**Minutes of July 3, 2024 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee 5:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**  Kat Hawbaker, Adeline Bailey, Nancy Luthy, Jane Tumas-Serna, Martha McGovern

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

“Beginners” by Denise Levertov #648

Chalice Lighting: “We live in a vast and shining web of organizing relationships, where we stay connected, where we prize our interdependence, where we turn toward each other, and yes we are heartbroken together, and there we find our power.” Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon, leader of Sunday worship at GA

1. Minutes of June 5 meeting 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 can have a regular spot in The Confluence to suggest books and to request recommendations.  **Action**: Martha has submitted an article for the April Confluence as the first of a regular column called “Search for Truth Library for Young People.”

We have had 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:** Martha will reestablish the book display and temporary check-out station in Social Hall.

* We can increase coordination with childcare staff. Worship planners/leaders have started to alert Debra Lauer, currently Childcare Coordinator, of the book/topic to be featured in Time for All Ages at least a week ahead of time, providing staff with a copy of materials and ideas for follow-up when possible.
1. Correspondence: Martha – Thank you notes have been sent to Debra Miller, Jay Warmke, Andrew Clovis, Ami Rush, Shari Ballantyne.
2. Financial Matters: The Committee recommended purchase of materials from Soul Matters related to the Article II highlighted UUA values. Martha will purchase the 10 packets of resource materials for Worship Services at a cost of $218 and will request reimbursement.

The Committee recommended that we investigate the license related to use of music and consider purchase at the August meeting. Adeline Bailey will consult with Martha Webster.

1. Design & Decoration Update: Jane Tumas-Serna has arranged for several congregation members to highlight their involvement with The Society for Creative Anachronism in the Creative Expression Portal.
2. Nancy Luthy reported that the policy for art work has been approved and that the Board has used it to guide decisions about items in the courtyard.
3. Participation in Climate Justice Revival, September 28-29 Adeline Bailey reported that Green Sanctuary is taking the lead on this effort, has paid the $50 cost for registration and resources, is facilitating the Saturday activities and the Sunday worship service, and is encouraging congregational participation in the sermon and art work competitions.
4. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event:

What went well :

What to improve, change:

1. Emergency Statement for WL or WA – consult with Safety Committee for Sept.

**Emphases:** Outreach to Community, Social Justice, 3rd Sunday – Green Sanctuary

**2024**

**JUNE Renewal LGBTQ+ Pride Month**

 **Father’s Day – June 16 Multicultural Festival – June 21-23**

 **Juneteenth – June 19**

 **GA – virtual June 20-23**

 **2 WL: Martha McG Guest Speaker: Richard Thieret “Let’s Do It (or maybe not)”**  The Biology of Gender

 **9 WL: Debra Miller Speaker: Jay Warmke “Resiliency”**

 **16 KAT Flower Communion/Father’s Day/Juneteenth WA: Shari Ballantyne**

 **23 Multicultural Festival – Kat service at park with picnic**

*Use new sign to announce picnic at Multicultural Festival and no worship service at FUUSM*

 **30 WL: Rebecca Phillips GA – coordinators Mike & Adeline Bailey**

**JULY EQUITY July 4 – Independence Day**

 **7 Kat** “Interdependent Web of All Existence”

 **14 Kat** “Generosity”

 **21 WL: Martha McG** “Our Power to Hold the Center”

 **28 WL: Nancy Luthy** (or recommended alternate) **Guest Speaker - Robin Bozian**

“The Case for Equity: Why Equality Is Not Enough”

**AUGUST INTERDEPENDENCE**

*Contact Richard Thieret about service in late August – “History of Life”* [See Brainstorming, too]

 **4 Kat**

 **11 *Planetarium – August 11 OR 18 Ann Bragg***

 **18 Kat (August 11 or 18)**

 **25 WL: ?? Guest Speaker – Richard Thieret** “History of Life: The Origins of

Life in You”

