

**King of Glory**  
**Executive Committee**  
September 5th, 2012  
Sycamore Commerce Centre

**Attendees:** Pastor Rich Merkouris, Arden Sustad, Tim Reuer, Gerry Heuer, Sarah Marohl, Kim Brua and Kristi Brandt

Arden called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

The Agenda was presented for review and approval. Tim made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Kim seconded motion. Motion carried.

The Minutes from the August 20, 2012 meeting were presented for review and approval. Rich made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented; Tim seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Strategic Plan Discussion:**

**a. Demographic Discussion:**

Pastor Rich felt the demographic meetings were successful with approximately 90% attendance. A lot of information was provided with a variety of feedback received. There was surprise with the demographic facts that were presented and, in particular, with the low number of young families with elementary age children and families with middle and high school children. Worship is the piece that deserves the most conversation at this time as it is the most visible portion of the church. Everyone agreed with the need to grow King of Glory.

Several items identified thru the meetings can be taken care of outside the strategic planning process with plans already underway to address:

- Parking concerns at Sioux Falls Christian
- Confirmation plans

**Singles/Young Families with No Children Group:** Highlights from the conversations with the "Singles/Young Families with No Children" indicate they desire consistency in the worship format so when they invite people they know what type of service they are inviting them to. In general they do not need to emphasize denomination. They would like to look at hosting functions such as movie nights which would in turn provide opportunities for invitations to church.

**Seniors Group:** The "Seniors" indicated a desire to help the young people in the congregation by offering mentoring options. They want to insure the Biblical portion of the service is not taken away.

**Empty Nester Group:** There was good discussion on a variety of topics with the "Empty Nester" group. The majority feel we need to look at a focus on young children and 18-30 year olds. Some of this support has surfaced following the meetings thru direct conversations of individuals between the Empty Nester group and leadership. Requests for additional financial and attendance information will be easy to accommodate. The download history of the current information posted on the King of Glory website was reviewed and minimal downloads have been made of information posted. Arden recommended providing additional information on a quarterly basis to include year to date actual to budget information. The information could be provided in a variety of ways, i.e. website, newsletter and bulletins. Gerry noted that if someone wants specifics he would welcome them coming to him at any time.

**Page Two (2)**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**September 5, 2012**

Growth is an important factor in our goal of spreading the Word. How are we going to grow King of Glory? Closely tied into this question is the worship style discussion. Our current service is a hybrid style combining contemporary and traditional elements. If we want to attract the younger worshiper we will need to go to a more true contemporary service than our current service to appeal to new younger worshipers as well as maintain our younger current worshipers. It is estimated there are approximately 30 current worshipers in this category. There have also been current King of Glory worshipers who have expressed a desire for a more traditional worship format. There are varying degrees of traditional worship, i.e. liturgical, similar to the current hybrid service with regular inclusion of core elements such as the Confession, Lord's Prayer, Apostles Creed and Benediction. It is estimated there are 10-15 worshipers who "want" a traditional style of worship and another 20-25 worshipers who would "prefer" a more traditional worship style.

Recent church start-ups in Sioux Falls that have been successful offer a true contemporary worship style. If we go to a more contemporary service would we be competing for the same market? Many local ELCA churches offer both a traditional and contemporary service option and this dates back about ten or more years. It is very difficult to determine the size of the market of worshipers outside King of Glory looking for a traditional worship format. The window of opportunity to attract people leaving the ELCA is becoming very short if we want to look at them as a growth opportunity. Some of the comments discussed with going to two services include:

- Having separate traditional and contemporary services may segregate the congregation.
- Would we be able to support two services with our current attendance numbers? If we try it and the numbers do not support the two services, there is concern people would not be willing to go back to one service.
- Is this a tool we want to use to grow King of Glory? Or would it be to accommodate worship style preferences?
- Would we offer two services of the same style or two services of different styles?
- To date no one has stepped forward to provide a leadership role for a traditional style service.

No decisions were made on the worship format and the committee agreed that we would continue this discussion at our next meeting.

Discussions regarding opportunities in regards to children's education are underway. A recent survey indicated an interest in offering Sunday School. Rich will distribute the survey to the Executive Committee.

Everyone was asked to give the current options prayerful consideration over the next two weeks. Rich would let to set a goal of arriving at a decision within the next few weeks regarding King of Glory's future as it relates to plans for growth, number of services and worship style.

Pastor Rich closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned by general consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kristi Brandt, Secretary  
Executive Committee  
King of Glory