



THE CROSS CHRONICLES

FEBRUARY

Readings for the week of February 6, 2022

Epiphany

First Reading Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13)

Epistle – 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20

Holy Gospel – Luke 5:1-11

Ctrl+Click this link for the Shadow of the Cross

website: SHADOWOFTHECROSSLC.ORG

and this link for secure electronic giving:

Worship service livestream:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM0cM0gle1sMO4AbuYc5I7Q>

Sunday services are 8:30 a.m., and 11:00 am.

Fellowship hour with refreshments will follow the

8:30 am and 11:00 am services. Pastor Dupre's
Sunday Bible study has begun and it is at 10:00 am.

Holy Communion will be on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th

Sundays during the 11:00 service and the 2nd and 4th
Sunday during the 8:30 am service.

COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted in the state and also here at SOTC. Social distancing and mask are still respected however they are not required. We ask if you have not been vaccinated please wear your masks. Please do not come to church if you have a fever, other flu like symptoms or if you have been around someone who has tested positive for the Corona Virus in the past two weeks.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I was asked if having a congregational meeting in place of Bible study was good, right, and salutary. I responded that the business of the church was just as important to the sustaining of God's Holy house as preaching and teaching is to the nurturing of the flock. A couple of you disagreed. Therefore, it is my intent to demonstrate the historical truth in what I have said.

Old Testament – God establishes His church: When God delivered Israel out of bondage in Egypt, it was His intent and promise to build Israel into a nation; but not any nation; a nation that was holy unto Himself; one in which He would be their God and they, His people. God desired to dwell (tabernacle) among His people, and so He instructed Moses and the people to construct a dwelling place for Him (the tabernacle) and the mercy seat atop the ark of the covenant. This would be the Holy place in which God would dwell among His people. He also set up guidelines, rules for worship, established animal sacrifices, and grain, oil and wine offerings so that His people would have a means of being forgiven of their sins and cleaned of their unrighteousness (as well as providing food for the priests and Levites). He established priests to oversee the worship services and the Levites to tend to the needs of the priests and the protection and care of the sanctuary. This was done to establish good order. There was one temple,

built in the place God chose; Jerusalem. And there was one people whom God called His own; the Israelites.

New Testament – Jesus establishes the new church: When Jesus came to earth, everything changed, including God's church on earth. Since Jesus is the fulfillment of the Sabbath, the faithful no longer had to worship on the seventh day. All the Levitical rituals that went along with the Sabbath were abolished as well. That allowed the faithful to choose their own day of worship. When Jesus died on the cross, the curtain that separated the holy of holies (God's dwelling place in the temple) was ripped away, symbolizing that what had separated us from our God (sin) had now been disposed of. Jesus had re-established the way to the kingdom of heaven, not just for Jews, but for gentiles as well. Now all people had access to the Father through the Son. Since all people would have access to the Father, the Son chose apostles to establish His churches everywhere, giving them the command to make disciples of all nations. The apostles and appointed overseers were now the O.T. equivalent of priests. Now there would not be just one tabernacle for God to dwell with His people, there would be multiple and many. There was no longer need to make sacrifices since Jesus is our sacrifice. A new way of worship had to be established and good order in worship would be more important now than ever before. Therefore, the apostles in Acts 14:23 appointed elders in every church for the purpose of tending to the needs of the priests and the flock. Elders would then take on the role of the O.T. Levites with the added responsibility of establishing and maintaining good order.

The church today – Today, God still desires to dwell among us. In most denominational Christian churches, the order is the same. There is a pastor/priest/minister to shepherd the flock. There is a governing board charged with ensuring purity and sanctity of the Word is preached, as well as making administrative, maintenance and financial decisions. Then there is the congregation, the flock that decides day and time of worship, chooses their shepherd, chooses style of worship, and tithes to cover expenses. All of these things are important because they are interconnected and all of these things are vital for the support and functioning of Christ's church on earth, therefore they are what God has called us to do as a congregation and as part of the body of Christ. God bless you all!

The peace of the Lord be with you -Rev. Brian Dupre, Pastor, SOTC

Aaron Clark has created a SOTC YouTube channel and will be streaming the service. Please direct all questions to the church office 248 474-0675, Mon – Friday, 9:45 am – 2:00 pm. Thank you. Tuesday Bible Study is at 11:30 am. You can also join us via Zoom, contact the office for the information

SOTC Zoom Account

Any chairperson needing to use the Zoom account for their ministry, please contact the Church office. There is a sign-up sheet in the office to reserve your date and time.



