

Worship and Music Committee 2020 Report

Our Purpose: To organize a program of worship and sacraments that will enhance a spiritual relationship with God in Christ

Our Tasks:

- Oversee chancel care and décor.
- Communion preparations and scheduling.
- Relate to Choir Directors, Church Organist and Accompanist, as to music needs.
- Planning, in collaboration with the minister, for seasonal and special ecumenical services.
- Make decisions about hymnals, needed choirs, etc. and make needed recommendations to the Governing Council.
- Make recommendations to the minister and/or Governing Council regarding matters relating to weekly services.

The above tasks were updated from 2015 and approved by the Governing Council

*2020 started with worship services functioning as usual. Choir was singing; Bell Choir performed; the congregation participated in singing hymns, passing of the peace, passing offering plates and communion trays.

*This committee oversaw the paraments and worked on scheduling ushers for the worship services. Securing volunteers to usher at our services became a challenge this year. First, we no longer have the position of Head Usher filled. Second, many of our honored senior members, who volunteer, have chosen to worship from home to keep from contracting or spreading COVID 19. Presently, Bill Royer is serving as our COVID Coordinator for worship services.

***In person services stopped Thursday, March 19th and Sunday March 22nd because of the Covid 19 Pandemic.** W & M Committee became the Task Force for providing recommendations to the GC for instilling safe procedures to resume In-person services. We met May 15th, May 19th, June 9th and June 16th and then presented our recommendations to the GC on June 23rd.

These Covid 19 guidelines for Federated were first implemented on June 27th at the Judy Temme funeral.

***On July 9th and 12th In person services resumed using the Covid 19 guidelines of having someone opening the doors, hand sanitizers, masks, social distancing, specific entering and exiting procedures. Bulletins, singing, passing of the peace by touching or passing offering plates were removed from in-person services.**

***As the Covid 19 pandemic progressed communion ceased for the months of April and May. Beginning with June, individual communion packages were prepared and distributed in various ways. We continue offer communion using the individual packages.**

*The "Time and Talents Sheet" included with the stewardship campaign letter seeking participation with Ushering/Greeting, Liturgist and serving Communion was updated. Sharing your time and talents in these way is greatly appreciated and necessary to make the worship services complete.

Special Worship Services included:

- **Confirmation Sunday October 4th with Individual Communion Packages
- **October 25th Heritage Sunday
- ****Blue Christmas Services** on December 10th and 13th.
- **Christmas Eve Services - Family Service at 5:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall and a Traditional Service with individual Communion packages and battery operated tealight candles at 8:00 P.M. in the Sanctuary.

In conclusion for 2020:

This committee believes: We have faithfully fulfilled our purpose and completed our assigned tasks. With God's guidance, new and unexpected demands were met with flexibility and creativity. On-line worship services became critical. Equipment was purchased and people worked to make Live-streaming services available. Communion elements were individually packaged and delivered to members who were isolated by the virus. People worked to improve the remote services and incorporate music to enhance the worship experience. This committee became the COVID Response Task Force. We submitted a plan and procedural guidelines to the Governing Council that offered a safe environment for In-person Services. As we look back, God's hand was evident in every action. We praise Him for our direction and purpose during this year.

Committee Members included: Val Rathje; (Roberta Saalfeld through March 2020), Carol Bennett; Wayne McCormick; Barb Sanderson and Sue McClure;
Linda Wheatley, GC Rep. and Alison Wagner, Chair and GC Rep.

Staff: Rev. Edward Yang, Lee Augustin, Bob Arp and Stuart Gausman

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Wagner, Chair