

## Current Schedule

### General Feedback:

- Current schedule allows flexibility for busy schedules
- I truly enjoy the music and the substantive sermons with relationships drawn to current situations
- Spread out on Sundays
- More music variety
- Current music ensembles remain spread out, rather than squeezing into one service every week.
- If we keep 2 services—make one truly contemporary music
- Make the contemporary service really a contemporary service
- You might get younger people if you sang songs they can relate to
- If you sang songs a person knows a smaller service doesn't matter

## Proposed Schedule

### Excitements/Opportunities:

- Proposal is great. Dinner, enjoying all of Religion in Life, 10:00 a.m. worship start time, prayer service on Wed. all fits.
- Love 10:00 a.m. time
- Love being able to attend all of Religion in Life.
- Positive of casual connections at Wed. dinner
- Energy that could come from everyone being together in one full service
- Might be nice for music staff to have more Sundays off
- Nice to have congregation all together for Sunday worship
- Wed/Sun alternative for work/school schedules
- Good times for Adult choir to practice on Wed. and Sun.
- No need for different Sunday bulletins, less work for pastors/staff
- Potential outreach to new community members on Wed.
- Time seems to be good; youth can sleep in.
- More consistent choir Sunday schedule
- Food is a good way to promote conversation
- Sunday schedule is positive
- I would like the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday—meaningful. Withhold judgment on Wed. eve service
- To enjoy the entire Religion in Life.
- Relationship building in Wed. Dinner hour.
- Lessens volunteer needs.
- Fuller services, more community, I like the Wed. service option, one service makes sense.
- Having two worship opportunities each week throughout the year.
- Plan seems to be helpful for young families.
- Hiring a caterer or kitchen manager is a good idea.
- Wed. supper is community building.
- Great time for service projects
- dedicated time for youth group.
- Better community building
- Excited to have a full church and meet new members

- I enjoy Lenten suppers, so I'd like the Wed. meals
- It would be easier to keep track of the choir schedule with one service (and not so early)
- More opportunities for Bible study, etc.
- Like the chance for worship on Monday
- This will suit younger busy families
- Opportunity for entire congregation to worship together
- Opportunity for new ministries, e.g. Taize
- More people at a service
- Happier congregants
- Options mean more people may want to come
- Opportunity to help with Wed. meal
- Wednesday meal time together
- Chance to meet people at service that have not been going to
- Opportunity to see more people at one service rather than missing that at the 8:45 or 11:00 a.m. now
- Hearing choir at every service
- General gatherings before and after the proposed one worship service provides more opportunity for development of a sense of community, i.e. get better acquainted with more of the members
- On Sundays everyone could see each other
- Opportunity to better serve the needs of young families with children
- Wednesday evening community dinner
- Having one service on Sundays will allow more community/getting to know more members
- Excited about no 8:45 a.m. service—too early for us
- Wednesday nights sound like a nice family night
- More community with proposed changes
- Excited to experiment for the coming year with a new approach
- One service gathers all those in one worship
- Social groups/dinners on Wednesdays
- New schedule looks good. Community building for parents of Pre-k-Grade 7.
- More frequent dinners on Wednesdays
- Any format that unites the entire congregation AND links our faith community to service should be our aim.
- More people in worship...everyone together
- I like the idea of seeing more members at worship and having benefit of fuller pews for congregational singing.
- Excited about one service on Sunday because of more opportunity to meet and interact with more congregants
- The proposed change offers many opportunities, more togetherness, deeper relationships, new way to explore worship

