VISION WORKSHEET #2 -- "OUR CHURCH"

God has called us together as a congregation. He has brought together people from particular backgrounds, people with special abilities and gifts. He has put us in a particular place and he is building unique bridges to the work He wants to do through us. He wants to do through us. Using this worksheet, describe our congregation as accurately and specifically as you can:

WHO ARE WE?

Founding Dream: Who started our church and what was their dream?

Social Situation: How could we describe ourselves demographically?

Special Circumstances: What else is special about us? Our location. Rate of growth or decline. Indebtedness. etc.

HOW DO WE OPERATE?

Philosophy of Ministry: How do we operate? What are our key methods? What are the "rules" around here?

Values: What concepts do we consider to be of paramount importance?

HOW ARE WE RESOURCED?

Vocations: What types of vocations are most common in our church?

Skills and Expertise: In addition to our vocations, what kinds of specialized skills are prominently featured in our church (observed through hobbies, volunteer work, ministry strengths, etc.) ?

Gifts: Are we particularly abundant in certain spiritual gifts? Which ones?

HOW ARE WE CONNECTED?

Ministry: What kinds of missions work have we done in the past? What have people become involved in the most?

Nations: What ethnic groups are represented in our church? What natural connections do we have to particular peoples, places, cultures, races, or languages (near and far)?

Partners: What organizations, missionaries, and national Christian workers have we had most contact with? What kinds of work do they do, and where? What has been our role?

As we look at the above responses, what commonalities do we see? What threads run through? What unique resources and giftings show up? What integrating picture emerges?

What kinds of mission work do we appear to be prepared for by God?

What kinds of people, cultures, and geographic areas are within our reach?

This worksheet comes from *Building Global Vision* by David Mays.