

Music and Worship Committee 9/2/14

Attending: Daniel Jantos, Brenda Johnson, Jessica Horak, Hugh Belton, Anne Macksoud, Diane Mellinger, Maryjeanne Taylor, Judith Taylor, Kathy Astemborski

Opening Words: Jenny read from Mary Oliver

Check in

Review of August services – appreciation of the reflections for the past month was shared. The suggestion was made that the topic of work can be looked at from a spiritual perspective and perhaps more people could share about their work experiences.

Planning:

9/21 – This is the day of the March for Climate Change in NYC. It is also the Fall Equinox. As of now we're expecting 8-10 may attend the March from our community. There will also be a gathering at the church in the afternoon to be in solidarity with those in NYC. Suggestions for the service that day include:

- Asking Simon Dennis to give a reflection. Anne will reach out to Simon and let us know if he's willing to do that.
- Reading documents related to the topic of climate change (Earth Charter). Looking for readings/poems on the interconnection with the earth and sustainability could offer the opportunity for several people to share a reading or a passage.
- Having a service of "quiet" with some readings was another suggestion.

All Thursday nights in September there are people gathering at different spots in the community to prepare for the March for Climate Change. This will involve making banners, posters, thinking about what needs to be said. This is a process of self-educating and being in solidarity. The meetings will be held from 6:00 to 8:00. The meeting this Thursday (9/3) will be at the North Chapel.

October 19th we're in need of a service coordinator. Len Cadwallader is speaking – having a coordinator who knows him would be great. (note – we were going to ask Daniel for names and didn't, that I'm aware of). Hugh is the back up if we can't find someone who knows Len.

October 26th – Daniel

Geraldine met with Let's Grow Kids – we can ask her for a report out.

The question was raised about clapping in church. This is an issue that has come up many times in the past. We discussed the value of keeping silent and appreciating the gifts that people bring through music, dance, etc. We also discussed there are some occasions when clapping may be appropriate – how to decide when it is/isn't? We will keep this topic on the agenda for next month.

Brenda spoke about needing to step back from her role as chairperson of this committee due to the new journeys she's been finding herself on. Tasks for the chairperson included:

- Creating the meeting agenda
- Putting the service together – getting biographies and other related pieces of the service

- Putting the schedule together when Daniel is gone
- Doing group emails to people who have been service coordinators looking for volunteers for upcoming services
- Following up with a “thank you” to the people that do the reflection and service coordinating

Daniel offered that if we’re planning 3 months out, instead of a few weeks ahead of time, people might be more willing to participate in services with more lead time.

Anne volunteered to chair the October 7th meeting. We’ll try and rotate chairs of the meetings in the coming months until a permanent chairperson is found.

THANK YOU BRENDA FOR TAKING ON THE CHAIRPERSON ROLE AND DOING A FABULOUS JOB!!!!

October will be multi-cultural month – looking at different spiritual practices.

Daniel suggested a possible theme being created by asking people to identify things/thoughts which cross our paths throughout the month – books we’ve read, something that struck us in the news or in conversation with others – which might generate a theme for services. Perhaps we can post the question on the Facebook page and collect ideas from there. The suggestion was also made to use a group email to discuss different ideas amongst ourselves on the committee.

Closing Words - Jenny