

Zion Lutheran Church Committee Meeting Report

Committee: Worship and Music

Meeting Date: Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2022

Members present: Kathy Heffernan, Judy Albl, Steph Bitterman, Sonya Kempf, Pr. Mark Galbraith

Committee updates/items discussed (report briefly)

1. Recap of Christmas Eve and Dec. 26 Service: Good things? Improvements?

Good things: Great attendance at the 3:30 service and good attendance at the 5:00 service. The committee was impressed with the whole service especially the opening lighting of the 2 trees in the chancel.

Improvements: (2 concerns) –1. According to the ushers, many people **missed picking up a candle** after receiving Communion. Following a discussion, it was suggested: **A.** either move the boxes to the back of the church where the ushers can hand out the candles, or people can pick up. **B.** Keep the boxes where they are and have the ushers carry small baskets of candles that could be handed out to people in need, as moving through the lighting portion. (No decision made.) 2. **Communion:** A concern was expressed that with increase in Covid cases, receiving the elements of bread and wine should have been more traditional rather than using Intinction. The assisting Altar guild member observed several instances of fingers contacting the wine. It was also noted that it seemed many in the congregation, were not familiar with receiving Communion through Intinction. It was suggested to introduce this method, at times, during regular Communion services. All agreed this is something to begin using.

2. A hand out of the current Brown County Corona virus numbers from the SD Dept. Of Health, was presented which led to the question “Where is Zion L.C. in regards to protection procedures?” A brief discussion led to an agreement on our committee's recommendation that would be presented to the Zion Council on January 18, 2022 for consideration.

3. Ash Wednesday, Wednesday Lent Services, and Good Friday: Worship times were set at 6:05 pm for all the evening services and 12:15 for Wednesday noon services. Fellowship Committee will be contacted for information on meals for both times.

4. Recommendation for council action

The Zion Worship and Music Committee has discussed the current state of active Corona virus cases in Brown County, SD, safety protocol options available such as vaccinations, masking, and social distancing and how we, as a congregation, are keeping our worshipping members safe.

Therefore, we are making a motion that the Council, ministry team, and support staff continue with current established measures by providing posted recommendations upon entering the church, sanitizing stations, offering masks, and encouraging worshippers to social distance as they feel necessary.

Report submitted by:

Kathy Heffernan,

Worship and Music Committee chair