

IN WAYNE & BEYOND

Love God, Love Others & Serve the World!

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Love God, Love Others, and Serve the World

Alpha and COVID Update

Dear Church Family,

ALPHA – We are excited about the kick-off for Alpha ministries on Tuesday, September 21. Church of the Saviour is better when we are all working together to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those in Wayne & beyond. Our Alpha Team initiated a 21-Day Prayer Campaign on Sunday, August 15 asking us to ask God to put three people on our hearts that we can pray for at 11:02 (from Luke 11:2 – Let Your kingdom come...) every day. We are asking God to keep us open to how He might want to use us to invite others to explore the person of Jesus Christ through our Alpha ministries. May God win more worshipers to Himself as we make ourselves individually and corporately available to be used for His higher purposes!

COVID UPDATE – As the Delta variant continues to gain momentum, we are going to provide additional options for you our church family. All areas of the church and all ministries are open to people masking, but we want to add another layer of protection for those who want an even more secure environment. Starting on Sunday, September 12, both our 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship services will be simulcast live in our gymnasium in building F. The common areas of building F (i.e., entry area, hallway, bathrooms) and the gym will be areas where masks are required. Our Sunday classes in F101 (Koinonia and Focus) can decide how they want to handle their classes and can choose to keep masking optional with the door to the room closed.

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But we are asking you to mask as you come into building F and to mask in the common spaces. For the next two Sundays, August 29 and September 5 we will be working out the technological kinks for our live simulcast worship services in the gym, but please feel free to attend starting this Sunday! We just can't promise it will be flawless until we have a few test runs. We will try this fully masked in the gym live simulcast for 4-5 weeks and then we will evaluate its success. Your presence at worship is important, so we want to make provisions for our church family whatever your convictions are about masking.

Also, for our Children's Ministry, we will have two tracks so that our parents' desires can be met. For those who desire for your kids to be in fully masked environments, you will have a Sunday School option for that. For those who do not want your kids in a fully masked environment, you will have an option for that. So, at our normal 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour, two simultaneous options will be available for your kids (i.e., masked, and unmasked). Thank you for understanding what a challenging time this is for everyone at COS. As we work together, we can show the world that unity in the body of Christ is not the same thing as uniformity. Thank you for extending the grace and mercy of Jesus to one another!

We will continue to monitor the pandemic and ask that you continue to pray for God's wisdom as we proceed!

UNTIL ALL HAVE HEARD,

Kevin

Pastor



REMINDER

By Leslie Eichhorn



The Alpha course is an evangelistic program that seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. It is described by its organizers as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life". Alpha courses are run in churches, homes, workplaces, prisons, universities, and a wide variety of other locations. The course began in Britain and is run around the world by various Christian denominations.

For more information on the upcoming ALPHA events [CLICK HERE](#).

A few reminders from the ALPHA Leadership Team:

- Remember to set your reminder alarm for 11:02 A.M. or 11:02 P.M. (or both!) to pray for 3 people you're inviting to one of the ALPHA programs. Registration is now open in Realm.
- Be open and expectant that God will move!
- ALPHA Night of Prayer: Sept 14 from 7 P.M. to 8 P.M. in the sanctuary. All are welcome to join us in prayer for the upcoming ALPHA classes.

ALPHA begins Sept 21!



COMMUNITY GROUPS

CREATED FOR COMMUNITY

by Deneen McDonald, Women's Ministry Director

They called it a double pandemic: Covid-19 and social isolation. We all lived through it and experienced the isolation. Peering through windows and visiting loved ones from a distance; celebrating special events with a drive-by and a wave, and spending the holidays alone. In this pandemic season, we have known what it is too long for the community. We crave it.



At Church of the Saviour, community groups have been a vital extension of church life for many, especially during this past year. Through these small gatherings, individuals have stayed connected and received support during a difficult and lonely season. Throughout the pandemic, our community group leaders did a fantastic job ministering to their group members. They provided the human connections we all longed for through Zoom and creative social distance meetings. We've heard wonderful stories of Christ-like communities this past year.

