

Living Outside the Box



Introduction

The Woodside Presbyterian Church doesn't just think outside the box. It lives out there. From the first time the congregation engaged in *The Church Has Left the Building* in 2010 its focus shifted from getting people into the pews and seats to getting God's people out onto the streets. When confronted with change and new opportunities, Woodside seeks creative outside-the-box solutions.

Congregations traditionally begin a Mission Study after the installed Pastor departs. At Woodside, a Vision and Mission Study in 2024-2025 started the ball rolling. Among other significant priorities, it raised the issue of pastoral succession. These sessions also revealed that a Seamless Pastoral Transition is preferable to the common model involving a lengthy gap between installed pastors.

Through conversations with the Pastor, Session, Deacons, Staff, and Presbytery Leadership, the Woodside Church elected to commence the search for its next Pastor while the current Pastor, Douglas Hoglund, is still serving. The motivation for such an approach is two-fold: 1) to avoid the loss of momentum during a long hiatus between pastors and 2) to transfer congregational trust, as much as possible, from a Pastor who has served here thirty-two years to the Pastor who will lead Woodside into its next season of Kingdom service.

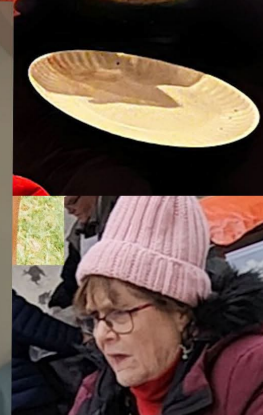
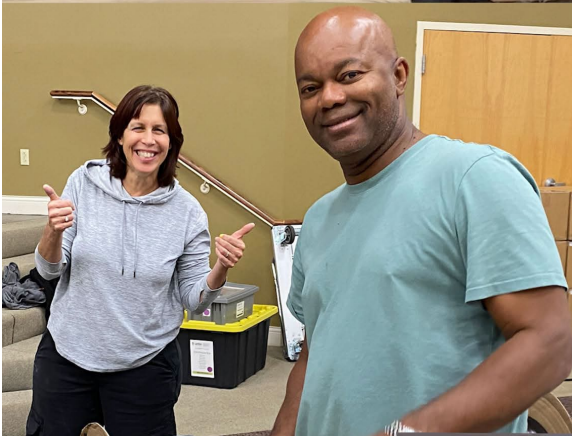
The results contained in this Mission Study are drawn from the following sessions and resources:

1. A Congregational Survey during January 2024
2. A First Vision meeting with the Elders and Staff – January 2024
3. A Second Vision Meeting with the Elders, Staff and Other Key Leaders – March 2024
4. Formation of Teams for Further Study – April to December 2024
 - a. A Children's Team working with the Barna CoLab for Children's Ministries
 - b. A Youth and Young Adults' Team working with the Fuller Institute for Growing Young
 - c. A Demographic Team working with data from MissionInsite
5. Presentation of the Vision to the Congregation
 - a. Preliminary Presentations at Annual Congregational Meetings in February 2024 & 2025
 - b. Presentation including announcement of Pastoral Succession – July 6, 2025

We hope this report will present a faithful portrait of the Woodside community at this crucial turning point. It will help guide the Pastor Nominating Team and potential qualified pastoral candidates during the search process. We pray this moment will not be an end but a launching pad for the next stage of growth at Woodside to the glory of Jesus.



Love the Lord your God with all ^{your} heart and lean not on your own understanding and in all your ways submit to the Lord. Proverbs 3:4-6



A Short History of the Woodside Presbyterian Church

The seed of Woodside Presbyterian Church was planted in 1883 by a small group of Christians from the village and farms then known as Edgewood. They met in homes since travel by horse and buggy to the nearest church in Newtown was difficult, especially in winter. In July of 1884 the Newtown Presbyterian Church agreed to provide assistance in erecting a building and supervising the spiritual life and growth of Woodside. Later that year a chapel was built across the road from the present site for about \$1,200.

The Chapel was “the training post for Princeton Seminary Pupils” since students served as pastors. On April 28, 1946, with 80 members, the Woodside Presbyterian Church was chartered as the 171st church in the Presbytery of Philadelphia. Seminary students continued to pastor the newborn congregation.

In June 1953 Woodside called its thirty-second seminary student, the **Rev. Jerold B. Ellison**, as its first full-time ordained pastor. A manse was built that year behind the Chapel. The **Rev. John McConaughy** became the next pastor in the fall of 1956. During his 7-year tenure the congregation purchased six-acres across from the Chapel and erected a building for a pastor’s study, fellowship hall, kitchen and classrooms in 1959.

