



**EPISCOPAL MISSION OF WARREN COUNTY
ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS
JANUARY 27, 2019**

Episcopal Mission of Warren County Annual Meeting Minutes January 28, 2018, Held at St. Francis in Youngsville

Following Morning Prayer, the meeting was called to order.

Membership Credentials read and list for members to sign passed around.

Prayers for the members who are no longer with us.

Minutes reviewed. Andrew Pollard made the motion to approve, Laurie Rulander 2nd the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Financial reports reviewed. Pat Pollard made the motion to approve, Connie Michell 2nd the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Written reports about the following ministries were offered: Music at Trinity, Activities at St. Francis, the Food and Pet Pantries, Holiday Hot Meals, Operation Christmas Child, Anti-Child Trafficking, Diapers and Such, and the Jail Ministry. The Bishop's Warden, Andrew Pollard gave an oral report about how our life as a community worshipping God together deepens our faith and enhances our spiritual life; and how this has impacted his family. Due to a recent illness, the Associate Vicar, The Reverend Timothy Dyer was not able to submit a report.

Vicars Report/Address made:

- Review of the past year
 - Trinity's 150th
 - The new leadership structure, with one Bishop's Committee for the Mission, two separate Church Ministry Teams, a Finance Team, the Pastoral Care Team, and a Buildings/Grounds Team
 - Written policies on conflict resolution and intinction
- Important things for the coming year
 - We have welcomed newcomers into both congregations, and we rejoice to see them step into active ministries and leadership roles.
 - Our Finance Team will be examining ways to position us financially to be a vital and sustaining force for Christ's mission in the world.
- Review of the current sermon series theme
 - Curious/Seeking - the church as it is, inviting others to the life we share
 - Follower/Christ centered - the church as it aspires to be, supporter of all to sacrifice more and more so that their lives are no longer centered in themselves but in Christ.
 - This motion, deeper and deeper into Christ, leads us out of the church itself and out into the world.

Old business/ New business:

Andrew Pollard moved that the 2018 budget be approved. Diane Brant 2nd the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Charles Thompson moved that we request the appointment of the Bishop's Committee and accept the roster of named leaders for new leadership structure. Pat Pollard 2nd the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The leadership roster is attached.

Motion made by Travis Cunningham to adjourn to Eucharist, Brigitte Chase 2nd the motion, which passed with all in favor.

Vicar's Annual Report

I greet you in the midst of my ninth year of ministry with you. Nine years grants me with a sense of comfort in knowing you and our ministry together well, yet in many ways I feel that we are beginning something new together. Clergy sometimes are advised to think of their ministry in 7-8 year cycles, a wisdom that recognizes a common pattern of initiation, hard work, harvest, and renewal that shapes the life of clergy and congregation as they pursue the ministry of Jesus Christ in community. In looking back at 2018 and as I envision our 2019 together, this wisdom speaks very true.

In 2018 we enjoyed many harvests. The years-long work of renewing our worship life together culminated in us taking worship outside with our spectacular first Summer Sunday Worship in the Park. While we identified some things to correct for the future in that experience, and those things due more to it being our first time trying it than anything else, everyone involved could see that this was an outgrowth of joy, a bloom born of hard work, and a fitting way to celebrate what we have discovered together. Next year we are definitely getting a bouncy house!

Similarly, our hospitality ministries that have grown out of our focus at radical welcome, all stemming from our research and exploration of church growth strategies, led to many positive fruits. St. Francis expanded their holiday meal hosting ministry, adding a Christmas and Easter meal to our Halloween Spooktacular and St. Francis Day Pet Blessing. Trinity remodeled our after worship coffee hour, resupplied our newcomer baskets, and focused on newcomer and member communications, all with the goal of increasing our ability to welcome new people into our common life. Trinity also continued our pattern of experimenting in liturgy with its ongoing experiment with the Prayers of the People, where prayer cards are filled out and gathered during the worship service. It has been particularly humbling to be invited deeper into the prayer lives of the congregants as a pastor. In every case we celebrated as newcomers, visitors, and prayers entered into our lives; filled our worship spaces and common rooms with laughter, joy, and heart song; and opened our eyes to what such a more radically open community life can be.

