

Before I wrote this report, I consulted the reports from the 4 conventions that I've been a part of in Central Pennsylvania. Wow, this is a different year. Fittingly, this will be a different report. First and foremost, I want to say how great it is to work with such an intrepid staff. We've navigated this year with skill, and grace and hard work. It is a joy to serve with such a great bishop and such a great staff.

Several things stand out as I make this report. I want to highlight a couple of groups that have worked hard on your behalf. The first is the Task Force for Operations that was put in place to respond to Covid-19. We held several discussions, consulted experts, listened intently and finally developed the guidelines for worship during this time. This group, chaired by Bishop Audrey, took their responsibility seriously, prayerfully, and with a well-developed sense of their mission. I was honored to be a part of it.

The second group, which I had the honor to chair, was the Theological and Ecclesiological Task Force. This group worked incredibly hard and gave countless hours to this important project. We developed and distributed a survey to the diocese. This survey highlighted the ways that worship practices have changed during the pandemic. The survey was followed by a series of focus groups that took a deep-dive into some of the theological and philosophical quandaries that arose as a result of the pandemic. I commend the report of this committee (found in this convention booklet) to you. Further, we developed a plug-and-play resource for our parishes who wish to continue to use a theological reflection process as a means for discussing difficult realities.

Several other groups have been active this year, in spite of the pandemic. Namely, the subcommittee for recruitment, the environmental Task Force of the Diocese, The Shared Vision Committee of the Council of Trustees/Commission on Ministry and the Evangelism Committee of the Diocese. In January, I was happy to take a group of 5 fellow Central PA leaders to the Evangelism Matters Conference. IN addition, on you behalf, I've been blessed to work on the General Committee Task Force for Church Planting and Congregational Revitalization.

Transition ministry also looks different during this time. There are several churches still in the search process. A few new priests and deacons have joined us during this time and we are grateful for their ministry. Bishop out of the Box has transitioned to online opportunities. THE Bishop and I led a series of Bible Studies, held small groups for various interest groups in the diocese, developed a Bingo with Bishop program, and a discussion series around themes of racial reconciliation.

I've also had the pleasure of helping to plan and carry out the work of Shaped By Faith. I've been heartened by the genuine and heartfelt participation of each of the congregations that diligently engage this important work. I look forward to my 5th year serving Central PA and I wish you God's richest blessings in your ministries.

Much peace,

Dan+

Canon For Congregational Life and Mission