

## STORIES OF THE CONGREGATION'S DEEP GLADNESS

### Interview Exercise

1. Each team member schedules a one-on-one interview. Try to interview different kinds of folks in the congregation (newcomers, elders, gender, race, parents, singles, widows, etc.) Set aside 60 minutes in person.
2. Ask questions and listen to the stories:
  - *What is your history/background with the congregation?*
  - *What attracted you to the congregation? What prompted you to visit?*
  - *How easy or hard was it to enter the life of the congregation? What made it easy or hard?*
  - *What has caused you to stay?*
  - *What renews you spiritually in the congregation?*
  - *What, if any, effect has involvement in the congregation had on you in terms of who you are and how you feel or behave?*
  - *What, if any, effect has involvement in the congregation had on your family life, work life, and/or civic life?*
  - *Where have you seen God at work in the congregation?*
  - *Is there a question you wish I'd asked you?*
3. Come back together and a team. Each interviewer shares:
  - *What did you hear that you believe is core to the identity of your congregation?*
  - *What are you most excited by in that core identity?*