

**Report of  
Ministry Director for Parish Life  
The Rev. John H. Brock  
October, 2017**

From a worship perspective, I presided:

Traditional           4

Contemporary       4

Saturday             2

I preached and presided:

Saturday

Thursday            1

I preached:

Saturday            1

Traditional         2

Contemporary      2

I started the month with the wonderful opportunity to preside at the wedding of Rachael Barnes and James Dempsey, held in beautiful Button Bay State Park in Vermont. It was a wonderful setting with some really great people. I enjoyed spending time with the extended Enney clan. For whom this is now the second wedding I have presided.

In comparison to that, I also presided at the funeral of our long-time member, Dick Eckart. He was a good man, and will be missed.

I had the various and sundry usual meetings this month. I did several home & hospital visits. I lead two Sup n Study classes, a New Member session, a Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study, and an Affirmation of Baptism class.

I feel I really lead a rather boring existence, doing behind the scenes stuff, so when I go to put things on paper, I tend to either not think of something as being worth putting into print, or outright forgetting what I have accomplished this past month. So this is what I *think* y'all might be interested in. I feel I am getting better at writing the Prayers of the Church, which I do base on the prayers that Augsburg produces.

I was able to get Bishop Dunlop quickly from one time of worship to the next, even though I couldn't convince him to shorten his sermon (one thing we have learned is that as preachers doing all four Sunday morning times of worship, we **need** to keep our messages in the twelve minute mark)(Bishop Dunlop was a **bit** longer than that).

I'm rather surprised at the places I run into Trinity members. While attending the annual Pig Roast at Bethany Village with my mother, we ran into a small party (I believe it was eight) of Trinity folks, most of whom were Not residents at Bethany. We had a nice chat. I have also run into Trinity members several times at both Panera's, and while out grocery shopping

I got to be a judge for the apple pies at the October Fest. And weren't *My Fair Lutheran* and the *500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Reformation Concert* two *Fantastic* ways to begin and end this month?

I ended October with another wedding, that of Zach Dixon & Mollie Futato, out at the Linnwood Estates in Carlisle.

To close once again on a personal note, I discovered from my oncologist that what I thought were preventative *chemo* treatments are actually an antibody known as Rutuxin. So instead of getting bi-monthly injections of more poison, I'm getting meds that help to fight off any remnants of the lymphoma. That was rather heartening to hear. Along those lines, I have had numerous people come up to me in the past several weeks to tell me how good I appear. Which I do appreciate. Although my cynical and sarcastic sense of humor wants to respond, "So, I must have really been looking quite *lousy*, huh?"

God's peace

Pastor John Brock