

Episcopal Diocese of Oregon
Report to the 133rd Annual Meeting of Convention
November 6, 2021

MINISTRY WITH THE RETIRED CLERGY

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A team of diocesan chaplains, named by the bishop, gives attention and support to the retired clergy and spouses/partners. The Rev. John Scannell is the lead chaplain for the diocese and provides oversight to the greater Metro Area.

Other Oregon chaplains include the Rev. Richard and Marilyn Loop, co-chaplains for the North Coast; Tina Shippey, chaplain for the South Coast; the Rev. Morgan and Charlotte Silbaugh co-chaplains for Southern Oregon; the Rev. Bill & Bernie McCarthy, co-chaplains, for the Corvallis area, and the Rev Frank & Betsy Moss for the Salem/Eugene/Roseburg area. The Rev. Steve Norcross serves as a chaplain relating to Pension Fund and pre-retirement concerns.

Each chaplain is available for support and encouragement, as well as to make referral to appropriate resources. The chaplains also represent the bishop in pastoral ministry. The chaplains assist clergy and spouses in navigating the Church Pension Fund system. Chaplains also serve as pastoral support at the time of a death. We serve as chaplains to all retired clergy and spouses and surviving spouses in our diocese, whether or not they are Pension Fund beneficiaries.

Steve Norcross offers to assist clergy who are contemplating retirement in the near future, advising them to carefully consider their proposed retirement date and benefit choices. These retirement decisions affect the pension benefit for the rest of their lives, as well as of their beneficiary.

CPG provides resources, information, and an annual chaplain gathering (by province, or nationally) for continuing education and networking. The next gathering for chaplains (the triennial) will be May 3-6, 2021 in St. Paul, MN

Every few years CPG comes to our diocese to offer a day workshop with the retired clergy and spouses/partners. This is the EYR - Enriching Your Retirement. COVID prohibited this event in 2021.

CPG and the Medical Trust have adopted a new and improved medical plan beginning in 2022. Public presentations were not possible. However, there have been ample online presentations.

In some parts of the diocese retired people gather on a semi-regular basis. Currently in the Metro Area there is a bi-monthly Zoom virtual lunch. A yearly luncheon takes place with our Bishop (COVID permitting).

There are approximately 200 households of retired ordained persons connected with the Diocese of Oregon. This number includes clerics, their spouses and partners, and widowed persons. Many are canonically resident in Oregon; some have moved here; and others have "returned home." Ministry with the retired ordained and their household members is a priority of the Church Pension Group for every diocese.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. John S Scannell
Lead Chaplain to the Retired Clergy, Diocese of Oregon