2. Sunday, January 17, 2016 - **Community and Congregation (Part 1)** (Survey and Demographics review). **Discovering the Ministry Community**: Strategy Activity 1: Whom are we trying to reach?

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 - Report progress to Administrative Board

3. Sunday, January 31, 2016 - **Community and Congregation (Part 2)**. Finalize Core Values and identify key intersections of Whatcoat's spiritual gifts and our surrounding community's needs and opportunities.
4. Sunday, February 14, 2016 - **Developing a Mission**: What We Are Supposed to Be Doing
5. Sunday, February 28, 2016 - **Creating a Vision**: The Kind of Church We Want to Be

Sunday, March 6, 2016 - Combined Service and Town Meeting

6. Sunday, March 13, 2016 - **Revisit, reshape Core Values, Vision and Mission Statements** in light of congregational input - **Assimilation & Discipleship: Making Mature Disciples**: Strategy Activity 2
What are we trying to do for the community? ID the characteristics of a mature disciple and a process which helps people assimilate and mature in discipleship (primary and secondary activities). Less is more. SMART progress indicators.
Offline - Staff composition (job descriptions), leadership structure and present assimilation, discipling and leadership development process

Tuesday, March 22, 2016 - Report Progress to Administrative Board - vote to formally adopt Core Values, Mission and Vision Statements

7. Sunday, April 3, 2016 - **Building a Ministry Dream Team**: Strategy Activity 3
Who will do this for them? Staff and lay leadership recommendations in (2) including discovery, consulting and placement process.
Offline - Building & grounds study and Financial evaluation
8. Sunday, April 24, 2016 - **Ministry setting and Finances** - and Findings/
Recommendations. **Determining the Best Ministry Setting**: Strategy Activity 4
Where will this take place? Plant and location evaluation
Raising the Necessary Finances: Strategy Activity 5
How much will it cost? Audit and evaluation (Missions & Evangelism; Personnel; Programming; and Facilities)

9. **Saturday, May 21, 2016 (8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)** - Leadership Retreat/Present VTF Report

**Sunday, June 19, 2016 - Special Church Conference for VTF Presentation/Vote
Whatcoat UMC 2016 Visioning Task Force Members**

1. Drew Boyce, Praise Team (no Jan. 3, 17, or Apr. 3)
2. Margaret Cahall, Finance Chair
3. Tom Cahall, SPRT Chair
4. Becky Caswell-Wade, Administrative Board Chair
5. Heather Childers, Administrative Board Secretary
6. Kay Conaway, Nominations Member (no Apr. 3)
7. Mimi Conner, Missions Team
8. Bob Contino, Lay Leader (no Jan. 3)
9. Patti Contino, Lat Delegate to Annual Conference
10. Bonnie Dyer, Long-time member/leader
11. Pat Dyer, Historian
12. Charlotte Fraser, UMW Co-President
13. Don Fry, Celebrate Recovery Leader/SPRT Member
14. Rita Fry, Celebrate Recovery Leader/Nominations Member
15. Bo Gordy-Stith, Pastor
16. Jane Griesa, SPRT Member
17. Kris Knarr, Staff/Worship Co-Chair
18. Julie Lewicki, Missions Team Chair (no Jan. 3)
19. Jane Maroon, Worship Team
20. Sondra Satterfield, Staff/Praise Team
21. Ann Spence, Long-time member/leader
22. Tim Stark, Trustee Chair
23. Doyle Tiller, Boy Scout Representative
24. Fred Truitt, Long-time member/leader, Nominations Member
25. Dorothy Warren, new friend of Whatcoat
26. Dee Waud, Missions Team Member, SPRT Member

The FullInsite Report

Prepared for: Whatcoat UMC
Study area: ZipCode:19934,19901,19904,19962,19943,19963,19977,19946,19958
Base State: DE
Current Year Estimate: 2014
5 Year Projection: 2019
10 Year Forecast: 2024
Date: 4/26/2015
Semi-Annual Projection: Fall

