



THE COS NEWSLETTER

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UPDATE ON REOPENING & NEW ELDER BOARD/ OFFICERS

by Pastor Kevin

Dear Church of the Saviour family,

I hope this newsletter finds each of you resting in the grip of God's grace as we travel a road that literally almost no one alive has traveled—namely, a worldwide pandemic. If the 1918 Spanish Flu was the last worldwide pandemic, then there might be less than a handful of people who still have a memory of it. So, in a very real sense, this is radically new to all of us.

As I mentioned in the closing comments at our worship services last Sunday, we have had a very low response to people registering and attending our first in-person worship services. No doubt the summer vacations play a role, but by-and-large the message we are taking from this is that you all are hesitant to come back to indoor



Update on Reopening & New Elder Board/Officers (cont.)

worship services, and we understand. We know that many of those in our COS family are all over the spectrum on our thoughts regarding COVID-19, but our hope is to continue to monitor attendance patterns and to try to figure out the best way to engage our great congregation going forward. We loved hearing from those who have attended how great it was to be back together and how safe they felt with all the precautions that we have put in place.

Please pray for God's wisdom as we continue to work on creating a space to worship the King of kings and Lord of lords in a way that is honoring to Him and transformative for us and our guests. We are exploring creative ways to worship and are planning a very simple outdoor service starting on August 8th that we hope will encourage engagement with God in worship as we sing our praise to Him with our brothers and sisters. Especially for those who might feel uncomfortable worshipping indoors, we do hope you will join us in a safe and physically distanced outdoor weekly service on Saturdays at 7pm, behind building A.

Additionally, I'd like to direct you towards our [COVID-19 page](#) to watch an informational

video featuring our First Impressions Director, Beth DeLisle, on what to expect as you come back to Sunday morning in-person worship. I think you will find it both informative and helpful.

Now if I can turn the page, I am excited to present you with the list of the Board Elders and Officers for 2020-2021. You can contact the chair, vice-chair & pastor by emailing elders@coswayne.org:

- Sierd Tilma | Chair
- David Small | Vice Chair
- Mark Smith | Treasurer
- Steve Thompson | Secretary
- Cam Hicks | Moderator
- Kevin Flannery | Sr. Pastor
- Jack Aduddell
- Dick Daniels
- Alex Evans
- Joe Gallagher
- Steve Moorhatch
- David Morra

In Christ's love,

Pastor Kevin

Seasonal Focus: ... ***in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Philippians 2:3b-4***

A CALL DURING COVID

BY JIM DOUGHERTY

If you would have told me in the beginning of the year that I would be encouraging everyone not to sing in the sanctuary on Sunday I would have thought you were crazy. But here we are, and it sure has been different. If you have made the prayerful decision to continue your worship at home we fully support that and pray that we all stay safe and healthy. We will continue to do everything we can to create opportunities for worship and connection virtually. Many of you that volunteer with us have made that decision and that has created some areas of need for us.

For those of you who have joined us in person, it has been great to gather back together in our sanctuary. Additionally, we are excited to announce that we will be hosting an outdoor service in a safer atmosphere to lift our voices to the Lord. I hope you will join us! It has been a rich experience worshipping together, in person again.

As we move towards the addition of this outdoor service, I'd like to send out a call for those of us willing to safely socialize. Philippians 2 encourages us to look toward the interests of others above our own, and if you are in a place of readiness to join us, I would ask that you not only attend, but consider serving God and those who aren't able to right now. We could use your help to launch this next venture.

We are adhering to standard safety protocols while we are together. If you are interested and willing, we currently have needs on our first impressions

team, tech team, and our worship team. Our services will be hosted every Saturday night at 7p.m. behind building A, beginning on August, 8th.

If you feel the call and are ready to accept, we would love to have you! Let us know how you would like to help by emailing info@coswayne.org. We hope you'll join us in worship and in service.



GLOBAL OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT

by Faith & Angel in East Asia

In this time of uncertainty, God continues to shine His grace upon us and listen to our prayers; more people are being saved and becoming Christians. The sinful human nature has been revealed with the pandemic. If it wasn't for the love and mercy of Christ we would be without hope as well. One believer shared with us that a driver at her husband's company serviced a COVID-19 positive client, so the whole company had to quarantine in place. Soon the word got out to the employee's friends and no one was willing to help them due to fears of infection. When the company employees tried to contact their friends and relatives for help, no one showed empathy and quickly hung up the phone. With no food or water in the building, they became desperate and fearful. This believer contacted us regarding her husband's situation; we prayed together for God's help and to take away their fear. We made contact with her husband and his employees virtually to let them know that God loves them and He will bring eternal peace to them. We taught them to pray every

GLOBAL OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT (CONT.)

day and we sang worship hymns together. We bought food and essential supplies to the building each day while they were in lock down. Once the quarantine was lifted, all the employees became Christians and accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. As I am typing this letter, I received more great news that a couple we have been teaching have decided to become Christians. Praise the Lord! In the time of turmoil we need more daring faith to worship God and live by His mercy and grace.

