Worship Ministry Team Meeting

November 18, 2025

Minutes

Present: Christina Metzger, Dave Norby, David Schipper, Ron Thoni, Pastor Tammy, Lori Newlun

Gather & Devotions – Dave Norby

Review of October Minutes – approved as written.

Old Business:

- **All Saint's Wrap Up** – all thought that the service went well and has been a meaningful addition to our traditions. It was stated that it is especially nice when the congregation is allowed to get up and state the names of past loved ones we wish to continue to remember and honor.
- **Advent flow chart** – Review of the work plan was discussed. All is running on time. The only big change is that Kala will handle the emailing of the daily devotionals. The paper copies will be mailed by the end of the week. With the office operating Tuesday – Thursday and next week being Thanksgiving, mailing early to ensure that the paper copies are received in time for the first day Sunday of Advent. Updated copy of workplan attached.
- **Livestream** – David stated that he is pleased with some of the changes that the video techs have been using. It shows more of the congregation before and during the service. It was suggested that after the first of the year that an email be sent to the regular livestream users to get feedback on how we might further improve their experience. Kala will send this out with assistance from David as to content.

New Business:

- **Worship Suggestions** – No new suggestions have been received.
- **Plans for 2026** – Lori asked the team to think about any new ways to improve our worship time. Suggestions made were to use baby pictures and confirmation pictures from more senior members, showing them on the Narthex screen and having the congregation guess who they are. Trying to incorporate some intergenerational segments into both our services and during the 8:45 Christian Education time. Please put on your thinking caps for any other ideas to discuss at future meetings.
- **Vacation Schedules for 2026** – David is busy getting all special music components in place for the Advent Season and Christmas Eve. He may try taking off on November 30th

(first Sunday of Advent). He is thinking about taking some time off in January. Pastor Tammy states that most of her time will be taken during the warmer weather months, but that she may take one or two Sundays off prior to that.

- **Confirmation** – Lori stated that this will be our first Confirmation in a few years, so we don't have much to draw from as to how to proceed. Lori will create a workflow plan chart with some suggestions to start with. It will be worked on and updated in the coming months. Confirmation will be on the Sunday after Easter, which will be April 12th. We will ask the East Lilies to be left to help adorn the sanctuary for confirmation. Input was received that in some past confirmations that flowers were presented to the confirmands. It was stated that girls received a rose and boys a boutonniere. It was decided that it would be better to give a rose to each confirmand. Discussed seating and Lori stated that the last confirmation that was conducted under Pastor Craig, that the center rows were reserved for families and that family names were placed on rows to assign seating. Confirmation being the Sunday after Easter, additional seating put in place for Easter will still be in place to accommodate the anticipated larger crowd. Congregational Life will be asked to provide cake and refreshments for after the service.
- **2nd Term** – Lori informed the team that the Nominating Committee had asked her to serve a 2nd – 2-year term as Chair of the Worship Ministry Team. I have accepted this nomination, and the congregation will vote on it during the January Annual Meeting. Lori stated that it was her hope that the current team members would be willing to continue to serve with her on this Ministry Team.

Open Discussion:

- **Music** – David informed us that he has several special music presentations for us in the coming weeks. 12/7 will be the chimes. He is thinking about some sing-along segments, the Women's Choir on 12/14; Les will be performing O Holy Night on 12/21 and the Adult Choir performing; the Adult Choir will be performing during the 1 pm service on Christmas Eve.
- **Outside Music Events** – David shared that he, Christina Metzger and Jon Whitcomb would be doing some performances at Oakwood East and Parkside during December and encouraged any interested to come and listen. He will be posting information regarding the dates, places and time.
- **iPads** – David reports that while still on a learning curve, overall, the use of the iPads has been going very well and generally well received by the musicians and vocalists. It has removed some of the workload from having to print and file paper copies of the music and create a digital library for use instead.
- **New Screen** – it was stated that during 2026 it is hoped that we may be able to ask for and secure the funds to place a screen on the back wall of the Sanctuary. This would allow all on the chancel to see the slides that are shown to the congregation without

needing to turn sideways or put their backs to the congregation. They would be able to face forward over the congregation and see the screen on the back wall. David and Gabe Martens will investigate what all would be required for this and come up with some cost figures that can then be taken to the Council to decide how to move forward with this request which may include asking the Congregation for monetary support through a special offering or approval of using other funds within the church.

Closing Prayer – Pastor Tammy

Next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2025, at 4 p.m.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Newlun, Chair

Worship Ministry Team