

President's Annual Report 2020

Dear SOTH members,

It is with great honor that I have the opportunity to serve this congregation as the Council President. It continued to be a learning experience for me in this my final year as President.

Needless to say, this was an extraordinary year dealing with the virus, but we made it through with the help of the video Zoom platform and the Grace of God!

We accomplished a great deal in 2020 as a body of council members. I will attempt to highlight some of these accomplishments.

We put in place a Building Security task force, which later became a new ministry team.

We agreed to move our monthly Council meeting from the third Tuesday of each month to the fourth Tuesday for a period of at least two years. (20 and 21)

We applied for, and were accepted to, the Federal Government's PPP Loan.

We approved CPR/First Aid/AED Training: Members of the Building Safety Team will participate in this class, which will run six hours in length and will cover adult/child/infant CPR, AED skills, adult/child/infant choking skills, and first-aid emergencies. The course curriculum follows the American Heart Association standards with the certification being valid for 2 years.

We figured out collectively how to conduct outdoor worship services.

We formed four task forces as: Worship Practices / Safety Protocols / Music / Outdoor Worship.

Much discussion on how and when do we worship inside the church again.

We approved the purchase of new commercial lawn mower, Spartan SRT XD 61" zero turn.

We approved the LEAD, making our congregation "forward thinking"- Christian, nonprofit organization (rooted in ELCA synods), LEAD (Living Every day As Disciples) is a three-year program offering: a strategic planning process, coaching opportunities for Pastor and one other identified member, mentoring for team members, and networking as part of a cohort of other congregations.

We approved unisex bathrooms, baby changing stations, and lockable doors.

The SOTH Executive Board convened on the evening of Thursday, October 21st to discuss the options for in person church services after reviewing the recent public health restrictions and mitigations for our area, effective as of October 23rd. The Board was cognizant in reviewing the options that maintained compliance with the state and federal guidelines. The Board is confident we have protocols and procedures in place for SOTH to continue in person services with a 50

person capacity, therefore the decision was made by the Executive Board to remain at 50 person capacity for the upcoming weekly services. All were in agreement and will revisit, as deemed necessary and appropriate.

We reflected on what we need for a meaningful celebration of Christmas: each Council member shared their personal insight on what may benefit the congregation.

We approved two additional paid days off, to be flexible and used in place of an unpaid holiday, sick time, or mental health time for Dawn Virva and Ken Franz.

We successfully worked to complete the 2021 SOTH budget and are awaiting approval by the Congregation.

It has been a pleasure to serve this Congregation!

With Respect,

Steve Kirk