

As I sit and write this report, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude for the opportunity to begin my fourth year of ministry with you in Central Pennsylvania. I am continually inspired by the faith, resolve, commitment and grace shown by the clergy and lay leadership of our diocese. This past year I traveled almost 30k miles throughout Central Pennsylvania working alongside our intrepid staff, committed clergy, hard-working volunteers, and pews filled with people who love Jesus. What a joy it is to serve with and among you. Speaking of serving alongside others, I'd be remiss to not mention how grateful I am to work with a diocesan staff that is kind, dedicated, faithful and prayerful. We have a supportive, astute and amazing bishop who has helped to create an atmosphere of trust and enthusiasm.

Some of the highlights of this year revolve around our efforts to be missionally engaged with our churches. Through the BOTB (Bishop out of the Box) initiative which I help to coordinate, we had opportunities to engage in street-evangelism, to stand up against racism, and to share our bounty with those who are less fortunate. One of my favorite BOTB events was the Living Nativity at St Andrew's in the Valley. Hundreds of people came by to see the amazing story of Christ's nativity dramatized by people in costume, 4 donkeys, two goats, two sheep and a sheepdog. I'm looking forward to round 2 on December 13! (Rumor has it that there will be even more animals this year....including a camel!

Another BOTB events was our Appalachian Camino! This pilgrimage was dreamed up after reflecting upon the holiness of place, our churches and our people. We decided that we didn't have to travel far away to experience a holy place...we lived in one. I can't begin to express how moving this experience was for those who participated. We hiked over steep hills, through rocky ravines and over small streams. We laughed and prayed and cried and worshipped together. Several people expressed that their Christian commitment was strengthened, or their connection with the diocese was reinforced. For a few, the experience brought spiritual healing. For some, the experience was an opportunity to get away and connect with God and others. For all of us who hiked, it was an opportunity to receive the gracious and loving hospitality of the churches that acted as hosts. For me personally, I am still overcome by the love experienced during this week and the many lessons learned by listening to the voice of God and the wisdom other Christians as I rambled along. A big, big, thank you goes out to Amy and Bill Swiernik for all the work they put into making this a success. Amy served as my interim assistant this year and she went above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you!

As for transition ministry, this continues to be a busy season. At some point in the year, 19 churches were in some stage of transition. I have been delighted by the outcome of these processes as we've welcomed several new clergy to the diocese.

As for administrative tasks and programmatic opportunities, several stand out. I want to thank the Cathedral of St Stephen for partnering with me to bring in the Invite, Welcome, Connect seminar. It was a magnificent weekend of practical learning. On another note, several people from the diocese joined me in Rochester for the College of Congregational Development. I'm excited to see how the tools learned there will be utilized for ministry in the diocese. This year 11 churches participated in the Mutual Ministry Review process. The model I've developed has

moved away from a performance review and towards looking for ways that we can join in the good work that God has already started in our midst. Clergy, if you have yet to schedule one, please do reach out. One of my favorite activities is Evangelism Training Workshops. 4 churches invited me to hold training events and I loved every minute of it. If you would like practical evangelism training please schedule one soon. In addition, to evangelism training I held 2 Episcopal-Identity Workshops aimed at helping us better live into our identity. Again, I would relish the chance to hold one of these workshops in your church as well. I've also had the opportunity to walk with several clergy and congregations in times of conflict. This is holy and difficult work, but work that I am privileged to do. I thank all of those people who trusted me during challenging times for them and their churches.

In just the last few weeks, we've welcomed The Rev Canon Chris Streeter and Latoya Harden to the diocesan staff. It has been a joy to work with them and I'm excited about our future ministry together.

Thank you for the support you've shown and for the opportunity to serve you, our church, and our Lord and Savior.

Much peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Morrow". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

The Rev. Canon Dan Morrow
Canon for Congregational Life and Mission