**Minutes of November 2, 2022 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

**5:00 p.m. – in person, in the Parlor**

**In Attendance:** Adeline Bailey, Kat Hawbaker, Martha McGovern, Suzyn Mills, Annie Warmke

**Theme for 2020-2022: How can we be mindful and authentic in cherishing all life?**

Chalice Lighting: Prayer to Mother Earth Pawnee Tribe

 Look at Mother Earth growing fields!

 Look toward the promise of her fruitfulness!

 Look at Mother Earth spreading trees!

 Look toward the promise of her fruitfulness!

 Her power she has given us.

 Give thanks to Mother Earth who is lying here.

1. Minutes of the October meeting were approved.
2. Assessment on progress with methods of increasing involvement: Probably the ones we need to attend to most are the **Greeters and Time for All Ages**.
* *Establishment of Greeter Team – Zoom and in-person:* Adeline reported that progress is being made by the Membership Committee.
* Time for All Ages – team, schedule, suggested readings

Kat encouraged focused attention on this component of the worship service. The Committee agreed that a first step is to include Time for All Ages in planning all services.

Other actions are

to request suggestions from members and friends (especially, Emily Keller, Cindy Burton),

to design a worship service around stories, to plan a Women’s Group and a Men’s Group meeting around the question of favorite or most helpful/powerful stories,

to write a piece for The Confluence. Martha McG is scheduled for January 8 service, will write piece for Confluence, and will speak with coordinators of Men and Women Groups.

Suggested New Books:

*No Time for Mother’s Day* by Laurie Halse Anderson (Martha)

*I Am Golden* by Eva Chen (Martha – Migration - acceptance of Asian ethnicity)

*We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom (Martha – inspired by Native American legends and recent actions)

*Time to Fly* by George Ella Lyon (Martha – A story of nurturing and independent)

*The Birthday of the World* by Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen (Martha – related to stories that guide us)

1. Correspondence: Martha has sent thank you notes to guest speakers and contributors.
2. Financial Matters: The Committee approved paying Steve Free $125 ($50 – musician, $75 – speaker/storyteller) for the November 13, 2022 worship service. That request has been submitted.

Martha Webster has requested reimbursement for purchase of Choir music for 2022-23.

Payment should be charged to the Special Music Fund. Martha McG will speak with Steve Meyer and Ted Goertzel about clearly indicating which fund to charge (the music line in the W & M Committee budget or the special Music Fund [Novaks]).

1. Reflection on recent services: Day of the Dead, October 30, 2022

What went well – The memorial slide video was effective.

 The explanatory video was helpful.

The candle display was aesthetically pleasing and functional.

Remembrances were very moving; calling out names later, too.

The special coffee hour was fun! (Bloody Mary Coffee)

The special service and coffee hour drew in community members and 11 people

stayed for the tours.

What to improve, change –

 There was some concern expressed about “cultural appropriation.”

 Could we do something to engage attendees as they enter? [e.g., Give then a

card to write down names of persons who have passed, a flower, a candle]

Add a food collection component to the day?

Time for All Ages: We can provide additional guidance on how most effectively to present children’s books.

General Observation: People like a positive vibe to the services and less “staid” elements. Perhaps we need more dancing, more movement, more lively singing.

The following suggested changes have been implemented:

Joys and Sorrows after service has drawn to close: Have clear segment with opening statement, sharing, closing statement, perhaps second benediction, invite attendees to continue sharing/conversations in Social Hall during Coffee Hour.

1. 100th Anniversary of The Flower Ceremony – Faithify.org fundraiser search field – flower

The committee members agreed that we would honor the anniversary but not participate in the fundraiser.

1. Purchase of copies of Singing the Journey? The Committee would like to consider further the timing and approach to this effort. Ideas: Offer as opportunity to purchase individually in honor of someone? ($16 each) Offer as Auction item? [20 copies save 20%, thus 20 copies cost only $320, down from $400]
2. **Follow-through on Homecoming Project**:

Plan for Follow-Up:

Elaine Barr, Chair of the Membership Committee, has created a spread sheet and is asking for our committee to consider the meaning of the information and potential responses. *The W & M Committee suggested that into the spring would be a better time to engage with committees. November and December are overly full with other matters.*

One clear recommendation is for inclusion weekly of information about FUUSM (e.g., how to sign up for the newsletter, expectations of friends, how to become a member) *Perhaps one or two pieces of information could be routinely included, on a rotating basis, in the OOS. Should the folder tried in the past be re-evaluated?*

Also, special after-service coffees will be scheduled in conjunction with tours of the building. The first one will be October 30, when Day of the Dead is observed.

