

MINUTES FROM W&M MEETING

TUESDAY OCT 20, 2020

1. ATTENDEES = Sheri, Judy, Julie, Jessie, David, Ken, Lynn, Barbara, Pastor Fred, Sandy.
2. EVALUATE IN PERSON WORSHIP
 - a. Average attendance has been around 12. There cannot be any congregational singing; this has not been well followed. The pews etc must be disinfected after each service.
 - b. Air flow is important; windows should be opened; heating should be at a minimum.
 - c. Other suggestions and problems were discussed including people sitting 6' apart but they could be spread out even further. More than one person is touching the mic despite instructions not to. Over the 4 services, just 27 individual people have been willing to attend (not counting Pastor, Julie and the video tech).
 - d. Infection rates in NJ are rising; we can no longer use the AC with their special filters; it is still safe to do this/ is it worth the risk? After a good bit of discussion, the team voted to suspend all future in person worship services immediately. Just 4 people will be in the building on Sundays (Pastor, Julie, a reader and a video tech.). All others will attend via YouTube.
 - e. Sheri emailed Kathy on 10/21 and asked her to call each person who was planning to attend on 10/25. She also sent in a few sentences to be included in the weekly newsletter.
3. UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES
 - a. Hymns for November have been approved/. Julie will do the December hymns
 - b. Any feedback from the Weds prayer time? No one has attended since the first Weds.
 - c. Reformation and All Saints are upon us. Do we have any special music, cantor, anything to make these days special? Kevin was not available tonight; Julie is not aware of any plans yet.
 - d. Advent services Nov 29 is First Advent. No Thursday services this year? Or is this the year to Have a Thursday service digitally? Zoom or whatever is feasible – YES. The team agreed this is a very good time to try something. Suggestions: contemplative, prayer, devotion, lighting the advent wreath at home, no music at least to start with. Weds at 7 pm via Zoom. Dec 2, Dec 9, Dec 16 and possibly Dec 23. Pastor to work on this; further info at the November meeting.
 - e. Christmas services: all creative ideas on the table including but not limited to:
 - i. Outdoor worship with St John's on 12/24? Everyone loves this idea but has concerns about logistics etc. Fire pits or tents with everyone well spaced. Masks of course. Lessons and Carols – potential for real singing outdoors? Suggest 9 pm maybe – to be ironed out with Father Rod.
 - ii. At least one indoor service that can be viewed via YouTube and recorded to the website. Time to be determined, but likely in the 5 pm range. We would really like to have a cantor available for this service!
 - iii. Multiple indoor services? Consider “family/pods communion” by appointment? This could require using Weds 12/23 in addition to 12/24? These ideas have value, but after discussion it was determined that this would make Pastor Fred a “vector” of infection and is not a good choice at this time.
 - iv. What should our order of service look like? Obviously, it cannot be the traditional Christmas Eve service with a gazillion carols etc. Consider battery candles for candlelight portion? This was tabled until the November meeting.

4. ROUND TABLE

- a. Louise Olshan asked to borrow our handbells; this request has been granted as we will not be able to use them this year. She will contact Kathy to work out a time early in November to take them and will return them after Christmas.
- b. Agreed to send a recommendation to Council to pay Julie in lieu of her taking vacation this year. We really need her right now!!
- c. The sanctuary piano was tuned 10/13/2020
- d. Peragallo was consulted about lower heat temperatures in the sanctuary and potential effect on the organ. There is nothing to worry about – there is heat in the organ chamber and the new electronics automatically adjust the pitch of each pipe based on temperature. (WOW!)
- e. Julie asked us about holding a virtual recital for her students at TLC. Each student would come in separately and play their piece which Katie has agreed to record. Then the individual pieces could be patched together for parents etc to view. Great idea! Team recommended she go ahead and see if the students and parents are on board.
- f. Barbara asked if we solved the degradation of the wine? Yes, it needs to be stored in a cooler place. Also, we will buy less at a time reducing storage time. However, since we just suspended in person worship, we won't be using any wine for a while.
- g. Barbara noted that some readers are not pointing the mic at their face – she observed a recent reader with the mic pointing down towards the lectern which made it hard to hear. Also, couldn't they unmask to read? Yes. Sandy also noted that tapping the mic is hard on the equipment and should be avoided. Just say "testing" or something similar if you're not sure the mic is on.
- h. Ken – will we be able to somehow do a baptism in the spring? YES! We will find a way!
- i. Sandy – minor issue – it doesn't look right to her to have the Offering plate in the exact middle of the screen when watching on YouTube. Can it be moved slightly?
- j. Pastor – on Nov 22 Christ the King, the Bishop will provide a worship service. Therefore, he will be taking that Sunday off.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday Nov 17