

**Worship Committee Meeting
November 11, 2020
Via Zoom**

Members present:

Andrea E. Wilmoth, Andrea Wilmoth, Carol McLean, Cleo Croom, Deanna Scroggs, Jane Sylvester, Kevin Baker, Lane Harris, Lynn Rouse, Nanette Jones, Sally Barnes, Susan Stuart

Cleo Croom welcomed everyone and Andrea Wilmoth opened our meeting with a prayer.

I. Review of Decisions for Worship Services

Andrea Wilmoth and Cleo Croom have been working behind the scenes the past seven months during this unusual time. Andrea reviewed how the church and staff have adapted. First, we were completely closed to in person services and began holding services online. Then, we began our “skinny” opening and attendance required registration. Registration is not required at this time. We are still holding services online. Hal Silver has been providing flowers for the sanctuary for \$100 per week. Individually wrapped communion elements were added for the in-person services and offered to people as requested. We added a second contemporary service when the service grew larger than seemed comfortable. Most of the services have had between 30 and 40 in attendance. Questions have arisen concerning adding an 11:00 traditional service. Many people were informally surveyed through phone calls and through UMW and the numbers do not seem to warrant adding the service at this time. When at least 50 people commit to attending the service, it will resume. There are no plans to permanently eliminate the service.

II. Review of Decisions Made by Staff

Advent Services will be held on December 2, 9, and 16. Services will be from 12:00 – 12:45 with music provided by Terri and perhaps other special music. These will be both in-person as well as online services. Lunch will not be provided this year.

Christmas Eve Services will be held at 3:30 (Family Service), 5:00 (Contemporary Service), and 7:00 (Traditional Service). The 5:00 and 7:00 services will include communion (prepackaged) and all services will stream online. The 5:00 and 7:00

services will need 2 ushers/greeters at each service. Worshipers will pick up the communion elements and candles as they enter the sanctuary or fellowship hall.

Cancellations: We will not have a Moravian Love Feast or the Cantata this year.

III. New Business – Advent/Christmas

Decorating

Poinsettias- Hal will provide 28 poinsettias for the Sanctuary and 15 for Building 3. They will be delivered prior to the Sunday after Thanksgiving (November 29) which is the first Sunday of Advent.

Sanctuary – The Christmas tree will be delivered the week before Thanksgiving (either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday). Carol McLean will know on November 16 and Cleo will call volunteers with the date and time. Carl can help with the lights on Monday or Tuesday and Kevin can help-out as needed. Cleo will talk to Susan Casper to see if one of her grandsons and/or one of the workers at the marina can help with putting ornaments that require using a ladder.

Carl has agreed to hang the wreaths on Monday or Tuesday (November 23 and 24).

Sanders put up the Christmas trees last year for the Beacon service. It was mentioned that Leah had suggested that the Praise Team could put up the trees this year.

The owners of the Nativity scene that has been in front of the church for the past few years have decided to display it at a nursing home in Raleigh this year. The nativity scene that the church used previously will be used this year and Cleo will check with the UMM to see if they will set it up. Hal inquired about the church purchasing a new nativity, but it would not arrive in time to be used this year.

Christmas Eve Services

Kevin will estimate the number of candles and holders that will be needed for the Christmas Eve services. The candles and holders are usually assembled the day the tree is decorated but can be done later if necessary.

Lynn will set up the communion altar and chalices for Christmas Eve services. Worshipers who attend the 5:00 and 7:00 Christmas Eve Service will pick up their own communion elements (prepackaged) and candles. Two ushers/greeters will be needed for each service.

Clickers will be used to count the worshipers and if there is an overflow, they will be sent to the old sanctuary in building 1 to view the service. Members who have been trained for security can help direct the overflow, if necessary.

Other Business

Kevin has been meeting regularly with the mayor of Swansboro during COVID-19.

Merle will stop coordinating the music at the end of this year. He has been receiving an hourly rate of pay. Funds for a fulltime position for the latter half of next year have been included in the 2021 budget.

Gold color weighted runners have been ordered to be used to block off rows for social distancing, rather than using the tape which is currently being used. After the pandemic passes, they can be used for special occasions.

Vespers by the Sea will be at the Fahy's home at 236 Bluff Road Cedar Point this Saturday between 5:00 to 5:30. Communion will be provided. More information can be found on our webpage.

Kevin closed our meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Nanette Jones
Secretary of the SUMC Worship Committee