

Worship and Music Committee Meeting August 8, 2021

Present: Randy Churchill, Allison Johnson (Council Liaison), Sonja Demeter, Mary Kienitz, Carol Broderick, Marion Cole, Carol Browning (Interim Music Director), Pastor Julie Morris

The meeting opened with prayer at 1:05 p.m.

Randy welcomed new members and gave an overview of the purpose of the committee: advisory to the Pastor and Church Council

Discussion about returning to choir in some form, even as COVID concerns continue. The committee decided to ask the Re-Opening Committee if it would be acceptable to have the choir sing with masks on and, if necessary, physically distanced. What requirements would the Re-Opening Committee have for this? (e.g. what location in the church, how many choir members at a time?) And, what would be the requirements for rehearsal?

Randy recommended, and the committee agreed, that the Sunday prayer list be inserted in the text of the prayers of intercession so people can see last names while only first names are read aloud.

We had a lengthy discussion about types of music and liturgical styles for Sunday. One suggestion was to offer periodic services that are completely “traditional” or completely “contemporary.” All agreed that even those words mean different things to different people.

Overall, there is a positive sense of Mount Cross worship and music, especially participation of the new youth band, return of the bell choir, the use of *With One Voice* (and similar) songs, using choir members to help lead worship music each week, having flutes on occasion, livestreaming our worship, opportunities for breathing and centering in the service, and the offering of drive-through Communion following the service. We are pleased with what we have been able to do during the pandemic.

The committee is committed to continuing livestreaming and realizes that will require investment in technology and personnel.

The committee recommends bringing Guy Ervin III back as the organist as soon as possible at his pre-COVID compensation. Randy and Pastor Julie will bring this to the Personnel Committee. Per its August 17 meeting, the Church Council is awaiting a recommendation from Personnel. In the meantime, the committee approves \$150 per Sunday for Guy serving as guest musicians on the organ and piano, \$150 for mid-week rehearsals when serving as organist/pianist, and \$75 when serving as a guest musician for bell choir rehearsals.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 15 at 1:30 p.m. in Pastor Julie’s office.

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer at 2:25 p.m.

Notes Respectfully Submitted by
Pastor Julie Morris

August 19, 2021

Worship and Music Committee Meeting Notes Meeting September 15, 2021

Present: Randy Churchill, Allison Johnson (Council Liaison), Sonja Demeter, Mary Kienitz, Carol Broderick, Marion Cole, Carol Browning (Interim Music Director), Pastor Julie Morris

The meeting opened with prayer at 1:20 p.m.

- Welcoming language for the Sunday bulletin was discussed and approved. The Learning Committee supports this.

To the Parents of Our Young Children –

We are so glad you are here. We know how challenging it can be to get a family out the door to come to church. We hope you can relax and receive the gifts of God that are here for you today. Please don't worry about squirming children or crying babies. All are welcome here. If you feel you must leave the service with your child, please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." We want them to know they are at home in this house of worship.

To All Worshippers –

The presence of those with special needs is a gift to us and the Church. Please welcome all children and give their parents a smile of encouragement. Please greet those with special needs and their families, helping them to know they are valued and accepted in our community. Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!

- Altar Guild training Saturday, September 18 at 10 a.m.
- Acolytes, processions, recessions, and sending songs return on Sundays as we begin the program year. Encouragement to face the processional cross as it is carried in and out by the acolytes.
- We need a head usher to make sure ushers are trained.
- Training for Assisting Ministers is needed.
- October 3rd will be blessing of the animals, in honor of St. Francis Day on Oct. 4. People with animals "who get along with others" are welcome to bring their animals to worship in the outdoor pavilion that day. Pastor Julie will bless the animals in the pavilion immediately after the service and any who come by for drive-through Communion.
- Reformation Sunday, October 31, encourage people to wear red.