Sunday school is back and we are meeting in person on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Our adult Sunday school will continue on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom and we hope to see you there. If you have any questions regarding our Sunday school please feel free to call any of the Sunday school staff, Dawn Kivimaki, Lori Smith, Laina Burk, Shirley Bowden, Myita Davis, Roderick McClure, Barbara Profit or the church office 248-474-0675. The Zoom link will remain the same until further notice.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84823378288?pwd=SDWEUIQTVVOCWtkY3ZjNytNRHVwUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 233 78288, Passcode: 333179



Water Cake Recipe

Ingredients

- 2 C All-Purpose Flour
- 3 tsp baking powder

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- 1/3 C cocoa powder (optional)
- 2/3 C granulated sugar
- 1 C water
- 1/4 C vegetable, melted coconut oil or even olive oil
- 1 tsp vanilla
- Powdered sugar, for dusting

• Instructions

Preheat the oven to 325 F

Sift the flour, baking powder and cocoa powder (if using) together in a large mixing bowl.

Combine the sugar and water and stir well until the sugar is dissolved. Add the oil.

Add the liquid mixture to the flour and baking powder and mix (using a hand mixer, stand mixer or by hand) until combined.

Grease a round pan with cooking spray or a thin layer of more oil.

Bake the cake for about 30 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out dry

Let the cake cool, and then dust the top with powdered sugar.

HOLY HUMOR

*** Question: According to the Bible, which of Yahweh's servants was the most flagrant lawbreaker?**

*** Answer: Moses, because he broke all 10 commandments at once.**

*** Question: How do we know that they played cards in the ark?**

*** Answer: Because Noah sat on the deck**

*** Question: Why didn't Noah go fishing?**

*** Answer: He only had two worms.**

*** Question: Which Bible character had no parents?**

*** Answer: Joshua, son of Nun (Joshua 1:1).**

*** Question: Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?**

*** Answer: Samson -- he brought the house down**

Bible Trivia Questions

Question: In what language was the Old Testament written?

Answer: Hebrew

Question: What was The Golden Calf?

Answer: The idol the Israelites worshipped while Moses was away.

Question: Who was Israel's firstborn son?

Answer: Reuben

Question: David had a daughter named what?

Answer: Tamar

Question: How many children did Israel have?

Answer: 13

Mask Mandate: Oakland County health officials are requiring masks for students and staff in all preschools and K-12 public schools regardless of vaccination status.

Oakland County Health Division issued an emergency health order with immediate effect that will impact about 210,000 students across 28 public school districts and 22 charter schools academies. The order also applies to daycare centers and vocational schools.

A Message from the CDC on Covid-19

precautions: (updated regularly) click link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> COVID Data Tracker

Find maps and charts tracking cases, deaths, and trends of COVID-19 in the United States, updated daily by 8 pm ET.

New Vaccination and Case Trends tab displays trends in people receiving at least 1 dose of

vaccine and being fully vaccinated along with trends in cases, by age group. Users can now filter all maps on County View tab to display only metropolitan counties or only non-metropolitan counties

COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review

An interpretive summary of this week's data
COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review Thumbnail
How Do I Find a COVID-19 Vaccine?
COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review Thumbnail
Your Community. Stay up to date on the latest data in your community at the state and county level.

County View Track cases, deaths, hospitalizations, and more for your community.
Community Profile Report
View key indicators for all regions, states, core-based statistical areas, and counties across the US.
Community Profile Report - Forecasting

See expectations for case increases or decreases for your state and across the US
Publisher's note: If you have information, prayer request, something you would like to share with your church family, a poem, a song, a scripture, a picture of something that puts a smile on your face, please send it to Veronica's email sotclutheran.officemanager@gmail.com or Dawn's email sotclutheran.secretary@gmail.com
Information for the Newsletter, please submit by the 20th of each month for the following month's publication. Thank you and Blessings!

CONGRATULATION

This year's SOTC Women of the Year is Heather Rooker. She will be honored at the 58th annual CLW Luncheon, March 15, 2022, at the Macomb Sports & Expo Center. Tickets are **\$32.00/person**. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to attend. Please sign your name and the number of tickets you would like. Give payments for tickets to Nancy Engling. **Deadline March 1, 2022.** SOTC Women's League

SOTC International Friendship Center 2022 social events for ladies!

February Theme Social Event Japanese Calligraphy Workshop – Takako and Kyoko *Friday, January 28 was deadline to participate in this workshop. Limited to six guests. *Must purchase own calligraphy brushes for this workshop*

Suggestion only:

Zen™ Series 83 Watercolor 5 Piece Pointed Oval Brush Set Item # 10408126

<http://www.michaels.com> **\$9.99** *(Least expensive found)*

Rice paper, Japanese Ink and oversized-top to protect clothes will be supplied.

