

Worship Ministry Team Meeting

January 21, 2025

Minutes

Gather & Devotions – Lori

We welcomed to our team our newest member Ron Thoni. Welcome Ron, we look forward to having you with us.

Meeting time was changed to 2pm this one time, due to schools being closed due to cold weather and Christina being available earlier in the day.

December minutes were approved as written

Old Business:

- ☐ **Review of Advent Season** – all seemed to go well and was well received. It was felt that the Advent Launch kickoff went exceptionally well. The 1 pm and 5 pm Christmas Eve services were both well attended and no complaints to date were received about not having a late evening service. Well done team!

New Business:

- ☐ **Lent/Easter Flowchart** – see updated chart
- ☐ **Ash Wednesday**
 - o Pastor Tammy introduced a new way for celebrating Ash Wednesday that would be more inclusive for young families. She will be working with Catlin Mountford to have a “drive through” for Ashes from 4-6 pm that would allow and encourage families to receive Ashes with their children. A traditional church service would then follow at 6:30 pm
 - o Pastor Tammy will work on the announcement for the monthly newsletter to explain this new idea.
- ☐ **Weekly Lent Services**
 - o Plans are to continue as we have in the past few years with Congregational Life hosting a meal and then there will be a gathering for Bible Study sessions afterwards and will be done by Pastor Tammy in coordination with Bill Ridgely.
- ☐ **Palm Sunday**
 - o There will only be one service at 10:30. The plan is to have sufficient palms for all members to wave during a procession. All people who are able and want to participate in the parade will gather in the Narthex and proceed up the center isle waving their palms and then placing them in receptacles at the front and then moving down the side isles to their seats.

- o Plans are underway with Sunday School to have a special presentation of the “Holy Week Walk” dramatizing the 8 stories of Holy Week at 9:15 a.m. The congregation will be invited to attend this and then stay for the 10:30 a.m. Palm Parade and Service.
- o Pastor Tammy will have an announcement in the April Newsletter describing this new event, encourage congregation to attend and then stay for the 10:30 and all congregation Palm Parade.
- **Maundy Thursday**
 - o The new thought is that no formal Maundy Thursday Service would take place. Instead, families would volunteer to host a “meal” in their home inviting a small number of members or another family to join them. Hosts would all be provided with the same liturgy to be read following the meal.
 - o Pastor Tammy will provide a write up concerning this idea for the February newsletter to ascertain interest in this change to determine if it will proceed as envisioned.
 - o The thought behind this being that the “Last Supper” was held in a small, more intimate setting between Jesus and the Disciples – they share a “last meal” this way and this would encourage us to do the same.
- **Good Friday**
 - o There would be one service at 6 p.m. There would be several readings and one candle for each reading. After the reading, one candle would be extinguished until all the candles had been put out.
 - o The plan is to have several members of the congregation read a scripture.
 - o Will look into slowly turning down the lights as each candle is extinguished to enhance the overall experience.
- **Easter Sunday**
 - o There will only be one service at 10:30.
 - o Lori will be placing notice in the Weekly and for the April Newsletter regarding the change on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday of only having 1 service.
- **Lent/Easter Flowchart Overall**
 - o Several other matters related to the Lent/Easter season are indicated in the flowchart.
- **Worship Suggestions**
 - o One new idea was submitted by Susan Norby. She suggested we include a welcome statement at the top of our bulletins. This suggestion received positive support. Lori will be working on a possible statement to use for review during the February meeting.

Open Discussion:

☐ **Livestreaming**

- o We have seen an increase in the number of on-line viewing. Unfortunately, it appears that many are not then signing the on-line pew pad. It may be a good idea to place information regarding the Livestream process and online pew pads in the Newsletters
- o David stated that he has begun using the Livestream again at the 8:15 service in order to work on sound issues and plans to continue
- o Lori indicated that since she is generally in attendance for the 8:15 service that she is willing to man the video cameras rather than have a stationary wide view picture
- o We will discuss at a future meeting whether to announce the fact that the 8:15 service can be viewed – but recent numbers already indicate that some people have been “tuning in” for this service.

☐ **Guest Pastor**

- o Mark Yurs will be our Guest Pastor on February 16th He is aware that there will be 2 services
- o Carol Barth will give the Sermon on February 23rd, Pastor Tammy will be present and co-lead the service

☐ **Baptism**

- o There is a baptism scheduled for the 10:30 service on February 23rd Pastor Tammy will check with Congregational Life as what their part is for this piece of the Service. Lori indicated that in the past there seemed to be a small bit on confusion as to which Team was responsible for what, this being the first baptism she has overseen.
- o Lori will coordinate with Pastor Tammy about the baptismal font and those matters to handle

☐ **Joint Choir**

- o David announced that the Joint Choir will be performing again at the 10:30 service on April 6th.
- o David will place announcements in the Newsletter and Weekly to advertise this special music
- o Will need a guest pianist for the 8:15 service as the choir and David will be performing at the Burke Lutheran church during this service. David will arrange this.

Closing Prayer – Pastor Tammy provided the closing prayer.

Next Meeting will be on **February 18, 2025, at 4 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Newlun, ChairWorship Ministry Team