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

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

**In Attendance:**  Adeline Bailey, Rev. Kat Hawbaker, Martha McGovern, Maggie Meyer, Nancy Luthy

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

Chalice Lighting: Suzyn Mills shared “Time Enough” by Rev. Ed Searl

1. Minutes of the December meeting were approved as corrected. (Adeline Bailey was not in attendance.)
2. Assessment on progress with methods of increasing involvement:

* Kat suggested that we re-start the regular scheduling of Worship Associates.

Maggie Meyer agreed to be the WA for the January 29 service.

Persons who will be contacted to serve: Andrew Clovis, Tom Cunningham, Lloyd Elliot, Chris Jacobs, Rebecca Phillips, Ron Rees

* *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 independence)

*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:

Approved: Randall Kidder’s request for 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*

Approved: reimbursement of $150 to Kat for 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.

The Committee agreed that it is a good idea. As events are scheduled, the information (event, time, place) should be funneled to Dawn Hewitt in the church office. W & M Committee currently has an annual calendar by month. We will continue to develop a more specific calendar for the year with dates and places.

1. Budget Request: The Committee agreed to request the same amount of money as the current year for the fiscal year 2023-2024 but made changes in the amounts within the Worship Supplies area. The total remains $600:

AV Equipment from $500 to $300

Resources for Aesthetics from $100 to $300

It was observed that the Annual Report should be specific about how the funds enable us to include varied music and diverse perspectives in the services.

1. Reflection on recent services: Candlelight Service and Fire Communion

What went well – Moving into a circle for singing in candlelight was inspired.

The visual of individuals placing cares/concerns in the fire was effective.

The sharing of intentions for the future was powerful. People were honest and thoughtful.

What to improve, change – Several concerns were raised: Addressing both Kwanzaa and the Fire Communion in one service may have been too much. Both upon entry and during the service, more explanation of the purpose of the service would have been helpful, especially to new members and friends. Clearer directions to the congregation for the actual procedures of moving to the flame and the microphone and back to the pews would have made the service flow more smoothly. Annie previously suggested that, in the future, we can include a Reduce, Reuse, Recycle element to this January 1 service.

The group concurred that we can omit Announcements from the Facebook streaming, exiting after the Postlude. We can sing “Peace, Salaam, Shalom” as a transition. Then, on Zoom and in the Sanctuary, the service can come to closure with Joys & Sorrows, another Benediction (?), and finally Announcements.

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. \*For continuing outreach, the first Sunday of each month can be designated “Open Door: *Bring a Friend” Sunday.*

Special Coffees: *Once per quarter*

1. **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:**

Karen Binkley – for MAY, Gilbert & Sullivan skit [with Choir]

Contact Mark Krivchenia – speaker in March or April?? MMcG will do.

Check with Katy McDaniel – topic of her choice MMcG will do.

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?

DONE: 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?

DONE: 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 –** (Lunar New Year!) The Rabbit CHOIR - TBA

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

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

**\*5 World Interfaith Harmony Week – MOV Interfaith** George B & Martha McG CHOIR – “Change the World”

**12 Kat** Charter Sunday – Love Stories Ron & Cathy Rees ?? KAT??

**19 Kat** -- Review – Side with Love Again

**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**