

VISIONING PROCESS

SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH

June 4, 2023



“

*'WHEN THE TIME IS RIPE,'
SAYS GOD, I WILL SHARE
MY SPIRIT WITH ALL
HUMANKIND...YOUR YOUNG
PEOPLE WILL CATCH
VISIONS AND YOUR OLD
PEOPLE WILL DREAM NEW
DREAMS.*

Clarence Jordan



WHO ARE WE? WHERE ARE WE GOING?

- *We Are Sardis Discussions, Fall 2022*
 - Sincere interest in Sardis Vision: *Who are we and where are we going?*
 - Intimidating, Overwhelming Topic
 - Need Shape, Time, and Intentionality
- Initial Conversations between Pinnacle Leadership Associates and pastor, staff, and chairs of diaconate and trustees
- Scope of Work

PREDICTED OUTCOMES

- A Clear Articulation of our Vision and Purpose
- Alignment of Our Resources and Calling
- Structure that is Joyful AND Efficient
- Organizational Compliance and Wellbeing
- Expanded Community Reach
- Discovery and Sharing of Gifts

DISCOVERY & DESIGN TEAM (COMPOSITION)

- 7 congregants: Ellen Dillard, Rachel Faulk, Luther Fisher, Jean Lawrence, Jim Owen, Shannon Roberts, and Amy Wiebke
- Staff Representation
- Well-rounded participation in Sardis ministries
- Varied perspectives
- Shaped by pandemic
- Deep love for Sardis



DISCOVERY & DESIGN TEAM (TASK)

- What questions do we need to ask about Sardis?
- What are the resources/considerations required to ask/answer those questions?
- Create a plan that will marshal our newfound insight into a formal vision



DISCOVERY & DESIGN TEAM (ROLE)

- Beginning the Conversation with Pinnacle
- Feedback/Guinea Pigs
- Compass not GPS



DISCOVERY & DESIGN TEAM (WORK)

- Gathered for seven (7) 90-minute feedback sessions
- Explored the following questions:
 - Where have we been?
 - Where are we now?
 - Where do we want to go?
 - Where have we noticed God?
 - What brought us to Sardis?
 - How has pandemic affected our routines and rhythms?
- Used insight to form a guiding question
- Used guiding question to recommend a process for exploration and visioning

Directional Feedback

Guiding Question

Build the Process

WHAT IS A GUIDING QUESTION?

The who, what, when, where, why, and how of Sardis Baptist Church



CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE GUIDING QUESTION

Shared Commonalities:

Warmth; Welcome; Freedom; Belonging; Connection

Priorities:

- It is important that participants in this community be able to clearly express:
 - Who we are called to be
 - How we live out our calling
 - What we tell others about our calling
 - How we invite others into our calling

