

Report from the Bishop's Address Committee

Whereas we recognize there may be elephants in the room, we know that they cannot trample the Lord's church, his people, or his mission

Whereas disciples have in the past been driven out, they continued to preach the Gospel of Christ

Whereas families, companies, organization and congregations are wired for homeostasis, and may in fact stand in the way of the Church's holy vocation to go out and sow

We pray for the Holy Spirit to stir us up with a holy repentance, where by His power and His wisdom, we turn our hearts outward in relevant sensitive witness and evangelism, even pruning those programs and activities that no longer equip and empower our people to "go out and sow"

Therefore, we call this convention to speak the gospel and trust god... and trust god and speak the gospel beginning by kneeling in prayerful thanksgiving and expectation that the Holy Spirit would empower us to bring in His Harvest...

Let us kneel...

- We pray for those who love our church building, church yard, church steeple that our eyes and ears will be open to the exciting fields that are ripe for harvest...
- We pray for our friends and neighbors who are far from Christ
- We pray for the Lord to empower us to sow the seed and trust Him

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

This was read on behalf of the committee by the Rev. Greg Smith, Rector, Trinity Church, Myrtle Beach