

Guiding “Values” for Decision-Making at WPMF

1. Our Decision-Making attempts to discern the leading of God for this body of Christ.
2. Collaboration, Consensus and Dialogue are at the core of our communication structure.
 - Reciprocity is fundamental to how we communicate.
 - Consensus, dialogue and collaboration is not debate.
 - This means that we are working together toward common understanding.
 - Dialogue means that finding common ground is the goal. In dialogue, one listens to the other side in order to understand, find meaning, and agreement.
 - Dialogue causes introspection of one’s position.
 - Collaboration opens the possibility of reaching a better solution than the original stated solution.
 - It encourages an “open-minded” attitude, an openness to being wrong and to change.
 - In dialogue and collaboration, one submits one’s best thinking, expecting that others reflections will improve the idea, rather than destroy it.
 - In our communication structure, we search for:
 - Basic agreement
 - Strength in each others positions
 - The needs of others, seeking not to alienate or offend each other
 - Our communication structure assumes that many people (not one person) have pieces of the answer and that together we can put the answers together into a workable solution.
3. We are all Stewards of the congregation’s assets – both tangible and intangible.
 - We are each committed to ensuring the well-being of others,
 - The sustainability of the congregation, and
 - The building of the Kingdom of God.
4. Partnership, Authenticity and Trust are the heart of our congregation.
 - For relationships to not just survive, but thrive, partners must have a sense that each other has their best interests at heart and that each of us will act honorably and fairly.
 - Honest, Respectful and genuine communication is essential for creating trust.
 - Disagreements and conflict are valuable sources for learning.
5. Everyone has a contribution to make. The wisdom of the individual is encouraged and valued.
6. We want to foster a spirit of inquiry, experimentation and evaluation.
 - Entrepreneurial solutions and ministry teams are how new efforts are focused and refined.