### Fears/Concerns:

- Concern that the Wednesday evening option is not sustainable every week
- Proposal makes it difficult for parents of K-7 students to come to Religion in Life
- Not changing is concerning as worship is far less vibrant in its current form
- Concerned about members leaving and then budget issues
- Concern that young families will be negatively impacted to the point of leaving St. Michael's
- At 9:00 a.m. what are the possibilities for attendance/service opportunities for adults?
- The Sunday/Wednesday (or Monday) gathering likely leads to two separate groups in the congregation. Sunday group goes on Sunday vs. weekday group goes on Wednesday. I predict little interaction of the groups
- Families with kids in 2 age groups need to be here for three hours?
- Parents can't attend RIL at same time their kids are in Sunday School
- If one worship—all children and youth prior to 10:00 a.m. service.
- If there are two services—lack of volunteers needed for services.
- Families time would be 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. What about family time?
- For Wednesday evening community dinner: funding for food? Clean-up?
- Losing families more while students are in Sunday School and Youth Group
- Change is often difficult. Expecting this will be important; listening to concerns, continuing dialogue will be needed.
- Too crowded in one service
- People not being able to make a 10:00 a.m. service
- Need relevant communication and education campaign about change
- Families with K-7 kids would not stay 3 hours for Religion in Life
- Sundays would be a three-hour commitment if parents of littles want to go to Religion in Life
- Need variety of food offerings for Wednesdays—be creative
- Hope change in Religion in Life time might not irreparably lower attendance so it does not recover.
- 3 hours is long on Sunday. Maybe alternate Religion in Life time, 9 on one week; 11:10 another week.
- I don't have any concerns about going to a 10:00 a.m. service
- I have not problem with a 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and Wednesday
- All good
- Concerns about community dinner (no details, but am assuming set-up, food, clean-up, etc.)
- 5:30 p.m. too early for Children's Music
- Does the Sun/Wed schedule increase prep time and workload for pastors and other staff?
- Sandwich making probably will not take the 1 hour—at least based on how quickly it currently goes (many hands make light work). But may be fewer volunteers will turn out for it.
- 9:00 a.m. SS attendance time too early
- Wednesday is long (in terms of hours) commitment for choir members
- No concerns
- I like it! One concern: attendance at Religion in Life...would people leave?
- Inclusion
- Wed. time for meal—too early. Or time to get to service.
- Split the time—move Religion in Life to earlier slot
- Ability to hear in the sanctuary
- Can you get enough help to put on the meal?

- 9-10 a.m. for parents with kids & not having education piece, they may not stay for religion in Life
- We have talented musicians at piano and organ at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.; with one service how will we keep both of the above?
- We need to retain both of the pastors
- Less flexible times
- Choir currently sings the same anthem for two weeks (once at first service, than at the 2<sup>nd</sup> service). Moving to one service could mean the choir would have to work up more anthems. This would mimic the frantic schedule during Lent
- If we change from 2 to 1 service, I am afraid we will lose some people.
- Having a Wednesday service will not solve the problem of small attendance. We would still be having two services.
- Families with kids that span Pre-k to Gr. 7 age group and the Gr. 8-12.
- Parents of kids in Pre-K to 7 group may not be able to participate in Religion in Life
- 2 services/2 different days—would we separate into different groups by life phase over time?
- Possible loss of members/attendance
- If would be more difficult for parents of younger kids to go to Religion in Life if it's at a different time than Sunday school.
- Would we lose Jill or Tom if hours are cut?
- Who will do the extra work for Weds. Meals?
- Older long-term members will leave church if we go to one service. How will we help them adjust?
- Wed. meal might be a lot to do every week
- Sound system
- Meal prep every week would involve a lot of volunteers—and that is already a struggle.
- A meal on every Wed. might need more volunteers/become more expensive.
- Are there enough people to attend weeknight services?

#### Questions:

- If one service, how would the choirs fit in bell ringing, children's choir, visiting musicians, piano, organ? (Only 1 time a month?)
- How does this impact the type of music we have in Sunday services?
- How does this impact our music staff? Do they have work enough to keep them in present employment?
- Will the on-line broadcast be available every Sunday?
- Would one service bring in more new families?
- I wonder how we are actively working on outreach/congregation growth to grow membership at St. Michael's
- Is "Do nothing" really an option?
- Can we keep it an experiment...and not get or stay in a rut?
- Have you spoken with Religion in Life planning team? Are the vibrant speakers willing to come at 11:00 a.m.?
- Why are kids Pre-K to 7<sup>th</sup> at different times than the youth group
- What are the metrics used to measure success of change. Increased total attendance? Increase in benevolence? More diversity?
- Prefer non-traditional service. When would those be?