God has created us for the community. Regardless of the season of life, we're experiencing, we need one another. In his letters to the churches, the apostle Paul uses the body as a metaphor for the church. He describes the body as having many parts – each contributing a special function to keep the body healthy and vibrant. When one part fails or is missing, the whole body suffers. Paul was emphasizing the role each member contributes towards the health of the local church. Filled with the Spirit, each follower of Christ is given spiritual gifts for the edification of the body. God has entrusted these gifts to us to use in the community as we serve one another.

Community groups are a great way to experience those relationships we are created to enjoy. In these small gatherings, we share our life and grow in faith with others. Group life also gives us opportunities to serve using our spiritual gifts to encourage others. When we commit to belonging to and serving one another, the church moves closer to radiate Christ to the world.

As we move into a new season, community groups will continue to be vital to our church. We encourage everyone to find a group to experience these deep friendships serving and building up the body of Christ.

Registrations for all open groups begin this Sunday, August 29th through Sunday, September 12th. You can register online at coswayne.org/groups or in-person after Sunday services.

If you're new to COS, we're thrilled to offer TWO community group options for those who have been here for less than 12 months. Walter and Liz Anderson will continue to offer their warm hospitality on Wednesday evenings. And now, Robyn and Nathan Jameson will be facilitating a group at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. For more details on these groups and others, visit coswayne.org/groups.

CARE MINISTRIES



WHO CARES ABOUT YOU?

by Wendy Terry

I'm sure many of you have heard that the pandemic we have been muddling through over the last 18 months has wreaked havoc on the psychological condition of the earth's population. This is not unique to the United States; it is happening worldwide. Perhaps you are one of these individuals. In a report published March 16, 2021, Pew Research reported on the psychological effects of the pandemic heading into the second year. The study found that people who are already experiencing difficulties in an area of their life, including financial, physical/health, times of life change (i.e., entering adulthood), and loneliness had a higher correlation of increased distress during the pandemic.

Christians are not immune to these difficulties. We are told in a multitude of scripture passages that we will encounter trials in life on earth. Jesus was keenly aware of this. Often during His miracles of healing, Jesus would address both the spiritual need and then the physical need. Luke 9:11 tells us "...the crowds followed Him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God and healed those who needed healing." We know that only God provides healing, but He also designed us for relationships and instructs us to care for others as in 1 Thessalonians 5:11, "therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

I am so honored to belong to a church that cares about not only our spiritual condition but also our physical and emotional needs. In fact, we care so much that we have a suite of help available in our Care Ministries. If you aren't aware or want to learn more about these ministries, please visit CosWayne.org/care for a full listing of the work our loving volunteers are doing. In case you or someone you know is hurting, I want to highlight some of the ministries where the Church of the Saviour can walk alongside you in your time of need.

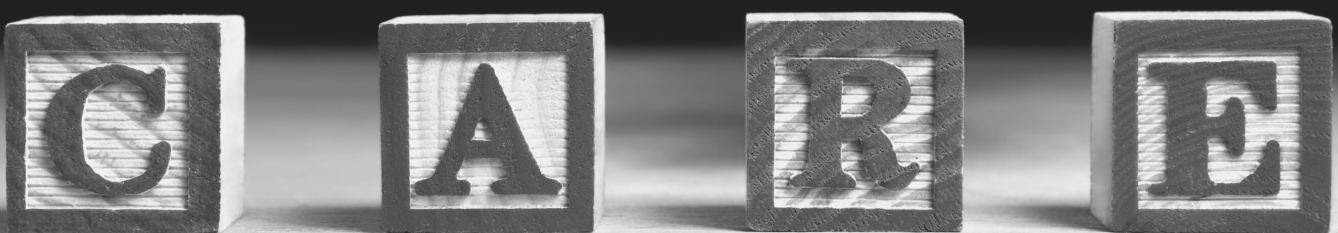


CARE MINISTRIES

CONT.

