

Woodbury Convocation Lay

Dwelling in the Word

They were called Christians because they were full of the Holy Spirit.

Barnabas knew he couldn't do it alone.

People are thirsty for God - they need help, they need hope.

It's the same today, the Spirit speaks to Christians.

They gave to the extent of our abilities, God extends them.

How do we go out into the public and tell them what God is doing for us without being shamed?

I'm nudged to use gifts to help others.

They reached out to others in the area, not just caring for themselves.

Reach out to the believers and the unbelievers as well.

Vital Questions

As Christians we are called to help, not just because we are connected but because we are called.

Consumerism is the dominant religion. Holy day (holiday) has been co-opted.

We lost corporate life. We are the Body of Christ, and individually members. Buildings - no longer have front porches. We have a/c so we stay indoors.

We need to not be intimating. People are terrified by people of faith.

Distrust of all churches has risen in the wake of Roman Catholic abuse scandal and visible discrimination against LGBT people.

Young adults are missing. Not being authentic about human sexuality. We need to love powerfully and not be afraid.

Sunday is another day. Sports challenge. What would happen if the church went to the soccer field? Pop up churches.

The generations feed us.

There are others who kind of think like I do, care about the same issues.

The liturgy sustains us. We get the mystery of God, and are open to asking questions.

We don't check our brains at the door.

Our ministries - choir, prayer chain - and the fellowship that comes from it. Outreach - it brings us to where God wants us to go.

Maybe more people were involved in the 70s, but we weren't as engaged with living out our faith in the community. There were a lot more nominal people. Church was more social, now we are more connected with Jesus.

Our stance on social justice issues and our ability to stay together. We have the ability to bring back those who are alienated.

We are everywhere, and when you travel you can feel at home in any church.

The message of the diocese does not get to the laity. How does the clergy disseminate?

The language contains too much jargon. Is not in laymen terms. (Multiple reinforcement)

Too much negativity and rudeness within clergy. Horrible feeling when the clergy are nasty about each other.

Everything on the website presents a corporate style, not shown as a network. Trenton needs to stop going outward so much. We can help each other directly both financially and in other ways.

Project Resource AMP up - every church should have planned giving.

We see the bishop so much more now than in the past or in any other denomination. Are we bringing the info back from tonight? The lay leadership is

the continuity - clergy comes and go. Regional collaborations need to be supported by the laity.