

Summary of Convention

I have a couple of takeaways from this year's convention. Overall I thought it was a very good convention, considering we had to do it virtually. Having done convention in person and virtually, I really prefer in person. At times an in person convention can be overwhelming, emotional and uplifting. Something I would suggest everyone doing at least once.

My biggest concern at this convention was the on-line exhibit hall. It was difficult to get to and lacked useful information. I was able to see the only three exhibits in about 10 minutes.

The positive I took away from the convention was two ideas that I thought we might do at Trinity:

1. **Project (Re)Start.** This is a project that is in its beginning stages. The project has to do with disaster resilience. The idea is that each congregation in the diocese become a "specialist" in collecting supplies for a disaster. Each church would create 10 bins filled with specific item(s) that would be used to help victims of a disaster. Instead of waiting for a disaster to happen and then putting a call out for supplies. The diocese would already have the items collected and then each church would take those supplies to the place where evacuees would be. I consider this to be proactive instead of reactive.

I am willing to lead this effort.

2. **"We Grieve..." bulletin board.** While I'm not as enthusiastic about this idea as the first, I thought I'd bring it up for further discussion. The idea came about as a result of churches being shut down during the pandemic, having parishioners pass away, and, as a congregation, not being able to grieve over their passing.

The idea is to have a bulletin board where the congregation could put pictures of those who have died in the last year or two so church members could see them, pray, reflect, or grieve in their own way. I thought, if we were to do this, putting the bulletin board on the wall going up the stair case to the choir loft.

That's about it for this year. Praying we can meet in person next year.

-Steve Christensen