

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, SERVE THE WORLD **IN WAYNE & BEYOND**

FEBRUARY 2023

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

WARMING UP OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

Dear church family,

Every Sunday, it's exciting to see God bringing guests to our worship services, many who already know Jesus as their Savior and others that are looking for hope. As reflectors of our Savior, we want to extend the hospitality of Jesus to everyone in our sanctuary; the long-time members, more recent members, people who have been visiting for a few months, and first-time guests! We want everyone to feel the warmth of true Christian fellowship as they encounter our great church family at COS!

So, let me encourage you to keep on doing what you do so well... go out of your way to welcome warmly those you see on campus, in the classrooms, and in our sanctuary. A great way to engage people you don't know is to ask, "How long have you been attending COS?" This doesn't assume that they are new, and it invites people to respond with, "This is my very first Sunday," which can naturally lead to more meaningful conversation.

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As we engage with others, let's be looking for ways to connect them to our discipleship process as we love God, love others, and serve the world. Worshiping God together is the first step. Learning more about the church through Discover COS and our New Members Class (see details on page 3) and connecting with others through community groups are great next steps. And, serving together puts our faith into action as we reach out to others in our church, neighborhoods, and the world.

So, let's make it impossible for first-time guests to come to our church without multiple people openly welcoming them. Let's engage them and connect them to others and to our church. And let's keep praying that God would not only bring guests to COS but also shake us out into the world so we can invite people to consider Jesus!

As a pastor who is honored to shepherd this amazing flock, let me encourage you to showcase the tender love of God, in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit!

Until all have heard,

Kevin
Pastor

MINISTRY UPDATES

THANK YOU FROM OUR STAFF

Dear church family,

Working at Church of the Saviour has been one of the most rewarding and also one of the most challenging jobs I've had in my career. It has been an absolute delight getting to know and serve with our amazing church staff and wonderful congregation. It has also been a challenge to juggle the many ministry needs, keep up with an aging campus, and make time to build relationships.

Thankfully, we have an incredible staff that does most of the heavy lifting (literally and figuratively!). Our team, comprised of gifted and driven ministry and operations staff, lives out our church mission on a daily basis....demonstrating what it looks like to love God, love others, and serve the world. Through their faithful service, we continue to grow and thrive as a church.

I'll admit that it feels odd to write those words. We don't often "brag" about our staff. But, as I reflected, I realized that you already know and appreciate our staff, which is why you gave so generously to the staff gift this year. You know how hard these men and women work to serve the Lord at Church of the Saviour.

Thank you for the generous gift to our church staff! Thank you for acknowledging their service in a tangible way. I know it meant a lot to each staff member! And it meant a lot to me to see your heart for our church.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words...so we have those too! (We're missing a few people...)

With gratitude,

Rachel

Executive Director of Operations & Communications



MINISTRY UPDATES

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

GOSPEL IDENTITY - SUNDAY EQUIPPING CLASS

Sundays at 9:00 am in room B201

This 10-week study (from January 22 to March 26) is designed to help you discover who you already are in Jesus and how to live out your new identity in your daily life, relationships, and ministry.

HABITS OF THE HOUSEHOLD - SUNDAY EQUIPPING CLASS

Sundays at 9:00 am (starting March 5)

Discover simple patterns and easy-to-implement daily rhythms that will help you find meaning beyond the chaos of family life as you create a home where kids and parents alike practice how to love God and each other. This 9-week study (from March 5 to April 30) will use Justin Whitmel Earley's "Habits of the Household" to explore the ways waking, mealtimes, moments of discipline, playtime, bedtime, and more can all be moments of opening ourselves up to the work God is doing in us, and our kids. Visit coswayne.org/classes for more information and to register.

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES

Winter Class - Sundays at 9:00 am (February 19 & 26) in room A120

Take the next step toward membership at Church of the Saviour by learning about our church's history, vision, mission, doctrinal positions, and church governance. This class will also allow us to get to know you and your story with God.

Our winter class is divided into two parts; please plan to attend both sessions. Join us in person on Sunday, February 19, AND Sunday, February 26, from 9:00 am to 10:00 am in the Reception Room (building A, room A120). Register at coswayne.org/newmembers.

Our spring class will be offered on Saturday, April 15, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. More details will be coming soon.

For any questions, please email stephenc@coswayne.org. Walk-ins are welcomed!

WORTH-IT

March 13 - April 13

We are pleased to partner with Worthwhile Wear to host another Worth It series, beginning on March 13. Worth It is a series of classroom experiences, with a Christ-centered focus, to help women connect with service providers, maintain sobriety, and ultimately break the cycle of exploitation. We are asking God to bring us the women that He wants us to love.

Worthwhile Wear shared high praise for the way our church befriended the women in the fall program. Many of you provided warm hospitality, amazing meals, notes and prayers, rides back and forth, and so much more! As we launch another program in mid-March, we invite you to prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to join us in this work for His beloved daughters. It's a joy to serve the women God brings to us. To learn more about the program and how you can serve, please visit coswayne.org/women.

GIVING UPDATE

YTD FINANCIAL UPDATE - WHY A \$203K DEFICIT?

This fiscal year (July 2022-June 2023), our financial giving started off more slowly than we anticipated. By the end of October, we were almost \$200k behind our expected budget, and by the end of November, we were almost \$300k behind. While we are still \$203k behind our expected giving for the year, **we are praising God for His continued faithfulness in providing for our church through the generosity of His people!** Giving in December and January exceeded our expected budget by over \$85k! And, thanks to increased giving and a few cost-saving initiatives, we ended the calendar year spending less than we received.

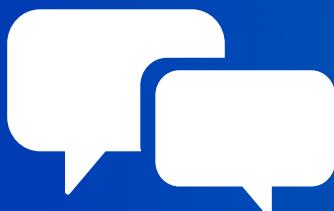
As we look forward, we continue to trust that our faithful God will provide for His church. God is working in hearts and lives through His Spirit, and He is using Church of the Saviour to tangibly show His love to others as we serve the world around us.

Please consider partnering with us as we seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ in Wayne and beyond. Visit coswayne.org/give or call the church office (610-688-6338) to learn more.

	<u>Ministry/Ops</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Love-in-Action</u>
GIVING TO DATE	\$1,603,509	\$340,742	\$97,969
BUDGET	\$1,807,043	\$403,923	\$79,797*
OVER/(UNDER)	(\$203,534)	(\$62,181)	\$18,172

LOVE-IN-ACTION is a fund managed by the deacons to provide financial aid for people in our church and community who are suffering.

*Aid provided from 7/1-12/31.



Text Messaging

Text "**JOIN COS**" to **833-744-9334** to receive alerts or important messages from COS.

Questions & Feedback

We welcome and encourage all inquiries: info@coswayne.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on social media by searching "Church of the Saviour" on Facebook and Instagram!