

**Report of  
Ministry Director for Parish Life  
The Rev. John H. Brock  
October, 2018**

September - the month we all wonder how summer went by so quickly, as we settle back into school schedules, all the while trying to remember where we packed the blankets last May.

Along with my regular preaching and presiding, this September saw me preside at the funeral of long time member Hank Johnson, widower of Jean. Both of these folks will be missed.

I was also asked to preside at the wedding of member Emily Eckard & Andrew Leedy. They are a fine young couple. While they will be living in Pittsburgh, mom Theresa is still an active member.

I was our pastoral representative to our neighbors at the installation service for West Shore Baptist church new lead pastor, Rev. Kelly Legg. She seems like a fine colleague, and I look forward to trying to do some activities with WSB.

Pastor Jack, Pastor Liz, Kelly & I were able to attend a workshop presented by North Point Community Church, Atlanta GA, lead pastor Andy Stanley workshop, held at LCBC church near Lancaster. It was a good presentation. The Evangelicals are learning what Martin Luther preached several centuries ago: the Gospels take precedent over the rest of scripture.

The new simultaneous worship times appear to be going well. I believe the staff has done a good job of working out the kinks, and we've learned how to adapt. I feel the benefits of not only the simultaneous worship, the one person preaching, and a dedicated education hour, far outweigh any negatives that people may have.

I have had several opportunities for teaching this month. The Men's Tuesday morning Bible Study begin, and Pastor Jack & I are co-leading the topic of "Rulers of the Bible." I also lead part 1 of my talk on the Old Testament for the Affirmation of Baptism class. And I lead the acolyte training / refresher course.

Speaking of education, I was invited to speak with one of our small groups concerning the Capital Campaign / proposed renovations. This group of women, who have been gathering for years, normally meet for an hour and a half. My time with them went over two hours, as I answered their questions and addressed their concerns. For the most part, I feel I was listened to, and not rejected out of hand. Among other things, we discussed moving the nursery, redoing the chapel, refurbishing the Gathering Space, and renovating the nave to allow for greater access for those with mobility issues. It was

good conversation. I do not know that any of them will actively support the campaign, but I got the impression they might stop speaking against it.

On a closing note, I want to thank you all who expressed your condolences over the death of our cat Lillian. She was a good friend, who got to live to the ripe old age of seventeen. And No, we are Not looking for a replacement cat, thanks for asking.

God's peace,

Pastor John Brock