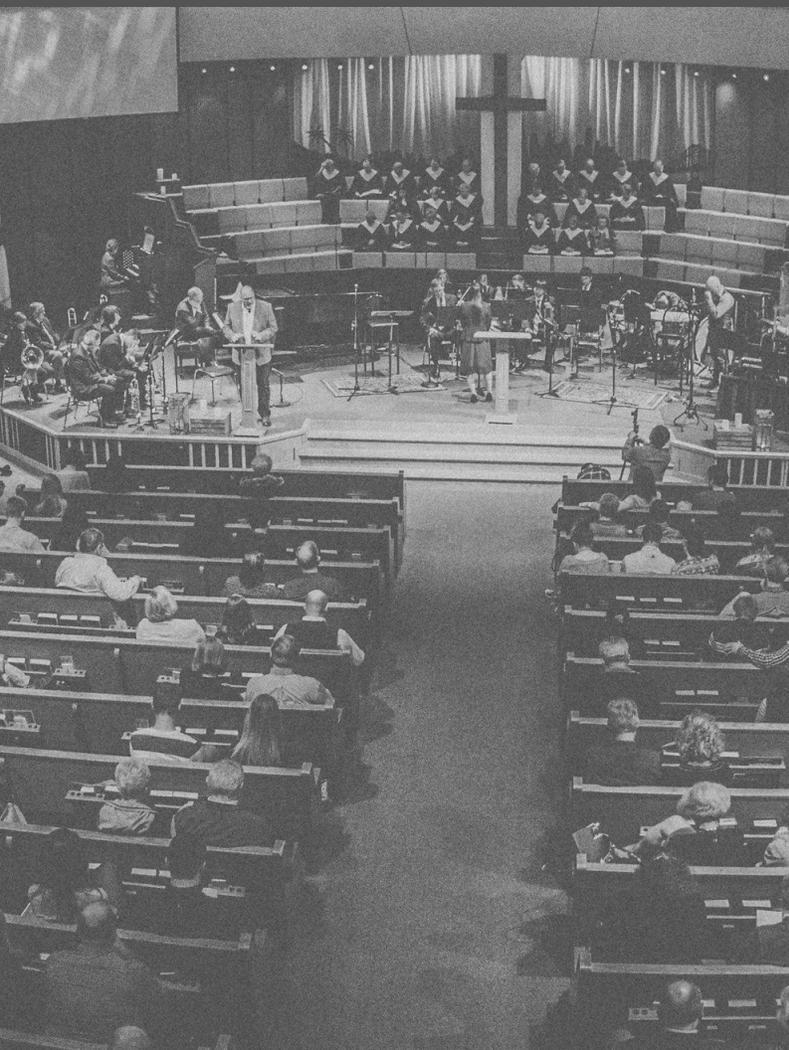
WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



In the past two months, we have been blessed and excited to welcome two fantastic new additions to our COS staff team. Fran Veira has stepped into our Student Ministry Pastor role, and not far behind him, Deborah Bitzer has stepped into our Student Ministry Associate role. In a time with so much on hold and at a standstill, we have been blessed to strengthen our Student Ministry in this way. We know you will come to know and love both Fran and Deborah as you get to know them over the coming weeks and months. They both have a heart for students and are ready to get up and running. Let's be praying for both of them as they walk through this transitional period. Welcome to COS, Fran and Deborah!

MISSIONS EVENT: SAVE THE DATE

Please join us in praying as we continue our journey with missions coach, Matthew Ellison. On Sunday, August 23, Matthew Ellison will be preaching here at COS, and we will host a Q&A session with him to learn more about the journey we are on as a church. Matthew may also be in attendance at our August 22nd outdoor service at 7pm, we hope you join us!



IN-PERSON SERVICES

We are officially hosting in-person services both indoors and outdoors!

Indoor Sunday Morning Services:

Please register for either our 9am or 10:30am service so that we can plan for and maintain proper physical distancing.

Outdoor services: No registration is necessary. Just bring your chair/blanket and water with you. We will be singing robustly at this services while safely physically distancing from each other. Masks will only be required when we are closer than six feet from non-family members. Join us at 7 pm on Saturday nights behind building A, starting August 8th.