

Worship & Music Committee meeting [online: via Zoom](#) Mar. 7, 2023

Present: Sherry Scheider, Steve Larsen, Pastor Scott, Carolyn Ciaccio, LaVon Downing, Dave Musser, Richard Popp, and Susie Smalley

Pastor opened the meeting with a reading from Romans.

Old Business:

† **organ repair:** Richard met w/ Artie the repairman once - he was there a couple hours. While it worked perfectly for about 10 minutes, Richard stated that it sounded beautiful! Artie said many of the solder connections are coming apart simply because of how old they are; they are just disintegrating. To solder them again is relatively simple, yet time consuming, due to how many there are, and he would need to come back again to fix them. Richard hasn't heard from him as of today.

Richard listed some options to start thinking and talking about:

- New (digital) organs, similar to ours, are still available for purchase. Some are totally electronic, some are hybrids (have some pipes). Richard estimated roughly \$20-30K for something similar to what we have, and also said that the used market might be pretty good, with our proximity to the Chicago area.
- Refurbishing our current organ may be an option - though we would need to find the right person to be able to do that!
- Richard suggests we also consider the possibility of getting a baby grand to replace the upright piano.

Pastor suggested we form a small committee to brainstorm different options regarding the organ (repair? replace?). The committee will include Susie, Richard, Carolyn, and Dave. Susie will organize a time to meet before our next Worship & Music Committee meeting so we can report back then.

† **Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22, 2023):** Held via Zoom due to ice storm. (Rockford got .37" of ice) There were 28 households online plus Pastor Scott who was in person and also online from our sanctuary at church!

† **Wednesdays during Lent:**

- weekly collection goes to World Hunger
- Holden Evening Prayer booklets: we have lent a couple booklets out to some members so they can follow along from home via Zoom because they can't get to church in the evenings. Sherry is keeping track of them and will make sure we get them back.
- request for online viewing of Holden Evening Prayer: Kris Tukker had sent an email wondering if the booklets could be seen by those participating via Zoom so they could follow along.
 - There is an issue with copyrights so we can't put them on the screen.
 - Susie mentioned that Cheryl Erdmann had purchased ten copies of the Holden Evening Prayer booklet but has only printed three of them. (Note: Susie suggested she bring the receipt so that she can be reimbursed by the church, and she will be doing that) Susie wondered if, as we loaned out physical copies of the booklet to those who are here in town, could we e-mail a copy to those who are joining us from out of town. This way, we are not broadcasting it via Zoom but they would still be able to see a copy of it. After some clarification, Pastor acknowledged that it could be an option. However, Carolyn informed us that Kris went ahead and bought a copy from Augsburg Press.

† **setting changes/Communion:**

- We are now on setting 3 and will remain with that setting until Maundy Thursday (April 6).
- Beginning Saturday, April 8, through Pentecost (June 5), we will switch to setting 8.

- We also went back to kneeling at the railing during Communion, beginning Ash Wednesday!

New Business:

† **butterflies:** Butterflies will go up Sat. Apr. 8th at 9am. Pastor asked if the people who are there helping with the butterflies could also return Moline Hall back to normal after the elections that will have happened on the 4th. Sherry asked Kris Tukker if the butterflies are still in good enough shape to use, and Kris believes they are.

† **offering:** While we talked about the Holden Evening Prayer services and Sherry mentioned that the collection basket is placed towards the rear of the sanctuary, it sparked something in Susie's mind: Susie has observed more than a few times that some visitors will leave during offertory and wonders if they do that because they feel 'pressured' to give. She asked about putting a basket at the back of the sanctuary rather than passing the plate and wondered if that would make visitors feel less pressure to give. Pastor said that we will continue to pass the offering plates, as it is part of our liturgy, but wonders if there is different wording he could use to make visitors feel more at ease. Steve suggested saying the words "free will offering". Pastor liked that suggestion and will try it.

† **Palm Sunday (April 2, 2023):**

- Pastor and Richard are going to get together to talk through the details of how the processional will work on Palm Sunday.
- It would be very helpful for Pastor to know who the ushers will be so he can let them know how things will happen and how they can help the congregation know what is going on. Steve checked and said that the usher schedule only goes through March 26th, so will ask Bob to work on it.
- The Passion reading will be from the book of Matthew this year. Pastor will post a sign-up sheet for people to volunteer to read each of the parts and Susie will personally invite people to read the parts for which nobody signed up.

† **Maundy Thursday (Apr. 6, 2023) 7pm:** Service will begin and end in silence. Stripping of the altar: Sherry will recruit. Lighting: it would be nice to know ahead of time who is ushering so they can help dim the lights and turn off the cross. Steve will make sure he asks Bob to fill in Maundy Thursday too!

† **Good Friday (Apr. 7, 2023) 3pm:** Sherry mentioned the earlier time to some people and they were delighted to hear that!

† **Easter Vigil (Saturday, April 8, 2023):** not happening this year

† **Easter Sunday (Sunday, April 9, 2023):** Service at our usual Sunday morning time: 9:30am.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Apr. 4, 2023 at 11am, via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Smalley