**Minutes of August 9, 2023 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

**In Attendance:**  Adeline Bailey, Kat Hawbaker, Randall Kidder, Nancy Luthy, Martha McGovern,

Maggie Meyer, Annie Warmke

**Theme Question for 2023-2024:** “How could we tire of hope? – so much is in bud.”

“Beginners” by Denise Levertov #648

Chalice Lighting: As we approach our agenda, let us remember that we are doing the work of the congregation. When we do the work of this congregation, we touch lives. When we touch lives, we change the world. May this chalice flame we now kindle remind us, throughout our meeting, of our ministry and our mission. Words of the Rev. Erik Walker Wikstrom, author of Serving with Grace: Lay Leadership as a Spiritual Practice

1. Minutes of July 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 – Thank you notes have been sent to George Banziger, Ginny McNeil, Karen Binkley, and Randy Kidder for the UU Humor worship service.
2. Financial Matters:
3. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event: “Play Stations,”“Getting to Know Our Beloved Community” and Family Potluck

What went well :

PS – opportunities to meet people

GtKBC - powerful comparison of creed and covenant & words of “Let This Be a House of Peace,” Sharing of “Your gifts are welcome.”

Family Potluck – provided good contact with families and lively interactions

What to improve, change:

PS – Strengthen clarity of directions, structure Zoom activity and involvement overall

GtKBC – Use words of “Let This Be a House of Peace” as a responsive reading, consider where in the service to include Sharing and structure length to keep momentum of service moving forward, Continue with variations on the question (e.g., What religious tradition and/or cultural milieu did you grow up in and how have those influences carried into your current life?)

Family Potluck – build on the energy to include young people with child-friendly principle song (do-re-mi), hold an August Sundae event with left-over ice cream.

1. 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 a future 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. Update on Chalice Lighter Grant plans and how they coordinate with W & M Committee endeavors - Annie. The Family Potluck was Sunday, August 6. The kick-off reflection for Active Hope workshops will be August 27. The workshop will be led 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 concentrate on the middle school-aged young people and will be monthly art as well as family events with child care provided (e.g., library, healthy foods, game night, bowling, movie night, theatre night). A formal RE curriculum will have a longer lead-up time. Reflection in November by RE Director from Wooster, OH will provide some direction.

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

**JULY (*Play)***

 **\*2 Kat** What Is Spirit Play? WA: Jane Tumas-Serna

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

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

 Karen Binkley et al. – musical parody (Gilbert & Sullivan)

 **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)***

*Chalice Lighter Family Potluck – August 6*

 **\*6 Kat** Getting to Know Our Beloved Community WA: Maggie Meyer/ **Ron Rees**

 **13 UUMFE –** “A Season for Sacred Activism” WL: Rebecca Phillips

 **20 Kat** Why UU? WA: Martha McGovern

 **27 Active Hope: Trust the Spiral** – kick-off WL: Annie Warmke & Martha McGovern

**SEPTEMBER (Welcome, Repair) Board Retreat?**

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

 **10 Kat –** Water CommunionWA: Rebecca Phillips

15 Rosh Hashanah

 **17 Kat -** Forgiveness Yom KippurWA: Kelcey Jacobs

24 Yom Kippur begins at sundown

 **24 Kat -** Robin Bozian **-** HomelessnessWA: Andrew Clovis

***SECOND COMMITTEE FAIR -*** *Committee Stations + members circulating while*

*wearing name tags with list of their involvements to spark conversations*

**OCTOBER (Heritage/Ancestors)**

 **\*1 Kat** *extended opening* Sukkot Harvest metaphor + members returning WA:

 **8 Kat** Residents Rights Month **guest speaker – Denise Thomas** on nursing

homes/volunteer program WA:

 **15 ?** WA:

 **22 ?** WA: Andrew Clovis

 **29 Kat** DAY OF THE DEAD WA:

**NOVEMBER (Generosity/ Sin & Atonement***)*

 *Jenni Papp, RE Director, Wooster, OH possible speaker* dre@uufwc.org

*Mike Tager on threats to democracy, MC – possible speaker*

 **\*5** guest speaker – Jenni Papp, RE director from Wooster UU Church WA:

 **12**

 **19 Kat**  ALL AGES Thanksgiving

23 *Thanksgiving*

 **26 Kat** Sharing Gratitude & Joy*Holiday Card Project Workshop*

***DECEMBER***

 **3 Advent 1**

7 *Hanukkah begins*

 **10 Advent 2**

 **17 Advent 3**

21 *Winter Solstice*

 **24 Advent 4**

*25 Christmas*

26 *Kwanzaa begins*

 **31 Fire Communion ??**

**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:

*An American Story* by Kwame Alexander, Illustrated by Dare Coulter (Martha)

*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)

*Someone Builds the Dream* by Lisa Wheeler & Loren Long (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)

 *The Elephants Come Home:* A True Story of Seven Elephants, Two People, and One

Extraordinary Friendship by Kim Tomsic, Illustrated by Hadley Hooper (Martha)

 *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander, Illustrated by Kadir Nelson (Martha)

 *The Wise Fool: Fables from the Islamic World* by Shahrukh Husain & Micha Archer

(Martha)

 *This Very Tree*: A Story of 9/11, Resilience, and Regrowthby Sean Rubin (Martha)

*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)