

Music Update to Church Council
Michael Pettry
July 17, 2017

Summer Concert: Fish Fry Weekend

The next event of the PUMC Concert Series is on the Saturday of Fish Fry weekend at 7:00 p.m. The one-hour event is offered in a collaborative manner with the Fish Fry, with the goal of getting more community people into our building, sticking around a little longer after they've enjoyed the meal. I would not say that we've especially nailed the internal communication and collaboration between music staff and the Fish Fry volunteers, so I'll revisit that and look forward to making tweaks in upcoming years.

Praise Team Schedule

Michael Norton and the praise team have adjusted their rehearsal schedules recently. Instead of holding weekly (Thursday) rehearsals, they are now consolidating the majority of their rehearsal time onto Sunday morning before services. I support this adjustment, and look forward to hearing how it works.

October: Great Organ Spook-tacular

This late-October community concert on the PUMC Concert series is already in its planning stages. Indeed, this is going to be a BIG deal, and a special opportunity to invite a wide range of ages from the community and the congregation to PUMC.

Picture a pipe organ concert where everyone – performers and audience alike – is encouraged to come in costumes. Special lighting and fx. Familiar music that is seasonally-appropriate. And the entire concert is less than one hour - - since youngins aren't able to sit still too long - - and entirely coordinated with the PUMC trunk-or-treat event. A special task force was created that meets twice in the run-up to this event. We seek to hit this big event way out of the ballpark. My challenge to PUMC's fine leadership: What will you/we do to continue the relationship with all of the people we bring through the doors at this event? Ponder.

Fall Planning

We're in the process of finalizing the entire fall music and arts worship schedule. What's special? What's new? What builds on PUMC's incredible musical legacy?

From scheduling which ensembles sing or play when and in which service (there are 8 ensembles we must manage), to the specific music, and (new) how are we incorporating various forms of art in worship: music, dance, storytelling, visual, sculpture, etc. My artistic focus for the 17/18 program year is to include a wider range of artistic forms in worship, both to deepen our worship experience and to engage additional people in that process directly.

Other

- I am conducting staff reviews this month for my 3 direct reports.
- Kudos on the decision to change the 11:10 hour to 11:00! What's next? What time and finances are being invested to foster growth at that service?
- I applaud the decision to hold Consecration Sunday on-site and with our brand/identify-unique services being respected. This is a win-win all around!
- PUMC was featured as the cover art and full feature in the international magazine *The American Organist* which goes to nearly all organist and sacred music leaders in North America. We will display that article at PUMC later this summer.
- We have ~5-8 people from outside the community making use of our new pipe organ for lessons this summer.