- All Saints Sunday, Nov. 7. We will try to include pictures of members who have died since COVID and an opportunity for candle lighting in memory of those who have died. It is also a Baptism Sunday.
- Thanksgiving Eve Holden Evening Prayer: Pastor Julie is away, Allison Johnson will give a brief message. There will be pie, sliced in 8 pieces (never, ever, ever again in 10 pieces).
- Remind people that grape juice is available in the center of the serving tray at Communion.
- Livestream discussion: some think it would be good to focus on the cross instead of the musicians during songs/hymns
- Advent/Christmas: Considering how to safely do a Christmas Concert/Sing-along/Lessons & Carols. Looking into one pink candle and three blue for the Advent wreath. Considering a real Christmas tree this year.
- The Worship and Music Committee requests the Property Committee to look into having the roof over the church entrance cleaned, as well as the lights above the altar repaired. While the lift is on the property, please also consider oiling the cross, dusting the ceiling and fixtures above the altar (dirt drops on the altar cloth each week) and washing the church windows that need it.
- The next meeting is Wednesday, October 13 at 1:15 p.m.

The meeting concluded with prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pastor Julie.

Worship and Music Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting - October 13, 2021

Present: Allison Johnson (Council Liaison), Sonja Demeter, Mary Kienitz, Carol Broderick, Marion Cole, Carol Browning (Interim Music Director), Pastor Julie Morris

Absent: Randy Churchill

The meeting opened with prayer at 1:20 p.m.

- The choir has started rehearsals again, on Wednesdays, 7:45-8:30 p.m. Attendance has varied from as few as 3 to as many as a dozen. The singers are masked and spaced apart, with the doors open, but are grateful to be singing again. The question came up about having the bell choir and the choir alternating the earlier time of 6:30 p.m. Carol Browning will talk with the bell choir about the possibilities.
- Following the Altar Guild training session, Carol Broderick created a spreadsheet of the Altar Guild assignments through June. This could be added to the online SignUps for worship and, in the future, be taken over by the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Bob Edell's memorial service will be Saturday, October 30, at 11:00 a.m. We will need Altar Guild set-up and may need assistance for communion. Approximately 100 people are expected to attend.
- It was suggested that the names of those serving be listed in the bulletin as had been the previous practice. There are pros - knowing who the minister is, reminders that one is supposed to serve - and cons - "shaming" if someone doesn't show up, missing the opportunity to go and introduce yourself to someone you don't know.
- Music for worship is planned up to the end of November. Carol Browning mentioned that we will need to purchase the OneLicense.net copyright license for Mount Cross for streaming and some of the non-ELW or CCLI songs; we have been sharing in St. Columba's license. The annual cost is \$405. (Pastor Julie added that we are retroactively paying St. Columba's for half of their license.) Carol is also suggesting in the Office Manager budget that the current copyright (CCLI) and bulletin (funeral/special bulletins) categories be moved under Worship & Music.
- The first Afternoon Chapel is tomorrow, October 14, at 2:00 p.m. and Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson has been working hard with a committee to make it happen. This will be a monthly service for the time being.

- All Saints Sunday, November 7. We will need to ask for pictures of members who have died since COVID. We need to order the vigil candles to light in memory of those who have died (holders with sand are placed on the altar rail). The exact place in the liturgy flow is TBD (after the sermon? after communion?). Need verbal and written instructions about the candle-lighting. We also have a Baptism that day and possibly a couple of new members joining.
- On Sunday, October 17, we kick off the Generosity (Stewardship) Campaign, with November 21 being Commitment Sunday. We'll also bless the LWR Quilts and Kits which will be picked up on October 21.
- On November 24, at 7:00 p.m., we'll have Thanksgiving Eve Holden Evening Prayer. (Pastor Julie is away, Allison Johnson will give a brief message). There will be pie after the prayer.
- December 12 - Bishop Brenda Bos will be here for worship, possibly to ordain Cecelia as a deacon.
- We will propose to the Council that there be a concert with the various music groups and soloists, plus readings, etc. on Sunday, December 19, at 4:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Schedule - The 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. services will have lots of familiar carols. We need to decide which will be livestreamed (one or both) or if we record the services and post them immediately afterwards.
- The Worship and Music Committee is recommending to Property and the Council that the last two pews on each side of the sanctuary be removed and replaced by the extra chairs that are currently stacked in the back. This will provide better access for wheelchairs or walkers as well as give us some flexibility for small groups (such as the Women's Bible Study) that meet in the sanctuary. Allison will present this to the Council.
- The next meeting is Wednesday, November 17 at 1:15 p.m.