About the NEW FullInsite Report

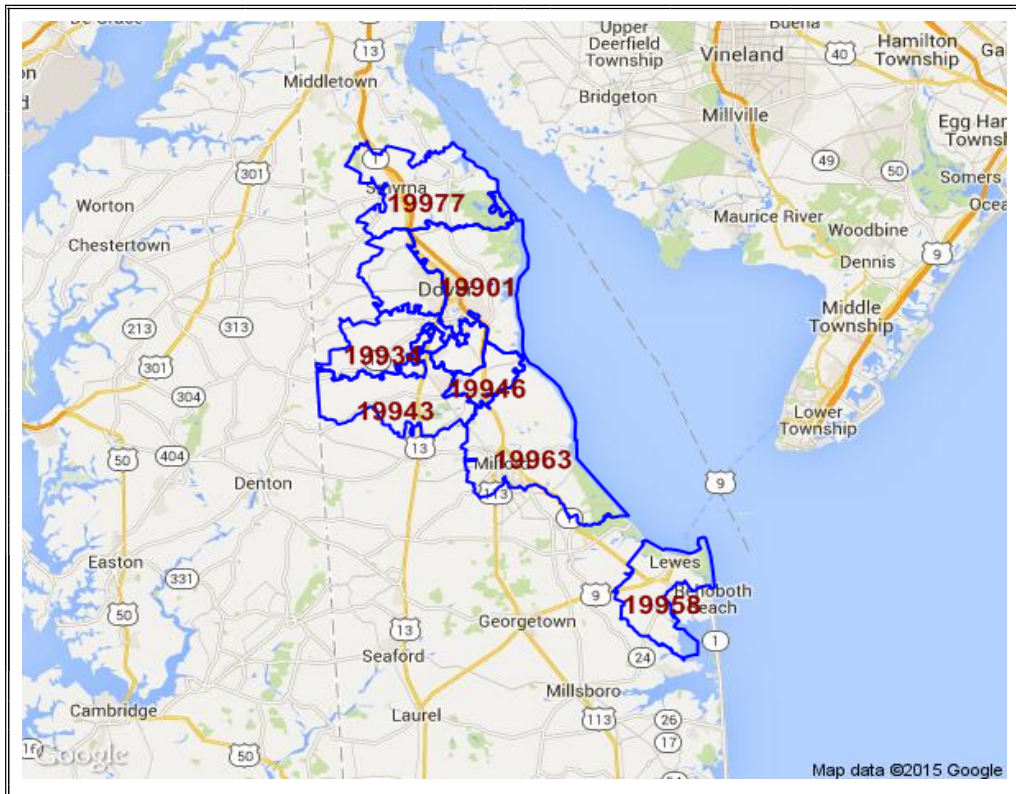
The NEW FullInsite report is designed to provide an extensive demographic portrait of a user defined geographic area. The New FullInsite integrates the full array of 2010 Census Data, the latest American Community Survey data and the new Experian Mosaic cluster system!

The NEW FullInsite report is divided into three sections, each providing a different approach to the data. The report has been redesigned from the "ground up." Careful consideration has been given to readability and graphic treatment. The hope is that the information it presents will be more accessible to the reader.

Three Sections

- The **Story View** Report presents 10 demographic indicators of your study area.
- The **TrendView** provides four graphs that reflect the more significant demographic trends that will shape the study area in the 5 to 10 year future.
- The **ThemeView** Report provides a wealth of demographic detail across six themes: People, Households, Families, Diversity, Housing and Work.

THE STUDY AREA



More Information

Please refer to the last page of the report for additional notes and interpretation aides in reading the report.

