

CHALLENGES WE FACE

Internal	External
Simply Keeping the doors open	Popular culture rejects Christianity
Small size	Not meeting community needs
No fulltime priest	Being perceived as weird/dangerous
Limited services	Ethnic implications (i.e. Greek Orthodox)
No building of our own	Difficulty of sharing our beliefs
Parishioners spread-out	Not doing outreach
Limited finances	
No Sunday service	
Acceptance by parishioners	
High cost of becoming Orthodox	
Demands of family and daily life	
Structure	
Busy Lives; doing too many things	
Stress	
Outreach involvement & guidance	
Hard to get together to accomplish goals/ideas	
Parishioner schedules in conflict with one another	

HOW ARE WE RESPONDING TO THE DECLINE OF CHRISTENDOM?

Positive	Negative
Trying to learn about the faith	Silence
Continuing our way of life	Confusion (uncertain how to respond)
Prayer	<i>Not</i> Responding
Clinging to the Faith	Not advertising
Covertly instilling in youth	Retreating
Not participating in prevailing culture	Becoming more insular
The doors are open (we have services)	Head in sand (fear)
Self-Reflection	Not going to church on Sunday

WHAT SHOULD OUR STRATEGY BE?

Prayer	Action	Accountability and deadlines
Don't miss liturgy	Discipleship leading to Apostleship	Goals and objectives – Action Plan
“Get to the Cup”	More Fellowship	Youth engagement
Monastery Pilgrimages	Communicate better (email?)	Guide for youth and new people
Get together for discussion	Monthly huddles	Church School
Community visibility		