Rev. McConaughy was followed by the **Rev. George Hollingshead** who arrived in March 1964. Ground was broken for the current sanctuary in November 1966, with the first worship service celebrated on January 7, 1968. The chapel and manse were sold in 1971. The **Rev. Stephen H. Janssen** became Woodside’s fourth pastor in 1979. As the congregation grew, they added a multipurpose fellowship hall in 1983. The **Woodside Christian Preschool** opened its doors in September of 1989. After Rev. Janssen left in 1992, a new stained glass window wall, balcony, and the Wright Memorial window of Christ were added.

Our current pastor, the **Rev. Douglas C. Hoglund**, was installed on February 13, 1994. A contemporary worship service and midweek children’s Adventure Club were initiated in the fall. In June 1999 a Christian Education Wing with four classrooms and music room was dedicated. The installation of a digital organ and renovations to the chancel were completed in 2000. Since 2001, Woodside has committed to giving away 11% of its budget to mission partners in addition to many special offerings throughout the year.

In early 2005, Woodside replaced the traditional structure of Committees led by Elders with a Team structure led by Staff with Elder oversight. This shift led to greater expansion and effectiveness in mission and ministry. Some results include the addition of 30-40 Growth Groups, the offering of four worship services, increased engagement in local missions as well as 3-5 mission trips a year, the launching of a new church campus and the growth of the staff from four to eighteen full and part-time leaders.

These developments necessitated the construction of a multipurpose worship and fellowship building known as the Vineyard, a larger kitchen, additional classrooms and a youth room in 2009. The same year Woodside became a host church for Code Blue. For the last seventeen years the Vineyard has been a safe warm refuge on bitter cold nights for our neighbors without homes. It offers quarterly and monthly ministries for the recovery community. Woodside also actively partners with the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity and, on three occasions, framed homes in its parking lot.

Serving beyond our community and borders is also a high priority. We launch three to seven mission trips a year. Recently we’ve sponsored trips to ASP in Appalachia, Karazim Ministries in the Bahamas, the Foundation for Peace in the Dominican Republic and Haiti and the Outreach Foundation in Zambia.

Woodside arose from Covid even stronger and, in 2022, voted to remove membership concentrating instead on discipleship. As we approach the 80th anniversary of our charter in 2026, Woodside is debt-free, financially healthy, missionally engaged and spiritually focused on a vision of making disciples through the traditional church as well as in a network of microchurches and in the digital harvest field.

Our Mission

To Make Disciples of Jesus who Love God, Grow in Grace and Share with Others

Our mission is to make disciples not members. What's the difference? Membership implies being in or out of a club. A disciple is on a journey. Every believer is somewhere on the journey of following Jesus, whether they are just getting started, pausing on the roadside, wandering through a valley or glimpsing a mountain vista. Woodside welcomes every person where they are and helps them take their next step is with Jesus. We say to everyone, "When you walk in the door, you belong."

Our Values

Love God

We Value Worship

"We love the Father in every way, every day"

Am I gathering with believers to worship weekly?

We Value Prayer

"We Seek the Father's Will First"

Am I praying daily?

Grow in Grace

We Value People

"We Love All People As Jesus Does"

Am I welcoming new people?

We Value God's Word

"We Become More like Jesus When We Follow His Word"

Am I in a Growth Group?

Share with Others

We Value Giving

"We Are Transformed By The Holy Spirit As We Give"

Am I sharing my financial and spiritual gifts?

We Value Service

"We Share God's Love Through Service"

Am I serving others and inviting them to follow Jesus?

Our Beliefs

About God

We believe in one God who exists in three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ([Matthew 28:19](#)). We believe Jesus Christ is God the Son who became flesh to reveal God to us ([John 1:14](#)). Being fully God and fully human He is the only one who can reconcile us to God ([2 Corinthians 5:17-21](#); [Acts 4:12](#)).

About Humanity

We believe God creates all men and women in His image ([Genesis 1:27](#)) so we might live in His love ([John 15:9](#); [1 John 4:16](#)). Yet through our selfish rejection of the Lord we hide from God, cover up our sins and cause destruction for ourselves, others and all creation (Genesis 3). We are powerless to restore a right relationship with God ([Romans 3:20](#)).

