**Agenda for January 4, 2023 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

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

**In Attendance:**

**Theme for 2023: Retain previous OR establish new?**

Chalice Lighting: Let Us Pray by Max Coots

Let us pray to the One who holds us in the hollow of His hands,

To the One who holds us in the curve of Her arms,

To the one whose flesh is the flesh of hills and hummingbirds and angleworms,

Whose skin is the color of an old Black woman and a young white man; and the color of

the leopard and the grizzly bear and the green grass snake.

Whose hair is like the aurora borealis, rainbows, nebulae, waterfalls, and a spider’s web,

Whose eyes sometime shine like the Evening Star, and then like fireflies, and then again

like an open wound,

Whose touch is both the touch of life and the touch of death,

And whose name is everyone’s, but mostly mine.

And what shall we pray?

Let us say, ‘thank you.’

1. Minutes of the December meeting to be approved.
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
* 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 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:

Randall Kidder has requested reimbursement of $76.62 for the purchase of Gurdjieff de Hartmann’s  *Music for the Piano – Volume III: Hymns, Prayers and Rituals* and *Music for the Piano – Volume IV: Hymns from a Great Temple and Other Selected Works*

?? – payment of Dennis Deem as pianist for Christmas Eve Candlelight Service?

1. Suggestion from Jane Tumas-Serna: To aid planning and coordination, establish schedule of events for whole year that can be posted (in office and website?) and given to Committees for reference.
2. Discuss Budget Request:
3. Reflection on recent services:

What went well –

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**

DONE: to highlight stories Both Women’s Group and a Men’s Group responded to the question of favorite or most helpful/powerful stories. Martha McG is scheduled for January 8 service. Kat wrote a piece for January Confluence

**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

**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, Stories*)**

**\*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 Kat –** The Eye of the Tiger (Lunar New Year!)

**29 Kat** – A Work in Progress (FUUSM’s story)

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

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

**12** Charter Sunday – Love Stories

**19**

**26 Jay Warmke** – It’s the End of the World as We Know It and Thank God

**MARCH (*Women’s History, Vulnerability, Trust, Redemption*)**

**\*5**

**12**

**19**

**26**

**APRIL *(Resistance, Grief, Freedom)***

**\*2**

**9 Easter**

**16**

**23 Earth Day** - April 22

**30** (May Day – May 1)

**MAY (*Asian/Pacific American Heritage, Mental Health Awareness*, *Creativity,***

***Reconciliation, Mercy)***

**\*7**

**14 Mother’s Day**

**21**

**28 Memorial Day**

**JUNE (*LGBT Pride Month, Delight, Ritual)***

**\*4**

**11**

**18 Father’s Day**

**25**

**JULY (*Play)***

**\*2**

**9**

**16**

**23**

**30**

**AUGUST (*Activism)***

**\*6**

**13**

**20**

**27**

**SEPTEMBER**

**\*3 LABOR DAY**

**10 Water Communion**

**17**

**24**