

## Canon Pastor FAQs

### **What is a Canon Pastor?**

*A Canon is a priest serving at a cathedral. Canons are often given titles with specific areas of ministry. Canon Pastor is a general term used to describe an assistant priest at a cathedral whose duties cover a wide variety of areas, including pastoral care. At St. Luke's there is hope that Canon Pastor would also have oversight of our programs for children and youth.*

### **Why does St. Luke's need a Canon Pastor?**

*Congregational Development research shows that parishes with attendance over 150 ("Program parishes") such as ours need assisting clergy to help them grow and thrive. St. Luke's 2013 Strategic Plan called for a study of our organizational needs and staff roles, and in 2015, a vestry committee reporting on this issue noted that "Even with the support of the reverends Rasner and Roberts and increased vestry and volunteer participation, one priest can no longer accomplish the work required."*

### **We have Deacons; aren't they sufficient to meet our needs?**

*The ministries of Suzanne Roberts, Dick Rasner, Betsey Deleuse, Chris Sims and Carolyn Coleman each demonstrated the impact of assisting clergy on the life of the cathedral. Note, however, that the ministries of Dick and Betsey were far beyond the typical roles of deacons and that this position calls more appropriately for a priest and that as Suzanne is bi-vocational, she is limited to 1/10<sup>th</sup> time at the cathedral*

### **How much will a Canon Pastor cost?**

*The minimum compensation for a full-time priest (including benefits, housing, pension, etc) is roughly \$100,000. The vestry has set an initial goal of a 1/2 time priest with an additional \$50,000 to our 2018 budget. As this will be an ongoing expense, it will be primarily covered through our annual stewardship campaign. If the person is newly ordained, there is a possibility of some cost sharing with the diocese.*

### **How can I increase my pledge when I'm still paying off my Living Stones pledge?**

*We are grateful for all who continue to support the Living Stones capital campaign and are very much moved by those who have continued and even increased their annual stewardship pledge at the same time. While the capital campaign is about the physical plant, the stewardship campaign is about the daily life, ministries, and mission itself. Typically annual pledging in congregations goes up during a capital campaign. We encourage you to be part of this trend and to help make the Canon Pastor a reality!*