**SEPTEMBER JUSTICE September 2 – Labor Day**

 **1 Kat – Labor Day (the sounds of work)**

 **8 Kat – Water Ingathering**

 **15 WL: ?? Guest Speaker: Darryl Ting -** A Work in Progress: Dealing with

Imperfection/Incompletion

 **22 ??? Committee Fair ???**

 **29 Green Sanctuary – Climate Justice Revival CHOIR – commissioned song**

**OCTOBER GENEROSITY** JD Stillwater – worship service & workshop? – Kat will be in

discussion with JD

2 – Rosh Hashanah, 11 – Yom Kippur, 14 – Indigenous Peoples Day, 31 – Halloween

 **6** *W & M Committee – “We Forgive Ourselves & Each Other”*

 **13 Kat Guest Speaker: Peter Mather –** “Becoming a Flourishing Community”

 pete.mather@gmail.com

 **20 WL: ?? Adeline Bailey coordinator guest speaker from Belpre “Ralston**

**Mound Dilemma”**

**27 Kat Halloween**

**NOVEMBER PLURALISM**

 **3 Kat Day of the Dead**

 **10** Carol Steinhagen – speaking for Native American Heritage Day for either

November 10 or 17

 **17**

 **24 Kat Thanksgiving**

**DECEMBER TRANSFORMATION**

 **1**

 **8 Ribbon Communion**

 **15**

 **22**

*December 24 – Christmas Eve Service*

 **29 Fire Communion**

**BRAINSTORMING:**

Future Services:

*\*Richard Thieret – possible contributions: History of Life (the origins of life in you), Carbon & Consumerism, Spiritual Narcissism, Spiritual Beliefs about the Soul, Piety and Plagues. Also a bioethics play and a Unitarian jeopardy game.*

\*Nancy Luthy will provide the name of a UU minister who offers a wide variety of virtual reflections (e.g., leadership development) Mark Bernstein m.mjbernstein@verizon.net

\*Service or part by Pledge Drive Task Force – Martha will share passage on Belonging

\*Exploration of “Do we really want to grow? Why? If so, How?” as follow-up to open letter “Why We Aren’t Growing”

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

Quaker group

Ginnie McNeil – FACT (FAith Congregations Together)

Tom Rooney – Sustainable Forestry Director for the Nature Conservancy

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 more 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

*A Grand Old Tree* by Mary Newell DePalma

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

Gannon

 *Breaking News* by Sarah Lynne Reul

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

illus. by Mehrdokht Amini

 *How to Help the Earth* by the Lorax with Tish Rabe, illus. by Christopher Moroney & Jan

Gerardi

 *Humphrey’s First Christmas* by Carol Heyer

*I Am Golden* by Eva Chen

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

*I Will Dance* by Nancy Bo Flood and Julianna Swaney

*If You Plant a Seed* by Kadir Nelson

*Martin’s Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Doreen Rappaport, illus. by

 Bryan Collier

*Missing Kitty* by Mark Neyman

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

*Our Class Is a Family* by Shannon Olsen, illus. by Sandie Sonke

*Outside In* by Deborah Underwood, Illustrated by Cindy Derby

*“Slowly, Slowly, Slowly,” said the Sloth* by Eric Carle

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

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

*Stone Soup* by Marcia Brown

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

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

Nikkolas Smith

 *The Bee Tree* by Patricia Polacco

*The Birthday of the World* by Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen

 *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds

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

Extraordinary Friendship by Kim Tomsic, Illustrated by Hadley Hooper

 *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander, Illustrated by Kadir Nelson

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

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

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

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

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

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

legends and recent actions)

 *We Dream a World* by Yolanda Renee King, illus. by Nicole Tadgell

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

 *Welcome Home, Bear: A Book of Animal Habitats* by Il Sung Na

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

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

*Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom, Salaam* adapted by Fawzia Gilani-Williams; illus. by Chiara

Fedele