

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

JUNE 2023

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

DARING GREATLY: Spending Ourselves in a Worthy Cause

Dear Church Family,

Our Vision Theme for the ministry year of 2023-2024 is **DARING GREATLY: Spending Ourselves in a Worthy Cause**. We will be unpacking this at our Vision Sunday Worship Services on June 11. Let me remind you of the new split format we will be piloting this year.

Historically Vision Day has had two parts in a single meeting: The first part was a business meeting to ratify the budget and elders, and the second part was a time when we looked at the vision for the upcoming year.

We are going to split these two components into two Sundays this year. The Annual Business Meeting will take place after our regular worship services on Sunday, June 4, at 11:45 am, where we will ratify the annual budget, moderator, and elders. The meeting will be available for in-person and virtual attendance, both livestreamed and recorded, so members who can't attend on Sunday can participate at a later time. Eligible members will be able to vote at the meeting or online until Thursday, June 8, at noon.

Then we will have Vision Sunday Worship Services the next Sunday, June 11, at both of our regular worship times: 9:00 am

(traditional) and 10:30 am (modern). This is where we will dive into our vision theme of **DARING GREATLY: Spending Ourselves in a Worthy Cause**. We are excited to share what we believe Jesus has been stirring in our hearts. After our Vision Sunday Worship Services, we will head to the North Field (weather permitting) for our Vision Day Picnic! This will include both great food and inflatables (e.g. bouncy houses) for our kids. Everyone is invited! Please plan to join us!

If this new split format proves to increase both congregational participation and focused worship, then we will continue it going forward. But if it doesn't, then it will be reevaluated accordingly. Right now, we are greatly encouraged by the feedback we are receiving.

Please visit our Vision page for more details, including links to the Annual Report, meeting agenda livestream/recording, ballot, and voting instructions, at coswayne.org/vision.

We hope to see you, along with our 23 new members, over the next few weeks!

Until all have heard,

Pastor Kevin

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Vision 23-24
- New Members
- YTD Giving Update

VISION 23-24

D A R I N G

V I S
I O N
23-24



G R E A T L Y

As we worked through the Stewardship Study earlier this year and evaluated it through the lens of our discipleship process to love God, love others, and serve the world, we felt God clearly calling us to a greater level of faith and trust in Him - a commitment to "spend ourselves in a worthy cause."

As Christ-followers, we are called to love and serve with boldness! We are called to strive and to work through the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. And so we ask you to **join us as we dare greatly and consider what it looks like to spend ourselves in a worthy cause!**

How do we spend ourselves in the worthy cause of loving God, loving others, and serving the world?



We spend our **time** investing in our relationships with God and others. At COS, we want to leverage our time together on Sundays to DO TWO - worshipping God together corporately in one service AND serving God and others during a second service.



We intentionally spend our **gifts and talents**, with creativity, in serving God and others. At COS, we want to focus our talents and creativity reaching unreached people with the gospel.



We spend our resources, our **treasure**, in loving and serving God and others. At COS, we want to commit to living generously, with open hands, giving back to God what He graciously gives to us.

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of Church of the Saviour!

Robin Aronow
Christopher Braswell & Grace Lee
Johnny Cheng & Victoria Liu
Valerie Cohen
Patrick & Zoë Colón
Caleb DeJesus
Gerry Gomez-Pinder
Jonathan & Megan Hardy

Peter Hileman
Stephanie Howland
Haitham Jazrawi & Mayada Sarsam
John & Marilyn Knox
Will & Faith Offit
Pearlie Palma
Haig & Natalie Shishmanian

To become a member, each person expressed their faith in Jesus Christ, attended our New Members Class, acknowledged the COS Covenant of Fellowship, and met with an Elder.

If you are interested in becoming a member of COS, join our next **New Members Class** on **Sunday, June 18 (part 1) & June 25 (part 2), from 9:00 to 10:00 am in the Reception Room** (building A).



GIVING UPDATE

As we approach the end of our fiscal year (June 30), we continue to thank God for His faithfulness and provision for our church. Giving in May was slightly higher than our expected budget, which reduced the deficit from \$205k to \$203k for the fiscal year.

Many have asked, "how has this deficit impacted our ministries this year?" To answer, we need to provide some context.

Both attendance and giving typically trend lower during the summer months, so we weren't too surprised to start the fiscal year behind in expected giving. However, as we continued through the fall toward the holidays, our attendance picked up while our giving continued to lag behind. Additionally, we suspected that the challenging economy contributed to fewer large gifts at the end of the year. With all of this, we were 22% behind our budget as we entered the new year.

Because of this, we asked our ministry leaders and operations teams to review all major expenses with the executive leadership team. We postponed our annual staff retreat, and we delayed several capital projects that weren't immediately required (e.g. replacing our 20+ year old roofs). Unfortunate for the team but fortunate for the budget, we also lost several staff members, which reduced our payroll. And, thanks to a mild winter, we saved on utilities and snow plowing.

While this may appear to be minimally impactful to specific ministries, it has hampered our ability to invest in "the tools" (our staff and campus) needed to do ministry.

As the Holy Spirit continues to work through our church, and we faithfully seek His leading, we trust that God will provide the means to do His will in this and the coming ministry year! Please plan to attend the Annual Business Meeting on June 4 to learn more about our budget for 2023-2024.

	<u>Ministry/Ops</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Love-in-Action</u>
GIVING TO DATE	\$2,432,291	\$511,405	\$129,215
BUDGET	\$2,634,979	\$580,204	\$113,167*
OVER/(UNDER)	(\$202,688)	(\$68,799)	\$16,048

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 7/1/22 - 4/30/23.



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!