

# MINUTES FROM W&M MEETING

## TUESDAY DEC 15, 2020

1. Attendees: Sheri, Judy, Barbara, Jessie, Kevin, Sandy, David, Ken, Julie, Katie, Pastor Fred
2. DEVOTIONS – Sheri: Wisdom from a 6 yr old: “Jesus and Santa share info via walkie talkies!”
3. ADVENT
  - a. Feedback - Advent mid-week “contemplation”. Mostly good feedback. Views at the moment are 95 for the first one and 59 for the 2<sup>nd</sup>. A couple of people were disappointed that it wasn’t a “real” service – it was never intended to be a full service. Our idea was to do something brief and encourage people to just take a few minutes and listen quietly. Just a break from the hustle of the season.
4. CHRISTMAS EVE
  - a. Hymns picked 12/8; remaining hymns to be done by 12/10; done.
  - b. Decorating team will put up trees and wreaths, taking camera angles into consideration. Plan is to accomplish this between Friday Dec 18 and Sunday Dec 20 after service. (The congregation will not be invited to help this year.). Update 12/22 = George and Scott and Judy had the tree up in record time on 12/18!! Thank you!
  - c. Order of service outlined 12/8; Father Rod will participate and the video will be shared with his congregation. A soloist has been contracted to help us with the service.
  - d. Outdoor worship with St John’s on 12/24 has been cancelled due to rising covid rates.
  - e. A request was made to have a “Christmas Blessing” – gather in our cars and call into a zoom run by Pastor Fred so he can give us a blessing. The team discussed this at length – where would we be allowed to gather; we don’t own a property and would have to get permission from someone. Would we do this Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? Consensus was that many people are working during the day on 12/24 and most families have plans already for Christmas Day – we rarely get even 50 people at the 10 am service. The services on 12/24 and 12/25 already include a Christmas “Blessing” so how would this be different? The team concluded that while this is an interesting idea, there just isn’t time to figure this out at this late date. Without significant advance notice, we felt that the turnout would be small. But we could add a “Zoom coffee hour” to the day and Pastor could close it with a blessing – agreed, let’s do that. Maybe even invite folks to show their favorite nativity set and/or explain where it came from or what significance it has for your family?
5. CHRISTMAS DAY & DEC 27
  - a. Service on 12/25 at 10 am
  - b. Lessons and Carols on 12/27 at the usual time of 9:30 am – Pastor is looking for 7 volunteers to read?? Kevin, Jody, Sandy, Barbara, Katie, Ken volunteered; Pastor will read one too. The others were asked to video themselves reading the lesson and send the video to Katie so she can insert it into the service. [again something new that we will try out. We do not want to bring 7 people in to church to read 1 lesson]. Call Katie if you need her assistance with the video.
6. PLANS FOR JANUARY
  - a. Epiphany Weds Jan 6 – since this almost never falls on a Sunday where we can celebrate it, Pastor would like to record a service for YouTube similar to the Advent Contemplations. Katie agreed and will work out a date to do so.

- b. Baptism of Jesus Sunday Jan 10: David Richards baptism with limited family in person attendance. Sheri asked if we could get a cantor for this date? Kevin will inquire
- c. Undecorating Day – after service on 1/3 but definitely before service on 1/10. Decorating team will handle this.
- d. RIC Sunday = last Sunday in January 1/31/2021; plans? TABLED UNTIL NEXT MEETING ON 1/19/2021
- e. Change liturgy setting: currently using Setting 2; next up in “rotation” is Setting 1. [as best I can tell, we’ve been on Setting 2 since 3/9/2020. Used setting 3 from 12/1/2019 to March 2020; Used setting 4 from 9/15/2019 to 11/30/2019]. DECIDED = we will change to Setting 1 effective January 6.
- f. Upcoming: Transfiguration Sunday 2/14; Ash Weds 2/17; Palm Sunday 3/28; Easter 4/4/2021 – reminder that we discussed doing a Tenebrae service this year? Might depend on COVID.

## 7. ROUND TABLE

- a. New chair of committee? No one else was willing; Sheri and Judy will continue as co-chairs in 2021.
- b. Sheri will pick hymns for January; Pastor Fred will pick Feb
- c. Meeting dates: continue with 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month in 2021? Yes
- d. Please think about this for next meeting: What are the circumstances that will allow us to return to in person worship?? Note that recording the services on YouTube will continue no matter what as this ministry is reaching people outside of our usual sphere.
- e. Kevin explained that there are 2 different groups to pull cantors/soloists from: the young folks from the Choir Scholars program (amateur, not professional, low cost) and professional soloists, paid singers whose paid gigs have dried up (much higher quality but also higher cost). Which do we want? Both!! LOL. A mix would be nice – could we afford to pay the professionals for special dates and use a less expensive amateur maybe once a month, with some services without any cantor at all. Continue to discuss.
- f. Also, Tim Weingert is a Lutheran theologian who lives nearby. Maybe we could invite him one week? Pastor Fred will approach him after the new year.
- g. Katie – do we want to try a “pre-recorded” service which could include people reading from home. First part will be trialed with the recorded lessons for 12/27. Next step would be try to do it for 1/17 or 1/24. Yes, let’s see what the technology can do! So far, we have insisted on making it “live” and trying to make it feel like it’s “close” to a regular Sunday experience. But we’d like to see how it looks and feels when recorded in advance. Might need to do this someday for a snowstorm or other event?

Pastor Fred led us in a closing prayer at 8:20 pm.

**Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday Jan 19, 2021**