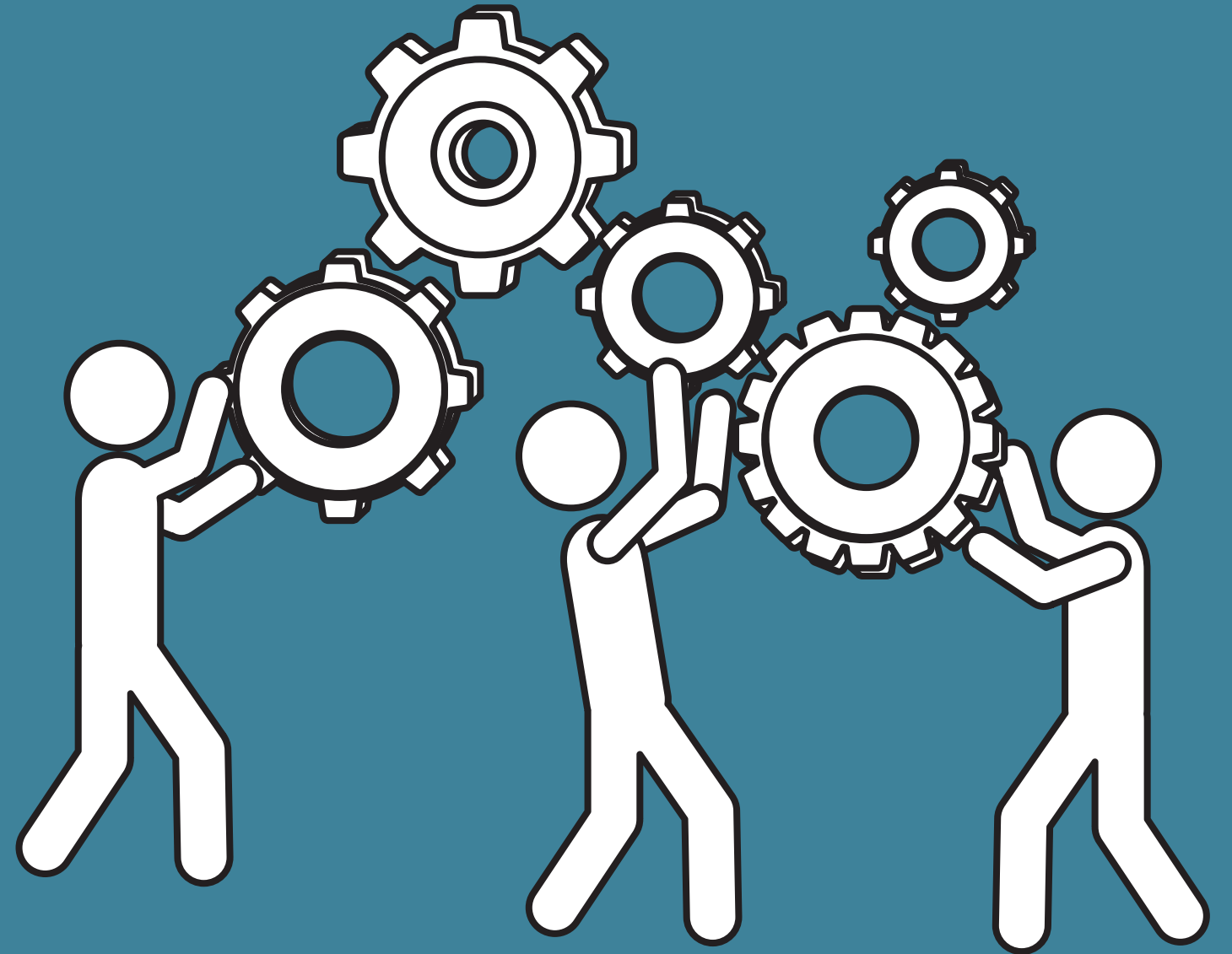
THE GUIDING QUESTION FOR SARDIS (WORKING FORM)

How might we clarify our identity and purpose, align our structures and systems, tell our story more effectively, and cultivate authentic mutual relationships, so that all might experience the warmth and welcome of God?

