

Music and Worship - February 8th

Attendance: Karen Smith, Keith Ostermann, Barb Freiberg, Barb Bredel, Jared Stellmacher, Sarah Iverson

Opening Devotion: by Mike Harper – Do we prepare for worship? How could we *all* better prepare for worship?

Updates: Mike has attended a few extra meetings with Shared Leadership Task for and the Strategic Planning Committee. They seem to have a great interest in measurable outcomes and nomenclature, but it seems to lack a spiritual understanding/language. Are we applying a business model to a spiritual institution? What is measurable in this committee? How does this committee plan to go forward and fit into this?

Dissatisfaction is a measurable – so we should plan to take care to monitor that as a metric and take it seriously.

Scripture is our highest commitment so as we go forward, how can we talk to each other, conduct ourselves, do our work with that as our highest commitment.

Covid: This no longer needs to be an agenda item. This isn't a major impact on our decisions any longer but if it becomes a problem, we will re-address. Only remaining question is communion.

State of worship:

- Feels like we're getting more and more back to normal at Madison.
- Attendance seemed back to normal at Verona this past week – church school as well.
- It seems like good signs – weather is helping, more are vaccinated, hopefully attendance numbers will reflect that.
- Online numbers have remained consistent which is a good sign. The pie just gets split up differently. But how do we know if people have left?
- Online worship – maybe we should have a conversation about how this is conducted when it is here to stay?
- With people finding their way back – every week is someone's first week back – and so greeters and hospitality is so important.
- Any speculation on when we would add another service to either campus? What would drive that decision? Attendance numbers and staff numbers?

State of Music Ministry – Jared

- Feels things are going well for Verona groups in AM and PM. Set-back a bit for some sound help.
- Verona Music Position – still something in the budget, this job description needs some re-shaping to fit our current needs.
- Hopefully post in May to interview during summer and start in fall or early August.

Ash Wednesday:

- Noon service at Madison and 7:00 service at both campuses.

Lent

- Throughout Lent we will hold a midweek noon service that would be recorded and re-broadcast at 7:00 in the evening. It will be based on Holden Evening Prayer – using reflective readings and scripture.
- The theme is - “Things are not as they are supposed to be” – why is that true and what is our response.
- Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at both campuses – with a noon at Madison as well.
- Palm Sunday – Per usual.
- Easter Service Times - How does a sunrise service fit into our line-up? Is an outdoor service going to be warranted? Will people be so comfortable at that time that it would be great to be normal and inside?

Suggestion....

9:00 – At Madison

8:00 – Under the Tent

10:30 – Indoor at Verona

State of Volunteers:

What is the plan in wake of Donna’s resignation?

Jared will take care of scheduling Worship Assistants and Lectors.

Rick B will take care of the hospitality volunteers. Verona – 3 greeters in Lobby, 1 greeter at back, 1 -2 ushers...until there is a change in communion and so we will need to re-visit AND TRAIN.

Once we get our new Sunday morning flow- it would be a good thing to train ushers.

While it can seem at first that some hospitality positions are overstaffed as few people use that entrance or opportunity – you never know when someone who may be here for the first time use that door and so it may seem “Extra” but it is important.

Every Sunday is different – different pastors, different crowd, different unexpected. How can we conduct ourselves in such a way that we are still “setting the table for worship”. Who does that? What is the value of that? How important is that?

How do people know what is going to happen next in worship – does that help people enter into that space? Should we bring back bulletins?

When do we name what we are about do – framing this in spiritual and theological language?

DRAMA:

Cassie is working on it.

Next Steps/Upcoming Discussions:

- Invite Eric Holmer to our next meeting to talk about worship in the virtual context.
- Firm up Easter worship times – as we see trends in attendance.
- Talk about summer worship – how does the tent affect that.

Next meeting March 8th – Verona Campus 6:30 – 8:00

Closing Prayer