

Worship Committee Report

November 2025

Worship Committee continues to meet monthly to plan worship themes, brainstorm ideas for speakers and worship content, fill out the worship grid, and discuss feedback.

Many of you have asked about filling speaker slots since Kate left. We're thankful that so far this is going very well. The combination of Ben preaching 2 times/month, a wealth of members who have agreed to speak, and other local resources has made our job easy to this point. We currently have speakers scheduled into January, 2026. Please continue to consider if you would have a message you would like to share with the congregation.

Fall/Winter Themes

- The theme for November is Creation and Thanksgiving
- The theme for Advent is "What do you fear? Insisting on Hope." We are using materials from Sanctified Art.

Christmas Eve Service

- We will have a service of Lessons and Carols, beginning at 5:00PM

Communion Observance

- Prompted by thoughtful questions from a UMC member, the committee re-visited our communion practices of open table and monthly observance. As a committee, we re-affirmed both of these practices and also decided the following:
 - We will begin to offer grapes again for children whose parents may want them to have an alternative to the bread and juice.
 - We'll have some flexibility around monthly observance if we need to accommodate special services, guest speakers, or other service elements that might arise.

The Worship Committee welcomes input from the congregation on all matters related to worship. However, we do not feel that it is a good time to make major changes or take surveys during this period when we are searching for a new pastor. If you have feedback, ideas, or questions, please reach out to: Kathleen Stehouwer (chair), Ruth Kichin Tillman, Ross Harrison, Bethany Spicher Schonberg, or Ben Wideman.