

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

JANUARY 2023

**LETTER FROM THE PASTOR
& GLOBAL OUTREACH UPDATE**

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST IN WAYNE & BEYOND

Dear church family,

One of the hardest things in life is keeping the main thing the main thing. As we enter 2023, we want to talk about something Jesus wants all churches to prioritize... discipleship. How do we make disciples of Jesus Christ here at Church of the Saviour? And how do we expand that to making disciples in Wayne and beyond? Asked another way... What is our discipleship process?

We need to have crystal clarity around our discipleship process to grow in health and humility. That's why it's stated on the wall in the lobby, on the front of our weekly bulletin, and in just about everything we print. Our hope is to make the discipleship process easy to understand for everyone attending our church so we can live and communicate it effectively! If you were asked how COS moves someone from a new believer to a mature follower of Christ, how would you respond?

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- Community Groups
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The correct answer is that we seek to Love God, Love Others, & Serve the World! Through these three movements, we can see Jesus' desire to raise up passionate worshipping, connected, and energized Christians at Church of the Saviour, in Wayne, and beyond.

1. **Passionate Worshipping Christians** gather together regularly at our worship services to give God His due by praying, praising, and hearing His proclaimed Word. We've summarized this concept with the phrase **LOVE GOD**.
2. **Connected Christians** unite over God's Word with other Christians in real life-on-life community. The way we do this at COS is through our Community Groups—small groups that focus on Jesus, His Word, and spiritually invigorating relationships. We've briefly stated this concept in the phrase **LOVE OTHERS**.
3. **Energized Christians** impact their spheres of influence by God's empowering presence that flows through humble, dependent, and obedient followers of Christ and by using the spiritual gifts that God has given all Christians to transform the world to His glory! This concept is captured in our phrase **SERVE THE WOLRD**.

One of our primary avenues for Serving the World is through Global Outreach. And our highly engaged Global Outreach team has some very exciting news to share!

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR & GLOBAL OUTREACH UPDATE

DIVINE DIRECTION LEADING TO STRATEGIC FOCUS

By Silvia Kwak

As a church and Global Outreach team, we have been praying that God would show us the unreached people group where we should focus our ministry. And He answered by divinely directing our plans and world affairs, leading us to [the Hazara people](#).

Since November 2021, two Afghan resettlement teams, primarily formed by COS members, have resettled five single women and helped reunite and resettle a family of seven. Miraculously, every Afghan directed to the resettlement teams has been from a single persecuted Afghan ethnic minority people group, the Hazara.

In April of 2022, our church was encouraged to pray for Muslims around the world during Ramadan, following the "[30 Days of Prayer](#)" guide. On day 1, we prayed for Afghans. At the conclusion of Ramadan, a resettlement team celebrated Eid holiday dinner (the "Festival of the Breaking of the Fast" after Ramadan) with our first resettled friend. She shared that she had a dream that one of our team would "adopt a young Afghan girl." That challenged us to pray for opportunities to become spiritual parents...possibly to more Afghans that would come to the Philadelphia area..

In June, two more Afghan women arrived and were hosted by COS families. One was resettled with former coworkers in West Philadelphia. And one was an 18-year-old unaccompanied teen, who was "fostered" by a COS family until her sister's arrival and their resettlement in Ardmore. Through resettlement, we have become a tight knit community, like family. We are able to extend Christ's love by holistically meeting physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. Our community is also continuing to grow, stretching to the Northeast, as a result of two Afghan events in May and November.

God's divine direction in the lives of these Afghans and our resettlement teams has brought us to a focus point. We believe that the Lord is leading COS to strategically invest in sharing Christ's love with the Hazara people through resettlement. As a result of ethnic and religious persecution in Afghanistan, God is bringing them to the Philadelphia area where they are very receptive to us and to the Lord! Stay tuned for opportunities to join in what God is doing!



LETTER FROM THE PASTOR & GLOBAL OUTREACH UPDATE

Thank you, Silvia and the rest of the Global Outreach team. We're incredibly excited to see how this confirmed strategic focus will guide our global outreach ministry in the new year.

God has certainly blessed Church of the Saviour with a wealth of resources (treasure, time, and talents). As we grow in clarity about how we, as a church, are making disciples of Jesus Christ in Wayne & beyond, we will see more of Jesus shining through our church family. No doubt some Christians can make a big impact as solo contributors. But our desire is to see God make a GREAT impact through us together, as we lock arms and hearts in God-given purpose and calling. We are better together than we are as individuals! United Christians, who rely on God's Word and His empowering presence, the Holy Spirit, can make an eternal difference in Wayne, the surrounding communities, and ultimately across the world as we see God bring His gospel to unreached people groups.

Let's glorify God in Wayne & beyond by making disciples of Jesus Christ through the biblical process of Loving God, Loving Others, & Serving the World!

