Scheduling Software

Reported at the
MEG Chapter of the Vergers' Guild
Summer Assembly Meeting
June 13, 2015

Verger Bruce Thomas, St. David's, was unable to attend the meeting, but did send a report. "I migrated to the cloud-based software "Ministry Scheduler Pro" www.ministryschedulerpro.com from Rotunda Software. Scheduling is accomplished in minutes, now that I've offloaded a lot of the prep work on the ministers themselves to log in and key in their "can't serve" dates ... and the schedule is more balanced among them, and it's nicely formatted and available via a smartphone app. Not only that, but now the ministers can post when a conflict arises and get a substitute very, very easily. And the system sends reminder notices automatically for the coming Sunday services.

"If any other verger is searching for Nirvana, refer them to me, please. I can get them a 10% discount in the purchase price. (It cost St. David's $275 for a license that handles up to 100 ministers, with a $20/month maintenance fee that kicks in after 6 months of use.) I'll be glad to share the 10% discount code with anyone who wants to acquire this software for $248. I've only found it used by St. Philip's and Ascension in Cartersville. It is SLICK! You can view our schedule for June thru August by clicking on http://www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/stdavidchurch/schedules/?pointer=last."

Verger Kelly Kautt, All Saints', reports "We use SignUpGenius (signupgenius.com) for scheduling Eucharistic Ministers. It's easy to use; email lists can be imported and group emails sent. Every month my co-chair and I create the grid for the following month's assignments and send an email asking everyone to sign up for the date/time of their choice. We've been using it for about four months and for the July schedule achieved 99% of slots taken by the submission deadline. Its' a real time saver. The EMs seem to like it too! It sends a reminder email several days before the date of one's assignment. Our Altar Guild uses this software as well. The acolytes use Volunteer Spot (volunteerspot.com), which has basic service for free. It too is a self-signup tool."