

Worship and Music Committee

May 11th, 2021: 6:30pm (Remote conferencing via Zoom, in-person Verona)

Attendees: Jared, Sarah, Judy, Betsy, Mike, Barb, Amy, Donna, Pr. Chris

Guest: S. McNulty

Warmest Welcome Back to Everyone! ☺

Meeting Notes:

*****All Action Items will be highlighted in RED*****

1. Devotion- Amy (Nehemiah 1:11), The Importance of Prayer
2. COVID updates:
 - a. COVID task force will meet 5/16- good opportunity for us as committee to bring questions
 - b. 2 new orders out of Dane county to spur new questions:
 - i. Recommendations on masks?
 - ii. Registration for outdoor service still needed?
 - iii. Singers without masks indoors?- current limit is 4
 - iv. What are we allowing to guide us?- love thy neighbors in good faith to enable comfort for all.
 - v. We have our panel of professionals (The "3 Paul's") to help guide our decisions as well.
 - vi. As we move to no masks is it possible to have a section of worship dedicated to mask-wearing individuals→ keep options available for all comfort levels
 - c. Leadership questions:
 - i. Any plans of opening up more programs in the church by September (eg. Church school, etc.)→ goal is yes, but hard to say at this point
 - ii. Hard to say what all will look like in the future and what the environment will be like→ move in an "as if" then be prepared to shift.
 1. Fall= new "in person" is the goals; no to "what was" and yes to "what will be".
3. Review of Chapter from Sarah I.- let's be mindful of this as we navigate our decisions moving forward
 - a. Themes- could be the basis for some of our worship changes
 - i. Unity
 - ii. Excited vs Complacent regarding worship
 1. "out of worship my heart leapt for joy"
 2. When you leave worship, take and carry something throughout the week to bring you to the next worship→ we carry more than we think we do.

- iii. Worship as a “Transactional Activity” - don’t come to receive but do receive; God comes down to feed us; because God is good, we end up receiving more than we intend.

4. Feedback- current music format

- a. We all miss musical aspects of worship (choir, small groups, “west” format, etc.)
- b. Will move month to month to discuss more options.
- c. May be too early right now; try in the fall?
- d. Reach out to other committees instead in the near term

5. Worship #s:

- a. From beginning of year (2021):

- i. Jan, Feb, Mar (all streaming)

- 1. ~600 Sundays
- 2. ~125 Wednesdays

- ii. Apr, May- numbers are still consistent with in-person and streaming mix

- 1. 4/11 and following weeks (in person)- 44, 41, 45 (all with baptisms) and then 34 (more accurate #)
- 2. Weds (in person)- 19, 6, 8
- 3. 5/9-

- a. ~125 @ Madison (most 55+, regular Madison church-goers)

- b. ~150- Verona (outdoors)

- iii. June schedule:

- 1. Jared’s thoughts and committee comments-

- a. 9am- in person (Madison); stay consistent, do not alternate with Verona
- b. 10:30- outdoor, tent (Verona)
- c. 6pm Sunday campfire (Verona)
- d. Wednesdays?

- i. Remain consistent above 100 when streaming (low in person numbers)

- ii. Pre-record @ Verona

- 1. Opportunity to bring back musical groups

- e. Music Mondays are going to stay but modified (hybrid)→ every other week will be recorded and also Holy Cow worship on Monday nights.

- f. Holy Cow as a worship site→ not sure what it looks like yet.

- 2. Not really sure where families are going to land for worship times because schedules are still so up in the air.

- 3. Will make plans on a month to month basis.

4. September ideas: depends on how fast folks return to in-person, but all will remain with a streaming option.
 - a. 9am- Madison
 - b. 10am- Verona
 - c. 6pm- Verona
 - d. Wed- Madison
 - e. Misc. comments:
 - i. Previous numbers do not show a strong attendance at 9am in Verona.
 - ii. Outdoor @ Madison?- Pr. Chris would need to look into any city codes that would dictate option.
 - iii. Volunteers (and staffing)
 1. Any additional services would mean more volunteers needed
 2. Not every worship service would necessarily need a pastor in attendance.
 - f. Polling folks on new format- roll out a new format and then check in on how people are feeling about it.
 - g. We need to “planfully” rebuild our worship structure→ how can we take all our spiritual talents to funnel that effort into a meaningful worship at our congregation’s center?
- b. Message to take to the Board:
 - i. We will give month-to-month recommendations because of our “moving target”→ families are still up in the air and we need to be lovingly supportive of where everyone is comfortable at any given time.
 - ii. Summary of June worship recommendations:
 1. Sundays-
 - a. 9am-indoors in-person at Madison campus (streaming also)
 - b. 10:30am-outdoors in-person at Verona campus
 - c. Sunday evening (6pm)- outside at Verona campus
 2. Wednesday will be streaming only (pre-recorded), no in-person
 3. We need to see what attendance #s look like to then plan for July
6. RIC Task Force (Chair- S.McNulty, guest attendee), under Hospitality committee
 - a. Will be meeting with every committee, small groups, etc. throughout entire church
 - b. Jared to send liturgy and RIC to provide suggested modifications for inclusivity*
 - c. Will be suggesting ways to make all facilities more inclusive.
7. WMA committee will continue to meet throughout the summer; next meeting scheduled for June 8, 2021 at the Madison campus.

8. Closing Prayer- Mike.