

Worship & Music Committee meeting (online: via Zoom) June 4, 2024

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

Dn. Cheryl opened the meeting with a prayer.

Old Business:

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

† **Pentecost (May 19, 2024):** There were 47 red geraniums ordered for Pentecost and they made a great display. Most were taken home; the remaining were planted in the Memorial Garden.

- “Flames” were made, using pipe cleaners and crepe paper, and handed out to every worshipper to add to our Pentecost service.
- Deacon Cheryl provided bread for Holy Communion instead of using wafers.
- It was a “cake day”.

† **flowers:** Most spots have been filled in for June, but there are still quite a few spots left for July.

Deacon Cheryl said that Sue Francis had a suggestion for her that she had gotten from attending a different church: on a particular Sunday during the summer (or more than one Sunday), have people in the congregation bring in flowers from their garden at home. We discussed it for a while and thought that sounded like a nice idea. If Sue is willing to “head” it, by arranging the flowers in a vase, then we will ask her if the last Sunday in July would be a good Sunday to do that. (She will be out for surgery before that).

New Business:

† **AGO Chapter meeting:** from Richard: “I’ve been asked to host a meeting for the American Guild of Organists, Rockford Chapter, in November. It’s a discussion session, no music, and may have 20-25 people. Probably a Monday evening, I will find out more details. I need to know who to ask about permissions and scheduling, and any other rules about use of the building.”

- Moline Hall should be available.
- Deacon Cheryl talked about needing to get a master calendar in place.
 - We really don’t have any “proper” procedure set up, except telling Deacon Cheryl, the property committee, Steve, and Phil.
 - (We will also be sensitive to the school that has rented our old preschool room)
- Richard will get a specific date and let Deacon Cheryl know.
- Carolyn asked if there would be food and coffee/drinks; Richard will also ask about that.

† **Altar Guild** - From Sherry: “We are now unable to get the white grape juice that we have been using forever, so soon, you will be seeing and tasting a combination apple and white grape juice. It’s always interesting to see how many comments we get when Altar Guild does something differently.”

† **Season of Creation:** Deacon Cheryl uploaded the readings for the Season of Creation on the Google Drive that Susie can access for the bulletins.

† **offering:** Carolyn had a question about the offering that is taken during Sunday services. She has noticed that the plate isn’t always passed from person to person. Many times, the usher just holds the plate and leans over for the person to put their envelope into the offering plate. She wondered why this was. (The reason she is asking is that one person last week offered to take

another person's offering and pass it down to the end of the row for the collection, but that person didn't want to do that.)

We discussed that reasons the plate is not passed as often as in the past, (fewer people in the pews (therefore people are more spread out), more giving online, people choosing to give monthly, semiannually, or anything less frequently than weekly), but no "rules" or guidelines were decided today. Steve indicated that he tries to make eye contact with the people to determine whether he should pass the plate, as many times it's not necessary.

Sherry found the guidelines for ushers that were last updated in 2018 and will email them to us.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Deacon Cheryl.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024 at 10:30am, via Zoom (we are skipping July)

Respectfully Submitted,
Susie Smalley