

## Worship Associates Annual Report 2019-20

Worship Associates: Andy Capen, Peggy Cardone, Bob Coulter, Eileen Herring, Lindsey Sylvester, Robin Trudel

The Worship Associates met monthly with Rev. Allison Palm, Director of Faith Formation Sadie Kahn-Greene and Ministerial Intern Ben Atherton-Zeman during 2019-2020 to plan Sunday morning services, suggest and review changes and additions to the standard order of service, and share feedback about the services.

Once again this year, our worship services were guided by monthly themes from Soul Matters. However, when we moved to online worship in March, due to Covid-19, we stopped using the themes for the last couple of months of the church year in favor of responding to the more immediate needs of the congregation. Our themes for this year were:

September: Expectation  
October: Belonging  
November: Attention  
December: Awe  
January: Integrity

February: Resilience  
March: Wisdom  
April: Liberation (did not use)  
May & June: Thresholds (did not use)

Each month, we begin our meeting by reflecting on the services that have taken place since the last time we met and offering feedback. Then, the Worship Associates brainstorm ideas for the worship services based on the themes. From those brainstormed suggestions, potential worship services are discussed and chosen, and Worship Associates volunteered to participate, find readings and chalice lightings, help with Children's Chapel and sometimes even lead the service.

This year we had 3 guest preachers, including one who came as the result of a pulpit swap. We had 8 in person All Ages Services this year, and held Children's Chapel 5 times.

Worship Associates also assisted Rev. Allison in leading a small group at the Huntington once a month. Typically, these groups were focused on the theme of the month. This group was cancelled in March and April due to Covid-19, but moved online beginning in May.

Starting March 15, all worship services moved online for the remainder of the church year due to Covid-19. The Worship Associates adapted quickly to this change and were integral in assisting with 14 online services.

Lindsey Sylvester and Bob Coulter are coordinating Summer Services for Summer 2020. All of the services will be held online. We think you'll be delighted with who is leading worship and what they have planned. Once again this year, Rev. Allison led a 4-part Summer Worship Workshop in April and May for those who are leading summer worship to take them through the planning and sermon writing process. This year we also spent a good amount of time in the workshops learning about planning and leading online worship.

