

MINUTES FROM W&M MEETING

Tuesday June 15, 2021

Attendees: Sheri, Judy, Jessie, Lynn, David, Julie, and Kevin joined late.

Excused: Kevin and Katie

1. DEVOTIONS – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.
2. RECENT WORSHIP SERVICES
 - a. How did we do?
 - i. 5/23 (Pastor Schantzenbach). *Sheri thought he was delightful. Julie thought he was very encouraging. He loves to come to TLC. PF said he was very excited about what TLC is doing.*
 - ii. 5/30 (Return to in-person worship). *PF heard folks were moved to tears. People were commenting on going to the rail for communion. 74 folks viewed online.*
 - iii. 6/6 – *Different people attended than those who came on 5/30 was observed by Pastor Fred.*
 - iv. 6/13 (Confirmation - Germania Park). *Council said that a good job was done setting up. Cup cakes might have been better than a cake and much easier. Lynn was surprised by the handshaking during passing of the peace and after the service. Many commented on the music for the day (Trio by Sandy S. Austin, and Jenny S.).*
3. PROCEDURES & PROTOCOLS FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP (COVID-19)
 - 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. 2.5% as of 6/15/21.
 - ii. Fewer than 5% of people tested test positive. 1.0% as of 6/15/21.
 - iii. Fewer than 70% of ICU beds are occupied. On 6/15/21 it was at 46%.
 - b. ELCA's update of Care-filled Worship and Sacramental Life in a Lingering Pandemic as of 6/8/21 recommends the following:
 - i. Regularly clean frequently used items and surfaces. The CDC continues to recommend disinfection (in addition to cleaning) for shared spaces in cases when there is: high transmission of COVID-19 in your community; a low number of people wearing masks; infrequent hand hygiene; or a **gathering that contains people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.**
 - ii. Avoid practices indoors known to spread the virus among unvaccinated people in indoor settings, such as congregational or choral singing, shouting, and playing wind instruments. While the CDC guidance issued in late April 2021 considers choral singing indoors safe for vaccinated people wearing masks, it still ranks choral singing indoors for those who are unvaccinated as "least safe."
 - iii. Singing by a soloist or a small ensemble (4 to 6 persons) is possible indoors, if it is safe to meet indoors, and if all singers are fully vaccinated, masked, remain 6 feet from each other, and 16 feet from others in the congregation.
 - iv. Congregational and choral singing are possible outdoors, if it is safe to meet outdoors, and if all singers are masked, remain 6 feet from persons not in their households and 16 feet from others in the congregation.

Much discussion regarding our current practices. Do we need to change anything we are doing with Sunday morning worship? What is our responsibility to provide a safe environment? We are never going to be able to provide a total risk-free environment at church. We are taking the steps to make it as safe as possible for those who have been fully vaccinated. Regarding passing of the peace and hand shaking, we will leave it to each person to decide what to do and we will leave it unaddressed at this time. We all agreed to keep doing what we are currently doing as far as in-person worship (wearing masks). Considering that, the ice cream social on June 27th will be changed to outside so folks are not congregating in the narthex/library.

- c. Contact tracing is continuing. *Folks attending are asked to sign-in.*
- d. Outdoor services without masks deemed safe by the CDC.

4. JUNE

- a. Father's Day June 20th. L4G Project – CWS Blankets. *Will be the first Sunday with two cameras.*
- b. Graduation Sunday – 4th Sunday is June 27th. *One graduate – Amy Cook.*

5. ENERGIZER SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 12TH – GERMANIA PARK

- a. Ideas/Suggestions – *Maybe a brass quartet. Sheri will talk with Kevin.*

6. OTHER RECURRING BUSINESS

- a. Hymns: September – Sheri; volunteer for October? *David volunteered for October.*
- b. Cantors have been scheduled through August.
- c. Outdoor services at GP for 7/11, 8/8, and 9/12 (Energizer)
- d. Media Company – Additional lighting and wireless mic, camera have been installed.
- e. Liturgy Change: Keeping Setting 3 during Summer. Will switch to Setting 4 on 9/12 (Energizer Sunday).

Julie stated that many people have said they would like to have a cantor continue. PF would like to have the choir sing once a month (choir has not been discussed, yet). Need to discuss other choral singing options. Will put "Choir" on the agenda for next month.

Sheri and PF will discuss other options for making things simpler while at Germania Park.

7. ROUND TABLE/NEW BUSINESS

- a. Lynn – what is the procedure during the week for people coming in. Contact Tracing still happening.
- b. Lynn asked about Faith Kitchen. Sheri stated that Erin reported at Council that Joann is trying to get folks to start cooking again in September.
- c. Julie questioned the hymn, Eat This Bread, and which version we should be using. Sheri would like all the verses used as in the accompaniment book that is used by Julie. Left it up to Julie to decide.
- d. Julie wanted to say that it was so much fun working with Sandy, Austin and Jenny on Sunday and loved the piece that Pastor Fred's father wrote. It was sooooo special.
- e. Green banners have arrived. Set of 3 that will hang behind the altar.

Next meeting scheduled for July 20, 2021. 2021 planned dates: 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