



Grace Episcopal Church Worship Committee Minutes

14 March 2021

Present	
Committee Member	
Stephanie Batterman	X
Jackie Berry	
Greg Caron	X
Mary Caron	X
Glenis Elliott	
Ed Greene	X
Frank Jacob	X
Pam Mott	
Will Neilson	X
Diane Paterson	
Liz Prest	
Sharon Steele	X
Frank Strasburger	X
Mary Swain	
Cindy Young	X
Gard Conley	X

The meeting followed the Sunday Diocesan Eucharist. The Rev Ed Greene opened with a prayer.

Special Services

- **Ash Wednesday (17 Feb)** – 10:00 am service replacing our Wed service. Was well-received.
- **Lent:** Sundays in Lent are going well.
- **Memorial Services:** All agreed that it has been very meaningful to be able to hold Zoom Memorial services. To meet the increased capacity required for these services the Grace Zoom account now has a capacity for 300.
- **Holy Week**
 - Palm Sunday. Our Cantors will sing the Passion again this year from the Gospel of Mark. This service will end in silence. Frank Strasburger will prepare a note for Grace Notes letting parishioners know that if they want to communicate with others, they should come early. Frank will let Sharon know how many lectors will be needed.
 - Maundy Thursday. Stephanie will preach; Ed will officiate. Will be held at 7 pm.
 - Good Friday. Stations of the Cross at 12 noon. Good Friday Liturgy will be offered at 7 pm, with the Passion from the Gospel of John.
 - Easter Vigil. We will attend the Diocesan service at 7 pm.
 - Easter will be a joyous service, officiated by Ed Greene, music planned by Mary Caron, and will be held at 10:15 am.

Continuing Services



Grace Episcopal Church Worship Committee Minutes

14 March 2021

- **Wednesday Morning Prayer** is continuing at 10:00 am, with Ed Greene doing an abbreviated Morning Prayer followed by informal discussions on the day's readings. This service has been well-received.
- **Sunday Services**
 - Will continue at 10:15 am on Zoom.
 - All services and service bulletins can be found on our website.
<https://gracebath.org/worship/worship-services/>
- **Diocesan Services.** We will continue to share the service with the congregation, even though attendance is low. It also gives our Supply Priests a well-deserved week off.

Music

- Gard told us that he is working with two different groups learning how to put multiple voices together on a YouTube video to be shared as a part of our service. He might even have some of our Cantors join another virtual choir.
- This will be very much appreciated now and even when we start phasing back to church.

Technology

- Sharon reported that we have final quotes to:
 - Livestream with ability for congregants to participate from home
 - Use audio through our current system
 - Use video with upgraded system
 - Move the Choir Loft mic to the new choir location
 - Enable the Sanctuary and Altar Party to see those on Zoom or any videos.
- Much discussion regarding the benefits of such a system.
 - Frank noted that due to the pandemic we were now looking at two-way communication online.
 - Will stated that this was probably the most important upgrade to Grace Church in twenty years. This will allow Grace to do what it does best (liturgy) and expand beyond our walls.
- Two people who were unable to attend the Worship Committee meeting provided their input:
 - Pam Mott: "My recommendation would be to go for it, get the best, most flexible equipment that can be afforded. In addition, the equipment needs to be as user friendly as possible. The need for this is not going away, and you do not want to be struggling constantly with the inadequacies of a system...and then the vestry needs to start budgeting for maintenance and regular upgrades."
 - Larry Bartlett: "I reviewed the quotes and feel that the Headlight proposal is more complete and would provide the most satisfactory solution. My comments regarding the Headlight proposal are:
 - Headlight should recommend the computer that is to be provided by Grace to assure that it has the correct input/output connections.
 - My guess is that an HDMI distribution amplifier may well be required if the remote screen is to be used in the parish hall. I agree, however, that the system should be



Grace Episcopal Church Worship Committee Minutes

14 March 2021

tried first to see if the signal strength is sufficient. As described in the proposal, if an amplifier is required it can be provided by Headlight as a contract change order.

- A 65-inch screen might seem a bit large, but I suspect that the price for a smaller screen would not save a significant amount of money. “
- The worship committee recommended that we select Headlight AV in Portland to provide the upgrades. The cost is \$14,323.27. We will present to the Vestry on the 16th of March. If approved, we will pursue a grant from the Diocese.

Service Schedule

The schedule currently goes through April. <https://gracebath.org/worship/worship-leader-schedule/>. We do have priests scheduled through 2 May.

Return to church

- Lynne had stated earlier at the service that a committee has been formed to look at returning to church.
- Stephanie reminded us that the first phase will most likely be just the Altar Party, Zoom operator, Organist, and maybe a Cantor or two, depending on the Bishop’s guidance.

Attendance

Sunday Worship Service (all home Zooms)	Date	Approximate # of Congregants
Ash Wednesday	17 Feb 21	24
1 st Sunday in Lent	21 Feb 21	53
Wednesday Morning Prayer, Bible Study	24 Feb 21	12
2 nd Sunday in Lent – 28 Feb	28 Feb 21	53
Wednesday Morning Prayer, Bible Study	3 Mar 21	17
Rev Albert Neilson Memorial Service	5 Mar 21	115
3 rd Sunday in Lent – 7 Mar	7 Mar 21	58
Wednesday Morning Prayer, Bible Study	10 Mar 21	11
4 th Sunday in Lent – 14 Mar (Diocese)	14 Mar 21	39

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be 11 April following the Sunday worship (Diocesan service) – will use same Zoom as Sunday worship.

- <https://zoom.us/j/5772630207>, (Password: 798671)
- OR call 646-876-9923 with ID: 577-263-0207

The Rev Frank Strasburger closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Steele, Chair