**Minutes of December 7, 2022 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

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

**In Attendance:**  Adeline Bailey, Rev. Kat, Nancy Luthy, Martha McGovern, Maggie Meyer, Suzyn Mills, Annie Warmke (via phone)

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

Chalice Lighting: Suzyn Mills shared clever music by Roy Zimmerman and thoughtful readings.

1. Minutes of the November meeting were approved as written.
2. Assessment on progress with methods of increasing involvement:

* Kat suggested that we re-start the regular scheduling of Worship Associates. As a first step, Maggie agreed to be the WA for the December 11 service.
* *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,

to provide additional guidance on how most effectively to present children’s books

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: Martha Webster will submit a request for payment for the recorded accompaniment for the Choir. The Committee approved payment of $50.00 to Kim Vineyard.
3. Reflection on recent services: December 4 Ribbon Communion

What went well – The JOY expressed by the little boy spotting the Buddha and then receiving the Buddha doll was precious. The procedure for the placement of the ribbons on the tree was effective and smooth.

What to improve, change –

Perhaps we can omit Announcements from the Facebook streaming, exiting after the Postlude. Then, on Zoom and in the Sanctuary, the service can come to closure with Joys & Sorrows, Benediction, and finally Announcements.

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. 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] Annie suggests that, in the future, we can include a Reduce, Reuse, Recycle element to this January 1 service.*

*\*Thanks to Annie for announcing this initiative on November 6.*

Special Coffees: *Once per quarter*

1. **Personnel Evaluation**
2. **Holiday Decoration and Date to Take Down, Store/Inventory Men’s Group plans to take down the fence decoration on January 8 after the worship service.**

**BRAINSTORMING:**

Check with Katy McDaniel – topic of her choice

Include a service on Ways to Meditate

Explore the topic of Wintering

June – Have a service with women from Uganda on Women in Agriculture (Annie Warmke)

Continue to make contacts with other faiths, cultures

Need to talk with other groups (Building & Grounds, BRIDGES) about taking part in or taking responsibility for worship service?

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

**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 - **Joy** Ribbon Ceremony

**11 Kat** – 3 – **Love the Earth**

**18 Kat** - 4 – **Peace** “A Path of Peace: When the Sacred and Secular Intertwine”

CHOIR – “Dark of Winter” words & music by Shelley Jackson Denham (hymnal)

December 18 – Hannukah begins

December 21 – Winter Solstice Spiral 5 p.m. (canceled)

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service [include multicultural music]

CHOIR – “Candlelight Canon” words & music by Andy Beck

**25** 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**

**29 Jay Warmke**

**FEBRUARY (*Love, Resilience*) BRING A FRIEND**

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

**12** Charter Sunday – Love Stories

**19**

**26**

**MARCH**

**5**

**12**

**19**

**26**