

Worship and Music Committee

September 12th, 2023: 6:30pm (Madison)

Attendees: Barb, Pr. Chris, Jared, Barb, Karen, Amy

Guest: Rick Thomas

Meeting Notes:

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

*****All messaging to Board highlighted in BOLD*****

Meeting start- 6:32pm

1. Welcome & Devotion- Pr. Chris
 - a. Prayers for healthful healing for Mike's wife.
 - b. Vol 53- Luther's Word (defining what worship is and how it is conducted, similar challenges as we face today)
 - i. Breaking away from Catholic church meant a resistance to follow the known worship structure
 - ii. Luther's move to reform→ provide guidance as to the structure to/meaning of worship
2. Recap of summer worship in the park (Rick)
 - a. Summary
 - i. Mustard Seed Faith theme (12 total sermons)
 - ii. Thursday nights
 1. Whitney Way park
 - a. More diverse neighborhood
 - b. Most attendees were from our church, but peripheral "listening" and participation in a meal was present
 - c. Attendance fluctuated over the 4 weeks
 - d. 2nd week partnered with Light House church- bilingual service with about 75 in attendance!
 2. Tower Park in Verona
 - a. Many GSLC member live in this neighborhood
 - b. Average of about 20 people, with a fair # on non-members in attendance
 3. Meister Park
 - a. Lowest average attendance (~15 people per night), but weather was a challenge (very hot)
 - b. 1 joint service with Sugar River Church
 - b. Reflections-
 - i. Tried to get guest preachers
 - ii. Didn't gain as much traction as hoped
 - iii. Very positive with partnering with other churches
 - iv. Going forward/Suggestions-
 1. Change frequency to 1x per month (then build from year to year)
 - a. Be more intentional about getting people to the services
 - b. Would allow for other Holy Cow opportunities

2. Keep structure fluid
 - a. Song suggestions/open forum
 - b. Kids focus- campfire song night
 3. Increase the communications on the event
 4. Invite non-profit groups to come and speak about their work and meal profits go to that organization
 5. Target Wednesday night to line up with other GSLC events
3. Recap Labor Day combined service (10am Verona)
 - a. Good mix of both campuses
 - b. Both campuses seem to be coming together and becoming more familiar with each other 😊
 - c. Suggestion for music group→ change order of rehearsal so first is up last/last is up first
4. Further discussion of worship times
 - a. Balancing the pastoral support with closer worship times
 - i. 1 preacher and 1 support pastor (at each campus)
 - ii. Also lean on support network of others if 3 pastors not available
 - iii. Maybe consider changing/modifying the order (more songs early on?) to allow pastors more in-transit time
 - b. Don't forget the "why"→ reflect to see what our new worship times do for family worship
 - c. Upgraded our streaming package to enable simultaneous streaming of both services
 - d. Will continue to "go with the flow" and address items as they come
5. Fall worship, Reformation and Thanksgiving- not much to discuss, all planned as usual
6. Continuing discussion of Christmas worship services and times
 - a. 4 weeks of Advent, last is Christmas Eve
 - i. Will move back a week, start Sunday after Thanksgiving
 - ii. Pastor Chris sent out the Advent theme to the committee, Board to gather feedback
 - iii. Theme→ Breaking Through
 1. Use different imagery of the light breaking through the darkness
 2. 11/26- The Potter and Clay
 3. 12/3- Home is Where God is
 4. 12/10- Messengers of Hope to the Hopeless
 5. 12/17- God Keeps God's Promises
 - iv. Be intentional about the imagery and visuals to reflect each weekly theme/message
7. NRSV Bible- updated version in review (20,000 changes/corrections)
8. Closing prayer and Lord's prayer

Next meeting October 10th, Verona

Meeting End- 7:54pm