**Minutes of September 6, 2023 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

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

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

“Beginners” by Denise Levertov #648

Chalice Lighting: Amidst the paperwork and preparation, amidst the emails and emotions, amidst the getting it done and the pressure of time, can we find a little space for lifting our heads in wonder that we’re still here, still striving, still trying, together? By Li Kynvi of the First Parish Church of Groton, MA

1. Minutes of August 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. The Committee discussed having books relevant to a topic or season on display and available for loan. We will set up a table in Social Hall and provide a simple sign-up with title of book, name of borrower and contact (telephone or email). Books should probably be stamped to indicate they should be returned to FUUSM. Martha will talk with Dawn about facilitating this project.
2. Correspondence: Martha – Thank you notes have been sent to Josie Jeffery, Hilary Krivchenia, Robin Bozian, Betsy Liller, Lace Lynch, and Annie Warmke for the Active Hope service on August 27.
3. Financial Matters:

Request for reimbursement of $25.00 from Kat for Shelter #5 rental for Fathers Day picnic in Parkersburg City Park

Notification of payment to Christopher Purdy of $120.00 for piano tuning. Maggie will sort out to whom that payment should go.

The Committee approved paying Steve and Susan Free $100 if they are able to serve as guest musicians on November 12.

1. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event: August 20, 27, September 3 services

What went well : The Committee agreed that a greeting with content within the

worship service is very effective. In three recent services, we thanked attendees for

their gifts, shared what we are doing now to ensure a sustainable future, and shared

how a work environment fragmented us or made us more whole. That segment of the

worship service might be called “Turn to Your Neighbor” or “Reflecting Together.”

What to improve, change: We can aim, also, to include a period of meditation in every worship service.

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. Annie had a conflict with another meeting, but the current Chalice Lighter Grant plans stand as follows: The kick-off reflection for Active Hope workshops was August 27. The spring 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

**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)**

 **\*3** *LABOR DAY*Finding Ourselves in Changing World of Work **WL: Martha McGovern**

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

15 Rosh Hashanah

 **17 Kat -** Yom Kippur On Repentence & RepairWA: Kelcey Jacobs

 **Choir**: “Always a Place for You” – w&m by Philip Silvey

24 Yom Kippur begins at sundown

 **24 Kat -** Robin Bozian **-** Homelessness HereWA: Andrew Clovis

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

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

 NANCY LUTHY will coordinate this event.

**OCTOBER (Heritage/Ancestors)**

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

 Guest Musician: LeeAnn Gallucci “The Magic Month”

 **8 WL needed** Residents Rights Month **guest speaker – Denise Thomas** WA:

on nursing homes/volunteer program dthomas@easterseals-cseohio.org

 **15 Kat** LGBTQ (Little Richard documentary – Ami, Bayard Rushkin and organization

of March on Washington, The King Singers and cancellation of concert on college

campus) WA:

 **Choir**: “This is Who We Are” w&m by Mark Burrows

 **22 WL: ?** Andover Again Guest speaker: Andrew Clovis WA:

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

 Guest Musician: LeeAnn Gallucci – “Little Joe” about kitty crossing into

spirit world

**NOVEMBER (Generosity/ Sin & Atonement***)* Native American Heritage month

 *Jenni Papp,* dre@uufwc.org

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

*Social Hall – during Coffee Hour, conversation with Jenni Papp*

 *Buffet lunch for extended conversation – W & M Committee will*

*provide, also childcare will be available for attendees*

 **12 TBD** WA:

 **Choir**: “Cherokee Morning Song” A Cherokee Folk Song, arranged with

additional words and music by Michael Yannette

 **19 Kat**  ALL AGES Thanksgiving WA:

23 *Thanksgiving*

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

***DECEMBER Hope, Peace, Joy, Love***

 **\*3 Advent 1**

Guest Musician: LeeAnn Gallucci “Forever Time”

 Decoration of Sanctuary and Fence - Bare tree already assembled?

7 *Hanukkah begins*

 **10 Advent 2**

 **17 Advent 3**

21 *Winter Solstice*

 **24 Advent 4 Kat ALL AGES Brunch & Carols**

24 *Christmas Eve* **Kat**

*25 Christmas*

26 *Kwanzaa begins*

 **31 (No Kat) WL: Fire Communion WA:**

**2024**

**JANUARY**

**\*7**

**14**

**21**

**28 – Jay Warmke “On the Future of AI”**

**FEBRUARY**

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

**BRAINSTORMING:**

October and November services:

Voices from the congregation on how thankfulness is/was woven into their lives. E.g., grace

before meals, ritual at Thanksgiving gathering, nighttime meditation/prayer

The Rev. Leo Farley – a retired Methodist minister

Jeff Schenkel – local artist and politician

Natalia Rudiak – natalia@reimagineappalachia.org, local@reimagineappalachia.org

Quaker group

Ginnie McNeil – FACT (FAith Congregations Together)

Tom Rooney – Sustainable Forestry Director for the Nature Conservancy

“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 OR Mitchell Krumm – Marietta College, Political Science – guest speakers

Include a service on Ways to Meditate

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

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)

 *Breaking News* by Sarah Lynne Reul (Annie Warmke, Hilary Krivchenia)

 *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)