

Actions Taken as a Result of the Spring 2015 Worship & Music Survey

Our thanks to the Congregation for their efforts to complete our most recent survey and to provide thoughtful feedback on our worship practices. With nearly 180 responses we believe this survey had among the broadest participation of any recent survey done by the church. For those who are interested in seeing the results, [please click this link](#).

The survey results have been used by the Committee to both reaffirm some practices and to initiate small changes in others.

Among the areas where our analysis of the survey results indicated that some adjustment in our practices, or emphases in our practices might be appropriate included the following: (1) making more use of a variety of prayer practices during our worship services; (2) planning for more intergenerational worship services as part of our worship calendar; (3) planning for including more musical styles as part of our worship practice; and (4) improving the sound system. (Note in regard to this last point: We are making progress, including advanced discussions with potential vendors, in plans for a further upgrading of our sound system.) The committee is working hard to implement these adjustments in ways that are supportive of the diversity of views within the congregation.

In other areas the worship survey results supported continuation of a number of our practices. For example, there was broad support for the quality and variety or range of Catherine's sermons. That was certainly reassuring and very valuable information to have. Similarly, the congregation was supportive of entrusting Catherine and the Worship & Music Committee with the broad discretion to select themes for worship services, including the focusing of particular Sundays on the work of various groups or committees in the church, (e.g. Youth, Alliance, Welcoming Congregation, Social Justice, etc.) Thus no major changes are likely there, except as individual circumstances might make appropriate. The manner in which Joys & Concerns and Announcements are recognized also received broad support, thus reaffirming continuation of our current practices.

The Worship & Music Committee strives to help make the worship experience at the church as meaningful and as supportive of the spiritual needs of the congregation as we possibly can. If you have any comments or concerns, please bring them to the attention of our Chair, Jim Hamilton, or any of the other members of the Committee.