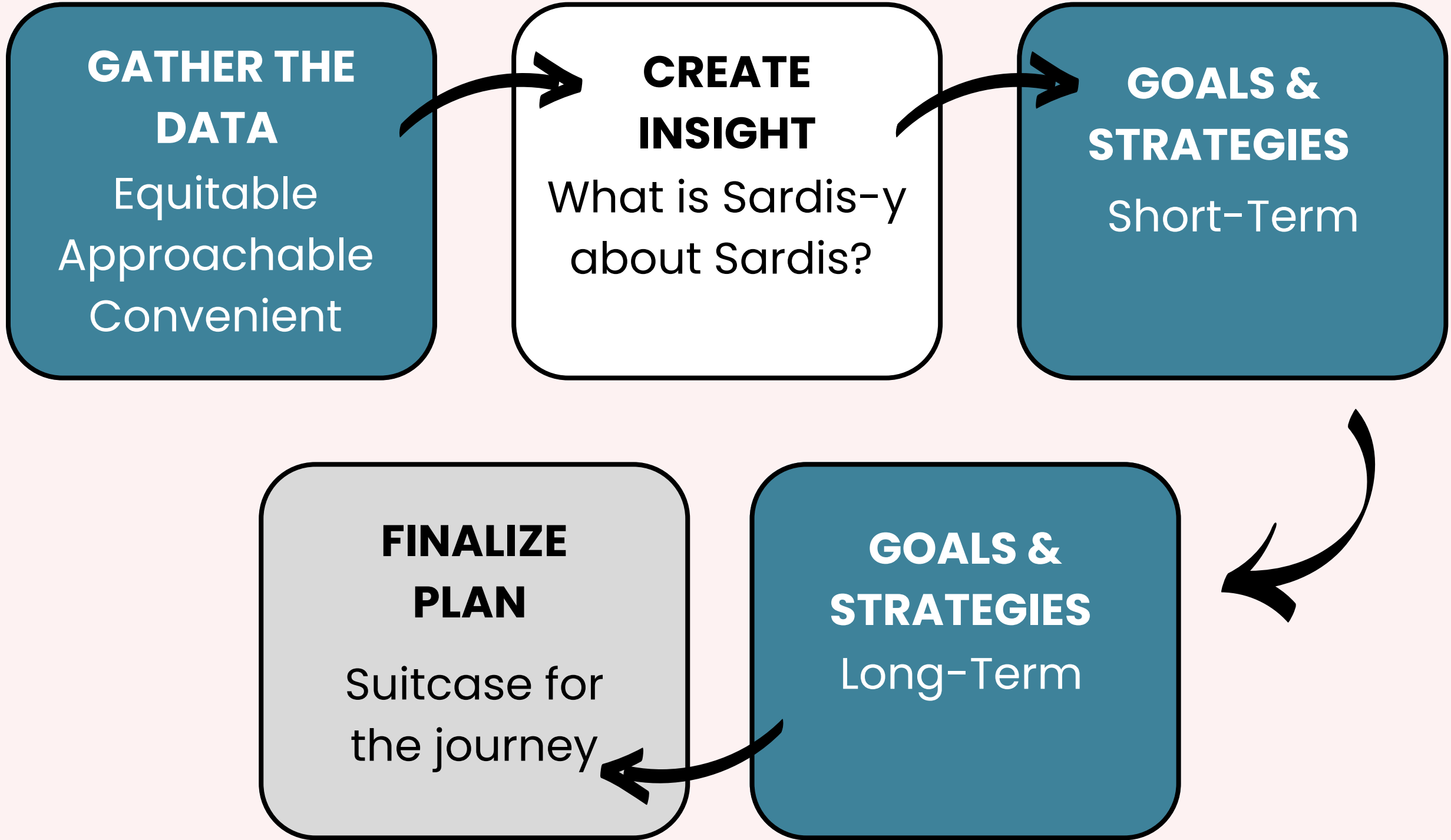
- Clarify Identity and Purpose – Who and What?
- Align Our Systems and Structures – How and When?
- Tell Our Story More Effectively – To Whom? Why? Where?
- Cultivate Authentic Mutual Relationships – Who, When, and Where?
- All Might Experience the Warmth and Welcome of God – Why?

OPEN THE STEEPLE AND SEE ALL THE PEOPLE

The next phase of this process requires the participation of the entire congregation. Together, we engage in a process that answers the components of the guiding question.



IDEAL VISIONING PROCESS (HIGH LEVEL)



VISIONING PROCESS PHASES

SEPTEMBER 2023 - MAY 2024

Phase One: Background (Spring/Summer, 2023)

- *Discovery and Design Team Scope of Work Proposal (Completed)*
- *Community Demographic Study*

Phase Two: Congregational Feedback (Early Fall, 2023)

- *Kick-Off Event/Retreat –Vision 360 Weekend*
- *Congregational Listening Sessions*

VISIONING PROCESS PHASES

SEPTEMBER 2023 - MAY 2024

Phase Three: Generating Insights and Strategies

- Task-Specific Work Groups
- Congregational Communications Plan
- Documents/Resources Audit

Phase Four: Long-Term Thinking (Winter/Spring, 2024)

- Intentional Conversation(s): Keeping “Baptist” in Our Name
- Asset Mapping/Gifts Inventory/Enneagram

