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| **Rejoice Council Meeting Dialogue (revised 10/1/23)**    This draft of the SWOT Analysis was discussed at our council meeting regarding how we’re going to cut expenses and/or raise revenue to avoid depleting our cash on hand in a few months. Considerations:   * This list is not unique to Rejoice as other churches are facing similar challenges. * An issue can be considered either a positive or negative depending on how one looks at it. * What would you add to this draft?  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Strengths:**   * Musical leadership * Welcoming congregation * Family-friendly * Caring ministries, i.e. LovePaks, college care * Stephen Ministry congregation * Consistent Sunday School & VBS * Digital worship services * The Table reaching young adults * Community outreach, i.e. Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk ‘N Treat * History of capital stewardship campaigns * Working small groups * Provides homework space after school * Pastoral staff-scriptural focus-2x * Strong tech skills by pastors * Adam’s salary & grant * Table funding * Renting classroom space * Financial position-no mortgage | **Weaknesses:**   * Shrinking volunteer base * Underutilized commercial kitchen * Underutilized classroom space * Decreasing Rejoice membership * Lack of youth involvement in worship * Continuing maintenance expenses * Serving people spread out over large area in multiple cities * Lack of youth involvement, group & activities-3x * Lack of communication-2x * Communication-ownership of sign-up & find own replacement if unable to serve * If someone wants to serve, who to ask? * Congregational demographics-aging * Lack of men’s groups-3x * Lack of family programs & mentor young families – 2x * Lack of couple’s groups * Existing programs primarily serve retirees/empty nesters * No program/committee for stewardship or capital campaign-2x * Lack of evangelism | |

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| **Opportunities:**   * Proximity to local schools provides the opportunity to support students * Good relationship with Hindu temple * Sharing Rev. Adam’s salary with the synod * Grants help support funding for The Table * Ability to rent our space to other organizations * Population growth in North Texas * Return to being a teaching congregation for new seminarians * Return to being a programmatic church from a pastor-led church * How to encourage in-person and online members to support the church * Rev. Neil’s sabbatical from Aug.-Oct. 2024 * Game nights with meal, card nights & food * Time & Talent Sheet * Training opportunity for children * Youth lock-ins to plan activities * Youth Sunday * Serve 4x per person to create a rotating schedule * Rev. Adam offer children’s message monthly-2x * Publicize & expand Stephen Ministry program * Bible study | **Threats:**   * Growth of non-denominational vs. traditional churches * Cost of living may may mean less resources for church * Increasing need for physical and mental health support * Programmatic church as a threat? (lay leaders * Activity conflicts with church schedule * Lack of time to participate * Future costs, i.e. aging building * Secular attacks on Christianity and perceived as judgmental. |