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

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

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

“Beginners” by Denise Levertov #648

Chalice Lighting: “But we have only begun to love the earth. We have only begun to imagine the fullness of life. How could we tire of hope? – so much is in bud. . . . We have only begun to know the power that is in us if we would join our solitudes in the communion of struggle. So much is unfolding that must complete its gesture, so much is in bud.”

1. Minutes of November 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 have started 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. Karen and Gene Barry shared a catalog with good suggestions.

We can have a regular spot in The Confluence to suggest books and to request recommendations.

We have books relevant to a topic or season on display and available for loan. We have set up a table in Social Hall and have provided a simple sign-up with title of book, name of borrower and contact (telephone or email). Dawn has stamped the books as property of FUUSM and created a sign-up/return form in paper form. The electronic form will be developed later. **Action:** In January, Martha will reestablish the book display and temporary check-out station in Social Hall.

1. Correspondence: Martha has sent thank you notes to participants in recent worship services. Suzyn Mills shared a thank you note from Lace Lynch that expressed gratitude for the special service with Jennifer Papp, welcoming hospitality, and opportunity for extended conversation over lunch. Her note also revealed the need for improved communication, specifically ready access to the names of committee chairs. **Action**: Martha will reply directly to Lace and will also alert Ralph about the concern and possible need to revise the webpage with clearer, more easily accessible listing of committee chairs and members. Perhaps, too, the committee chairs/members can be included in The Confluence periodically.
2. Financial Matters:

The request for reimbursement was approved for payment of drummer Riley Brumbaugh, $50 for rehearsal and worship service on November 12. **Action**: Martha and Suzyn will complete reimbursement paperwork.

\*\*Records of Worship & Music Committee show that paperwork was submitted for the Chalice Lighter Grant to pay the $250 stipend for Jenni Papp.

1. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event: Jenni Papp, RE Director from Wooster, OH, service and follow-up

What went well : The extended conversation revealed congregational interest and built

confidence in our capability to revitalize our BRIDGES program.

What to improve, change: Communication for smooth implementation of plans needs to reach all levels – from concept, to approval, to actual enactment.

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

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

*Jenni Papp,* [dre@uufwc.org](mailto:dre@uufwc.org)

**\*5 WL: Suzyn Mills** guest speaker – Jenni Papp, RE director from Wooster UU

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

*Buffet lunch for extended conversation*

**12 WL Team:** Adeline Bailey, Martha McGovern, + local tribal nation (Ami Rush)

Revitalizing Indigenous Connections -- Drew Waepew-Awaehsaeh (of Minominee

heritage) and Ami Rush or a representative of Tutelo Nahyssan People

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

additional words and music by Michael Yannette

Guest Musician: Steve Free

**19 Kat**  ALL AGES Thanksgiving multiple contributors **WA:** Rebecca Phillips

Feature Guest at Our Table and donate collection to UUSC

Nancy Luthy will present idea to Board Nov. 13

Kat will alert congregation in 11/12 OOS, Weekly Updates of 11/5

& 11/12 and in separate email between Nov. 5 and Nov. 12.

Time for All Ages: Sparrow’s Prayer by Roger Hutchison, Illus. by Ag Jatkowska

23 *Thanksgiving*

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

*\*Virginia Henthorn will assemble tree between Thanksgiving and December 3 service.*

***DECEMBER Hope, Peace, Joy, Love [Kat and Advent Team plan/lead together?]***

**\*3 Kat Advent 1 Time for HOPE Kat - Ribbon Ceremony**

Guest Musician: LeeAnn Gallucci “Forever Time”

Decoration of Sanctuary and Fence - Bare tree already assembled

**Thank you** to Gary Hamilton, Darryl Ting, Poncet Bills, Mike Lang, Joey & Squish,

Ami & Jocelyn, Jane T-S, Kat, Virginia Henthorn, Tom Henderson

7 *Hanukkah begins*

**10 Kat Advent 2 The Price of PEACE WA: Adeline**

**17 Kat Advent 3 Simple JOYs WA: Suzyn**

**Choir:** “A Yuletide Greeting” words & music by Victor C. Johnson

21 *Winter Solstice - service at 7:00 p.m.*

**24 Kat ALL AGES Advent 4 LOVE Is the Reason for the Season**

**Potluck Brunch & Carols** (Adeline, Martha, Randy, Kat will select & prepare

musical resources; Suzyn will provide a keyboard)

W & M Committee will provide milk, orange juice, egg casserole – Martha

all?

24 *Christmas Eve* ***WL:*****Kat & Martha A Season of Light**

**Choir: “**Season of Light**”** w & mby Jacob Narverud

Humphrey’s First Christmas by Carol Heyer (writer and illustrator)

*25 Christmas*

26 *Kwanzaa begins*

**31 (No Kat) WL: Andrew Clovis Fire Communion WA**: Martha McG

Time for All Ages: Ten Beautiful Things by Molly Beth Griffin, Illus. by Maribel Lechuga

**2024**

**JANUARY Kat on Sabbatical**

**\*7 WLs: Adeline Bailey & Nancy Luthy – “A Whale of a Tale”** (Inuit Culture)

**14 WL: \_\_\_\_ MLK Day WA: \_\_?\_\_\_** Side with Love, Cindy Burton – WL?

Speaker: Tony Mayle? Felix Burrows?

**21 WL: Suzyn Mills Rev. Hilary Krivchenia Active Hope: “Service Is Our**

**Prayer”**

**28 WL: \_\_?\_\_\_ Jay Warmke “AI: Has man just created God?” WA:\_\_\_?\_\_**

Chris Jacobs? Dawn?

**FEBRUARY**

**4** (Charter Sunday & World Interfaith Harmony Week) WL: Martha McG Bee Lore

in World Religions

**11 (**Side with Love & Chinese New Year) WL: \_\_\_\_\_ Randy Kidder - **Meditation:**

**Windchimes & Frogs** WA: \_\_\_\_\_

**18** WL: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Guest speaker? \_\_\_\_\_ WA: \_\_\_\_\_\_

**25** WL: \_\_\_\_\_ Janice Terry – Conflict Resolution Related to Israel/Palestine

Situation

\*\*\*\* Add follow-up extended conversation on conflict resolution approaches

with George B. and J. Terry (W & M Committee provide lunch)

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

World Water Day

**3**

**10**

**17**

**24**

**31**

**BRAINSTORMING:**

Future 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

Jeff Schenkel – local artist and politician

Natalia Rudiak – [natalia@reimagineappalachia.org](mailto:natalia@reimagineappalachia.org), [local@reimagineappalachia.org](mailto:local@reimagineappalachia.org)

Quaker group

Ginnie McNeil – FACT (FAith Congregations Together)

Tom Rooney – Sustainable Forestry Director for the Nature Conservancy

Nancy Luthy -- Experience with Inuit culture

Beth Casebolt

Mark Bernstein – leadership development

Pete Mather – OU professor

Steve Peck

“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

*Humphrey’s First Christmas* by Carol Heyer

*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)

*Missing Kitty* by Mark Neyman

*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)

*Ten Beautiful Things* by Molly Beth Griffin, illus. by Maribel Lechuga (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)

*Tikvah Means Hope* by Patricia Polacco (a story related to Sukkot) (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)