



# SHAPED BY **FAITH**

## ***Congregational Life Annual Report Convention 2022***

Shortly after our last Convention, I was invited by Bishop Scanlan to help lead many of the ministries that fall under the office of congregational life. I am grateful for the Bishop's trust in expanding my role, particularly as it has afforded me the opportunity to spend more time connecting with parish clergy and leaders.

I would like to first and foremost recognize the outstanding shoes I have stepped into this year. Dan Morrow is one of the finest priests I know. I have missed his presence and comradery enormously this past year. Thank you, Dan, for all you accomplished here in CPA in service to our parish communities.

A main area of focus for me has been supporting parishes in navigating clergy transitions. At one point this year, we had 13 (of our 63) parishes in some stage of transition. I am grateful to the vestries, search committees and wardens who have invited me to help facilitate this work. Guidelines and best practices for navigating this season can be found on our Diocesan website:

<https://diocesecpa.org/leaving-well/>

Additional resources are available directly for congregations in the transition process.

Once potential candidates for positions have been identified, I have worked with parishes to strategize interviewing strategies and helped design letters of agreement to clearly identify expectations for both ordained and lay leaders. Templates for this ministry, which had long been established norms, are more and more needing major overhaul to address the needs of our parishes.

A final focal point has been working through areas of challenge and conflict in congregational settings. Often clergy or wardens reach out to the Bishop's office asking for support in managing parish and/or interpersonal dynamics; thank you to those parishes who have welcomed me into sensitive conversation.

It has been a personal joy to stretch my ministerial wings this year by taking on the responsibilities of congregational life leadership here in Central PA. Thank you, Bishop Scanlan, for trusting me with our most valuable and precious resource: our parishes and those who serve as leaders in these holy places. I look forward to deepening connections in the coming year and we continue this journey together.

Faithfully submitted,

The Rev. Canon Christopher M. Streeter  
*Canon to the Ordinary for Congregational Life*  
*Director, Shaped by Faith*