

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – 8/10/16

Present: Steve Ferguson, Gayle Nemmers, Carolyn Moeller, Gregg Stoen, Nancy Anderson: **Absent:** Jim Nelson, Bruce Wymore, Pastor AJ.

Steve opened the meeting at 8:15 p.m. with prayer.

Meeting minutes from 7/14/16 approved as written.

Financial report: Report is not out yet but Steve believes there is nothing out of the ordinary in the report. Will let us know if there is.

Music Guild: Carla Beem and Carolyn Moeller discussed ordering additional choir music for the women's choir as the women are interested in singing again. Hymn of month: Have No Fear Little Flock was planned for September but since Pastor AJ has used it a number of times in August, the September HOM will be Reclaim #51 Lord With Grateful Hearts (Carolyn will tell Pastor AJ). With the banner on the north side moved because of the TV, the piano (with the top up) covers up half of the banner. Suggestion was to move the piano north a little. Carolyn will also talk with the choir also about moving a little closer to congregation so that it's easier to see Carla direct. Karen Kirckof has been playing for some of the summer services and is enjoying it very much. Starting September, she will also help play for Sunday services! We appreciate Karen's willingness to play and share her talents!!

Altar Guild: Nothing new to report. Gayle did raise the issue of the green banner on the south side of the church. Pastor AJ said the current hook in the ceiling cannot be moved without leaving a hole in the ceiling so a new one would have to be put in possibly after finding the studs. Other option (which the Worship Committee liked very much) was to have a wooden stand made for the banner similar to the one on the north side. The cost in the church catalog is ~\$200-400. Because it's expensive to purchase, Gayle will check with Chuck Hauck and/or Doyle Polson about making an additional banner stand. We all liked the idea because then it would be repositionable as needed rather than hanging it from the ceiling.

Usher report : No report as Jim Nelson was absent.

Pastor's report: Per information given to Steve, Pastor AJ is thinking about having an outdoor service for our final Wednesday night service (depending on weather) and then have a fellowship time afterwards (and samores?). Steve will talk more with Pastor about this. Nancy to contact Ken Elvehjem to see if he would be available to play his guitar if the service is held outside (currently Karen Kirckof is scheduled inside).

Old business:

- Use of TV'S – Nancy brought the attached document to be used for discussion.
- After some discussion regarding the issues brought up on the attached document, the Worship Committee agreed that there should be some guidelines for how the TV's are used and the worship service is managed. Committee members will bring suggestions to next meeting for discussion.
- Power Point/TV set up. Pastor is still looking for someone to help with the editing and presentation.

New business:

- 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Need 2 people from Worship Committee to help with the committee working on the Reformation plans. Steve volunteered but we still need one more person.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

REVISED DATE and TIME: Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Anderson, Secretary

Television Monitor Use for Worship Services

Discussion points

- Initially, the Worship Committee was never contacted regarding the general use of TVs for Sunday worship services; secondly, the first time it was discussed was at our meeting on 7/14/16 after the TVs had been purchased and installed. The following Sunday on 7/17/2016 the TVs were used during worship service. While the TV subject was introduced and limited discussion took place at the 7/14/16 meeting, it was NOT brought to a vote. The question of TVs used during worship services should have been further discussed, reviewed and approved by the Worship Committee prior to any decision made concerning the subject. What, then, is the purpose of having the worship committee influence such decisions if they are made without the committee's input?
- We need to be sensitive to our congregation's needs, likes and dislikes.
- Unsolicited comments have been received from a number of members who object to the TVs used during worship. The main objections are:
 - The focus is now on the TVs, not the cross
 - Takes away from the worshipful scene and feeling
 - Makes the front of the sanctuary look too busy and cluttered
 - Now we're like many of the other churches in town – reminds some people of the churches they left - where the TVs were used and disliked. Interesting that there was no interest with some people in using the LBW hymnal because it reminded them too much of ELCA.
 - We are bombarded by screens everywhere – TV, phones, computers – it was nice to have a place where media is not a part of the scene except on certain occasions (i.e. presentations, VBS, etc.).
- What is the point and main focus for using the TVs? We purchased at great expense (approximately \$4500) 200+ copies of the Reclaim Hymnals. Is part of the overall plan to essentially phase out use of the hymnals and WHY?
- The purpose of having hymnals in the sanctuary is for people to use them and get familiar with them. Before the start of worship, several people read some of the psalms and hymns to prepare their hearts for worship.
- Also discussed at 7/14/16 Worship Committee meeting was that if the TVs were going to be used for the service, when singing the hymns you need to have a music line for people to follow (as was done with the Praise Band song book). In time people will know the songs, but not always at first. And not only the hymns – for visitors you should then also include the liturgy music – not just the words.
- Seems like the overall workload is doubled - having to input the whole service into power point.....plus preparing the worship bulletin.....plus have someone run the power point program.
- It is said that having the TVs on the wall help people to lift their head and sing out. In choir, we are all taught to hold our choir music and hymnals up so that our singing goes out rather than holding our music in our laps. Our singing is to the Lord, regardless of whether we sing with the book in our lap or hold it up.