StoryView

Significant Demographic Indicators of the Study Area's Story

1	Population Change	In the 10 year future, how is the population in this area expected to change?	Significant Decline	Moderate Decline	Little Change	Moderate Growth	Significant Growth
		(See the Population Theme)					
		Household Change					
2	In the 10 year future, how are the households in this area expected to change?		Significant Decline	Moderate Decline	Little Change	Moderate Increase	Significant Increase
		(See Households Theme)					
		Families with Children					
3	Compared to the state, are families with children more or less likely to live in two parent households?		Significantly Less	Somewhat Less	About the Same	Somewhat More	Significantly More
		(See Families Theme)					
		Adult Educational Attainment					
4	For this area, what is the general level of education of the adults 25 and older?		Very Low	Low	Mixed	High	Very High
		(See the People Theme)					
		Community Diversity Index					
5	How diverse is the racial/ethnic mix of this area?		Very Homogeneous	Homogeneous	Moderately Diverse	Very Diverse	Extremely Diverse
		(See the Diversity Theme)					
		Median Family Income					
6	How does the median family income compare to the state for this area?		Significantly Less	Somewhat Less	About the Same	Somewhat Greater	Significantly Greater
		(See the Income Theme)					
		Poverty					
7	Compared to the state, are the number of families in poverty above or below the state average?		Significantly Below	Somewhat Below	About the Same	Somewhat Above	Significantly Above
		(See the Families Theme)					
		Blue to White Collar Occupations					
8	On a continuum between blue collar and white collar occupations, where does this area fall?		Very Blue Collar	Somewhat Blue	Closely Split	Somewhat White	Very White Collar
		(See the Work Theme)					
		Largest Racial/Ethnic Group					
9	In this area, which racial/ethnic group is the largest percentage of the population?		Asian (NH)	Black/Afri American (NH)	White (NH)	Hispanic or Latino	Pac Is/Amer Ind/Other
		(See the Diversity Theme)					
		Religiosity					
10	What is the level of religiosity in this study area?		Very Low	Somewhat Low	Mixed	Somewhat High	Very High
		(See the Religiosity Theme)					

Group L: Blue Sky Boomers – 11,653 in Area (17.2% - 4.3% in DE)
Lower- and middle-class baby boomer-aged households living in small towns
Overview

L41 Booming and Consuming – Cultural Middle (Strivers)

In Blue Sky Boomers, older, empty-nesting couples and singles have settled in small towns and waterfront resorts in anticipation of their retirement years. The three segments in this group are about evenly divided between married couples and widowed and divorced individuals. More than 80 percent are between the ages of 50 and 65. Most are white and have high-school educations and working-class sensibilities. These households tend to work in sales and service-sector jobs, supporting a resort economy in towns that offer weekend getaways and longer summer vacations for wealthier city dwellers.

Blue Sky Boomers are found in small towns and waterfront resorts - both seaside beaches and lakefront communities - from California to Florida. Many households are concentrated in the South, with the warmer weather favored by retirees. These Boomers are homeowners who tend to live in modestly-priced ranch houses, cottages and mobile homes. With childrearing days behind them, they have the discretionary cash to purchase adult toys like boats, campers and pickup trucks. While vacationers may swell the streets of their towns every summer, most of these year-round locals have lived at the same address for over a decade.

Most Blue Sky Boomers are high-school educated and work at a mix of sales, service-sector, professional and blue-collar jobs, though nearly one-quarter of households contains a retiree. Unlike their seasonal neighbors, they earn lower-middle-class incomes, averaging about \$55,000. However, because their expenses are low and their mortgages mostly paid off, many enjoy casual and comfortable lifestyles in their bucolic settings.

Located in surroundings like theirs, no one would fault Blue Sky Boomers for spending much of their leisure time outdoors. These households enjoy fishing, boating, hiking, hunting and gardening. However, they also have enough money - thanks, in part, to conservative investments - to travel regularly by car and RV to domestic locations. Their social lives typically revolve around their churches, clubs and unions. For a splurge, they'll go out to home-style and casual restaurants, take in a music concert or head to a weekend NASCAR race. When they want to relax, they like to read books, listen to music - from bluegrass to soul to classical music – do woodworking and needlework or have friends over for cards. These are the households that haven't forgotten the art of baking from scratch.