Kevin

Pastor

READ THROUGH THE ENTIRE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Are you up for a challenge that will strengthen your spiritual muscles? In the YouVersion app (Android & iOS), you can pick a plan to read through the Bible. For those who would like to read a plan with others at Church of the Saviour, click [here](#) to join the [Bible in a Year: 365-Day Reading Plan](#). The daily readings are taken from an Old Testament passage, a New Testament passage, and a Psalm or Proverb for each day. This plan begins on Sunday, January 1, 2023.

Regularly reading God's Word and communing with Him in prayer are the most powerful ways to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ. On average, it only takes 10-12 minutes a day to read through the entire Bible in a year. Let's resolve to saturate our minds and hearts in God's transformative Word in 2023!

In 2022, over 60 congregants took this journey together! Let's shoot for triple digits this year. It would be great if we could have over 100 people participating in this daily reading plan. Consider yourself warmly invited to be part of this family of faith reading through the entire Bible in 2023. Come be part of this wonderful spiritual experience!

MINISTRY UPDATES

WRAPPING UP THE HOLIDAYS

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Christmas Collections this year! In addition to the overflowing box of gifts, we received over \$1000 in gift cards for Afghan refugee families and women supported through WorthWhile Wear. Thank you for having an impact in these lives!

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Join us this weekend for our annual Christmas Concerts! For the full schedule, check out coswayne.org/holiday.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SERVICES

For details for our Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day services, visit coswayne.org/holiday.

CAMPUS CLOSURE

The church campus will be closed Saturday, December 24 - Monday, January 2, except for the Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day services. The campus and church office will reopen on Tuesday, January 3.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The Community Group winter break begins this week, and the winter term and sermon notes will resume the week of January 22. Open community group registration and a catalog of available groups will be available January 3 - 15 at coswayne.org/groups.



MINISTRY UPDATES

EQUIPPING CLASSES

Our equipping classes for the fall semester wrapped up with overwhelmingly positive results! A young couple grew in their relationship with God and each other, several others grew in their financial understanding and personal practices, and many participated in deep, meaningful, and often challenging conversations as they discussed ways to engage our culture and communities (see the feedback below!).

We are finalizing the details for the winter semester, which will include an equipping class at both 9:00 am and 10:30 am, starting on Sunday, January 22.

More information will be coming soon.

TESTIMONIES FROM THE EQUIPPING CLASS, "UNCOMMON GROUND"

Offered at 9:00 am on Sundays this fall

"Loved the class. The Lord is moving our family to be more missional, and I was looking for some guidance. This book and the discussions have given me much more confidence in being missional."

"This class has been so refreshing to be able to have a melting pot of ages, lived experiences, and ideas - and the space to have tough conversations. I've truly been impacted by the authenticity and topics covered - and will carry these lessons with me for a long time."

"Great conversation. Much needed. Compelling. Insightful."

"The course was challenging and enlightening. Even though it's a topic that is at the forefront of our culture, it's not one I engaged in with my peers. The depth of discussion helped me to see, better understand, and rethink my biases."



MINISTRY UPDATES

MINISTRIES STARTING THIS WINTER

Many of our ministries are enjoying the winter break and will restart again in the new year. For the most up-to-date information, visit the [Upcoming Events](#) calendar under the "Events" menu on the website.

AWANA - JANUARY 10

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

Katerina Simbo - katerinas@coswayne.org

COMMUNITY GROUPS - WEEK OF JANUARY 22

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

communitygroups@coswayne.org

ALPHA - JANUARY 24

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

alpha@coswayne.org

ROOTED - JANUARY 24

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

Erin Smith - portraitsbyerinmichele@gmail.com

FREE FRIDAYS - JANUARY 6

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

Beth Beattie - beattie.ba@gmail.com

JOY IN THE MORNING - JANUARY 11

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

Carol O'Shea - coshea903@gmail.com

JOY IN THE EVENING - JANUARY 11

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

Charlotte Barton - charbarton@aol.com

TOGETHER WON FELLOWSHIP (18+) - JANUARY 11

For more information and registration [click here!](#)

stephenc@coswayne.org

GIVING UPDATE

YTD FINANCIAL UPDATE - WHY A \$277K DEFICIT?

While we are still 22% below our expected giving for the year, we are thankful that God is continuing to provide and that many have continued to give sacrificially to God through His church. If you are considering if now is a good time to give, it is! If you have questions about giving, please visit coswayne.org/give or contact the church office at 610.688.6338.

We continue to see strong attendance at our services each week, and it is exciting to see the Holy Spirit at work, transforming the lives of women, men, boys, and girls. This is a thrilling time for us to pray and trust that God will work!

	<u>Ministry/Ops</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Love-in-Action</u>
GIVING TO DATE	\$982,674	\$224,904	\$84,856
BUDGET	\$1,260,528	\$282,692	\$39,303*
OVER/(UNDER)	(\$277,854)	(\$57,788)	\$45,553

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 7/1-11/30.



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!