

Worship & Music Committee meeting [online: via Zoom](#) Nov. 1, 2022

Present: Sherry Scheider, Pastor Scott, Carolyn Ciaccio, Linda Longardner, and Susie Smalley

Pastor opened the meeting with a reading with the psalm from All Saints Sunday and a prayer.

Old Business:

- † flower chart: The flower chart is filled in completely through the end of the year!
- † substitute accompanist: Marti Bein was schedule to sub for Linda on Oct. 23 however got COVID and was not able to do it. Pastor Scott secured Ronald Weber to come in last minute. He is from Janesville, WI.
- † organ repaired: The organ was repaired on Monday, Oct. 24. The technician's name was Arnie and he was from Triune Music in Elmhurst, IL. He cleaned up the power button connection and found a problem with some of the connections on a couple of the many circuit boards: the pitch of the notes changed with vibration and movement. He re-soldered the connections and got the organ working again so that a) it stayed on, and b) it didn't sound out-of-tune! He said to play it a lot and let him know if there are any problems.
- † setting changes: no changes - see last month's minutes

New Business:

† All Saints Sunday (Nov. 6, 2022):

A sign-up sheet has been put out on which people can write the names of loved ones who have passed so we can include them during the Litany of the Saints and name them all during the intercessory prayers.

A votive candle display will again be set up, as in years past.

This will again be a "cake Sunday". Carolyn and Sherry will provide the cake; Linda will provide mixed nuts, as she also did on Reformation Sunday. (Liz provided the cake on Reformation Sunday)

also on All Saints Sunday...

There will also be a baptism (Ainsley Janet Nitz)

and we will welcome new members into our church!

† poinsettias: 6" pot with foil. Cost went up so price will go up by \$1 (\$11) Sign-up sheet will go up Nov. 13; order needs to go in Dec. 5.

† Thanksgiving Eve (Nov. 23, 2022): combined service at Alpine Lutheran. Susie reached out to Richard to ask about choir and bell choir opportunities, and he said he'd welcome anyone who'd like to participate! He left some music for her to use if there are people here interested in participating.

† Advent: Sherry brought up a concern that the meaning and importance of Advent is getting lost with so much focus being placed on Christmas, and wonders if the meaning of the season could be explained better (explanations of the 4 candles on the wreath as well as the 4 banners that are hung during Advent). Pastor shares her concern regarding Advent being overlooked (and also expressed some concern about Christmas itself), heard her request, and thought maybe he could write something and print an insert for the bulletins.

Last year, some people mentioned how they missed having a part of service be lighting the Advent candles. Of course, back when there were acolytes and a children's sermon, this was something that happened, but now we have neither. When we discussed this last year, we had decided to just light the appropriate number of Advent candles along with the lighting of the rest of the candles in the chancel area. This was quickly changed to Pastor then lighting the Advent candles on the wreath during the gathering hymn, which still didn't have the same effect as that being the focus of that section of the worship service. Therefore, we decided that this year, we will again insert a time during worship to sing a short hymn and during that, Pastor will light the appropriate number of candles on the Advent wreath.

† Christmas tree: There was much discussion about this topic: when to put up the Christmas tree. Sherry wondered if we, as a committee, should just step back and let those who want to put up and decorate the tree just decide when, and do it on their own. Pastor did not want to do that and said that we should provide guidance as to when it should happen (surely not next week or anything!) but expressed concern that *whatever* we decide on will be disregarded again, as what happened last year. Susie pulled up the minutes from last year and pointed out that the reason people were unhappy was that our committee decided to just not put up a tree *at all*. We just assumed that people wouldn't want to pitch in and help without actually *asking* anyone if that would indeed be the case. Susie said she believed *that* is why some people disregarded what the committee decided last year. It wasn't a matter of *when* it would be put up; it was a matter of *if* at all. Therefore, she believes it will not be an issue whatsoever that some in the congregation will disregard what date we choose, because at least it's going up!

So, beginning this year, our committee's recommendation is:

The Christmas tree can go up any time after service on the 3rd Sunday in Advent.
(This year, that means any time after service on Sunday, Dec. 11).

† Christmas Eve (Saturday): service at 5pm; prelude beginning around 4:30.
Susie is working on getting people lined up for the prelude.

† Christmas Day (Sunday): normal service time (9:30am)

† New Organist: Linda announced her retirement, effective at the end of this calendar year. There will be an Organist Selection Committee meeting tomorrow at 7pm. (Pr. Scott Benolkin, Karen Dolan, Susie Smalley, Sherry Scheider, and Carolyn Ciaccio). Linda suggested we hire someone *before* the end of the year so there might be a smoother transition.

Meeting was closed with prayer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022 at 1pm, via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Smalley