The meeting concluded with prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pastor Julie.

Worship and Music Committee November 17, 2021

Present: Allison Johnson, Marion Cole, Sonja Demeter, Carol Broderick, Randy Churchill, Mary Kienitz

Staff: Pastor Julie, Carol Browning

Guests: Rick Mann (from Property Committee); Karen Cherry (Welcoming)

Meeting Called to Order with prayer at 1:15 p.m.

Sunday Review: Everything going well on Sunday; good energy; balanced music; attendance increasing; All Saints' candle lighting very powerful (next year – stations on each side or rectangular planters on altar– going up the center aisle may have increased participation); some people want to stand for the final blessing

A note about children and youth assistants being mindful of outside worshippers (e.g., please don't walk through the pavilion during worship);

Advent Plans: liturgy changes; Rick Mann will put Advent wreath out Friday or Saturday; after Thanksgiving

Christmas Concert: Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. Choir, praise band, bell choir, instrumentalists and solos, children's participation; Bob Cole and Mary Kienitz can be ushers

Christmas Schedule: 5 p.m. (livestreamed and recorded) and 8 p.m. Use candles at both for "Silent Night."

Christmas Décor: Christmas tree – place in alcove to the left – Carol Broderick will be here to help; drum set in preschool or Pastor's office

Who will do Christmas decorations? Saturday December 18th 10 a.m. Pastor Julie, Carol Broderick, altar guild; intergenerational

Poinsettias: Carol Broderick will order; Pastor Julie will do Google form; 70/80 – put in newsletter and bulletins

Rick Mann: Last row of pews removed; chairs have to be interlocked so that the metal studs aren't tripping hazards; can't grind off studs until after the annual meeting because Council wanted it to temporary; he thinks taking off the one row is sufficient; he would like Worship and Music to amend motion to say just remove one row, not two rows; Marion moved to amend our previous recommendation to Church Council to remove just one row of pews to accommodate wheelchairs and walkers (instead of two in our previous recommendation). Carol Broderick seconded it. The motion passed.

Karen Cherry: Epiphany idea. Epiphany stars used in Scandanavian countries; proposal to hang in the pavilion; Karen would like a cadre of Starmakers; suggestion to meet once a month for the next few months

Sonja: Would like to give one year *Living Lutheran* to every new member for a year. 14 copies received for the church to give out (from Office budget).

Budget Requests from Worship and Music

65100 Altar Supply \$1400

65110 Altar Flowers 0

65200, 65300, 65800 combined \$1050

65400 Bell music, equipment, maintenance \$400

65420 Deferred Bell \$560

65500 Instrument Maintenance \$1000 *

(NOTE: After the meeting, Carol Browning double-checked the figures for this and suggests it be increased to \$1,600, based on 2 organ tunings per year @ \$375/tuning; 2 pianos tuned 1x per year @ \$140; 2 pianos tuned 2x per year at \$140 each; total of \$1590)

65700 Classical Concert 0

63660 Virtual Services Support \$15,000

New item: Afternoon Chapel \$300

Motion to recommend the above budget request to the Council. Moved by Sonja seconded by Mary seconded. Motion passed.

December meeting time: Wednesday January 19 at 1:15

Meeting adjourned with prayer at 3:15 p.m.

Notes respectfully submitted by Pastor Julie Morris

Budget Requests: