**Minutes of June 7, 2023 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

**In Attendance:**  Adeline Bailey, Kat Hawbaker, Nancy Luthy, Martha McGovern, Suzyn Mills, Annie Warmke (Zoom)

Chalice Lighting: The reading #648 was shared, and the Committee accepted it as the **Theme for 2023-2024:** Beginners by Denise Levertov #648 “How could we tire of hope? – so much is in bud.”

1. Minutes of May 3 were approved.
2. Assessment on progress with methods of increasing involvement:

* Martha will continue in efforts to recruit and line up Worship Associates in time for The Confluence.
* Time for All Ages – team, schedule, suggested readings

Time for All Ages is included in all services (as is possible). We will start a list of recommended books (often featured in a worship service) to be shared as a reference.

Other actions are to request suggestions from members and friends (Emily Keller is willing to help. Cindy Burton) and to provide additional guidance on how most effectively to present children’s books.

1. Correspondence: Martha – A thank you note was sent to Martha Webster for her solo.
2. Financial Matters:

Nancy Luthy reported that the Board has been alerted to our observation that some additional special funds may need to be established for recurring special events (e.g., Paper Airplane Contest).

The Committee recommended that Martha request reimbursement from the General Music Special Fund for purchase of 20 copies of Singing the Journey. After the Service Auction, 8 copies were still available for sponsorship. As of 6/14/23 all of those copies have been sponsored and the$160 have been deposited in the General Music Special Fund.

Rental for shelter #5 for the Multicultural Festival picnic has been paid.

1. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event: Flower Communion

What went well – Telling the complete history of the Flower Communion was very effective. The question, “What flower is your favorite?” engaged the young people and the attendees.

What to improve, change – Introduce only one new song per service. Perhaps have people hear the song first (a video or live performance) so they are familiar with it.

For smooth circulation in participation, use a one-direction rotation.

To involve families and increase links with the larger congregation, consider featuring a particular family on a regular basis.

We revisited the issue of how the service will draw to closure.

Consensus on order for end of service:

* + Benediction
  + Postlude
  + Announcements ??
  + Facebook Live ends
  + Joys & Sorrows/Circle of Life
  + 2nd Closing Words/Benediction
  + Invitation to Coffee Hour

We are still unsure how to deal with Facebook Live and Facebook in terms of interaction, privacy, permitted content, and outreach, and, with feedback from users collected, will continue discussion at the July meeting.

On Facebook, is there another way to convey announcements to that audience – e.g., a link, a screen share display? For Joys & Sorrows and connection, how can we encourage interaction, such as that on Zoom or in-person? Should/can the service be recorded and then only selected parts posted on Facebook or YouTube?

1. Annie caught us up on Chalice Lighter Grant plans and how they coordinate with W & M Committee endeavors. The Family Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 5. The kick-off reflection for Active Hope workshops will be August 20. Workshop will be lead by Hilary Krivchenia, Amy Davis, and Laurel Hobson. Adult RE discussions will be scheduled for January, February, March, April. Major initiatives for the RE program will be OWL and art as well as family events. A formal RE curriculum will have a longer lead-up time. Possible reflection in September by RE Director from Wooster, OH.

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

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

***Reconciliation, Mercy)***

**\*7 Kat**  The Art of Article II WA: Maggie Meyer

**14 [no Kat]** *Mother’s Day*Family Day by Choice WL – Suzyn Mills

**21 Kat Trees of Life** WA:Martha McGovern

**Adult RE – Article II (invitation to delegates – Karen B, Rebecca P, Ted G, Kat)**

**Two Options** 9:30-10:45 OR 12:30-1:15

Choir: “A Jubilant Song” by Victor C. Johnson

***PLANT SALE – May 26, 27***

**28 Kat** *Memorial Day*Honoring Life & LegacyWA: Martha McG

Choir: “Words Apart” Music by Alisa Bair, Words by Dina Soraya Gregory

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

**\*4 Kat Flower Communion** WA: Andrew Clovis

**11 Kat**  New Member Signing Ceremony WA: Martha McGovern

**Adult RE – Article II (invitation to delegates – Karen B, Rebecca P, Ted G, Kat)**

**Two Options** 9:30-10:45 OR 12:30-1:15

**18** *Father’s Day* Multicultural Festival & Picnic

**25 Steve Free WL: Suzyn Mills**

**JULY (*Play)***

**\*2 Kat** What Is Spirit Play?

**9 [no Kat] GA Recorded Service** WL: Rebecca Phillips

**16 [no Kat]** UU Humor WLs: George Banziger, Martha McGovern, Ginnie McNeil

Karen Binkley et al. – musical parody (Gilbert & Sullivan or reprise of “Hello, Dolly”)

**23 Kat** *Let’s Play Together*(musically)WA: Tom Cunningham

(potential participants: Sophie, Elsie, The Tria, Chase)

**30 Kat** Play Stations WA: Jane Tumas-Serna

**AUGUST (*Activism)***

**\*6 Kat** Getting to Know Our Beloved Community

**13 UUMFE –** “A Season for Sacred Activism”

**20 Active Hope** – Workshop kick-off Annie Warmke

**27 Kat** Why UU?

**SEPTEMBER**

**\*3** *LABOR DAY* **WL: Martha McGovern** WA:

**10 Kat – Water Communion** WA:

**17**

**24 Robin Bozian** HomelessnessSECONDCOMMITTEE FAIR

**OCTOBER**

**1**

**8**

**15**

**22**

**29** DAY OF THE DEAD

**NOVEMBER**

**DECEMBER**

**2024**

**JANUARY**

**FEBRUARY**

**MARCH –** Pre-recorded Reflection by Rebecca Phillips for Women’s History Month

**BRAINSTORMING:**

“Open the Window, Let the Dove Fly In” could be the basis of an entire service.

Annie recommended Luther Krueger as a speaker on solar energy (Ambassador for Solar

Cookers International)

\*Cory Sampson – Reflection on topic of choice, date TBD

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

Include a service on Ways to Meditate

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?

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*

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**

Suggested Books:

*A Grand Old Tree* by Mary Newell DePalma (Martha)

*Because of an Acorn* by Lola M. Schaefer and Adam Schaefer, Illus by Frann Preston-

Gannon (Martha)

*Folktales for a Better World: Stories of Peace and Kindness* retold by Elizabeth Laird,

illus. by Mehrdokht Amini

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

*I Am Thankful: A Thanksgiving Book for Kids* by Sheri Wall, illus. by Holly Clifton-Brown

*If You Plant a Seed* by Kadir Nelson (Rebecca Phillips)

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

*Outside In* by Deborah Underwood, Illustrated by Cindy Derby (Mark Krivchenia)

*“Slowly, Slowly, Slowly,” said the Sloth* by Eric Carle (Martha)

*Sparrow’s Prayer* by Roger Hutchison, Illustrated by Ag Jatkowska (Martha)

*The 1619 Project: Born on the Water* by Nikole Hannah-Jones & Renee Watson, Illus. by

Nikkolas Smith (Martha)

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

guide us)

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

*Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt*  by Kat Messner with art by Christopher Silas Neal

(Martha)

*We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom (Martha – inspired by Native American

legends and recent actions)

*We Planted a Tree* by Diane Mulfrow*,* Illus. by Bob Staake (Martha)

*Who Counts? 100 Sheep, 10 Coins, and 2 Sons* by Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg

Sasso, Illustrated by Margaux Meganck (Martha - A Retelling of Jesus’s parables)