

Worship & Music Committee meeting (online: via Zoom) Dec. 5, 2023

Present: Deacon Cheryl Erdmann, Sherry Scheider, LaVon Downing, Carolyn Ciaccio, Richard Popp, and Susie Smalley

Deacon Cheryl opened the meeting with a prayer.

Old Business:

† **Advent wreath:** Since wreath is kind of big and bulky, it will be taken down after the Advent 4 service as opposed to kept up and changed to white candles for the Christmas Eve service later that day.

† **minutes from last month:** The minutes from last month were approved.

† **Hanging of the Greens (12/2/23):** The tree was decorated with Chrismons, altar candles were decorated with greens, as were the windows in the sanctuary, and the narthex was decorated.

† **Christmas Eve:**

prelude: Richard said he's got five pieces lined up and that's enough for the prelude to be a "go" and begin at 4:30. He said he can always add piano pieces if needed.

lighting: Sherry referred to last year's minutes to see what we did with the lighting. [up lights off; down lights on; chancel lights all on; pew candles all lit] We will do the same this year.

We will keep the lights dimmed for the entire service until after we sing "Silent Night". Hand-held candles will be picked up by worshippers as they enter the sanctuary, and we will light them right before/as we sing "Silent Night".

New Business:

† **music workshop for Richard:** Part of Richard's job description suggests he attend a workshop every year. He is requesting funds of \$1138.00 to attend a four-day workshop at Valparaiso University in July (22nd-25th). This will need to be presented to Council to be approved. [He may request the following Sunday (July 28th) off - not sure yet.]

† **Advent (starts Dec. 3, 2023):** We decided to sing "Oh Come, O Come, Emmanuel" during the lighting of the Advent wreath every week this year. Dn. Cheryl added Advent litany also, spoken in between two verses of the hymn. It went well and was nice!

† **Poinsettias:** Sixteen were ordered this year (22 last year).

† **Service of Lessons and Carols:** The Sunday following Christmas (Dec. 31), we will do a non-communion service of lessons and carols. There will be several readings and we are seeking several different readers for that day.

† **Christmas tree:** Sherry asked when the tree should come down. Dn. Cheryl said it could come down after the Dec. 31st service. It should be down by the Jan. 7th service.

† **Jan. 7, 2024:** We're going to observe the Baptism of Our Lord on this day, not epiphany. There is a possibility that we will have baptisms on Sunday, Jan. 7, but it's not 'set in stone' yet.

The meeting was closed with the prayer of the day for Advent 2 by Deacon Cheryl.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2023 at 10:30am, via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted, Susie Smalley