

Reports for Council

December 2020

Pastor's Report

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December 15, 2020
Church Council

- 1) The plan to offer Holy Communion to a limited number was not able to happen. The guidelines from the State/County Covid reported high numbers of infection. Having gatherings of any size in church sanctuaries was not recommended. The good news is that area distribution of vaccines will begin in the not too distant future. I am still very much committed to following CDC guidelines and to involve Trinity's Covid "Re-entry team" to lead the congregation when the time is right. Remember to thank God for the gifts given to those working as physicians, nurses, and countless others who provide essential services. Thank you, as Council members for your willingness to gather "care-filled-ly" for monthly meetings and Zoom meetings over these many months.
- 2) Advent and Christmas services will be pre-recorded on video and available for viewing on "youtube". Christmas Eve and Sunday, December 27 worship music will be provided by Larry Judd and Mary Jane Koch. Our thanks to them for sharing their talents in this way. Members and viewers will have the opportunity to hear the Christmas story with members and friends joining in on the singing of the Carols in their homes. Also, the NISynod is working on a Christmas video for presentation. More info coming.
- 3) On Tuesday, December 8th, Mary Nuss, Karen Butler, and I attended a Zoom with conversation centering on the possibility of forming a Northwest Lutheran Parish. This report will be presented to Council. Rev. Dr. Denver Bitner from the NISynod chaired the Zoom meeting and requested that thoughts from the meeting be shared with the Council for ideas, thoughts, remarks.
- 4) I attended a Zoom meeting on Tuesday, December 1, for pastors, interns, SAMs presently serving Interims in synod congregations. This meeting was hosted by Bishop Jeffrey Clements. Notification from the Northern IL Synod Office is that the CRE (Congregation Resourcing Event) and the June 18-19, 2021 Northern IL Synod Assembly will be held electronically. More information coming. Trinity will still need to have one male, one female, elected to serve as voting members.
- 5) A Zoom from Saturday, Dec. 12, regarding "How to have a Congregational Meeting in a Pandemic" will be reported at tonight's Council meeting.

Pastor Tim Kenyon

Parish Administrator Report

I did some decorating for Advent in the sanctuary. Will change sanctuary to Christmas before Pr. Kenyon records the Christmas Eve service.

Trinity's average worship service views for the past 7 weeks are 88 views per Sunday. Facebook's average is 70 and YouTube's is 18.

Offering envelopes that I ordered are here and I made labels for Paula to put on boxes.

There are members that should be moved to inactive list. Because of Covid-19 I think that decision should wait another year.

I placed the order for Christ in Our Home quarterly devotions. Sharon Beksel received a Thrivent card that will pay for a year subscription and the mailing costs. Twenty members expressed an interest in receiving these.

The Garden Team asked me to let LeAnn know that they wanted to give \$1,000 to Trinity's Blessing Boxes and \$1,000 to ELCA World Hunger.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Brown

Christian Education

Regarding Vacation Bible School I have talked to Gwen Babler from UMC who is in charge of their Christian Ed. I told her that I am "retiring" from my CED job in May and will not be leading VBS. I told her that our church council will be deciding what to do for our Christian Ed program at the January council meeting. She said that with Pastor Nicole leaving and with the possibility of joining another Methodist church that she also is thinking of "retiring".

With both churches having uncertainty of the future, I guess it will be interesting to see what will happen.

I will be having a Sunday school party on December 13 during our class time. The program is called Jesus is the best gift ever!

Your friend in Christ,
Wendy
