**Minutes of January 3, 2024 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

**In Attendance:**  Adeline Bailey, Martha McGovern, Maggie Meyer, Suzyn Mills, Nancy Luthy [observer – Amilcar Freyle]

**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 December 6 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 and Cindy Burton are willing to help.) 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.
2. Financial Matters:

FYI: Reimbursement paperwork for payment of drummer Riley Brumbaugh, $50 for rehearsal and worship service on November 12, has been completed for Martha and Suzyn.

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

FYI: Randy Kidder requested purchase of Scarlatti music from his allotment and Dawn Hewitt facilitated that order. On 12/22/23, she completed a reimbursement request for $20.95 from the W & M Committee funds to cover the order.

The rates for ordained ministers have increased. The Committee agreed to offer Rev. Hilary Krivchenia $315.00 for the worship service on January 21. 2024. Suzyn Mills will complete the paperwork.

1. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event: Fire Communion of Dec. 31, 2023

What went well : The story for all ages, *Ten Beautiful Things* by Molly Beth Griffin, illus.

by Maribel Lechuga, was effective. The examples of commitment were helpful.

What to improve, change: To signal the end of the sharing time, use a bell OR flick the lights. Invite those who want to directly place their “letting go” slips of paper into the fire to leave first.

1. Nancy Luthy will provide the name of a UU minister who offers a wide variety of virtual reflections. Mark Bernstein m.mjbernstein@verizon.net

She will also coordinate schedules of Board and Beth Casebolt and let us know the preferred date for Beth to present a reflection.

Saturday with Board + Sunday: March 17 or 24, April 7, May 19, June 2

Sunday both Board & worship service: also add March 10, April 14, June 9

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

***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)

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: Martha McGovern Fire Communion WA: Suzyn Mills**

 **Special Thanks to** Jane Tumas-Serna for preparation of the Sanctuary display and fire kettle , Joey Thomas and Stephanie Rector for facilitation of the fire component of the service, Suzyn Mills & Dawn Hewitt for worship leading support, Mike Bailey for locating recorded music and preparing slides for the service and for flexibly supporting the service enactment.

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

**2024**

**JANUARY** Kat on Sabbatical **Liberating Love**

 **Holocaust Memorial Day – January 27**

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

**14 WL: M. McGovern MLK Day** Speaker: Jann Adams “Taking Another Look at

Ourselves”

 **Choir**: “A Citizen of the World” Eugene Butler

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

**Prayer”**

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

 **Special Music:** Josie Jeffrey “The Girl with the Flaxen Hair”by Claude Debussy

**FEBRUARY** Kat on Sabbatical **Justice & Equity Black History Month**

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Choir:** “One Word” Words – Buddha & Lautzu, Music & words – Robert I. Hugh

**18** WL: Dawn Hewitt **Guest speaker: Vic Elam “Appreciating Our Natural World”**

WA:

**25** WL: \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest speaker: Janice Terry “Israel and Palestine”** WA: \_\_\_\_\_

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

 with George B. and J. Terry

 Schedule workshop for 1:00 p.m. No special lunch, but substantive offerings for

coffee hour. Perhaps have break for snacks as part of workshop.

Advertise the offering in OOS, Weekly Update, Confluence. Ask for notice that

coming.

**MARCH –** Kat on Sabbatical **Transformation Women’s History Month**

 **Ramadan begins – March 10**

 **Easter – March 31**

Pre-recorded Reflection by Rebecca Phillips for Women’s History Month – She aims to

have it done by end of February. We can use it any day that fits the schedule.

 World Water Day

 **Choir:** “I Am a Voice That Sings” words – Ronald W. Cadmus, music – Michael Bussewitz-Quarm

**3 WL \_\_\_\_\_** Guest Speaker: Natalia Rudiak of Reimagine Appalachia Topic - ??Reimagine Your Community, Faith in Action ?? WA: \_\_\_\_\_\_

**10**

**17 WL \_\_\_\_\_** Guest Speaker: Katy McDaniel Topic: TBD WA:\_\_\_\_\_

**24 WA: Dawn ? OR**

**31 WA: Dawn ?**

**APRIL Interdependence**

**Ramadan ends – April 8 at sunset**

**Earth Day – April 22**

**Passover – April 22-30**

 **Choir:** “Non Nobis, Domine” music – Rosephanye Powell, words – Traditional Latin

 **7**

 **14 Green Sanctuary??? Ask Dawn or Debra/Jim**

**Rebecca Phillips – avail. 14, 21, or 28 as WA**

 **21**

 **28**

**MAY Pluralism Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month**

**Mental Health Awareness Month**

 **Mother’s Day – May 12**

 **Memorial Day – May 27**

 **5**

 **12 WL – Suzyn Mills Family Day**

 **19**

 **26**

**JUNE Renewal LGBTQ+ Pride Month**

 **Father’s Day – June 16 Multicultural Festival – Date TBD**

 **Juneteenth – June 19**

 **GA – virtual June 20-23**

 **2**

 **9**

 **16**

 **23**

 **30**

**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, local@reimagineappalachia.org

Quaker group

Ginnie McNeil – FACT (FAith Congregations Together)

Tom Rooney – Sustainable Forestry Director for the Nature Conservancy

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)