

Present: Bev Wacker, Catharine Edlen, Sherry Scheider, Pastor Scott, and Susie Smalley

Page 31 from the Use of the Means of Grace was read and discussed.

Old Business:

- ❖ organ – Linda's not here. Pastor Scott said she has heard back, but we'll wait until she's present to discuss.
- ❖ Wednesdays during Lent – Attendance was in the 20's for two, but in the 40's for three of them. Sherry asked if this committee thinks we should continue the simple suppers in the future. Bev said she thinks we should; Susie agrees. We decided we will continue the simple suppers and Holden Evening Prayer services next year during Lent.
Pastor wonders what more we could do to spread the word about our suppers/service. Bev suggested we "advertise" in other Lutheran churches; Pr. was concerned about conflicts with their own congregations' events/activities.
- ❖ Palm Sunday – readers for the Passion were recruited the Wednesday prior, mainly by Sherry. She asked some people during the council meeting, some during Wednesday Bible study, and a couple during choir rehearsal. Those who participated were: Pastor Scott (narrator), Phil Smalley (Jesus), Sam Fiorenza (Peter), Don Kilroy (Judas), Bob Tukker (High Priest), Carol Bailey (servant girl), Craig Bederka (Pilate), Judy Miller (bystander), and Martin Honer (centurion). It worked pretty well, and it was nice that it included more people than just those in choir!
Sunday morning service: the beginning of the service was very confusing to many and they didn't know what was going on. Better/more communication is needed next year! Pastor thought that maybe next year he should have a meeting, prior to Holy Week, with the ushers and greeters assigned to the various services, letting them know what would be happening and what they will need to do.
- ❖ Maundy Thursday – Sherry recruited people to strip the altar a week prior, and that worked well.
Attendance (34) was lower this year than last. Foot washing went well with Cheryl's sermon; next year we will see if we want to include it in service. Hymns were sung during the foot washing, which was well-received/liked. An acolyte is needed for next year (there wasn't one this year).
- ❖ Good Friday – 43 people attended. Several people revered the cross at the end of service. Bidding prayers were shorter this year than last. Pastor Scott pointed out that all of the Holy Week services are outlined in the hymnal, and he simply follows the order of service from there.
NOTE: Next year, during adoration of the cross, Pastor would like to change from doing the solemn reproaches to "We glory in your cross", but will need the choir's help. This will also shorten the service. The cross was veiled very nicely. Good job, Sherry! ☺
The lighting was not too dark – if anything, Sherry thought it may have been too bright.
- ❖ sanctuary prep. for Easter – It was a morning of work on Saturday! All the items from Holy Week were removed and put away; all the items needed to prepare for the Easter Vigil and Easter were brought out and placed where they needed to go.
- ❖ Easter Vigil – There were only 13 people here. Sherry said she was disappointed more people didn't come to enjoy it – it was a very meaningful service and there was nice fellowship time afterwards. Next year, Pastor would like to have a sign-up for different aspects of the Easter Vigil service (including a firestarter) and, of course, also would love for more people to attend.
- ❖ Easter Sunday – Attendance was slightly higher than last year's: 74 at 8:15, 96 at 10:45.
Pastor wonders if the procession of the Pascal Candle will be necessary next year. We will discuss more

about this next year, as Easter approaches.

Hymn choices: there were not many familiar hymns sung Easter Sunday. Pastor will consult with Susie next year regarding familiar/non-familiar hymns in our congregation, and will try to choose more recognizable/easier-for-non-musically-inclined-people-to-sing hymns.

Continuous Communion: This worked well and saved time, however next year, we should move the baskets further away (closer to the sides of church) to give people more time to chew the bread before drinking the wine and dispensing the cups.

- ❖ Holy Week preparation – Next year, Sherry will need help doing all the things that need to be done for/during Holy Week!! (getting readers, getting people to help strip the altar, taking down Good Friday décor to switch to Easter décor, etc.) This year was exhausting for her!

New Business:

- ❖ butterflies in sanctuary – The butterflies will be taken down Monday, April 16
- ❖ setting changes – we started setting 1 for the Easter Vigil and will continue using it through Pentecost, then switch to either 6 or 7 to use through summer, then 8 in the fall.
- ❖ Pentecost – Catharine suggested we could put red ribbons around everyone's neck as they arrive or enter the sanctuary (similar to a lei when you arrive in Hawai'i).
The committee thinks this would be fine, and don't oppose trying it.
- ❖ summer concerts – Susie contacted Shawn Maher, director of the WHS Jazz Band, and he said they would not be able to do a concert on June 13 (too many members gone), but *could* do June 6.
She told him June 6th was fine.
Susie also has contacted Leah Baskin (twice), asking about a possible Rock Valley Children's Choir/Kantorei concert, but has not heard back.
Also, she contacted John VanderHeyden (Alleluia Quartet) and Tom Wilson (Acoustic Juice).
Alleluia Quartet will be able to do August 8.
Tom said that Acoustic Juice is now a duo rather than a trio, but would be happy to do it if we still wanted them. Susie gave them possible dates yesterday.
[Note since meeting: Tom got back with me and they can do July 25]
Also, she sent an email to Patte, asking if she could do a concert Aug. 22.
[Note since meeting: She got back with me and said she is double checking with Rise, but thinks that should be fine.]
We talked about who else Susie should contact, and decided to look within our congregation.
Susie will contact Holden Kellogg and Sam Fiorenza, to see if they're still involved in a band, and if so, if either/both might be interested in doing a summer concert.

Meeting was closed with a quick prayer, led by Pastor Scott.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 – 1:00pm at Catharine's house

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Smalley