- What adaptive changes do we need to address beyond this immediate change?
- Will there be childcare during Religion in Life?
- How are we gathering feedback re: if community feels service is vibrant? What is criteria for determining going to 2/staying at 1 service?
- Is there any appetite for more contemporary music that uses guitar?
- Are younger families looking for more contemporary music and less hymns?
- Can Religion in Life be videotaped (streamed) to give options for families not wanting to be at St. Michael's for three hours?
- Could Religion in Life be streamed?
- Does every activity need to be 1 hour or can we shorten them effectively?
- Isn't COVID concern covered by at home services?
- Have we gathered feedback from stream watchers? (maybe have survey via QR code at end of stream)
- How does Wednesday time change affect young families with kids in music or other thing here?
- Wed. could be flex. Contemporary or other hymnals.
- Sunday lunch after service?
- Does proposal put any additional burden on staff?
- How can Wed. dinner be done so it doesn't create new need for volunteers as we reduce the need for volunteers on Sundays?
- Could we end up with a Sunday/Wednesday split of the congregation (instead of 8:45/11:00)?
- Is there a way of surveying young families so their concerns are met?
- Would choir be required to sing at both Sundays and Wednesdays? Thus having to be at church early on Wed. evening?
- Will evening prayer service be recorded?
- Logistics—timing, spaces, music?
- Survey congregation for #s that might attend Mon/Wed.
- How will this decision be made? Worship/Executive Committee? Congregational vote?
- What will music look like? When does the choir sing? Every Sunday? Wed. prayer? What will food look like on Wed.?
- This will force changes to types of music and styles of service. Can there be further community discussions on music, style and interest
- What about music at Wednesday?
- How will one service affect the budget? Should be addressed before any decision.
- What would variety of services consist of?
- How often would choir sing? How often would organ be used?
- Would the choir sing every week?
- How does this change affect the music department?
- Has there been any thought about more contemporary music for either service?
- If we are focusing on unity, won't having a separate service on Wed. counter-act that?
- Will we have special music on Weds? (that could be a challenge for our musicians)
- Will they every go back to 2 services if it gets too crowded or popular over the next years.

**Additional comments/ideas:**

- We need to remember that people come to church for the vibrant and grounded sermons, we shouldn't over worry about people leaving...and think about who we might gain
- Excitement over opportunities
- For me one service would be great, because I am on the altar guild...so one set-up and one clean-up
- Prefer to keep service more traditional.
- No jumbotron
- 2 worship services on Festival Sundays—how to communicate that if times are different.
- Wednesday evening meal will require more helpers to get it done. –Perhaps not every week, but once a month.
- I'm curious about why it's suggested to put Sunday school and Religion in Life/Youth at different times. It seems like this would make it more difficult for many families
- Great to consider as a pilot
- How might we reassess a year from now if we make a change
- Consider budget
- Wed. children's music time might allow high schoolers to continue to participate in bells and choir
- A courtyard room service may bring a closeness you do not feel in the pews.
- Augmented volume of singing—choir might even teach us hymns
- Even with one service I feel that two pastors are still needed.
- Augment Bible study? How do we engage parents at 9:00 a.m.
- If keep two services, making them quite different, and alternate contemporary and traditional services
- Maybe compromise times: 9:30 a.m. Education, 10:30 a.m. Worship (all education 9:30-10:30 a.m.)
- If you want to assess the results of change it is best to change 1 variable at a time (i.e. going to 1 service, or changing the schedule...different variables)
- Move Religion in Life to Sanctuary to address equipment questions.
- Having a different style/contemporary service on Monday nights or even on Sundays might excite young people/youth
- Idea: with the Sunday shift, 9 a.m. could provide a time for short 3-6 week interactive educational opportunities
- Add content groups with religious focus (divorce, grief, disease diagnosis)