About Salvation

We believe Jesus willingly offered His life on the cross to save us. By paying the penalty we deserve, Jesus removed the sin which separates us from God ([Romans 5:6-8](#); [Romans 8:38-39](#)). His resurrection proves there is pardon for the past, peace in the present and the promise of eternal life in the future for all who place their faith in Him ([1 Peter 1:3-4](#)).

About the Scriptures

We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God. The Spirit of God breathes life into our spirits through the words of Scripture. It teaches us how to face every trial and equips us to perform every good work ([2 Timothy 3:16-17](#)). It is a lamp to our feet and a light for our path ([Psalm 119:105](#)).

About Life

We believe all followers of Jesus receive the Holy Spirit ([Acts 2:38-39](#)). To every believer the Spirit gives gifts to do God's will ([1 Corinthians 12:7](#)). In every believer the Spirit grows the fruit of love, joy and peace ([Galatians 5:22-23](#)). By following God's Word and Spirit, a disciple loves God, grows in grace and shares with others ([2 Corinthians 13:14](#)).

About the Church

We believe the Church is the Body of Christ with Jesus as its head ([Ephesians 4:15-16](#)). We are born anew through the waters of baptism ([John 3:5](#)) and spiritually nourished through the Lord's Supper ([John 6:53-58](#)). Together we offer healing to body and spirit as His hands and feet, His voice and heart. We are sent to make disciples of Jesus (Matthew 28:19) who share good news with the poor, free the prisoners, bind up the broken-hearted, open the eyes of the blind, and release the oppressed ([Luke 4:18](#)). We long for the Day when His Kingdom comes and His will is done on earth as it is in heaven ([Matthew 6:10](#)).

Our Congregation

Since Woodside no longer keeps record of Members, we focus on helping everyone grow as a Disciple of Jesus who loves God, grows in grace and shares with others. We encourage disciples to worship, join a Growth Group, serve in a ministry and/or mission and give. Since January 1, 2025 there are 834 people who have participated in one or more of these ways. Of this group 61% is female and 39% male.

Those for whom we have birthdates (392) fall into the following generations:

Traditionalists	1925-1945	24
Baby Boomers	1946-1964	177
Generation X	1965-1980	133
Millennials	1981-2000	51
Generation Z	2001-2020	7

Additionally, we have 45 children in Kindergarten through 5th grade, 70 Jr. Highs and 60 Sr. Highs.

We encourage disciples of Jesus to do three things: participate in a worship service, a Growth Group and a Mission team.

Worship: Every Sunday we offer 4 worship services: 9 AM Celebration, 10 AM Classic, 10:30 AM Celebration and 6 PM High Ground. The numbers below do not include those who watch the livestream or recorded, on-demand worship services.

Average Worship Attendance

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
346	207	176	167	272	320	323

Growth Groups are the heart of Woodside. We currently have 35 groups which meet different days of the week, in our building, homes and public spaces. There are 200-300 people in groups.

Mission Teams: Woodside is best known for its service to the community. We host Code Blue, offer Recovery worship services and Recovery Cafes, Griefshare, serve meals through the Dinner Ministry and Cast Your Cares in Philadelphia, build homes with Habitat, send out three mission trips a year, work with Urban Promise, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, and Father David's Prison Ministry, collect food for local pantries, give away 11% of our budget to missions near and far and partner with a host of other missions.

The Woodside Christian Preschool has served the congregation and community since 1989. It's Christ-centered program consistently receives positive reviews from families who enroll their children. There are currently 120 students in classes for two, three and four-year-olds and pre-Kindergarten. The school is a ministry of Woodside Church governed by the Session.

The home of Woodside sits on a six-acre corner near the historic Edgewood Village, Veterans Park and two shopping centers in Lower Makefield Township. The building is on one level and handicap accessible. We are once again outgrowing our parking lot. Please see the floor plan of Woodside on the final page of this report.

Our Community

Woodside Presbyterian Church is in Lower Makefield Township, a community which goes back to Pennsylvania founder William Penn in 1682. It belongs to the 19067-zip code which also includes the communities of Yardley Borough, Morrisville and a portion of Falls Township.

This southeast portion of Bucks County is known for its historic charm featuring 18th and 19th century buildings, preserved farmland and forests and a picturesque setting along the Delaware River and Canal. Not far from here Washington made his famous crossing. Lower Makefield is also home to the Garden of Reflection, the Pennsylvania state memorial for September 11th.

