

**Report of
Ministry Director for Parish Life
The Rev. John H. Brock
September 2019**

September was very much a getting back into the swing of things month. Along with my regular preaching and presiding responsibilities (which included the monthly Healing worship, the Friday Noon Prayer Service, and our regular Bethany worship), I also lead worship for our Christian Churches United partners. Speaking of which, I have scheduled the dates for 2020 at both Bethany Village and Messiah Village - the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, respectively.

There were the usual team meetings: Creative Worship; Fellowship; Council; IT/AV; Property; Faith Formation. Additionally, I attended the West Shore Conference meeting (held for the first time at St. Mathias, Carlisle, who have only recently joined our conference, as they are being lead by a vicar, and his supervisor is at St. Paul's, Enola), as well as the West Shore Lutheran Co-op meeting.

As for education opportunities, Pastor Horner and I are again trading weeks leading the Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study (still meeting at Brother's Restaurant, the 2nd & 4th Tuesday's of the month, 8AM). This season we are focusing on the books of Joshua and Judges. We have a consistent group of fellows who come out, and we all engage in good discussion. I am also co-leading the Sunday morning Dialogues class with Kelly Falck and Zandra Bishop. There we explore the issues of immigration and refugees. And I helped James Nelson as he prepared to fill in for me leading the Affirmation of Baptism class on the Old Testament.

Of course, I took part in not only the Leadership Luncheon and the first Forum, as we prepared for our congregational vote, but the Congregation meeting as well. And I think (again) compliments need to go to our current president Dan Drury for what I saw as his even handed handling of sometimes difficult questions.

I was asked to preside at the Welcoming Home worship for Glenn Falck, as he was received into the Church Eternal. And, I have begun adult baptismal classes with an individual who is becoming more serious about his faith.

I met with Margy Fox & Ginny Honeysette, our amazing volunteers who help coordinate our large Home Visitation ministry. Do you know that Trinity volunteers go into the homes and lives of over fifty different members, bringing a little bit of Trinity to those folks who for whatever reasons are no longer able to get to our building?

The staff as a whole had opportunity this month to eat lunch with the Sewing Ministry group, as they once again invited us to join them in their annual Potluck lunch. Good food and fine fellowship all around. Speaking of food, I also attended the annual Donor Appreciation Dinner put on by the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania. This year it was again, held over at Appalachian Brewing Company in Harrisburg.

For those of you who are not aware, my spouse Marianne was in Israel once again this September. She is preparing to lead another all-women group in March of 2020. She is

becoming more at home in that land of such spiritual diversity. Her travels also meant that not only did I get to make two trips to Dulles airport and back, but my son Benjamin and I got to look after the dogs for ten days. On the plus side, we all survived.

God's peace,

Pastor John Brock