

Worship & Music Committee meeting (online: via Zoom) June 9, 2026

Present: Pastor Leslie, Sherry Scheider, LaVon Downing, and Carolyn Ciaccio [absent: Susie Smalley*]

Pastor Leslie opened the meeting by reading a responsive prayer called "Following Jesus in Our Work" from a book called Growing Together: Specialized Exercises for Church Committees.

Discussion after the opening reading led to paraments in the sanctuary and their meaning, then to the various banners displayed throughout the year, then specifically to the quilt made in 2011 by a group of ladies from our church, many of whom are gone now. Many people have commented on how beautiful it is and Sherry pointed out that the quilted banner represents the whole church year, if you look at each square. Pastor suggested we take a picture of the quilt and make a poster that labels each part of the quilt and explains what season or scripture it depicts and maybe display that in the narthex for all to see/read. Sherry said, "It has to be all written *somewhere*," and perhaps if she digs enough, she'll be able to find the information.

Old Business:

† **altar flowers:** still have two openings in July, but June is filled!

† **Pentecost (May 24, 2026):** Pentecost snuck up on us, so the sign-up didn't go up until *after* the order was due! We had decided to just go ahead and order 20 geraniums and trust that people will buy them. It worked well and we probably could have ordered more!

† **Holy Trinity Sunday (May 31, 2026):**

We had 87 total for our joint service! It helped that we also had a baptism (Liliana Hernandez). We also had a combined choir. Sherry had just enough A's and just enough N's to display her name on our baptism banner! [That banner was a gift to our church from another church and is a treasured banner. Unfortunately, Sherry couldn't remember which church donated it (along with the Advent banner) but knows they were hand made.]

New Business:

† **time after Pentecost:** Sherry will occasionally change the order of the banners during this "green" season and is open to suggestions!

† **ice cream social:** Sherry asked if it's an annual event at First - it is not! Someone just thought of it and others agreed they'd like to try it. The ice cream social will start after service and will be held in the fellowship hall inside the church (basement). Other area churches and those in the neighborhood are all invited. John and Rick Burns will provide music during the event.

† **Pastor's vacation:** Pastor will be taking vacation July 20-31. Sherry asked if we will have a pastor filling in for our **combined service (July 26)** and will we be able to have communion? Pastor has not lined anyone up yet but is planning on trying to get a pastor so we can have communion. We are still planning on having a combined choir. Susie chose three options from which Danny can choose for our anthem to sing. She will lead the choir; Danny will accompany. Sherry expressed her excitement about our combined choir and how she really missed choir during and after the pandemic.

† **combined service Aug. 30:** At First Lutheran - outdoor service with a pet blessing - 10am.

† **traditional potluck church picnic - Sept. 27:** Combined service at Shepherd. Picnic details TBA

† **future combined services:** Christmas Eve: at First; Easter: at Shepherd. Sherry said some people commented on how the butterflies looked kind of "skimpy" this year. However, she said we have a whole bag of new butterflies - they just need to have the fishing line attached to them.

† **our welcoming church:** Pastor informed us that she heard a nice comment from a recently retired pastor and her husband who came to one of our services. They noticed and appreciated how welcoming our church is and even asked her if it was her doing! Nope - that's just our church!!

† **doorbell cameras:** Pastor Leslie is wondering how those new additions are working. Consensus is that they are working well. Sherry believed there were a couple of people in Kelsey's family who arrived a little late and said they were able to get in fine.

† **Backpack Buddies:** Carolyn is the liaison for our church for the Backpack Buddies ministry that Diane Burns (from First) is coordinating. This will be a ministry involving not only our two churches, but also Zion and Emmanuel Churches.

The Backpack Buddies ministry will begin next week and will continue through the end of July. It involves filling backpacks every week with shelf-stable food/drinks which will be distributed to children in the RPS205 district. This will provide sustenance over the weekends for those children who might not otherwise have any.

Each church involved is responsible for different lists of foods/drinks. Carolyn will be reaching out to Phil to send out an email to the whole congregation inviting them to participate by either providing certain snacks or a monetary donation.

[after the meeting and email]: Susie designed a flyer on Canva which was emailed to everyone and also printed one to be displayed by the collection at church.

Pr. Leslie closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026 @ 10:00am, via Zoom [skipping July]

Respectfully Submitted,

Susie Smalley*

* Pastor Leslie recorded the meeting through Zoom; Susie took minutes from watching/listening to it.