

## **Worship and Music Committee Meeting Notes**

Meeting Date: March 10, 2026

Present: Pastor Julie Morris, Carol Browning (Music Director/Office Manager), Pastor Marc Mohr (CYFM Director), Becky Riley (Committee Chair), Deacon Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson (Senior Adult Ministry).

Absent: Carol Broderick (Altar Guild Chair), Vicky Edell (Volunteer Coordinator)

Becky Riley opened the meeting at 2:03 p.m. and Pastor Julie led an opening prayer. Deacon Cecelia reported that Senior Adult Ministry is working hard and has outlines and plans for the rest of the year. She attended a recent Family Faith Formation meeting and is working with them to do some church activities together. Pastor Marc stated that they are planning for "Church Together" on the patio with board games and snacks after church on Sunday, April 19, "Bring a Friend to Church" Sunday, and will be planning other activities such as crocheting. He also showed a CYFM songbook of camp songs he's using with the children.

Carol Browning shared that our monthly Taizé prayer is this Friday. The choir and handbell choir are busy with rehearsals. For the Three Congregations Holy Week services, yesterday, Brett Hanley from St. Columba's brought us a combined choir anthem to rehearse for Maundy Thursday but this morning, Fr. Michael said at St. Columba's staff meeting that there wouldn't be a combined choir anthem for that evening's service. Pastor Julie will follow up with Fr. Michael and Pastor Elbert to clarify plans for the choirs.

Pastor Julie reported that Vicky Edell is taking a couple of months off from her volunteer coordinator duties. Pastor Marc has been helping recruit acolytes. Carol Browning is monitoring the sign-ups and reaching out individually or sending emails through SignUp.

Pastor Julie also shared the Holy Week schedule – Maundy Thursday (4/2), 2pm here and 7pm at St. Columba's. Good Friday (4/3), 2pm at St. Columba's, 4:30pm children's worship in the prayer garden, 5pm Cross Walk from Mount Cross to Camarillo United Methodist, and 7pm at CUMC. Easter Vigil (4/4), 7pm here and readings have been chosen. For Easter Sunday (4/5), we'll have our 9:30am worship with Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt.

There was some general discussion about whether to include foot washing in the Maundy Thursday afternoon service, with Becky commenting that she has done it when it was part of the liturgy but felt compelled to participate and that she wouldn't miss it if it wasn't there. Deacon Cecelia said that it's physically difficult for many seniors and that they did a simulated "foot washing" last year as part of their Afternoon Chapel Maundy Thursday service. She shared that when it was done here in previous years with Pastor John Soyster and Interim Pastor Jim Bessey, it was hard to get people to take part.

During April and May (April 19-May 10), Pastor Julie will be away for two weeks of vacation, one week of continuing education, and one week of working remotely, while assisting their daughter with a move for schooling. Pastor Marc will lead worship on April 19 and May 3; Pastor Ralph Midtlyng will preside and preach on April 26 and May 10. This year, we do not have any 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmands so there will not be any Confirmations. McKenna Carpenter has asked to get confirmed but needs more prep time so she will be confirmed next year with this year's 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

Our next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m. with a closing prayer from Pastor Marc.

*Addendum via email:* Carol Broderick reported that she purchased (and donated) a dozen new purificators. She is still deciding about purchasing new corporals. Altar Guild is doing great and has a couple of new recruits. All is well.

Notes respectfully submitted by Becky Riley, Chair.

## Worship and Music Committee Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: January 14, 2026

Present: Pastor Julie Morris, Carol Browning (Music Director/Office Manager), Carol Broderick (Altar Guild Chair), Pastor Marc Mohr (CYFM Director), Becky Riley (Committee Chair), Deacon Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson (Senior Adult Ministry).

Absent: Vicky Edell (Volunteer Coordinator)

Pastor Julie opened the meeting at 2:04 p.m. with a prayer. Going around the room, each person gave a brief report. Carol Broderick said that the Altar Guild is doing fine. She will update and clean the sacristy with some new supplies. We need some new large corporals because of wine stains, possibly some purificators as well. Carol Browning will send Carol Broderick links for possible ones to order. Becky offered to bring a "Wine Off" spray to see if that will help. Related to Communion, Pastor Julie suggested getting some guest towels (or something similar) to use to wipe off excess hand sanitizer. Also, Carol Broderick will repair the "Living Waters" banner that has a small rip in it.

Deacon Cecelia reported that Senior Adult Ministry is going well and they're making plans for 2026. Last year was a good one and things are moving along.

Pastor Marc reported that CYFM is going well. He's incorporating some guitar worship songs in Sunday School and Fun with Faith. He's had some inquiries about a Camp Sunday and a Family Serving Sunday. Pastor Julie suggested that the Family Faith Formation Committee talk about possibilities at their January 18 Planning Meeting and also mentioned that there's a new director for Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences.

Carol Browning said that the handbells and choir began rehearsing last week and plans are progressing. Becky offered a "plug" for our monthly Taizé prayer. Looking ahead to Ash Wednesday, we'll be at the Methodist church for the evening service. Carol has reached out to Luvi about any combined choir effort; he is going to talk with Pastor Elbert about the liturgy and will get back to us.

Pastor Julie asked for a review of our Christmas Eve service. She felt it was wonderful and very full. We had 9 people in the PLC, young families choosing to be there but with no sense of negativity. The 4:30 time doesn't work for everyone but people are understanding of our reasons for the schedule. St. Columba's offered an 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve and a 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day service and Pastor Julie participated in both of those, with 3 people from Mount Cross joining St. Columba's members. The Blue Christmas service at Camarillo United Methodist was very small (about 20 people), but meaningful. Next year, we can do more to promote it, including a Temple Talk at the beginning of December.

Pastor Julie also reviewed last weekend's Worship Assistant Training, which had 30 people present. The Sunday schedule worked well (we had previously done Saturday training), and the potluck was great. All the ministries now have written documents for the various areas, and we have "leads" for each one: Bryan Honda, Acolytes; Gerri Tomlinson, Communion Assistants; Marni Engh, Lectors; Carol Broderick, Altar Guild; Gordon Henry, Ushers/Greeters. A goal will be to do this type of training once a year.

Regarding worship assistants, since Vicky is temporarily out of commission, Carol Browning has been helping to recruit people for vacant spots. Carol Browning mentioned that there are several open Sundays for altar flowers. Becky and Julie signed up for the next two Sundays, and Julie will work on recruiting a flower coordinator. We also discussed our current listening devices and that we probably need new, updated ones.

We also need more and different sizes for the server robes, perhaps someone to be a lead for overseeing the robes.

There was discussion regarding the Intergenerational Worship Covenant draft since the Council wants input. Deacon Cecelia did a great job synthesizing input from the Senior Adult Ministry Committee meeting with Pastor Marc. Although a couple of people expressed concerns that having lots of covenants can be off-putting and this might aggravate those who already have negative feelings, overall, the committee is supportive of Deacon Cecelia's draft with some minor modifications. Carol Broderick moved that the Worship & Music Committee recommends that the Senior Adult Ministry version be tweaked and discussed for eventual adoption; all in favor. Becky volunteered to be the Worship & Music representative for further discussions.

Our next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. with a closing prayer from Deacon Cecelia.

Notes respectfully submitted by Becky Riley, Chair.