

W&M MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

ATTENDEES: Gordon S., Pastor Fred, Lynn S., Sheri S., Kevin S., Sandy S., Julie S.,
Jessie A

EXCUSED: David B., Joan Y., Carol S.

1. OPENING PRAYER – Pastor Fred

2. DISCUSSION

a. Camera focus at communion rail: Discussed last meeting. No concern voiced that it is inappropriate. Unanimously decided to resolve and continue as is.

b. Sanctuary décor: Beautiful with newly refinished floors and new carpeting. Fewer pews with increased spacing between them is favorable for older folks. Desert/barrenness looks – Kevin and company did a great job designing and placing décor for lent – great job!

c. Lenten studies:

- Pastor is offering a twice-a-week Lenten devotion through the Chimp Mail, concentrating on Martin Luther's Small Catechism.
- There is a midweek Lenten study on ELCA World Hunger. This is on Thursdays at 7pm on Zoom with our friends at Saint Andrews in Parsippany. There is a link in the weekly Chimp Mail to download the course materials and to join the discussion.

d. Ash Wednesday: Good service at St John's Episcopal in Dover. Positive feedback on intinction by only Father Rod.

Should we invite other churches for Ash Wednesday? Others were invited this year with no response. Also discussed that service needs to be on our website, which was omitted this year.

Desire expressed to have daytime service. Last year one was offered at 4:30pm with poor attendance. Father Rod has another day job at a retirement community so with it being at his church this year, that wasn't an option. Also discussed that there might be other churches in area with established day services on Ash Wednesday that people could attend.

e. YouTube service: Words and music on screen discussed. Seems to be hymns are most distracting as they block out half the screen making it feel one is even less a part of the service. Questioned whether words to hymns could be across the bottom? Is there a need for the musical score?

Pastor will talk to Katie about trying to just put the words across the bottom for the hymns and see what feedback we get.

3. HOLY WEEK

- a. Palm Sunday – We discussed the focus of Palm Sunday in January. Sheri S. and Kevin S. have had some discussion re: hymns. Some hymns were changed, and all parties agreed, and the final hymns were submitted.
Kevin and Julie arranged for a brass quartet to play.
Should we change the look of the sanctuary for Palm Sunday due to long paraments? Agreed we would like to leave dessert décor and use shorter paraments for Palm Sunday. Will disassemble desert on Monday after Palm Sunday, March 24. Suggested we leave stones and place Easter flowers on them. Symbolizing new life coming out of the desert or barrenness.
- b. Maundy Thursday: seems set. Service is ready to go. There will be foot washing and the Eucharist.
- c. Good Friday: We discussed the “Seven Last Words,” which we had to scuttle in 2022 because of COVID. Kevin Has it all planned. Guest singers all lined up. Austin worked his connections with former choral scholars. Kevin reached out to his connections at William Patterson College and Montclair College. Very positive response! Only 1 person may be needed at this time. Rehearsals Wed evening March 26 and Friday evening.
- d. Easter Sunday: There will be a brass quartet. Pastor brought up that he would like to have little bells for everyone to ring everytime the word alleluia is heard in the service. “Just adds punch to the message like when we used Prosecco for communion at the Easter Vigil years ago.” All agreed to add it.

4. WORSHIP SERVICE CONTENT/PREP

- a. Altar Guild: All set for Holy Week
- b. Website: Katie will put Holy week on. Katie covering Website for David during Tax season.
- c. Flowers and Palms: Kathy has ordered 30 plants for Easter (mix of tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths). The cost will be the same as last year, unsure if that was \$12 or \$15. Also palm butts have been ordered for Palm Sunday.
- d. April 7: Pastor out of town. Rev. Jaye Newbold presiding. Former associate Pastor at Redeemer Lutheran.
- e. Hymn selection for April: Sandy and Jessie
- f. Liturgy: We are using Setting 2 instead of Detroit Folk Mass, as originally planned. Lenten hymns didn't go with Folk Mass. Will use setting 2 until Pentecost, March 17.
- g. Future: Agape Music Outreach at TLC. Gordon educated those who didn't know about Agape Music Outreach that he is a member of. A group of singers, Bell ringers and musicians that go to one church, one Sunday, a month, especially those churches with little or no music program. Approx 20 in choir and 12-15 Bell ringers. Made up of members from all denominations.

The group discusses together which anthems to use. It is not a performance, but a part of the service.

Would like to have them attend Trinity. Good idea! Asked if the host congregation gets a say in when Agape comes? Gordon said yes, it is part of the discussion. Pastor said he would like to be present when they come! Their year is Sept 2024 – June 2025. Would not get on schedule until next year.

5. NEXT MEETING: March 19 at 7pm via Zoom

6. CLOSING PRAYER: Pastor Fred