

Sunday Worship Services Recommendation

To Session from the Worship and Spiritual Formation Committee

The WSF Committee proposes that the following Sunday Worship Services schedule be adopted beginning Fall 2009 and be reviewed in June 2010:

9:00 a.m. **Traditional Service**
10:00 a.m. Christian Education
11:15 a.m. **Contemporary Service**

Rationale for Single Traditional Service

- ✓ A larger congregation and the choir at most services will enhance the worship experience.
- ✓ A larger congregation and the choir at most services is more inviting to visitors.
- ✓ Fewer volunteers for ushers and audio-visual staff are required.

Rationale for Services at Separate Times

- ✓ More clergy resources will be available for visitation and program leadership when both pastors are not preparing sermons every week.
- ✓ Separate service times means pastors can cover for each other for vacation, study leave, sick time instead of paying for substitutes.
- ✓ A unified vision for the church will be communicated from the pulpit to the entire congregation.

Rationale for Changing Worship Times

- ✓ This proposed time schedule was the most popular in last summer's survey.
- ✓ The 8:45 Traditional service has larger attendance than 11:15 majority of the time.
- ✓ The contemporary service has proven successful at 11:15, having the largest attendance of all services the majority of the time.

Attendance Analysis

In analyzing attendance from September 2008 through April 2009*:

- The combined Traditional services was about 60% of total attendance.
- Contemporary was largest 24 out of 30 Sundays.
- 8:45 Traditional was larger than 11:15 Traditional 21 out of 30 Sundays.

* Based on congregation, excluding choir and band, counting only Sundays that included all three services.