Behind the scenes the harvest has been impressive, too. Our leadership structure, with a Bishop's Committee focused on the administration, personnel, and policies of the entire mission, freed our Church Ministry Teams to focus on all these amazing projects and experiments in ministry. Our Finance Team offered insight and healthy accountability to the staff and the Bishop's Committee, leading to an improved Stewardship Policy adopted in 2018 and a new Financial Accounting Policy for the 2019 budget. The Buildings and Grounds Team lived very successfully into a program of supporting it members in leading essential projects and streamlining communication with the staff as they helped care for our facilities.

To then pull back from all of this dynamic energy and community harvest for Sabbatical during the fall was a blessing. Eight years of ministry has led to so much, yet the cycle of new life and new direction was beginning to narrow, and the chance to step back and gain perspective I see now was essential for me. Looking forward I believe it will prove to have been essential for all of us together.

Already conversations have begun in our Church Mission Teams about a new direction I am calling "Worship to Workshop". Many writers have observed that in moving into the future, Christian congregations will need to grapple with a greater community around it that supports it less and less. Our greater society no longer values worship and faith. We can grumble about, complain about it, put our energy into fighting this reality, or we can adapt to it. Jesus is still calling us into life with him, a life characterized by spreading his radical and transformative love by living into our baptismal identity.

Our calling hasn't changed, but the society in which we live and move has. What we need then is a space together to practice what it takes to be Christ's disciples, viewing every time we gather in any numbers as an opportunity to open a workshop for forming ourselves and each other as disciples of

radical, Christian love. Our worship and hospitality ministries now are definitely offering us spaces to Celebrate God and in some ways informally practice how to love other people, but more must be done with these opportunities if we are to emphasize this critical element of our mission.

We are not just offering a space in worship and hospitality for a spiritual support moment that helps people who head back out to be besieged by the difficult and spiritually draining world. We can, and in fact I believe now we must, utilize our spaces and times together for shaping and forming one another for the work of transformative love in our greater communities. This is what Christ called us into as he welcomes us in baptismal life, and this is what I feel called to led us in as we step into this next cycle of life together.

Some things will stay the same in this. These are bigger, more complex problems to tackle than changing light bulbs or adjusting the volume (although that work needs to get done, too, and how blessed we are to have people who do that work well!). We will need to courageously experiment, review our attempts with criticism and wisdom, and be ready always to adapt and try again as we explore how to be the workshop for love that Christ needs us to be. But I see our first eight years together as proof that such an approach toward life together works. I believe that we have courageously followed Jesus together and are ready to continue in courageous faith. Join me in praying that our time will bear fruit in harvests yet to come.

In Christ,
Matthew

Altar Guild

Altar Guild continues to serve Trinity Memorial each week. The altar is made ready for two services most weeks throughout the year. Members of Altar Guild also set up the church for occasions such as weddings and funerals. This year we welcome two new members to our group, Beth Porter and Cindy Elmquist. We are also excited to explore introducing a different wine for communion. To learn more about this important ministry please contact Mary Lou Campbell at 814-688-9044 or Father Matthew Scott.

Mary Lou Campbell

Anti-Child Trafficking (ACT) Ministry – 2018

The ACT Ministry continues its mission of informing everyone who will listen about the ongoing crisis of children being trafficked for sex in the world, but most especially, in the USA and in rural northwestern PA.

Our programs reached the following groups in 2018:

- January 4, Fr. Matthew Scott and an ACT representative attended a local Criminal Justice Advisory Board meeting where we did a program on child trafficking. Those in attendance included representatives from law enforcement, the District attorney, social services, sheriff's department, judge's chambers, etc.
- March 23, ACT did a program at the Warren County School District Central Office for representatives from schools throughout the district.
- June 12, ACT did a presentation for a United Refinery representative.
- November 16, an ACT representative attended a Praise Fellowship program on human trafficking featuring Thad Turner. Thad, a retired Navy Seal, is the local YMCA director. Using his vacation time, he rescues human trafficking victims worldwide.
- On 1/16 our Anti Child Trafficking ministry did a program at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, in Brookville, PA.

