OPPORTUNITIES

30 - COMMUNITY/ OUTREACH: can take advantage of creating relationships with local government to assist in achieving goals of the church; align with people who can provide services for the better of the church; community outreach; continue and step up or community outreach programs and publicize the church's philanthropy appropriately;; many Christian Communities in the Warren area: connection with other Orthodox churches; invite Greek and non-Orthodox people as well; using multiple social service resources and assets available to our county; reaching out to area universities regarding our faith; Outreach to communities and nearby universities; outreach to people with mental health concerns; outreach the church can become a beacon of faith and positivity in this small community through service to others; community outreach to gain community respect; growth in our community; help more organizations at a local level; stronger involvement in our community outside the church; networking with other Orthodox churches in the community; reaching out to other small Orthodox churches with assistance / charity; Community missions; global missions; outreach; combine with other Orthodox church more often in order to access and participate in community ministry activities; engage with homeless shelters and food banks; more involvement in the community; supportive local government; better recognition of generational diversity, strong resurgence of interest in community involvement activities with more people wanting to participate in volunteer work; taking advantage of new families and inviting them to join us; Gallop wrote while belief in God has declined in recent years, Gallop has documented steeper drops in church attendance, membership and confidence in organized religion suggesting that the practice of religious faith may be changing more than basic faith in God. Sadly, reality presents us with the opportunity to engage in focused outreach; able to reach people in need in the area, all range of ethnic backgrounds; providing Outreach to community and a crazy world.

22 - LOCATION: multiple neighboring Orthodox churches; small city; nearby colleges; nearby access to larger cities; small town with a sense of belonging community and history; the downtown area where the church is located seems to be undergoing some revitalization; Warren is a fairly large city that has a strong Christian presence; other Orthodoxy based communities are nearby for potential growth together; many smaller Orthodox Christan parishes in the area that may not be independently sustainable; many schooling systems; a growing downtown area; growing rebounding downtown close to where the church is located; improve economy in the Youngstown Warren region; Trumbull County has jobs returning to the general community attracting young families out; housing is still affordable; 2 universities that are within an hour of the church filled with potential youth; Church is in downtown Warren which is beginning to gentrify its downtown; close proximity to prime medical institutions; a diverse cultural population within the area; Several universities and technical schools within the area; I'm not sure; big downtown development will help our church be in a great central position; Warren Ohio has great natural resources and hospitals and involvement in community; Several universities where kids go and can reach out to them; Demographics in Warren are opportunities for service; economic opportunities; jobs.

OPPORTUNITIES

- <u>15 TECHNOLOGY/SOCIAL MEDIA</u>: New technology; we can take advantage of social media outreach to deliver church services and messages from the church,; social media; social media campaigns; social media communication is the key; grants and social media; social media and other technology could help our church get out important information to the community; upgrade the church's online interface to young people and families looking for a spiritual home; technological advances; current and emerging technology advancements that improve communication; online giving; live streaming sermon delivery and broader outreach; church congregations closing or shrinking we can grow, streaming services; social media if monitored correctly; social media.
- 15 SEEKERS /NON-GREEK CONVERTS growth younger people seem to be interested in Orthodoxy and are showing interest in participating in the church; more people interested in Orthodoxy; potential converts; advertise and show our faith; faith seeking individuals; expand and spread work to colleges, hospitals and military bases; expand to non-Greeks; a local interest in Greek culture; Greek/NonGreek marriages where non-Greeks convert; non-Greeks marrying to the culture in faith; Greek festival brings outside interest and support of the Greek culture; young families in the area with no religious affiliation; building our programs and inviting potential coverts; Outreach to the disenfranchised cradle orthodox, this provides tremendous opportunity to challenge non-practicing Orthodox Christians to reconsider their preconceived notions about the church and reconnect them to its inner mystical reality, the St Demetrios Church building is in a poverty stricken, crime ridden area; many people losing faith needing a home; New potential converts.
- **2 FUNDING/LOCAL ECONOMY:** outside funding available grants, etc; government grants available to help churches; grants.
- **2 Youth**: local Orthodox pre-K thru 8th grade school; camp Nazareth.

ONE OFFS:

- ~ for all of the above does out local diocese or archdiocese have anything available that we can utilize:
- ~people want to do good just need direction;
- ~ Churches open up playgrounds and activities

Internal NOT External

- ~ Our church actions should provide incentive to attract new members and to retain our current members;
- ~ upgrade the church's online interface to young people and families looking for a spiritual home; use of technology in the church example:
- ~ iPad in the pews;
- ~ investigate moving the church to Atlantic Street;

OPPORTUNITIES

- ~ welcoming outsiders to our church;
- ~ welcoming committee when parishioners enter church; need for new stewards;
- ~ when we have game nights or basketball nights;
- I~ ncorporating knowledge experience and talent of our parishioners in future endeavors;
- ~ business owners of the church seem to be doing well and thriving;
- ~ many good leaders and people who want a resurgence of the community;
- ~ invite people to our church and help them feel welcome;
- ~ do something to make people happy at St. Demetrios;
- ~ opportunity for engagement with priests and Board members; organization of events that aren't all "Greek-centric;
- ~ perhaps focus on Orthodoxy;
- ~ establish security plans;
- ~ welcome and be more welcoming to non-Orthodox Christians;
- ~educated people and entrepreneurs who have connections to get things done;
- ~endless opportunities;
- ~ care for the youth; build a real youth center;
- ~ modernize the festival;
- ~ I have no additional feedback regarding opportunities beyond what was already captured during the Community Open
- ~ Forum event on 8/29/23.:
- ~ How wonderful would it be to offer our church basement hall for embracing programs aimed at engaging the most vulnerable of our community, the young people;