Blue Sky Boomers are no shopaholics. They keep their clothes as long as possible and shop only when they need to - preferably at local stores. When they go on a big shopping run, these price sensitive consumers typically head to discount department stores to stretch their money like Walmart, Dollar General, Family Dollar and Big Lots.

Many are late adopters of new products, especially consumer electronics. They don't often acquire the latest audio and digital devices: their living rooms are still outfitted with DVD players and traditional tube TVs. In this "buy American" group, residents look for domestically-made pickups and cars - and lots of them. More than half the households in this group own three or more vehicles.

In Blue Sky Boomers, traditional media still reigns supreme. To keep up with local news, many subscribe to a daily newspaper and read it from cover to cover. They also read magazines, especially those that reflect their down-home lifestyle, including titles like *Country Living*, *Family Handyman*, *Ladies' Home Journal* and *Reader's Digest*. This aging generation never lost their interest in music, listening to radio stations that play country music, golden oldies and classic rock. However, many consider TV their chief form of entertainment, tuning in to newscasts, game shows, dramas, how-to shows and history programs. They dislike most forms of advertising, opting out of direct-mail lists and avoiding TV commercials as much as possible. Many tend to be okay with the billboard advertising tucked into the landscape near their homes, though.

Politically, Blue Sky Boomers are a moderate lot: self-described Republicans with a right-of-center tilt. They're also progressive on environmental issues and protective of any threats to their rustic communities. While most wouldn't think of marching in a protest, they support causes financially, often backing arts, political, environmental and public broadcasting organizations.

Digital behavior

Still relative newcomers to digital media, Blue Sky Boomers are becoming increasingly comfortable with the Internet. The majority has a desktop computer at home, and they use the Web like a virtual library, visiting sites for information on subjects that are near to their hearts: cars, cruises, fishing and medical information. They also go online for business purposes, including banking, trading stocks and shopping. Though they're not completely comfortable with new technology - they're more likely to go online using dial-up access than a wireless connection or a mobile phone - they've made gunbroker.com, ebaymotors.com, seniorpeoplemeet.com and theanimalrescuesite.com some of their favorite sites.

Group Q: Golden Year Guardians – Total 11,956 in Area (17.6% - 8.2% in DE)
Largest combined group in Area

Retirees living in settled residences and communities

Overview

Q64 Town Elders – Cultural Right (Hard Living)

7,155 in Area (10.5% - 4.3% in DE)

Q62 Reaping Rewards – Cultural Middle (Conflicted)

4,801 in Area (7.1% - 2.5% in DE)

With more than 90 percent of members over 65 years old, Golden Year Guardians are the oldest group. The seniors in these four segments are predominantly white, poorly-educated and living on extremely modest retirement funds. Nearly two-thirds are widowed and living alone; the remainder are empty-nesting married couples. Many now reside in active retirement communities after having uprooted themselves from their family homes so they could live among people of similar ages and incomes. These members of the Greatest Generation typically came from humble origins and now enjoy unpretentious lifestyles.

Golden Year Guardians are scattered throughout the nation, though they're centered in Sun Belt suburban retirement communities like Sun City, Ariz., Delray Beach, Fla., and Laguna Woods, Calif. Many are still living the American dream of home ownership, though their modest cottages and bungalows are valued at three-quarters of the national average. A quarter live in apartments which are a mix of condos, garden-style apartments and older retirement homes, located in larger cities where they've lived for many years. Many have sought out communities where they could live free of urban concerns like crime and rush-hour traffic. Others have moved to new locations for a chance to establish new friendships and engage in new leisure activities.

With incomes half the national average, many Golden Year Guardians households face financial challenges as they struggle to get by on their Social Security checks and pensions. Only a small percentage has a substantial nest egg or investment portfolios. When they were growing up, many had few educational opportunities, and more than two-thirds failed to go beyond high school. They typically held jobs in the blue-collar and service sectors. Today, more than 80 percent are retired and living on fixed incomes. While many have paid off their mortgages – one third have lived at the same address for over two decades - they still lack the discretionary cash to enjoy a carefree retirement.