The crowd included 2 reporters from the local newspaper and Chief Markle of the city police. The paper gave the program front page coverage and Chief Markle placed an ad for a 15 year old girl for sale for \$15 for 15 minutes. Within 24 hours the ad had 16,000 "hits" and he made his first arrest.

The ACT Ministry continues to provide programs to local groups in an effort to educate and inform the public about this horrific and growing crime. Please pray for these children and our ministry.

Diane Brant

CMT SAINT FRANCIS 2018

2018 has been a wonderfully busy year at Saint Francis! This year's highlights:

- During the winter we gathered on Sunday evenings for card and game night.
- February brought the Mardi Grass Party many of you attended, great food and good night out! We gathered and made the apple wood crosses to sell to support our ever popular Pet Pantry and to carry at the Youngsville annual Good Friday walk through town. On Easter we had our first Easter Lunch open to the public with a rather good turnout. We also hosted the community lunch during one of the Wednesdays during Lent.
- We participated in the annual three day Youngsville sale days with trinkets, treasures and trash, hot dogs and goulash, raising money for our community outreaches such as Spooktacular. Thanks to all who donated their items or their time.
- Over the summer we raised and purchased a glider for our front lawn. And we hosted a retirement picnic for Father Reid in the front lawn, later in August we gathered for a night of hot dogs

and munchies as we watched the Rouse Home Fireworks from our yard. Many parishioners and neighbors brought blankets and enjoyed the show. Dale Myers brought his fire pit.

➤ October brought the blessing of animals, and Spooktacular! We carved over 75 pumpkins, face painted, feed over 100 and provided treats. The night was a great success with about 75 attending the service.

➤ November we were blessed with a visit and brunch with the Bishop. In preparation for this busy month we gathered to eat pizza, and polish the brass. Thanksgiving we hosted our first public Thanksgiving Day dinner! The food was great. The morning was busy but fun, help was provided by church members, college students, boy scouts.

➤ December we gathered for a festive evening building Christmas greens and planning for Christmas Day! We gathered on the last Sunday of Advent to decorate the tree, great fun with about 12 helping out. Then the annual Christmas morning brunch and service was as much fun as always!

Our pet pantry is busy, please donate any animal food anytime.

Karen Greto has refurbished our nursery and added new toys and safety features.

Every Sunday we enjoy coffee hour and are so blessed with such a friendly atmosphere.

Ever bored? Come on down we always have something to do with food, fun and laughter! We are so blessed.

Nancy Reynolds

Diapers and Such Report - 2018

Data comparisons regarding Recipients	2018	2017	2016
Total First time Recipients	21	78	170
Total Repeats		119	189
Highest number of times an individual returned	8 months	10 months	10 months
Lowest number of times an individual recipient returned	1 month	2 months	3 months
<i>Total Recipients carried over from 2017 to 2018</i>	9	10	Unknown
Total Recipients overall	58	193	237
Distribution schedule	2 nd and 4 th Wed. Jan-Oct 2 nd Wed. Nov-Dec	2 nd & 4 th Wed.	Every Wed.

Data Comparison regarding items distributed. Note: Soap & Shampoo were new items in 2017.

Items Distributed	2018	2017	2016
Diapers (units)	66	173	231
Pull-ups (units)	22	45	60
Wipes (packs)	62	169	214
Toilet paper (rolls)	78	288	445
Feminine pads (units)	63	116	123
Feminine Tampons (units)	15	62	47
Diaper Rash Cream (tubes)	35	128	146
Soap (bars) (new in 2017)	14	59	0
Shampoo (bottles) (new in 2017)	16	52	0
Total of all item units combined	301	936	1154

Other items distributed, but not included in the above tables

- 2 cases of feminine hygiene items and 1 case of travel sized shampoo were donated to a local school to help students who can't afford such items.
- Children's books
- Manufacturer's Coupons
- The remaining items from the former Hat and Mitten Ministry

Changes made to certain items offered to recipients on 2018-Jul-11

- Diaper rash cream was **discontinued**
- Diapers **increased** from 15 diapers per child to 20 diapers per child
- Toilet paper **increased** from 1 roll per family to 2 rolls this was done based on a request by a donor who had offered to regularly donate toilet paper if I would increase the number of rolls each family received.