The area is served by the highly rated Pennsbury School District which was named to the National AP Honor Roll and the "Best High Schools" list. Education is a high priority with 19% of residents possessing some college, 34% having a bachelor's degree and 26% holding a post-graduate degree.

Lower Makefield is consistently ranked as one of the safest towns in Pennsylvania, with a crime rate significantly lower than the state average. Railways and the I-95 corridor make it easy to visit Philadelphia and New York and major international airports. The township's central Mid-Atlantic location provides access to the Jersey Shore and the Pocono Mountains.

Average household income in the 19067-zip code is \$168,666 and the median home price is \$560,000. The demographic composition is White:80%, Hispanic:7%, Asian:6%, Black:4% Two or more races:2%, Other races:1%.

The Woodside Church community also includes disciples from the surrounding communities of Langhorne (19047), Newtown (18940), Holland (18966), Levittown (19030 and 19054) and even from across the Delaware River in New Jersey.

The 2040 Vision Plan for Bucks County may be viewed at this website:

https://www.flipsnack.com/9CBE6FBBDC9/bucks2040_vision_final/full-view.html

Woodside Presbyterian Church Treasurer's Annual Report

For the Year Ending December 31, 2025

The December Treasurer's Report, Income Report, and Consolidated Balance Sheet are included with the financial summary below as the Treasurer's Annual Report for 2025 (*The statements provided should be considered preliminary until reviewed and approved during the annual financial review to be performed in 2026. Woodside reports income and expenses on a cash basis*):

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2025

	2025	2024	2023
General Fund	\$189,718	\$226,515	\$273,838
Restricted Fund	\$740,254	\$674,176	\$579,748
Building Fund	\$140,770	\$42,407	\$125,745
Memorial Fund	\$53,258	\$135,272	\$31,951
Consolidated Total	<u>\$1,123,999</u>	<u>\$1,078,371</u>	<u>\$1,011,281</u>

Statement of Income and Expenses – General Fund

As of December 31, 2025

Income: In 2025, Woodside General Fund income was \$1,126,688 (108% of budget), and represented a 6.6% increase over 2024 income.

Expenses: Total General Fund expenditures for 2025 were \$1,048,049 (101% of budget), which represented an 11.4% increase over 2024 expenditures. The Woodside staff did an excellent job in managing expenses and came in under budget for the year in nearly every category, helping to partially offset higher utility costs and building repairs than budgeted.

Ordinary Net Income: The approved 2025 budget provided for a modest expected income of \$4,285. Giving was greater than anticipated again in 2025 and the close stewardship of these funds has resulted in higher than budgeted net income for the year. Woodside recorded ordinary net income of \$78,639 for 2025.