Golden Year Guardians tend to lead quiet lifestyles. Their social life revolves around various community groups, and they belong to churches and synagogues as well as veterans' clubs and arts groups. They spend a lot of their time in their residences reading books, gardening and doing needlework. For fun, they like to play cards, see a play, try their luck at bingo, or go out to dinner at home-style restaurants like Bob Evans, Cracker Barrel and Old Country Buffet. Foreign travel is outside their budgets,

but many enjoy a trip to Maine or North Dakota by train, excursion bus or RV. A big trip is a cruise along the Alaskan coast or around the Caribbean.

Golden Year Guardians tend to be conservative, whether the subject is politics or shopping. They stick to favorite brands when it comes to fashion, patronizing mid-market stores like Bealls, Stein Mart and Dillard's. While they like to buy new cars every few years - sedans or luxury models preferably made in America - they're more reticent about acquiring consumer electronics. They describe themselves as tech-shy, and buy no new electronic gadgets more than the average.

Golden Year Guardians are a strong market for traditional media. They subscribe to daily newspapers to stay informed and like listening to newscasts on the radio. They describe TV as their main source of entertainment; they watch news, movies, game shows and sitcoms. Many arrange their schedules around favorite TV programs, typically shows on cable networks like AMC, CNBC, the Golf Channel, Hallmark Channel and Movie Channel. These seniors are a prime market for women's and home magazines such as *Martha Stewart Living*, *Family Circle*, *Country Living* and *Better Homes & Gardens*. Most are still shy about the Internet, telling researchers that computers leave them baffled.

At the ballot box, it comes as no surprise that this group of seniors is solidly Republican. They have high rates for voting and describe their political outlook as "very conservative". Though they're not big on demonstrating over an issue, they will donate to political, environmental and health causes.

Digital behavior

Golden Year Guardians are not active in digital media. They have little high-speed Internet access, and they are late adopters of smartphones and handheld devices. However, they are discovering the Internet in increasing numbers, and recent research shows that they go online to browse sites that offer banking, insurance, travel and legal services. They enjoy sending egreetings to friends and relatives. They're discovering the Internet as an information tool for news, political affairs and sports highlights involving golf, horse racing, baseball and motorsports. Among their favorite Websites are those related to health, illnesses and caregiving.

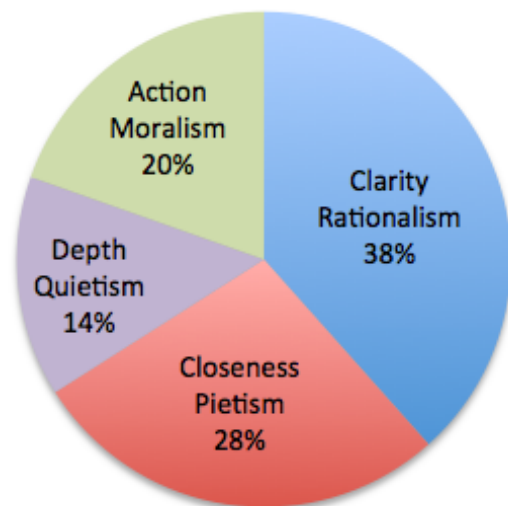
The overview of our surrounding community/neighborhoods:

- Predominantly white
- Higher educational attainment (when compared with the rest of the state)
- Half of our population is either older (empty nest) Boomers or Older (65-85+) retired persons
 - these populations correspond to our two present worship services/congregations
- Very low church attendance/affiliation
- Significant grown projections
- This overview prompts us to ask: “Where does ministry happen?” and “Where is Church located?”