\*For continuing outreach, the first Sunday of each month can be designated “Open Door: *Bring a Friend” Sunday. [November 6 – Membership Committee; December 4 – Ribbon Ceremony; January 1 – Fire Communion] \*Thanks to Annie for announcing this initiative on November 6.*

Special Coffees: *Once per quarter*

1. **Personnel Evaluation**

Martha consulted with the Committee members in preparation for annual review with the Pianist and Choir Director.

1. Building & Grounds Request to weed out decorations: In preparation for the decoration on Nov. 27, Kat H., Martha McG, Andrew C., Nancy L., Jane T. will inventory holiday decorations, clear the loft, and establish plan and make materials available to helpers.

**BRAINSTORMING:**

Need to talk with other groups (Building & Grounds, BRIDGES) about taking part in or taking responsibility for worship service? **Membership is set for November 6.**

Need to organize a committee recharge or committee fair event?

Revitalizing Adult RE, perhaps with New UU Workshop both in-person and on ZOOM

Establishing Chalice Circles, perhaps interest-based

Re-thinking Circle Suppers

Create a book of Graces, resources – for this Thanksgiving and keep adding

 e.g., Darryl Ting’s Community Meal grace, *Earth Prayers, Life Prayers*

Gather feedback on effectiveness of OOS. Are revisions, amendments in order?

Invite Lee Ann Gallucci to be guest musician.

Reacquaint ourselves with our “liturgical calendar” **Shared at October meeting**

Perhaps establish quarterly goals, projects **UUA Holidays, Holy Days & Worship Themes for 2022-2023 shared at October meeting**

**FUTURE Worship Services**

Potential Services:

“LGBTQ: I Am Who I Am” – Wayne Waldeck & Lee Rector

Holy Books – Shavuot, Judaism The Torah

Mike Tager – Marietta College, Political Science – guest speaker in 2023

Darlington Mafa – recorded presentation – Zimbabwe, UU Principles

**PATTERN:** 1st Sunday – Bring a Guest, 2nd Sunday – Social Justice, 3rd Sunday – Green Sanctuary

**OCTOBER ??? Topics?? UU The Vote, Adult RE**

 **2 Kat –** Yom Kippur Forgiveness (Martha will share materials from Chautauqua)

Blessing of Animals – 4:00 p.m., Courtyard

 **\*9 Kat** Making Decisions in a Democracy: OWL

 **16** Supporting The Thriving of Women (WLs - Annie Warmke and Suzyn Mills)

 **\*23 Kat** Sources & Resources of Our Religious Faith – Diversity & Commonality

 **30** Kat – Day of the Dead [Special Coffee + tours – open to public]

**NOVEMBER (Change, Remembrance)**

 **\*6** Membership Committee – Welcoming & Belonging WL: Adeline Bailey

 New Member Welcome

 **13 Kat ?** Guest musician/speaker: Steve Free

 **20 Kat -** ALL AGES THANKSGIVING

November 24 Thanksgiving

 **27 Kat** – 1 – **Hope** Advent Begins & All Ages Holiday Greeting Card Project

 Workshop

Elaborate Coffee Hour - W & M Comm agreed to bring hearty foods.

Decoration inside and out

**DECEMBER (*Wonder, Joy*)**

 **\*4 Kat** –2 - **Faith** Ribbon Ceremony

 **11 Kat** – 3 – **Joy** Memories of Holidays

 **18 Kat** - 4 – **Love** [Hannukah – involve Lori Fahn, Judy Segal]

December 18 – Hannukah begins

December 21 – Winter Solstice Spiral 5 p.m.

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service [include multicultural music]

 **25 Kat** – Christmas Brunch in Social Hall

December 26 – Kwanzaa begins, Hannukah ends

**JANUARY (*Finding Our Center, Wintering*)**

**\*1 Kat** – Fire Communion

**8 Martha McGovern** – Wisdom Stories that Guide Us

**15 MLK, Jr. Day Martha has contacted Tony Mayle for guest speaker – still needs**

**confirmation**

**22 Darlington Mafa (22 or 29 – Annie)**

**29**

**FEBRUARY (*Love, Resilience*)**

 **5 World Interfaith Harmony Week – MOV Interfaith**

 **12**

 **19**

 **26**