

Worship Standing Leadership Group 2022

Submitted by: Richard Kalwaic

List of the members currently serving on your ministry or leadership team:

Yiwola Awoyale, Michael Caine, Elsa Cook, Richard Kalwaic, Tony Merlo, Devan (admin@OFRC), Holly Phares, Joanna Robinson, Laura Spencer

As you look at the goals you had planned for 2022, what were you able to accomplish?

Please be as specific as possible.

Our overarching goals were

- 1) to remain flexible as we transitioned from online-only worship to hybrid worship, and
- 2) to observe and respond to how the transition played out. During the year worship evolved from: online-only on Zoom; to in-person worship in the Sanctuary paired with simple Zoom streaming; then at last to hybrid worship of in-person and online, in which Zoom worshippers are active participants, not merely passive viewers of the in-person services. Along the way, we oversaw the formation of a Tech Team who support and monitor the complex audio and video setup that integrates Zoom worshippers into the in-person service.

How has your ministry's or leadership team's work and goals shifted throughout 2022 (due to COVID or other events)?

COVID's ongoing presence continued to shape worship. For example: masking and spread seating are still required. More interestingly: we found that the necessity for frequent, rapid adaptations over time (whether from COVID, Sanctuary renovations, or the limitations and affordances of Zoom worship itself) provided a good opportunity for us to examine our worship practices and habits more closely.

Where is your group or ministry area stuck? Do you need help in discerning who to ask to join your group or to get more involved?

Our group welcomes input from anyone at church who has opinions on and ideas about how we do, or might do, worship.

What has changed since returning to in-person/ hybrid ministry? How does your group imagine bridging the in-person/ hybrid gulf in 2023?

We expect to continue our examination, mentioned above, of our worship practices. We want to ensure that Zoom worshippers feel that they are full and equal participants in worship.

What are the ways that the church can support your team in achieving your goals for the upcoming year?

We welcome feedback from all worshippers on what works, what doesn't, and why.