Monday, February 7 9AM ESL Bible Study 10AM Social Activity

Monday, February 14 9AM ESL Bible Study 10AM Social Activity

March Theme Social Event: Origami Workshop - Kyoko and Takako

Friday, February 25th is deadline for registration to participate in workshop.

Paper for making origami sculpture will be supplied. Limit six guest.

Monday, March 7 9AM ESL Bible Study 10AM Social Activity

Monday, March 21 9AM ESL Bible Study 10AM Social Activity

No ESL program until after Easter

Help Wanted!

Shadow of the Cross is looking for PRAYER WARRIORS...mornings and evenings open!
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!!! ONLY A LOVE FOR JESUS, and a desire
to follow His footsteps and pray with and for others. IF YOU HAVE A FEW EXTRA
MINUTES, please consider joining the team....CALL: **Mary Rooker or Nancy Faith.**

Roof Repair/AC Pledge Drive January4,2022 Report THANK YOU

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Our \$50,000.00 Actual Funds Received (as of 1/18/2022) \$31,485.00

Offerings are still welcomed for the roof/ac donations.

PLEDGE COMMITMENTS – Roof/AC

Jeanette Adams	Shirley Eiben	Joyce Hilpert
George and Kay Barnes	Herb and Nancy	Robb Howell
Reanelle Beaty	Engling	Alice Iaconelli
Carole Boulware	Timothy and Clare	Bob and Mary Jo Keller
Villada Brown	Engling	James and Dawn
John Burhop	Merlin Fields	Kivimaki
Craig Clark	Nancy Faith	Russ and Lindsay
Brenda Clavon	Mary Gardner	Lapworth
Ava Davis	Veronica Green	Ann Little
Pastor and Margo	Barbara Hatcher	Gloria Marchand
Dupre	Max Heise	Sharon Martin
Annie Edwards	Herschel and Angie	Dorothy McClure
Doug Eiben	Hembree	Roddy McClure

Keith McKee
Patricia Melton
Lauren Mosley
Ruth Palmer
Lynette Robinson
John Rousseau
Mary Rooker
Steve and Heather
Rooker

John Rousseau
Lola Sample
Diane Smith
Felicia Smith
Ronald and Carol
Smolka
Joe and Sandy Soukup
Norma Speier
Dorothy Tankard

I. Thompson
Ellis Threadcraft
Daniel and Connie
Strausberg
Katherine Wemyss
William & Robin Ward
Chester & Linda
Wilcoxson
Charleen Woodfield

This list will be updated as pledges come in. Thank you!

Stream Survey Results Are In

By Robin J. Ward

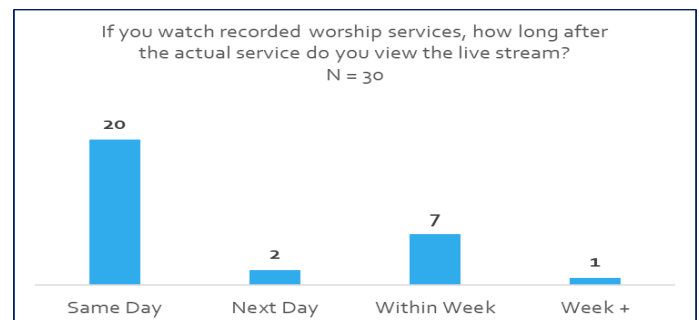
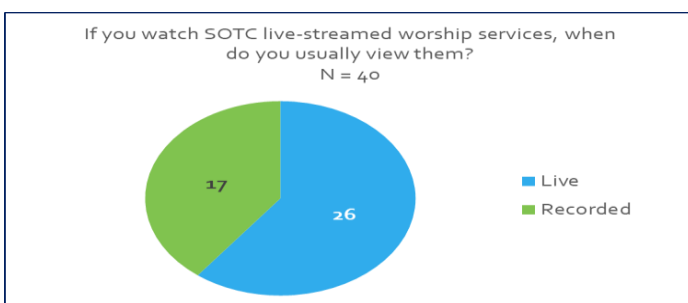
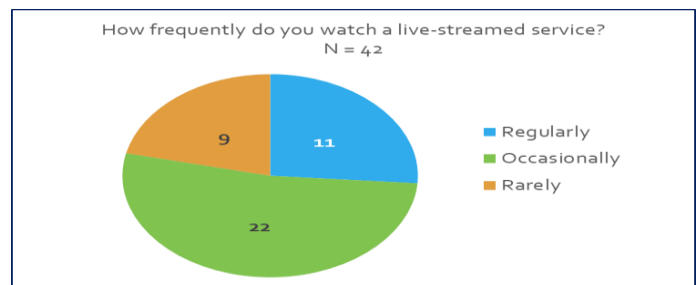
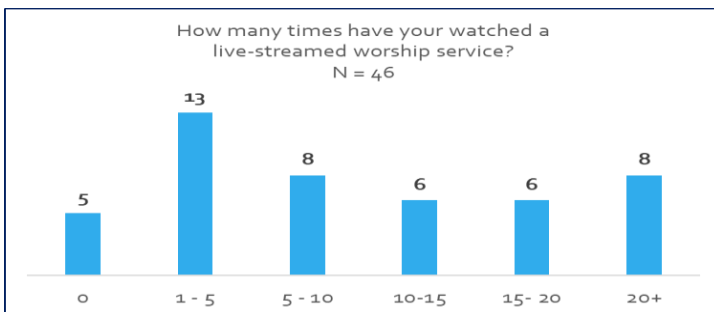
If you are anything like me, you don't mind answering survey questions, but you also want to see the results. It should be noted that since we only received four surveys electronically, the results may be skewed toward the experience of those who mostly attend services in person.