SWOT Analysis

<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relational Continuity/structure Faith-based Financially sound Recovery ministries Compassionate Generous/giving Large Emmaus contingent Non-judgmental Free for joyful obedience Strong lay leadership 	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population growth Retail growth Great school district Potential relationship with local government Military Other area churches Recovery ministry in area We're in the midst of several communities Pope Francis
<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dwindling children's ministry Money for missions (off-budget) Some inflexibility about change Communication between two congregations Adult classes and Sunday School Cliquish – “family” Wounded identity – complacent/comfortable Judgmental 	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spiritual vs. religious Social media marketing Atheism Terrorism – Culture of fear Anti-religious Growth of the “Nones” Time competition Other churches

Spirituality Wheel – how do we encounter God at Whatcoat



Completed by Finance Committee
on Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Snapshot of Church Finances

This self test is a work in progress and Alban invites your feedback and suggestions!

Question	Your answer	Benchmark answer	Your satisfaction level
What percentage of operating income comes from current giving?	100%	Anything less than 80 percent runs the risk of weakening the congregation's sense of ownership and responsibility.	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (5)
What percentage of operating income comes from building rentals?	None	If this is more than 20%, does the congregation believe that there is something more "profitable" to do with their building than to have a church there?	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (5)
What percentage of operating income comes from endowments or other invested funds?	None	If this is more than 20 percent, it raises the question whether the vision could be enlarged so that it demands strong support from living members.	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (5)
What percentage of operating income is dedicated to clergy compensation?	30%	In a small church, this is apt to approach 60%. In a large one, it should be more like 40%.	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (4)
What percentage of operating income is dedicated to staff compensation, including clergy?	57%	If this goes above 60%, there is a risk that programs may feel squeezed.	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (3)
What percentage of operating income is dedicated to building mortgage payments?	None	Over 25% is usually too high.	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (5)
What percentage of operating income is dedicated to all building-related costs?	13%	If this is over 30 percent of the total budget, the congregation is apt to feel "house poor."	Low 1---2---3---4---5 (5)

What percentage of the congregation's budget is dedicated to projects that primarily benefit non-members?	1%	Do not include the congregation's share of denominational operating costs. Some congregations set a goal of 10% or more for "outside" giving.	Low 1- <u>2</u> -3-4-5
Are your congregation's records audited by an objective outsider at least once every two years?	Yes	Short of a professional audit by an accountant, this can be done by a task force of members who are not involved in financial management, or by swapping audit teams with another congregation.	Low 1-2-3-4- <u>5</u>

Choose one of the items you rated lowest to make it a priority. What are four concrete actions you can take as soon as you get home to move toward raising your satisfaction?

	Action	Who needs to be involved?
1.	<u>Raise budget for community (non-members)</u>	<u>Missions / Ad Board / Finance</u>
2.	<u>Align budget for full energy support</u>	<u>SPRT / Finance / Ad Board</u>
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____

How many years will it take to raise your satisfaction to 5? 3-5

Camden Area Churches

1. Morningstar Church of God in Christ (COGIC)

255 East Camden-Wyoming Avenue, Camden, DE 19934

Website: <http://www.msicogic.org/index.html>

No email or phone number on website

Elder Stephen A.P. Holsey, Sr. (can email on website)

2. Bible Fellowship Church

201 East Camden-Wyoming Avenue, Camden, DE 19934

302-697-0434 info@camdenbfc.org

Website: <http://www.camdenbfc.org/>

Pastor Dan Wagner

3. Camden Friends Meeting

122 East Camden-Wyoming Avenue, Camden DE, 19934

302-698-3324 camdenfriendsde@yahoo.com

Website: <http://camdenquakers.org/>

Spring Fling – first \$1000 to Shepherd's House (April 26, 2014! 8a-2p)

Current Clerk of the Meeting?

