

**Living Word Lutheran Church
Worship Committee
May 14, 2015**

Members Present: Steve Ferguson, Louie Seesz, Connie Berghuis, Jim Nelson, DiAnn Zimmerman, Pastor A.J. Kluver, Bruce Wymore (Council Liaison) Gayle Nemmers (Altar Guild)

Members Absent: Dan Haglin, Coordinators of the Music Guild

In the absence of Chairman, Dan Haglin, Steve Ferguson chaired the meeting.

Praise Band Binders: More binders have been purchased and prepared for use. More binders may be added later if needed.

National Day of Prayer: The breakfast was a sell-out and 24 churches in the community participated in an evening prayer service. The service at LWLC was "outstanding." The bell was rung 7 times at 7 PM for the seven prayers stations.

Summer schedule: The Wednesday evening summer service has been approved by the Church Council. The services will be held at 7 PM from June 10 to August 26, 2015. There will be a 40-50 minute service using the text from the previous Sunday and an extended children's sermon.

Discussion about using piano and /or guitar to accompany the hymns. On Praise Band Sunday, the sermon will be repeated but not the Praise Band.

Communion will follow on the Wednesday following Communion Sunday.

Ushers, greeters, and a communion assistant will be needed.

Memorial Day Display: The display will be to honor deceased veterans. The congregation has been requested to provide information about their family members to the church office. Nancy Anderson is the contact person.

Bible Sticks for military: There will be a short video and information in the bulletin this Sunday regarding Bible Sticks for military.

Criteria for Worship Music: The information on Regarding Music for Living Word Worship Services was again discussed.

After discussion the following statements seemed most appropriate:

Colossians 3:16-17. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach, and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. RSV

Lutheran worship puts the focus squarely on Jesus Christ, who is present for us and with us through His Word and Sacraments. As Lutherans, we understand that our salvation comes from God's grace and not from anything we've done. Whether it is the liturgy, the spoken word or the hymns, worship must be for God's glory, praise, and honor. We are called to discernment. Therefore, as we prepare for worship, it is the responsibility of all of us to make sure that what we say, sing, and do is theologically sound.

Criteria for Worship Music

1. Music lyrics that reflect Lutheran doctrine with a Christ centered, gospel centered and grace centered message.
2. Music that focuses on what God and Christ did and does for us (not what we do for God).
3. In true Christian worship we are passive and God is active. We are receiving and God is giving. We are learning and God is teaching. We are getting and God is giving.
4. When we sing about God, we are singing to God. And to sing to God, or to praise God, is to repeat what he has done for us. "The greatest way to praise God is to tell everyone what he has done. The praise of God is neither in the use of verbs to describe me nor is it in the use of adjectives to describe Him. Praise of God is using verbs to tell what He did for us in Christ." (Kelman Preus)

** The coordinators of the Music Guild have asked that what we have developed does not move forward until they have had an opportunity to review and discuss it.

Music Guild: No report at this time.

Altar Guild: The following purchases have been made – 2000 communion cups, gluten-free wafers, and a case of wine.

Usher Report: The ushering is going well. There always is someone that is willing to assist if needed. Occasionally there have been people sitting at the back table that need communion brought to them.

Next meeting: June 11, 2015 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
DiAnn Zimmerman, Secretary