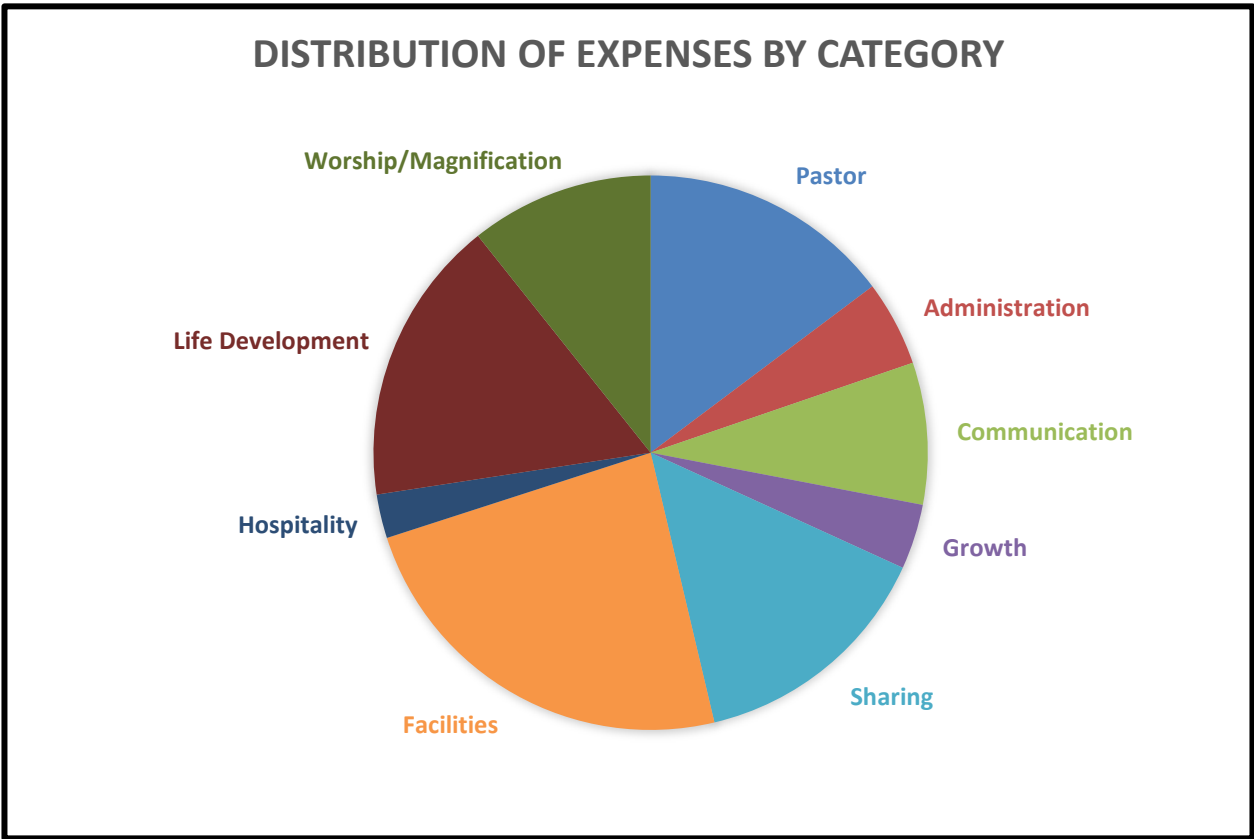
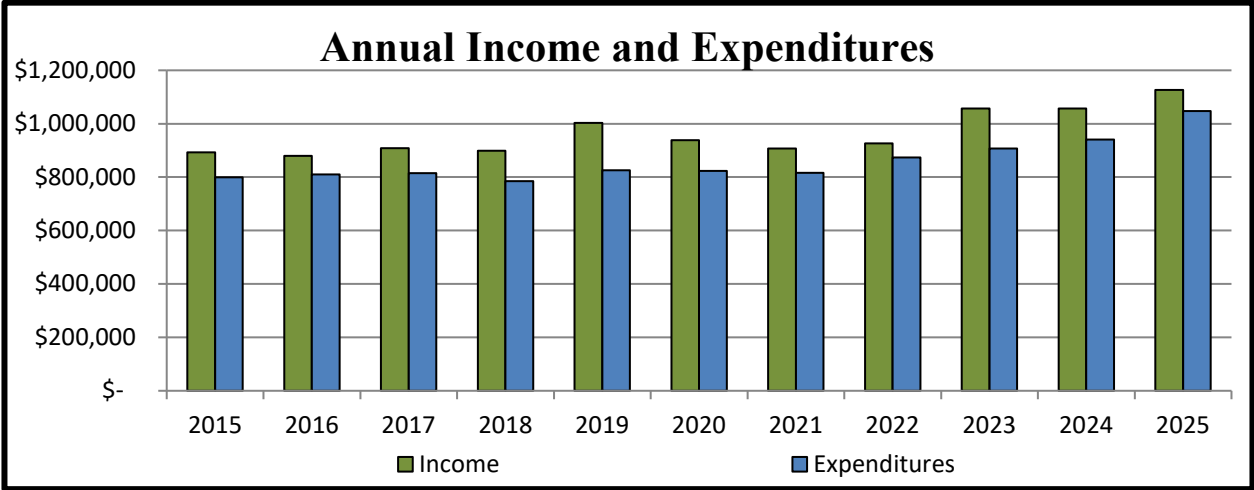
On behalf of the Finance and Stewardship Teams, I would like to thank all the staff for carefully managing their budgets during the year, and to the congregation for their faithful contributions, both monetarily and through service.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Marr, Treasurer
January 20, 2026

WOODSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GENERAL FUND - INCOME STATEMENT
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	2025 Actual	2025 Budget	Actual % of Budget	2024 Actual	% Change
INCOME:					
Membership Contributions (Envelope & Stock)	\$1,058,757	\$986,452	107.3%	\$994,218	6.5%
Loose & Seasonal Offerings	\$18,602	\$9,500	195.8%	\$13,185	41.1%
Building Usage	\$49,290	\$47,600	103.6%	\$47,475	3.8%
Other Income	\$39	\$0	n/a	\$1,851	-97.9%
Total Income	<u>\$1,126,688</u>	<u>\$1,043,552</u>	108.0%	<u>\$1,056,729</u>	6.6%
EXPENSES:					
Pastor	\$154,678	\$ 154,675	100.0%	\$153,396	0.8%
Administration	\$52,228	\$55,941	93.4%	\$49,562	5.4%
Communications	\$86,729	\$88,142	98.4%	\$63,563	36.5%
Facilities	\$248,627	\$219,094	113.5%	\$211,789	17.3%
Growth	\$39,785	\$41,753	95.3%	\$41,561	-4.3%
Hospitality	\$26,816	\$29,146	92.0%	\$27,089	-1.0%
Life Development	\$175,150	\$178,158	98.3%	\$147,571	18.7%
Sharing	\$151,843	\$155,662	97.5%	\$135,930	11.7%
Worship/Magnification	\$112,193	\$116,698	96.1%	\$109,892	2.1%
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,048,049</u>	<u>\$1,039,268</u>	100.8%	<u>\$940,553</u>	11.4%
Ordinary Net Income	<u><u>\$78,639</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,285</u></u>		<u><u>\$116,176</u></u>	-32.3%

FINANCIAL CHARTS AND GRAPH



Congregational Surveys

During January 2024, the Woodside congregation participated in the following survey:

Woodside's leaders are meeting this month to seek God's vision for the next 3-5 years. We'd like to include your thoughts in our prayers and planning. Please answer the questions below. Thanks!

1. *What are Woodside's strengths? What do we do well?*
2. *What church needs should we address in the next 2-3 years? What can we do or do better?*
3. *What community/world needs should we address in the next 2-3 years?*
4. *If God really had his way, how would we look in 3-5 years?*

The responses were voluminous and varied. Survey results were shared with the Elders and Staff at their first Vision meeting in January and summarized as follows:

1. What are Woodside's strengths? What do we do well?

The congregation views itself as warm and welcoming, known for our mission outreach, and our emphasis on participating in one of our many Growth Groups. There was great appreciation for the pastor, sermons and staff. People are grateful for the multiple, diverse styles of worship each Sunday. They value the children's ministry offerings, preschool and growing youth ministry. Finally, they affirmed the many ways we communicate about ministries and events.

2. What church needs should we address in the next 2-3 years? What can we do or do better?

There is strong support for developing and growing our children, family and youth ministries and expanding our outreach to young adults – both singles and couples. Some feel we can improve caregiving for our people through the REACH and Deacon ministries. Since most of the staff, including the Pastor, are in their 50s and 60s, the need for succession planning is essential. Many want to receive training in evangelism and to keep growing worship attendance. There were suggestions to explore new methods of communication and social media. A few want the church to delve more into political and social issues while others favor not engaging in potentially divisive issues and positions.

3. What community/world needs should we address in the next 2-3 years?

The survey suggests the following issues: Poverty and Hunger, Homelessness and Housing, Local Outreach, Diversity and Differences, Mental Health, Wars and Natural Disasters, Mission Trips.

4. If God really had his way, how would we look in 3-5 years?

Over the coming years we would see more growth – both numerically and spiritually, more outreach in mission to our community and world, a more diverse fellowship, a younger average age, a congregation sharing the Word and ultimately a congregation that looks even more like Jesus.

After reviewing, summarizing and processing these survey responses, the Elders and Staff recommended the formation of three teams to help us further discern God's will:

1. Understanding Our Community – Demographic study using MissionInsite
2. Growing Our Children
3. Guiding Our Youth and Young Adults

Understanding Our Community

To gain a better understanding of our community, Woodside purchased a subscription to MissionInsite – a service which provides key demographic information along with a survey of religious beliefs and ministry preferences for a designated area around the church. The team chose a five-mile radius around the church address and then further examined the following specific zip codes: 19067 (Yardley, Morrisville) 19047 (Langhorne), 18940 (Newtown), 19030 & 19054 (Levittown closest to the church). One consideration to keep in mind is the data is from 2021 when opinions were still heavily influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Takeaways

Aging Population

The population in the Woodside area is aging – especially in Yardley, Langhorne, and Newtown – with people age 65+ projected to grow the most by 2028.

Room to Grow Congregations

Only about one-third of residents in the area (34%) are active in a religious congregation.

- While this is down from 42% in 2010, part of the decline is due to COVID-19 (the most recent survey was in 2021).
- Furthermore, about one-third of residents have consistently considered the role of religious faith as significant in their lives (in both 2010 and 2021). These may be the people actively participating in congregations.

