

MINUTES - W&M MEETING

Tuesday May 18, 2021

1. ATTENDEES – Pastor Fred, Judy, Sheri, Barbara, Julie, David, Jessie, Kevin, Katie. Excused = Lynn
2. DEVOTIONS – Phillipians 1:3-11. “hold me in your hearts”
3. RECENT WORSHIP SERVICES
 - a. How did we do? All feedback received was positive. Barb noted that GP service looked good on screen (youtube). Jessie noted that it was so nice to see everyone at GP.
 - i. 5/2, 5/16 (live)
 - ii. 4/25 (pre-recorded)
 - iii. Mother’s Day (Germania Park)
4. PENTECOST 5/23
 - a. Pastor Scott Schantzenbach will be at TLC; Pastor Fred will be at Holy Counselor for their confirmation service. Katie is aware and Pastor Scott has been sent the bulletin. Red paraments have been selected and Jill Ryan will put them on after the service 5/16
 - b. Also that day is Julie’s spring recital.
5. RETURN TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP MAY 30th TRINITY SUNDAY (provided Covid numbers do not get worse)
 - a. ELCA’s guidance is that indoor gatherings are relatively safe when all three of the following conditions are met (covidactnow.org):
 - i. Daily rate of new cases is less than 10 in 100,000. Has been below this number since 5/8; On May 18th 3.6
 - ii. Fewer than 5% of people tested test positive. Has been below this number since 4/25; On May 18th 2.2%
 - iii. Fewer than 70% of ICU beds are occupied. On 5/18 it was at 41%; not above 70 since tracking started.
 - iv. 60% of Morris county residents have received at least one dose of vaccine.
 - b. Unanimous vote –GREEN LIGHT: GO!**
 - c. Discuss procedures/protocols required when we GO
 - i. Social distancing still require; we need to limit the number of people allowed. Kathy will start a list and ask how many in each “pod.” Pastor Fred will monitor and decide when to cut off. If necessary, we will add an additional service.
 - ii. Masks will be required.
 - iii. Communion at the rail but maintaining the 6’ spacing between family groups/pods.
 - iv. Singing has been deemed safe as long as congregation wears masks indoors
 - v. Sign in sheets for contact tracing
6. JUNE 13th – GERMANIA PARK WORSHIP (confirmation)
 - a. Austin will be the cantor that day; Jen Schroeder will play flute. Sandy Sheridan will sing also.
 - b. Outdoor singing has been deemed safe (with masks)
 - c. Altar Guild/decorating team have simplified as much as possible.
 - d. Biggest remaining issues is the music equipment which is old, partially broken, and very heavy to move. See New Business
 - e. 3 teens will be confirmed – we traditionally do a coffee hour with cake. Kathy will contact the parents and see if they would like this. If yes, then we will figure out who can bring the coffee out to GP and who can set up cake, plates, etc.

7. JUNE

- a. Confirmation is June 13th at Germania Park
- b. Father's Day June 20th. L4G Project – CWS Blankets.
- c. Graduation Sunday – 4th Sunday is June 27th

8. OTHER RECURRING BUSINESS

- a. Hymns for June, July and August are done. September – Sheri; volunteer for October?
- b. Status of Cantors (if congregational singing is allowed) – Yes, already scheduled thru August
- c. Outdoor services at GP for 6/13, 7/11, 8/8, and 9/12 (Energizer)
- d. Do we want to add a 2nd outdoor service at GP in July and August? July 25 and August 22 are available. Decided no, we'd really rather be in our sanctuary!
- e. Media Company – Additional lighting and wireless mic status: due in June
- f. When should the next change of liturgy be? July? It appears that Setting 4 ELW was skipped last time around. Other option is WOV Setting 5. Discuss [Setting 3 was used until 2/23/2020; then setting 2 from 2/26/2020 until 1/3/2021. Setting 1 was used 1/10/2021 until 4/2/2021. Currently using Setting 3 since 4/4/2021] – Decided to keep Setting 3 all summer; switch to Setting 4 on 9/12 (Energizer Sunday).

9. ROUND TABLE/NEW BUSINESS

- a. Are there newer ways or equipment which would be worth exploring? After a brief discussion, it was decided to table this for now. Need a lot more information and there is no big urgency.
- b. As soon as we can worship indoors without restrictions, we should plan a big celebration! Start thinking of ideas!
- c. Julie reviewed the new hymnal "All creation Sings" and was under impressed. Pastor Fred and Sheri both had the same response; nothing there worth spending additional money for.
- d. Judy commented that she was really glad we were able to have the Dean memorial service. The rain (and waterfall on the electronics!) were challenges but to get it started just 5 minutes late was a real accomplishment. Barbara also commented on how appropriate Pastor's sermon was.
- e. Pastor Fred noted that people are "finding us" on YouTube! Very strange phenomenon; over the summer he and Katie will be working to create a "Introduction" video to tell folks more about our congregation.

Next meeting scheduled for June 15, 2021

2021 planned dates: 7/20, 8/17, 9/21, 10/19, 11/16, 12/21

PARKING LOT:

- a. Future invite to Tim Weingert?
- b. Learn a new liturgy some day: WOV 4 or ELW 8 possible