

Report of Emery Washington Convocation

Purpose

The Emery Washington Convocation exists to promote fellowship, ministry cooperation, and clergy care amongst the parishes and people within the convocation. In particular, the convocation is tasked with creating and executing a regional ministry strategy that reflects the Diocese of Missouri's mission priorities.

Accomplishments

We celebrated our patron, Rev. Emery Washington, Sr., who was rector of All Saints Church for two decades and was well known for his social justice work; 69 people attended the Eucharist on September 18 at All Saints & Ascension, and more than 100 watched the recording on Facebook.

We raised \$25,000 for RIP Medical Debt, freeing people from \$2.5 million in medical bills.

We have held prayer breakfasts hosted by Emmanuel-Webster Groves, Christ Church Cathedral, Trinity-CWE and Grace-Kirkwood. Guest speakers have included Rev. Mary Haggerty, Rev. Canon Whitney Rice, Rev. Teresa Danieleley, Deborah Nelson-Linck, Rev. Harry Leip and Rev. Steven Lawler.

We held business meetings in May, August and September where we discussed General Convention, reviewed the proposed diocesan budget, and submitted resolutions to diocesan convention. A meeting is planned in November to discuss the convention agenda.

We held a preaching workshop in which clergy gave constructive criticism of each other's sermons.

We held a softball tournament in Tower Grove Park in June.

We learned how leadership could be shared between a clergy person and a lay person.

Goals and Challenges

We need to communicate more effectively-among the leadership, among convention delegates and among members of all of our congregations.

We need to begin building a strategy for collaborative ministry in the community.

We need to strengthen our sense of community and envision ways our congregations can work together.

We need to do our part as the diocese faces its responsibility to combat systemic racism and to engage in truth telling about its past involvement in racial oppression and other kinds of injustice. We can partner with the Commission on Dismantling Racism, which has dedicated members from many of the churches in our Convocation.

The Very Rev. John Stratton, Dean jon@trinitycwe.org

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Leadership Team

Ms. Betty Bowersox

Rev. Emily Hilquist-Davis

Ms. Harrison Hagen Heil

Ms. Valerie Patton

Rev. Sujanna Raj

Rev. Aaron Rogers

Ms. Alice Stanley