Need to Change Perceptions of “Church”

Current perceptions of church present significant challenges for Woodside:

- The majority question the need to participate in a church (61%) and believe people in church do not behave as Jesus would (58%).
- Many say they don’t participate in religious activities because religion is too focused on money (31%), is too judgmental (29%), and they don’t trust organized religion (29%) and its leaders (27%).

Opportunities to Show God’s Love

Many residents (57%) also agree that “*God is love and invites the world into a loving relationship.*”

- Woodside can counteract the negative perceptions of church by demonstrating how the Woodside community helps create these strong relationships with God and others in the region.
- In addition, belief in Jesus can reduce fear of the future, one of the top concerns of area residents.

Residents say they most often want warm and friendly encounters from religious organizations. And those active in congregations would be most likely to consider leaving a congregation if they didn’t feel welcome.

While senior and adult activities are as important as family activities and religious education for children (given the older population in the area), children and youth activities are important to current participants in Newtown, Yardley, and Langhorne.

People in the nearby sections of Levittown are younger than the residents in Yardley, Langhorne, and Newtown. Those in Levittown more often want opportunities to develop personal relationships and have youth activities. They are more concerned about day-to-day financial matters and financing the future. But outreach to Levittown residents will be challenged by their slightly higher level of cynicism that people in the church do not behave as Jesus would (59%).

Newtown residents were most likely to be inactive in a congregation in 2021 and 10 years prior (57%). But they are also less likely to cite reasons for non-participation in religious activities.

Growing Our Children

Children's Ministry at Woodside Church continues to focus on helping kids build a resilient, gospel-centered faith. As Barna and other ministry leaders have noted, today's culture is becoming increasingly secular and post-Christian. In this reality, our calling is not just to teach Bible stories or fill programs, but to help children develop a faith that is strong, lasting, and able to thrive in the world they're growing up in.

Barna's research points to an important shift in how churches think about children's ministry. What Barna calls "The Old Map" emphasized numbers, that is, how many kids attended programs each week, how many children returned each year to continue the programs, and how many new families joined every year. Barna's "New Map" focuses on something deeper: faith formation, spiritual depth, and long-term discipleship. This new approach can be summed up in three key ideas:

1. **Belong:** Building a highly relational ministry led by caring adults who model authentic faith and create spaces where every child feels known and valued.
2. **Believe:** Rooting everything we do in Scripture and the Gospel so that kids come to know, love, and serve Jesus with all their hearts.
3. **Become:** Giving kids opportunities to experience God's presence, live out their faith, and learn to follow Jesus in real, everyday life.

Children's Ministry already strongly embraces the principles of "The New Map." All our programs focus on building deep faith and long-term discipleship, but we want to continuously grow and improve and have set several goals in order to achieve that:

- Involve children more in Sunday services. The children are participating more this year in services by singing with the Praise Band, reading Scripture, and participating in worship with their families. We want them to see and feel they are vital members of the body of Christ. We are looking for more opportunities for children to serve in the worship services.
- Grow Adventure Club, our mid-week program, by adding more "adventure" elements. We are incorporating more opportunities for children to learn and grow their faith outside the building with field trips and service opportunities.
- Expand our volunteer base to include not only parents but also teens, young adults, and adults whose children are grown. This reflects that discipleship is an intergenerational effort and a shared calling.

Research shows that kids who have meaningful relationships with mentors and friends at church are far more likely to see faith as relevant, to read the Bible on their own, and to stay connected to church as they grow older. That's why our focus remains on equipping parents, surrounding children with caring mentors, and creating a ministry that helps families grow together in faith.

Children's Ministry is committed to building a church culture where kids don't just attend church but belong, believe, and become active participants in God's work.

Guiding Our Youth and Young Adults

During the fall of 2024, the congregation participated in the Fuller Institute Growing Young Survey. A questionnaire asked respondents to evaluate Woodside's effectiveness in 6 Core Commitments:

1. Keychain Leadership
2. Empathy Today
3. Jesus' Message
4. Warm Relationships
5. Prioritize Everywhere
6. Best Neighbors

All six areas were rated above average (1=Low, 5 = High). Woodside received the highest scores in these 3 Core Commitments:

Jesus' Message (Score 4.29) – Instead of asserting formulaic gospel claims, welcome young people into a Jesus-centered way of life.

