

## **Worship and Music Committee Minutes** **Wednesday, February 13, 2008**

**Participants:** David Roden, Anne Pickett, Rosa Fullerton, Larry Hayward, Paul Stetsenko, Paul Van de Water, and Carolyn Carmack.

David Roden opened the meeting with prayer.

### **Month in Review**

There were some circulation problems at the Baptism Renewal service on January 13<sup>th</sup>. Ash Wednesday on February 6<sup>th</sup> went well. Additional cups were needed in the balcony for Communion on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Month Ahead**

Baptism is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup> and Communion for March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Holy week starts on Palm Sunday March 16<sup>th</sup>. We will need ushers for the 3:00 PM service featuring the music of Rossini. In past years, the collection at the afternoon service has been designated for the Music Offering account to offset the costs of musicians. The committee was unsure how this should be handled given the new fund raising policy. David Roden will contact the Administration and Finance Committee to determine if a special motion from the Session is needed to designate the offering during the afternoon Palm Sunday service for the Music Offering account.

The other Holy Week services include 7:30 Communion by Intinction at the Maundy Thursday service, a Good Friday service at 7:30, an Easter Vigil service at 7:30, and two identical services on Easter Sunday. Karen Blomberg has requested that Communion by Intinction be served at the Easter Vigil service on Saturday. A motion to this effect will be presented for Session approval.

### **Other Business**

A proposed allocation of the 2008 Worship and Music Budget to various sub accounts was reviewed. A question was raised about the Stubbs account that had been used to support the Young Artist Series in the past. There was some interest in reinstating this program, but replacing Pat Strothers as the organizers will be difficult. The committee agreed to allocate funds from the music budget to purchase chairs for the choir room.

The list of special worship and music offerings prepared for the 2007 Annual Report was quite significant. The committee was disappointed that this list was dropped from the presentation at the congregational meeting.

Publicity for the Palm Sunday service was discussed. Special advertising in the Washington Post, the Gazette Packet, and WETA interviews were suggested. Paul Stetsenko will contact Nancy Bea to coordinate Holy Week publicity.

Anne Picket presented a proposal to combine the Easter Flower dedications with a mission project for Moi's Bridge Kenyan relief. The concept was supported and the wording for the Chronicle and bulletin announcements was reviewed. Sign-up tables will be available during fellowship hour on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup>.

David Roden summarized the discussed at the last Session meeting related to the proposed motion to study a joint presentation of St. Matthew's Passion with the Alexandria Choral Society. The motion generated some positive and negative discussion. The details of financing and ticket sales need to be better defined before the Session can vote on the motion. Several strategies for providing free tickets to church members were suggested. There is still concern about the length of the piece and the production costs and time commitments for the choir. It is also not clear if the Alexandria Choral Society is in a position to entertain the concept at this time.

David Roden shared the content of an email he received about officer etiquette prior to worship on February 10. The loud talking while organizing for communion and waiting in the narthex to process disrupted the bell choir preparations and worshipers in the balcony.

Potential involvement of the Confirmation class in communion preparation has been discussed on a number of occasions. The latest suggestion was to have the Confirmation class help serve communion in the fall (September 14<sup>th</sup>?). This would provide an opportunity to gather the group back together after the class is completed and have them actively participate as new members in the life of the church. A number of Book of Order questions were raised. The general understanding was that special approval of the Session would be required to permit non-ordained members to serve communion. The committee felt the concept was worth studying further.

The dedication of the sanctuary gifts and furnishings was discussed. It would probably be in May, but it was unclear if it should be during the 11:00 AM worship service or as part of an afternoon celebration and recital.

Karen Blomberg asked Jan Dickerson to prepare and set aside extra bread and juice for home Communion as part of the standard Communion preparation process.

Larry Hayward reported that video taping of the sermons will start soon and that the Communications Committee would like the head usher to be responsible for starting and stopping the recording at the control panel behind the pulpit. The church staff will be responsible for retrieving and posting the recording on Monday mornings.

Paul Stetsenko requested the allocation of approximately \$500 from the Music Offering account to purchase a heat and humidity controller for the new piano. The lack of climate control in the sanctuary during the week is harmful to the instrument. Stopping the draft from the outside door near the worship preparation room remains a high priority.

Larry Hayward closed the meeting with prayer.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 7:30 PM.