VISIONING PROCESS PHASES

SEPTEMBER 2023 - MAY 2024

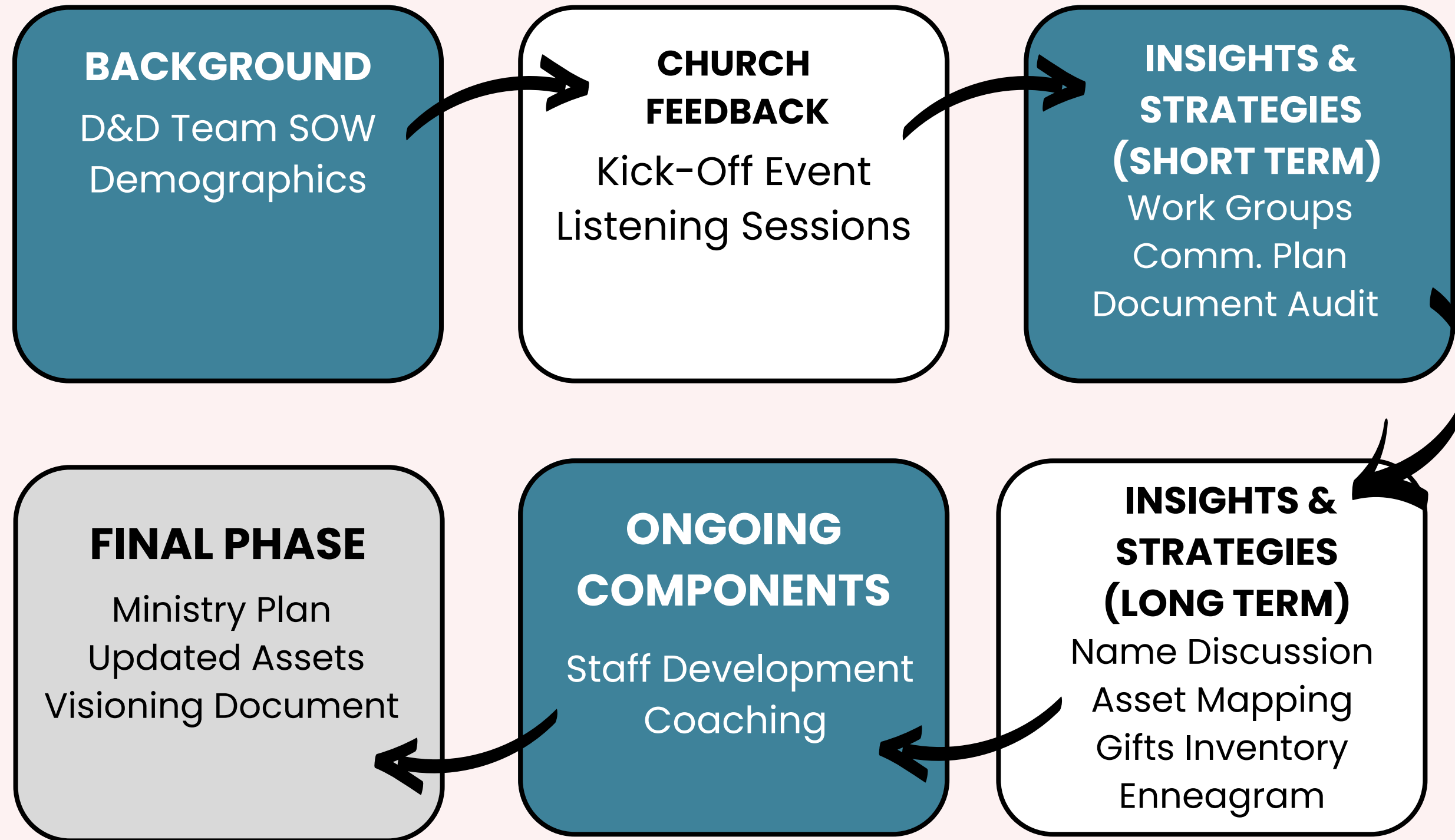
Ongoing Components

- Staff Development
- Staff and Congregational Coaching

Final Phase (Late Spring, 2024)

- Updated Ministry Plan
- Updated Ministry Assets: Organizing Documents and Communications Tools
- Visioning Document (Comprehensive Summary of Project Work)

