

Report of the Lead Pastor for May 2020

Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

June 9, 2020

Baptisms: none
Funerals: none
Weddings: none

Our mission as unifiers

I'm deeply saddened by the events of the past couple of weeks. As I said in a Facebook check-in "We need to be better." I hope the church can lead the way fostering justice, love and reconciliation between all people. It's in our DNA after all. The church at its core saw and confessed itself as "one" -unified in Spirit, "holy" -blessed and gathered by God, "catholic" -diverse and universal in scope, and "apostolic"- connected with the first followers of Jesus who shared and passed on his message of love to the world. The church confesses to be that place of oneness, blessing, welcoming, and loving.

Trinity Online Community

Two months ago I said this in my Council report...

"Our congregation's online presence and ministry offerings should become the new normal. We are seeing the impact we are able to have. The numbers don't lie. We are reaching more people today than we were before the shutdown. Incredible isn't it?! I hope we seize this opportunity. I hope we invest in this opportunity."

Today I can share with you Holy Week attendance for this year was 26% higher than last. Average attendance over the Easter season was 33% higher. Our average attendance the last five weeks 882. Our Facebook postings also reach more than I could have imagined.

I'm excited that we have the opportunity to grow this ministry even more and put resources where we are making an important impact on our growing church community.

Parsonage

Mike Akers has formed the parsonage task force that you requested last month. He and I agreed we should reach out to potential partners who may be interested in using the property in the future. I reached out to Bishop Jim Dunlop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod seeing if there might be any interest. The Synod Executive Committee agreed to explore the possibility and the bishop's executive staff toured the building on May 28th with Dave Rupnik and I. They are interested, but both parties realize there is a lot of renovation that needs to be done to suit their needs. We agreed to continue exploring the possibility and our task force will take the lead on conversations.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Jack Horner