4. Emmanuel Pentecostal Church of God

145 Center Street, Camden, DE 19934

302-697-6929

Facebook Site: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Emanuel-Pentecostal-Church-of-God/111690802199599>

Bishop Joseph Cooper celebrated 50 years in ministry there in Nov. 2015

<http://www.doverpost.com/article/20151118/NEWS/151119742>

5. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church

20 Center Street, Camden, DE 19934

302-697-3955

No website, but Wiki historical entry:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zion_African_Methodist_Episcopal_Church

Began 1845 – rebuilt after a fire in 1889, and established Star Hill AME Church across 13

Pastor Veronica Baynard

6. First Pilgrim Baptist Church

6 Miles Lane, Camden, DE 19934

302-697-2143

Website, firstpilgrim baptist church.org, does not work, but Facebook site does:

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Pilgrim-Baptist-Church-Camden-De-509722162538741/timeline>

Rev. Regina L. Bell

Yard Sale and Fish Fry on Saturday, April 23, 8a-3p

7. Kent & Sussex Church of Christ

12260 Willow Grove Road, Camden, DE 19934

No phone listed – email through website

Website: <http://kentandsussexchurchofchrist.yolasite.com/>

Brother David McKee – full-time evangelist as of September, 2015

8. Beacon Country Church

30 South Street (worshipping at Harvest Years Senior Center), Camden, DE 19934

71 Weatherstone Lane, Felton, DE (Office)

302-284-7800

No website beaconcountrychurch@yahoo.com

Pastor Troy G. Dennis, Sr.

9. Worship Christian Center

107 South Street, Camden, DE 19934

302-698-4242 info@worshipchristiancenter.com

Website: <http://worshipchristiancenter.org/>

Rev. Harry Harris, Jr. and wife, Julia Harris (associate pastor)

Started ministry in May, 2004

10. St. John's Episcopal Church

10 Old North Road, Camden, DE 19934

Mailing address: POB 157, Camden, DE 19934

302-697-7904

The Rev. John Desaulniers, retired Army – served four Episcopal churches since 1999

St. Paul's Preschool – Angela Rothhaupt, Director 302-697-3577

Began June 7, 1868 – moved to present location in 1972

11. Faith Community Church

2240 South Dupont Highway, Camden, DE 19934

302-697-1673 staff@fccde.org

Website: <http://fccde.org/>

Senior Pastor: Mike Andrews mandrews@fccde.org

Started July 2, 1961 – dedicated building October, 1962

Lost of pastoral turnover at first until 1982-2005 (Ronald L. David). Jeff Taylor hired July,

2012 – new guy since then!

12. La Iglesia Pentecostes La Senda Antigua

2114 South Dupont Highway, Suite 3, Camden, DE 19934

302-450-6283

13. Community Christian Worship Center (Shikina Glory Worship Center?)

2114 South Dupont Highway, Suite 2, Camden, DE 19934

302-685-0326 or 302-678-2338

Rev. Johnny Woods, Senior Pastor jwoods@communitychristianwc.org

Whatcoat United Methodist Church Mission Statement:

Welcoming all to passionately pursue Jesus and share God's love with others.

Vision Statement

Christ transforms every member from the inside out, empowering us to identify our spiritual gifts and to fulfill our life mission. We live life together, studying the Bible, mentoring one another, and serving the community.

- We partner with **children and their families** in the Scouts and Preschool, welcoming them in worship and inviting them to connect with our church and serve the community.
- Our **young people and elders** partner with each other, sharing wisdom, encouragement, and inspiration.
- We partner with **recovery groups** to make more personal connections and to link the "higher power" with a life-changing relationship with Jesus.
- We partner with other **churches and community leaders** so that Christ can use each of our strengths for the good of the whole community.

We are a family that realizes everyone is our neighbor, particularly "the least of these" – anyone who is in need of food, clothing, shelter, a sense of belonging, and the love of Jesus.

Why and who we are: the Body of Christ

There is one body and one Spirit ... one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Ephesians 4:4a, 5-6

1. **Anointed** – Ephesians 4:11 *Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers to equip his people...* (Vow: Prayers; Discipline: Prayer; Support: Staff Parish Relations Team and Nominations & Lay Leadership)
2. **Serve** – Ephesians 4:12 *...for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...* (Vow: Witness; Discipline: Love; Support: Missions & Evangelism; UM Men; Whatcoat Women for Christ; and Simpson Center Board)
3. **Welcome**– Ephesians 4:13a *...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God...* (Vow: Presence; Discipline: Hospitality; Support: Trustees; Family Life)
4. **Relate** – Ephesians 4:13b, 14a *and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching...* (Vow: Presence; Discipline: Worship; Support: Worship & Sacraments, Praise & Preaching)
5. **Accept** – Ephesians 4:15 *speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.* (Vow: Service - see Romans 12:1-2; Discipline: Repentance; Support: Spiritual Formation; Small Groups)
6. **Grow** –Ephesians 4:16 *From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.* (Vow: Gifts; Discipline: Stewardship; Support: Finance)