SARDIS VISIONING PROCESS



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ESTIMATED PROGRAM COST

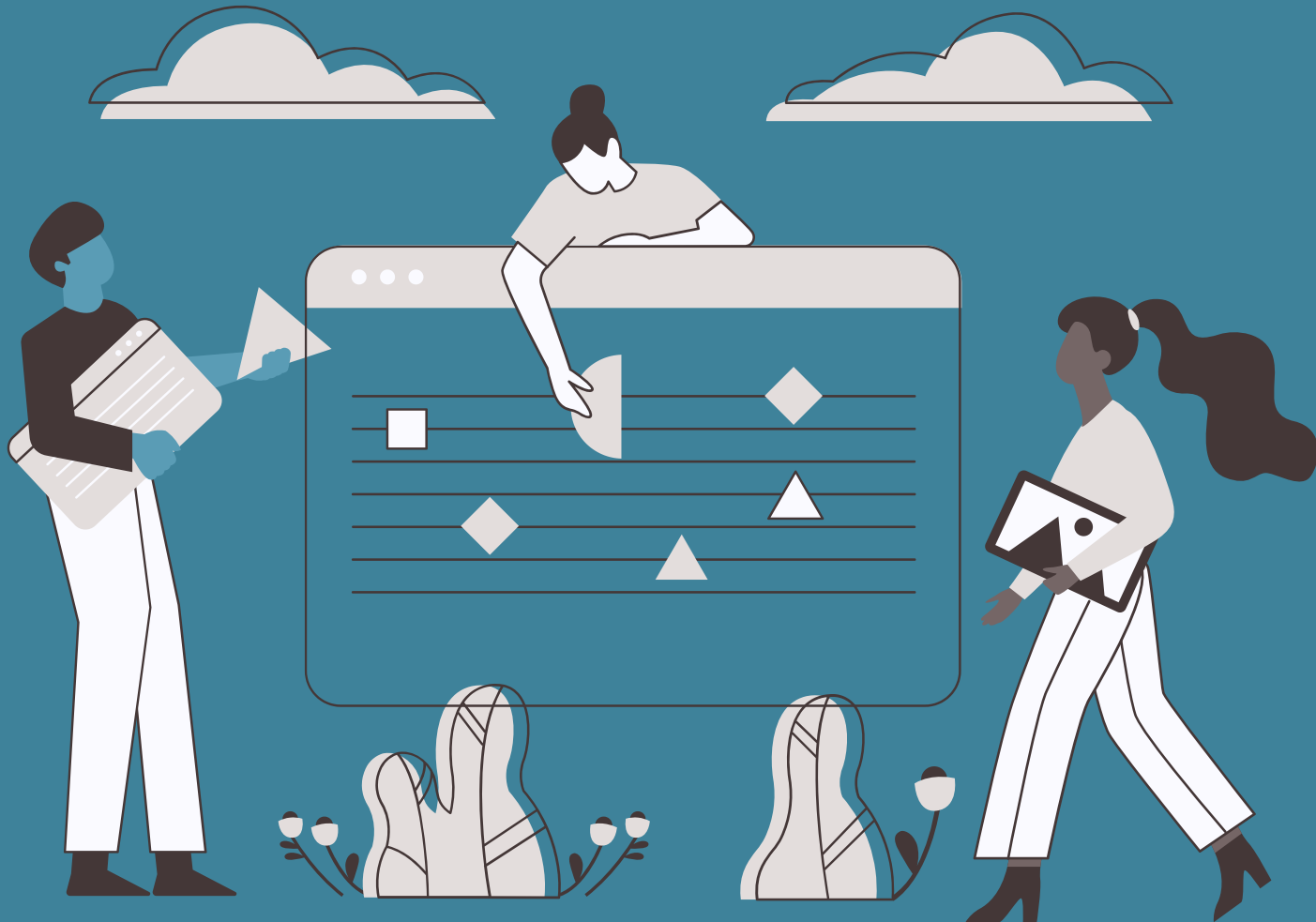
- Community Demographics Study
- Vision 360 Weekend/Kick-Off Event (Assumes Two days, plus travel)
- Small Group Listening Sessions (Assumes 4 1-2 hours sessions, plus travel)
- Task-Specific Working Groups
- Congregational Communication Plan
- Documents Audit: Review, Clarify, Update
- Conversation: Keeping “Baptist” in the Name? (Assumes 4 1-2 hour sessions plus travel)
- Asset Mapping / Gifts Inventory / Enneagram Training (Assumes 1-Day event fee plus travel)
- Staff Development Opportunities (Ongoing throughout the engagement)
 - A half-day staff retreat early in the process
 - Six formal staff development sessions
 - Additional informal check-ins / coaching
- Ongoing Congregational Coaching
- Finalizing Documents and Deliverables
- Estimated Travel Cost for David Brown including mileage for 15 round trips from Rock Hill to Sardis

Total Estimated Cost: \$10,550

NEXT STEPS

- Discern, Pray, and Ask Questions
- Upcoming Q&A with David Brown
- Upcoming July Called Church Conference to Approve Proposal

Sardis Baptist Church
Discovery & Design Team



THANK
YOU!