

Music and Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

Present: Jenny Gelfan, Jess Stout, Ben Fox, Don Ransom, Carol Egbert, Diane Mellinger, Judith Taylor, Anne Macksoud, Wendy Pantoja, Hope Yeager, Hugh Belton

Absent: Kathy Astemborski

Jenny called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. Members of the committee checked in. Jenny read Mary Oliver's poem, "The Kingfisher" for Opening Words.

August meeting minutes were accepted as written, although Carol pointed out she isn't doing a reading for November 1 service.

Ongoing Business

Sept 6: sc: Jess; Susan and Don will interview Wendy; no Anchor (very full service)
Sept. 13: sc:Kathy Astemborski; Wendy will do reflection; anchor: Don Ransom; RE begins

There is a lapel mic now available. Reflections are being recorded and Geraldine is putting them on the website. Carol and Wendy pointed out that guest speakers should be asked before they are recorded or published on the website.

Sept. 20 dance service: sc: MJ Taylor; Wendy, reflection; no anchor (very full service)
Sept. 27 : sc: Anne Dean; Ryan Harb, reflection; Sarah Hall will introduce; anchor: Judith Taylor

October service coordinators:

Oct. 4: Hugh Belton; anchor: Lynn Peterson

Oct. 11: Anne Macksoud; anchor: Peggy Kannenstine; this is the Western Wind weekend

Oct. 18: Don Ransom; anchor: Titia Ellis

Oct. 25:sc: ?; Anchor: Richard Waddell

Wendy said that for the most part she takes the last Sunday of the month off, but in October and April she has commitments on a Sunday other than the last Sunday. She will let us know when she knows her October date away. It may be possible for Brother Somnieng to come and speak in October. Chris Bartlett will be in touch with Jenny about this possibility. Other speakers Jenny has in mind when Wendy is away are : Brother Sage, Dennis McCullough, Simon Dennis, Nancy Crumbine, Jesse Taylor.

Anchors: both Dov and Pierre have offered to do an "anchor" at some point. Jenny G. Said she would be happy to have someone else take over the scheduling of the anchors.

Children and RE: Ben reported that there will be two groups of kids: k-3 and 4-6. He asked if there is a way to bring the grades 4-6 kids into the service more. Anne said that maybe taking the offering. Jenny said maybe helping to be a greeter. Don said maybe they could do a reading during the service. Wendy said that if a child is asked to do a reading, she would like to give that child a couple of months to get used to the idea. She also has in the past had a child do the storytime for the parents.

Carol asked that there be some kind of intentional way for Wendy to be introduced to the children. Wendy suggested that she use the chalice lighting in her service on Sept. 13 to say hello to the children and invite them to teach her how to light the chalice. Ben said he would talk to Geraldine about it.

Interfaith Thanksgiving service on Nov. 22: Wendy said she has spoken to Rabbi Eileen about being a part of that service.

Don said that the shared service on Aug. 30 went well and has the idea of having such a service once a quarter. Wendy said Paul Sawyer has spoken to her about being a part of this effort. Don suggested to Jenny that she be in touch with the committee chairs of the worship committees in the UU churches in Hartland, Norwich, Barnard, Strafford.

Anne Macksod reported on the Permaculture garden: they received a grant with the goal of getting youth involved, outreach to other UU churches, and filming the garden's progress. The WES principal and teachers came over in August talk about how the students could be involved in the garden. The third grade students will be coming this Thursday to observe and document the garden. Anne suggested that perhaps when Ryan Harb comes to speak it could be a chance to educate the larger community about the permaculture garden. Carol said that folks come to the pizza night from the joint service, they could be invited to visit the garden and pick herbs for their pizza.

Wendy's Time

Wendy explained that she sees her job as coming in and taking time to meet with people, learn from people how things go here at North Chapel, especially in the first year. The group discussed Kate Braestrup's reflection and how we need to work on being accepting of diverse political viewpoints.

Jenny read "The Manifestation" by Theodore Roethke.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hope Yeager
Secretary to the Worship Committee