

S.O.A.R – A Framework for Vision and Mission Planning

STRENGTHS: What makes River of Hope unique? How is God working through us in ordinary and miraculous ways? What are we good at? What are you passionate about being part of through River of Hope?

OPPORTUNITIES: What are good things you see around us in Hutchinson and McLeod County that are good for River of Hope and good for our community? Who can we reach? Who can we serve?

ASPIRATIONS: What are your hopes for River of Hope? What would you like the future to look like? What are you deeply passionate about? What does your dream church feel like?

RESULTS: What is one (or 2 or 3!) new things we could do together in 2019? In the next 5 years? What is one thing you want to help make happen?

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STRENGTHS: What makes River of Hope unique? How is God working through us in ordinary and miraculous ways? What are we good at? What are you passionate about being part of through River of Hope?

- All inclusive
- Beer & Hymns (2)
- Music (2)
- Flexible
- We make a difference
- Open and welcoming to all (2)
- Family Feel- we care about each other
- Young
- Experimental
- Energetic
- Show love to all, no judgement, no strings attached
- we have a community that is focused on looking out for the disadvantaged
- we are good at outreach
- we have no official building with a mortgage that could weigh us down
- intergenerational worship
- playground (2)
- meaningful worship service
- welcoming to new members
- non traditional venue/building
- Laundry Love
- confirmation
- dare to be different (2)
- ROH grew out of 2 ELCA churches leaving the ELCA (2)
- Music (3)
- Relationship

- we are a small congregation which promotes closeness to each other
- great liturgy
- relate scripture to current social issues-make bible stories relevant to today
- joyful interactive worship
- we bring forgiveness and grace to those attending
- we go out
- we meet you where you are
- active participation with members
- we are good at joy
- not afraid to ask questions about scripture
- open communion table

O

- various opportunities to serve because of all the local organizations
- reaching outside Hutch, we don't need to be a neighborhood church
- variety of opportunities for fellowship, Sunday-all, Wed-youth, bible studies-men/women
- Home for homeless
- there is traditional interest in churches, whats next?
- reach/invite unchurched vs. unhappily churched
- can we reach out to those who feel no connection to community, who feel disconnected from "mainstream" Hutchinson?
- Laundry Love (4)
- Common Cup (3)
- Who are our neighbors? How do we connect young people and non-churched to lives of faith and knowing God and their stories?
- new leaders stepping forward to add new energy to those tired

OPPORTUNITIES: What are good things you see around us in Hutchinson and McLeod County that are good for River of Hope and good for our community? Who can we reach? Who can we serve?

- Music services
- Families in need of emergency shelter
- HOMES
- Operation Hope
- Youth program (2)
- Community outreach
- Private program for-homeless -abuse -hunger
- Habitat for Humanity

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ASPIRATIONS: What are your hopes for River of Hope? What would you like the future to look like? What are you deeply passionate about? What does your dream church feel like?

- some type of Lutheran education for our young kids
- be a joyful place to worship
- help people know about Jesus dying for us
- welcome and support young families
- meet the needs of all members
- connect with families who do not have support available
- growth of members and stewardship in the community
- more meaningful things that invite and connect visitors or new people
- strong leaders
- healthy, transparent communication
- laser focus direction
- strong prayer life
- grow; more young families
- stronger focus on youth (2)
- more service projects
- more small groups, Faith 5 again?

- more servant leaders
- Go out. We are too comfortable
- focus on community needs when developing programs and using resources
- ELCA-bible study for women 30-50 years. JAVA?
- Partner with others-Methodist turkey dinner
- a church that inspiring to others
- a church that serves
- be important/helpful to more people
- Youth person, more consistent
- we should be challenging, vibrant place, focused on Jesus
- I would like to see ROH continue to grow

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RESULTS: What is one (or 2 or 3!) new things we could do together in 2019? In the next 5 years? What is one thing you want to help make happen?

- figure out what do people want
- why do we want it
- ROH community garden—we all tend to garden space. Small group deliver fresh produce to those without access? For reasons of cost? Transportation?
- support HOMES to provide emergency shelter for families
- hold true to our mission
- Grow “Erin’s kids” youth ministry and creative funding
- work with JRLC on legislation to eliminate poverty
- get people involved again
- talk with people about strengths and weaknesses of church
- homeless shelter
- worship out in community
- youth program
- joint youth group with Faith or CTK

- youth table
- meet with those not frequently attending
- Wednesday night programming—other times/places
- meaningful small group ministries to connect people
- can we do this without a building? If so, what can it look like?
- alternative worship service, music and meditative based, hymns, silence, scripture, candles, etc, no sermon, no communion
- no roll call, no counting, no pressure