Warm Relationships (Score 4.27) – Instead of focusing on cool worship or programs, aim for warm peer and intergenerational friendships

Best Neighbors (Score 4.19) – Instead of condemning the world outside your walls, enable young people to neighbor well locally and globally.

Woodside received medium scores in the following 3 Core Commitments:

1. **Empathize with Today's Young People** (Score 3.52) – Beyond judging and criticizing, empathy is your church's ability to step into the shoes of this generation.
2. **Keychain Leadership** (Score 3.61) – is a spirit and commitment demonstrated by paid and volunteer leaders that permeates every area of the church. By keys, we mean the capabilities, power, and access of leaders that carry the potential to empower young people. Congregations that demonstrate keychain leadership move beyond centralized authority and empower others (especially young people) with their own set of keys.
3. **Prioritize Young People (and Families) Everywhere** (Score 3.71) – is a tangible, systematic commitment to allocate resources and attention to young people – not only through specific youth or young adult programming, but also across the life of the congregation.

Two Important Features of our Culture to Keep in Mind as We Make Changes:

1. Openness to Change (Score 3.85) Woodside received a high score which indicates we are open to changing for increased health and effectiveness. We can tap into and maximize this energy and flexibility to make changes.
2. Urgency for Change (3.29) Woodside received a medium score which indicates we may not think changes need to happen now. It's vital to establish the urgency and need before making changes.

First Step Suggestions:

1. Discuss Survey results with Youth and Young Adult Directors. Plan meetings with Team
2. Share Survey results with Session and members of the Youth/Young Adult team
3. Focus on Three Core Commitment areas which received the lowest scores.
4. Work through exercises in Creating Your Growing Young Plan with team.
5. Ask members to purchase the book *Growing Young*. Read, discuss and plan strategies.

We gathered youth, young adults, parents and older adults at three meetings to review the 3 Core Commitment where we need to grow:

1. Empathizing with Today's Youth – April 13, 2025
2. Keychain Leadership – May 18, 2025
3. Prioritizing Youth and Young Adults Everywhere – June 22, 2025

These discussions yielded five overall strategies

Create Inviting Communities: Since disciples of Jesus grow in community, create non-judgmental gatherings where young adults can share their doubts, struggles, joys and build friendships.

Encourage Honest Dialogue and Practical Growth: Host open discussions on Scripture and challenging cultural topics where questions are encouraged. Provide practical workshops (budgeting, career prep, life skills) so they can follow Jesus in every area of life.

Inspire Hope, Purpose and Real-Life Impact: Help them be disciples who work to bring the faith, hope and love of Jesus to their relationships and communities.

Offer Support through Life Transitions: Pair young adults with mentors who used their faith to navigate college, career, relationships challenges.

Empower Leadership and Service: Give young adults meaningful roles in worship, mission, ministry and small groups based on their spiritual gifts and passions.

Three to Five Year Vision for Woodside based on the Mission Study

Presented to Woodside on July 6 2025

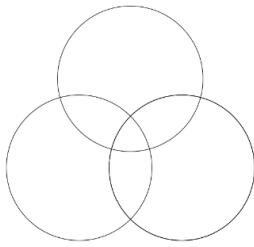
And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses
entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

2 Timothy 2:2

This Passage describes Four Generations of Discipleship:
1) Paul 2) Timothy 3) Reliable Qualified Teachers 4) Others

We make disciples of Jesus who make disciples of Jesus to the fourth generation
A disciple is a follower of Jesus who loves God, grows in grace and shares with others.

We do this in three interlocking harvest fields



Macro Church – the church that gathers on the corner of Edgewood and Heacock

Micro Church – the network of tiny churches that meets in the community

Digital Church – the church that meets online around the world

What will Woodside look like 3-5 years from now?

Macro Church

The number of Growth Groups will be above 60 because we will train leaders to start new groups on a quarterly basis.

We will engage young adults through 3-6 groups so that the average age of the macro church is 10 years younger than it is today.

Youth and Young adults will be among the leaders of every ministry and mission and will join others in training the next generation of leaders.

The number of children in Sunday School and Adventure Club will double and keep growing.

Children will be seen and heard as leaders in worship, study and service.

Micro Church

There will be a network of 3-6 Microchurches connected to the Macro church but living and multiplying in the community.

Digital Church

We will have a team of 3-6 digital missionaries connected to the macro church but who disciple believers online.

We will pursue a seamless succession to the Pastor and Staff who will lead Woodside into this vision and beyond.



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