Rash cream was discontinued due to cost. It runs about \$8.00 per tube and \$8 per tube at a monthly cost of about \$80 assuming we had 10 recipients that month. In contrast, 2 boxes of Huggies diapers containing about 240 diapers total can be purchased for \$80 and allow us to put 12 babies in diapers for about the same price as 1 tube of rash cream for 10 families.

Decreased numbers....

The ongoing decrease in recipients leaves me with a few questions and thoughts that are high priorities for investigating to stabilize the numbers a bit....

- Where are the recipients going?
 - A portion of them outgrew the need for diapers or pull-ups
 - And based on research I have done, there are potentially 4+ organizations that serve Warren County who have been distributing similar items to what DAS offers since around 2015 so folks could be receiving items from places that are closer to their homes
- Is there more that could be done to reach out to potential recipients?
 - Continue to utilize Facebook our address is <http://facebook.com/DASministry>
 - Increase usage of the DAS blog found at <http://diapersandsuch.wordpress.com>
 - Update and distribute Brochures
 - Contact community locations that potential recipients may go to remind them that DAS exists and distribute.
 - brochures or single page signs for them to hand out or post
 - Locations I have in mind may include....
 - public bulletin boards, Medical offices, clinics and perhaps the Maternity and Psychiatric wards at Warren General, clinics or other social service agencies.
 - Include brochures whenever DAS donates items to the schools, House of Hope or other groups.

Volunteer Opportunity

Diapers and Such is open to accepting volunteers to assist with the ministry. Teens and adults are welcome to volunteer, , but because of the nature of the ministry, Teens must be paired with either myself, or a family member over the age of 18. Volunteers need to be physically capable of carrying bags and boxes up and down to the second floor. (or if you are a Senior member bring someone younger to run for you. The weight items can be upto 45 lbs. with the heaviest lifting happening when an order arrives and needs to go upstairs on a typical distribution day I probably carry a max of 15 pounds per trip, depending on what I'm restocking on the first floor. Volunteers will be expected to respect the privacy of recipients and not share the names or anything that can identify a recipient with anyone outside of the DAS Leadership, Clergy or Parish Secretary.

In closing...

I would like to say thank you to everyone who has donated money or items, participated in the annual raffle, or in the case of Mary Lou Campbell, dedicated time on Wednesdays to help me get here to keep Diapers and Such going. There are too many to list, but you each know who you are, and I am forever thankful for your dedication to supporting DAS Without you, the ministry would end. Many heartfelt thanks to all of you for helping me to help others. Peace be with all of you!

-Jenn Campbell
Founder of Diapers and Such

Food Pantry

Our Emergency Food Pantry is generously supplied by our members through food or monetary donations. In 2018 we were able to assist 17 families in their time of need, giving out over 58 bags of food. In 2017 we assisted 41 families with 136 bags of food. Thank you!

Holiday Hot Meals Ministry

Our Holiday Hot Meals Program provided the following meals by our awesome volunteers. Easter 290 folks fed, 17 driving teams; Thanksgiving 309 folks fed, 20 driving teams; Christmas 339 folks fed, 15 driving teams. . So much support was given by so many people.

Music Report

2018 was a great year for the music team at Trinity. Choosing to be open and inclusive merging both what we do on Wednesday evening, and Sunday morning, has proven to be fruitful.

We also utilized a theme for post communion processions in 2018 “make your heart like a child” and we received great feedback about that choice. I am sure everyone has memorized such classics as “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands,” & “Jesus Loves Me,” by now. In other words, the music department feels like this year was a great success, we met the goals we set, and more.

In 2019 we are going to be stretching the music team and re-arranging some of our instrumentation. The music area will under go a slight remodel soon, with new speakers to be mounted to help elevate the sound so the speakers are not right in your face. We are planning a series of special offertory pieces, bringing in new music, and resurrecting some old songs too.

A seasonal choir opportunity for Lent and Easter are coming soon, anyone wanting an opportunity to sing for Easter is to see Joseph. People wishing to share their singing talent are required to sing both Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday. As well as attend several rehearsals.

Music Director
Joseph Glarner