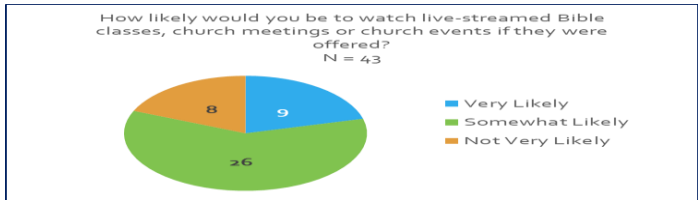
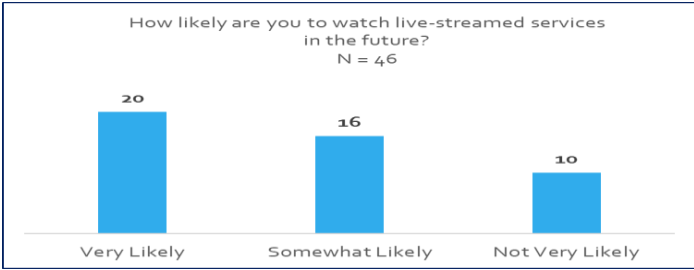
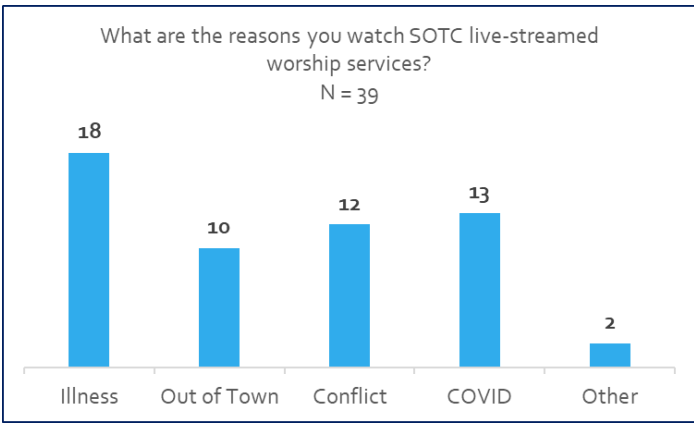
Some interesting findings include We asked, and 46 of you answered. That's awesome! Thank you!

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- 61% of the respondents have viewed more than five live-stream services.
- 26% of the respondents watch live-stream services regularly.
- When respondents watch a live-stream service, 65% usually watch it live.
- Almost all the respondents watch the recorded service before the next service happens.
- 81% of respondents would likely watch live-streamed Bible classes, church meetings or church events in the future.

The answers to the survey questions are provided below, via charts and graphs ("N =" represents the number of people who answered this particular question).





We also asked two open-ended questions about what people found to be the most valuable benefit of SOTC's live-streamed worship services and suggestions for improvement. The comments regarding the benefits fall into three main categories: Access to the services for all; feelings of connectedness; and ability to still watch the service when not physically present. Suggestions for improvement centered around better sound, picture and streaming quality and providing text along with the live-stream (such as words to the hymns and names of speakers).

Be assured that the live-stream team is working on these improvements. The team is looking into obtaining a better camera. There are plans to run a network cable to the choir loft to provide a higher bandwidth connection (the organ pipes may be blocking the WiFi signal from the Narthex). Further research is needed on how to display text on the screen and improve the sound quality (for the present, the best sound is achieved when microphones are used).

Again, thank you for responding to our live-stream survey. We will provide progress updates on SOTC's online ministry as they occur.