Whatcoat United Methodist Church Visioning Task Force

Marks of the Church	Scripture Foundation	Membership Vow	Spiritual Discipline	Church Support
Anointed by God in order to:	<i>Christ gave gifts to equip his people Ephesians 4:11</i>	Prayers	Prayer	Staff-Parish Relations Team Nominations & Lay Leadership
Serve	<i>For works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up Ephesians 4:12</i>	Witness	Love	Missions & Evangelism; UM Men; Whatcoat Women for Christ; Simpson Center
Welcome	<i>Until we all reach unity in the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God Ephesians 4:13a</i>	Presence	Hospitality	Trustees; Family Life
Relate	<i>attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ...no longer... blown here and there by every wind of teaching. Ephesians 4:13b,14a</i>		Worship	Worship & Sacraments; Praise & Preaching
Accept	<i>speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of ... Christ. Ephesians 4:15</i>	Service (see Romans 12:1-2)	Repentance	Spiritual Formation and Small Groups (children, youth & adults)
Grow	<i>From him the whole body ... grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. Ephesians 4:16</i>	Gifts	Stewardship	Finance

For more information about our process and progress, please go online to:

gordy-stith.com/vtf

The Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith, Pastor

1. Hold a **Special Church Conference on June 21, 2016, at 7 pm in the sanctuary** to discuss and ratify our Mission, Vision, Core Values, and Plan of Action.
2. In the fall of 2016, **move our first, contemporary service from 8:30 to 9:15** start time – hold children’s Sunday School at the same time, after an opening children’s time at the beginning of the worship service. We will also shorten this 75-minute service to one hour.
 - a. A later service start time will help families with younger children attend
 - b. Closer worship services will encourage members who attend wither service to visit with each other in a between-services fellowship time from 10:30-10:55
3. **Create a Facility Task Force** to prioritize facilities renovations in a way that matches our ministry priorities (inside and on our grounds). This Task Force will report and recommend an Action Plan at our fall, 2016 Church Conference.
4. **Adopt a Communications strategy** that leverages social media connections more intentionally with the goal of informing both the congregation and the wider community/neighborhood.
 - a. Open our Facebook Group and include daily/weekly church office information/links
 - b. Shift to blog-oriented website that maximizes social media use/connections
 - c. Shift to weekly e-mail newsletter that drives traffic to our website
5. **Hold Leadership Training/Visioning Team meetings as part of our Administrative Board** meeting in order to spiritually prepare leaders at Whatcoat for the challenge of leadership and to align all leaders with our overall mission and vision. This training will begin with a Leadership Retreat in August, 2016, **after which we will meet monthly**, except in December and July.
6. **Invite all pastors and lay leaders of Camden/Wyoming area churches to ministry partnership** (building on past partnerships), and **schedule a panel discussion** with community politicians, law enforcement personnel, and educators to determine most important ministry/outreach needs in our community – in the fall of 2016.
 - a. As a result of this summit – schedule semi-annual or quarterly community events in 2017 (like a blessing of the animals or a skate park day) that address the needs identified at the summit.
7. **Create monthly (or quarterly, in the first year) worship/conversation opportunities** for the following, beginning 2017:
 - a. **Millennials and our Elders**
 - b. **Healing Services** – inviting those in recovery ministries
 - c. **Special Children’s/Young Family events** in conjunction with our Preschool and Scouts
8. **Explore hiring a Christian Education Director** who would also liaison with the Preschool and Scouts, to begin the summer of 2017.