- **Cancer Ministry (Double Hope)** - open to survivors, caretakers, and those currently battling cancer. Double Hope meets each month both in-person and online and provides practical, physical, and emotional support.
- **Celebrate Recovery** - a Christ-centered program that meets weekly in the sanctuary. This 12-step program based on the Beatitudes provides help for anyone who suffers from brokenness due to hurt, hang-up, or a habit that hinders their relationship with God. You are welcome to join at any time.
- **Financial Peace University** - this program, designed by Dave Ramsey and delivered through highly motivating and humorous presentations, will teach you how to successfully manage your finances. This program is based on biblical principles and practical methods and is for everyone no matter your financial stage of life.
- **Grief Share** - a 13-week seminar and support group to help you rebuild your life after the loss of a loved one. This is a safe place shared by others who understand your pain and mourning.
- **Stephen Ministry** - provides one-on-one care for people of both the congregation and the community going through any of a multitude of life's difficulties. Stephen ministers can walk alongside you and provide Christ-centered care.

Who cares about you? Our heavenly Father cares for you in ways we may never be able to comprehend. But He has also equipped a team of volunteers within the Care Ministries at COS to walk alongside you in your time of need. These volunteers are an invaluable part of sharing the love of Jesus within our congregation and in our community. Please reach out to the church if you or someone you know needs care.



FALL MINISTRIES

Alpha, Alpha Marriage, and Alpha Pre-Marriage

9/21 Alpha

coswayne.org/alpha

9/22 Alpha Marriage

coswayne.org/alphamarriage

9/22 Alpha Pre-Marriage

coswayne.org/alphapre-marriage

Women's Ministry

9/13 Worth It

9/18 Widows Ministry

9/24 Free Fridays

9/8 Women's Studies

coswayne.org/women

Kids Ministry

9/12 Move-up Sunday

9/19 Awana: Meet the Parents

9/21 Awana

coswayne.org/kids

Worship Arts

9/21 Choir

Email:

andyl@coswayne.org

Student Ministry

9/12 Middle School (Sundays)

9/15 High School (Wednesdays)

coswayne.org/students

Community Groups

9/19 Community Group Fall Term

coswayne.org/groups

Care Ministry

Celebrate Recovery

9/13 Double Hope (Day)

9/13 Divorce Care

9/14 Double Hope (Evening)

9/21 Financial Peace

10/11 GriefShare

coswayne.org/care

Global Outreach

9/1 ReachInternational

9/11 ESL - new students

9/18 - ESL - returning students

coswayne.org/globaloutreach

Family Ministry

9/21 Alpha Marriage (Married)

coswayne.org/alpha-marriage

9/22 COS Premarital Course (Engaged)

Email: dpd1282@gmail.com

9/21 Alpha Pre-Marriage (Dating)

coswayne.org/alphapremarriage

10/6 Together One (Special Needs)

coswayne.org/special-needs

COS College

Fellowship (CCF)

9/12 College

Fellowship

coswayne.org/college

Adult Sunday School Classes

coswayne.org/sundays

Koinonia

Walk thru the Bible

Connecting Point

Charis

Focus

Outside the Box

Seeking His Face



THANK YOU

by Mark Smith, Elder Board Treasurer

Thankful and Encouraged. Those were my feelings as I received updates on your response to the call that our Manager of Global Outreach, Debra Gyamfi, put out almost a month ago. We have been, are, and will be committed to our role in spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to the unreached and least-reached “until all have heard”. As of the week ending August 17, we are ahead of missions budgeted giving to date by \$49,000, or 58% over budget. Thank you for meeting these needs when called upon in addition to your faithful regular giving to the local ministries of the Church of the Saviour.

YTD FINANCIAL UPDATE

	<u>Ministry/Operations</u>	<u>Missions</u>
Giving to Date	\$321,454	\$150,186
Budget	\$357,924	\$98,511
Over/(Under)	(36,470)	51,675



Community Groups

You aren't meant to do life alone... Get connected to a Community Group to start building relationships, growing in your faith, and getting equipped to handle life together!

Text Messaging

Please note this change to Church of the Saviour's text messages for campus information: Future notices will come from 833-744-9334

Questions & Feedback

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