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

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

**In Attendance:** Kat Hawbaker, Adeline Bailey, Jane Tumas-Serna, Nancy Luthy, 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: “As we approach our agenda, let us remember that we are doing the work of the congregation. When we do the work of this congregation, we touch lives. When we touch lives, we change the world. May this chalice flame we now kindle remind us throughout our meeting of our ministry and our mission.” Erik Walker Wikstrom

1. The Minutes of October 2 meeting were approved as presented.
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 reported that she is behind schedule in sending thank you notes.
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 shared that the Board has requested our projected budgetary needs to

 cover expenses for January to June of 2025 in Rev. Kat’s absence.  **Martha** will tend to

 that task and share with the Committee members.

 Dawn Hewitt has permission to schedule piano tuning appointments in fall and spring.

She will pay the bill and notify us of the cost.

Martha Webster has located a cello player for the November 24 service. **Martha McG**

will complete the paperwork for her payment of $50.00 as per the established rates.

1. The Tech Team has resolved the issue of reverberation so that we can effectively use the UUA Resources.
2. Design & Decoration Update: Jane Tumas-Serna

Jane reported that the Board approves of using the old FUUSM sign to indicate that the Quakers are meeting in the RE Building. Vic Elam has volunteered to install it.

The Marietta Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, November 30. **Jane** and **Martha** will see whether we can have the outside of the building decorated by that date. We will contact Gary Hamilton to coordinate the Men’s Group, ask Dawn to add a holiday greeting to the sign, and find help to hang decorations on the doors and wreaths inside.

1. Concretia Update: **Nancy Luthy** noted that the blocks of stone that served as the base for Concretia still need to be moved out of the gathering area and seated firmly in another area. She will contact Roger about following through on that action.
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. \* Lloyd Elliot is another addition to the Choir.

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. Reflection on Recent Worship Service/Event: Day of the Dead, November 3

What went well : The introduction to the service was very clear. The candle lighting

ceremony went smoothly. Overall, the music was very effective – the video of hip-hop

and the Choir piece.

What to improve, change: The slide show of UU members and friends who have passed was effective. We just need to complete it.

1. Emergency Statement for WL or WA – consult with Ron Rees of the Safety Committee. Nancy Luthy will continue to share ideas with the Board. For now, we can incorporate the statement below into the Welcome statement. **Martha** will revise the examples available in the Sanctuary entrance desk.

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.

Ron Rees is looking into a grant from Homeland Security. We can check the UUA Community Resilience Site.

**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

 **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. **Adeline** HOPE In Service of Seasons Greetings – Short worship service, workshop in Social Hall*Include John Maddox* **Jane – Sanctuary decoration**

Have Christmas Tree assembled ***Virginia Henthorn – will do***

 **8** PEACE **Ribbon Communion Martha will ask Virginia H to be WL**

 **15 Martha** JOY (honor Hannukah Dec. 25-January 2) *Include Judy Segall and Lori*

*Hahn*

 **22 Nancy** LOVE (celebrate Solstice)

*Tuesday, December 24 –* **Suzyn** *Christmas Eve Service*

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

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

**JANUARY STORY**

**5 Fire Communion –** Rhonda Newhart is willing to participate Move to December

29???

**12**

**19 MLK**

**26**

**FEBRUARY INCLUSION Black History Month**

 **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

**JULY** Disability Pride Month

**BRAINSTORMING:**

Future Services:

**MUSIC: LeeAnn Gallucci, Katie’s children, Sophie Stevens**

**REFLECTIONS: Hilary Krivchenia on 5 Habits -- Healing the Heart of Democracy, Climate Justice Revival sermons, DEI program (Jan Dils), the power of story – Jann Adams, the People’s State of the Union, UUA – one Sunday per month, circuit minister, sources of information – Tangle.com, Heather Cox Richardson – Letters from an American**

\*\*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

\*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*