**Agenda for November 6, 2024 Meeting of the Worship & Music Committee**

**5:00 p.m. in the Parlor**

**In Attendance:**

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

“Beginners” by Denise Levertov #648

Chalice Lighting:

1. The Minutes of October 2 meeting
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.

We have books relevant to themes or particular services available for loan. 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*.* Stephanie Rector has volunteered to work on a database. Kat hasreestablished the book display and check-out station in Social Hall. Martha created a sign for the Search for Truth library.

We can increase coordination with childcare staff. Worship planners/leaders have started to alert Debra Lauer, currently Childcare Coordinator, and Lela Erb 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
2. Financial Matters: A $75 donation to the Belpre Historical Society was sent with a memo of thanks to Maggie Ralson Webster, President of the Belpre Historical Society, and Christopher Lohr, collections manager at the Farmers Castle Museum.

Nancy Luthy will talk further with Don Poole about record-keeping.

1. Martha reported that the free ZOOM facilitator training for the Soul Matters materials on August 10 was mostly background on the origin and aim of Soul Matters and an overview of the offerings. As Martha completed FUUSM’s subscription process, she identified Kat and herself as primary contacts and Dawn Hewitt, Mike Bailey, and Suzyn Mills as leaders with access to the resources. Those identifications can be adjusted as circumstances change.
2. The Tech Team is addressing the issue of reverberation so that we can effectively use the UUA Resources.
3. Design & Decoration Update: Jane Tumas-Serna

Jane reported that the Quakers asked about signage on the RE Building and she suggested that the old FUUSM sign be utilized for that purpose. Nancy will present the recommendation to the Board. [The Board is positively disposed to that action.]

1. Concretia Update: Nancy Luthy Concretia has been moved back to the creators’ property. The blocks of stone that served as the base still need to be moved out of the gathering area and seated firmly in another area.
2. Committee Fair Update – Nancy Luthy is still collecting and analyzing the sign-ups from the fair, but we all felt that the event was successful in increasing interactions, relationships, and involvement.

Carol Garoza – Design & Decoration

Lela Erb – Worship Associate, W & M Comm, Design & Decor, special services/events

R.B. (Bruce) Henthorn – Choir

Torie Patterson – Choir

Levi Weppler – Choir

Owen Cejka – Choir, special music (singing)

Stephanie Rector – Choir, special music (small group), database for Library

Elaine Barr – help with special services/events

1. Participation in Climate Justice Revival, September 28-29, Update -- BRAVO to Adeline Bailey, who took the lead on this effort. Green Sanctuary paid the $50 cost for registration and resources, facilitated the Saturday activities, the Sunday worship service, and follow-up sessions after coffee hour on Sunday. Childcare, funded by a mini-grant from the UUCJR project, was provided on both Saturday and Sunday. The group also encouraged congregational participation in the sermon and art work competitions. A practical project outcome was the commitment to reactivate the Social Justice Committee and to offer a cohesive unit in the winter. Adeline Bailey and Mike Bailey coordinated the videoed and live portions of the worship service and involved many members and friends of the congregation. Special thanks goes to Ginnie McNeil for stepping into the Worship Leader role at the last minute.
2. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event:

What went well :

What to improve, change:

1. Emergency Statement for WL or WA – consult with Ron Rees of the Safety Committee. Nancy Luthy will share ideas with the Board.

Statement used at Chautauqua: If the fire alarm sounds, please exit in an orderly way through the designated exits. If there is another emergency, please remain seated or shelter in place, and specific directions will be provided.

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

**2024**

**OCTOBER GENEROSITY**

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

**6 Martha** Board and*W & M Committee – “Forgiving Ourselves & Each Other”*

Canceled -- Blessing of the Animals – Stephanie Rector will share reading

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

[pete.mather@gmail.com](mailto:pete.mather@gmail.com)

**Choir:** “Words Apart”

Indigenous Peoples Day recognition with drumming, prayers, singing, art display organized by Jane T-S.

**20 WL: Adeline Bailey and speaker from Belpre** “The Ralston

Mound Dilemma: How Do We Honor Indigenous People?”

**27 Kat ALL AGES Halloween Heroes** (Dress as admirable characters/people

from own lives, history, or fiction)

**NOVEMBER PLURALISM**

**3 Kat Day of the Dead WA:** Jane Tumas-Serna

**Choir:** “A Light of Hope, A Song of Peace” by Mark Burrows

**?**? Owen Cejka – “I Am the Voice”

**10 Kat Power of the People**

**17 MMcG WL Appropriations and Desire: Reflections on U.S. History**

guest speaker: Carol Steinhagen – speaking for Native American Heritage Day

**24 Kat All Ages Thanksgiving**

**Choir:** “Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor” words – Emma Lazarus & Irving Berlin,

music – Irving Berlin, arranged by David Chase, edited by Judith Clurman

**DECEMBER TRANSFORMATION**

1. HOPE In Service of Seasons Greetings – Short worship service, workshop in Social Hall

Have Christmas Tree assembled ***Virginia Henthorn – able to do???***

**8** PEACE **Ribbon Communion**

**15** JOY (honor Hannukah Dec. 25-January 2)

**22** LOVE (celebrate Solstice)

*Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Service*

**Choir:** “Luli Luli” (Ukrainian Lullaby adapted by Jill Gallina)

**29** (honor Kwanzaa begins Dec. 26)

**JANUARY STORY**

**5 Fire Communion –** Rhona Newhart is willing to participate

**12**

**19**

**26**

**FEBRUARY INCLUSION**

**2**

**9**

**16**

**23**

**MARCH TRUST**

**APRIL JOY**

**MAY IMAGINATION**

**JUNE FREEDOM**

1

8 J.D. Stillwater “This Is Not My Beautiful House.”

15

22

29

**BRAINSTORMING:**

Future Services:

\*\*JD Stillwater – still a possibility in March or April Wife Ann will contact: 717-724-7320 “This is not my beautiful house”

\*\*\*address questions submitted in August “Quest for Meaning” service

Chase Campbell – now WTAP reporter

Jan Dils DEI proram

Wood County Society – Brandon Gress, Executive Director

*\*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](mailto: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

\*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

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*