

## Report to the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church in Western Oregon

### Chapel of the Good Samaritan and the Department of Spiritual Care

Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center, Portland

Contact: the Rev. Rise Thew Forrester, Director of Spiritual Care

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#### Our Team:

Chaplains: Dcn Clare Wykert, Ben Lunine, Camille Clement, Sonia Arion

Associate Chaplains: Greg Morgan, Melissa McCoy

Chaplain Intern: Melissa Dodd

Admin Asst: K'Lynn Stoner, Michael Sagun

Chaplain Educator: the Rev. Kurt Neilsen

Director Emerita: the Rev. Sallie Bowman

#### Activities in 2024:

Our team members touch the lives of thousands of people each year, supporting patients, loved ones, and staff in the most challenging moments of life. We provide care that arises from grounding in our Episcopal tradition of welcome and our baptismal promises, with respect and support for the spirituality and dignity of every person.

We held two important gatherings in the the Chapel of the Good Samaritan, the first major events since the pandemic:

April 26, Bishop Diana ordained **Chaplain Clare Wykert** to the transitional diaconate, with a chapel brimming with people gathered to celebrate.

On July 19, our Good Sam community gathered to **remember the events of July 22, 2023**, when there was a shooting in our hospital. Two people died, another was wounded, and we were changed.

From that interfaith remembrance service, we began and continued the use of little battery-operated tea light candles, near the altar, as an opportunity to mark prayer and intention. It has remained popular, and it is touching to see the flickering candles in the low light of the chapel.

We marked the retirement of **Sallie Bowman**, who served Good Sam and our Diocese as a chaplain and then as Director of Spiritual Care for Good Samaritan. Everywhere on our campus Sallie is known and greeted warmly, a welcome companion in good times and challenging times. The whole community of Good Sam is grateful for her years of service. She continues to remain a presence, supporting the bioethics consult service, planning for our celebration next year, and preparing the publication of the fourth and final volume of Thursday Words: A Coronavirus Journal.

#### Preparing for 2025:

Our **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**: Bishop Benjamin Wistar Morris founded Good Samaritan Hospital in 1875, raising \$10,000 of which he himself donated the first \$2,000. On October 9, 1875, Good Samaritan opened its doors "to all regardless of race, color, creed or religion." An exhibit is being prepared for the Oregon Historical Society, to open next spring.

#### Adaptive Clinical Pastoral Education/Training

Our CPE/T Program, a partnership between the Episcopal Church in Western Oregon and Legacy Health Systems, is presently conducting our ninth accredited CPE unit. Due to the support of many including the

ECWO and a grant from EBOF, quality clinical training is being delivered to many gifted people who would otherwise not have access due to geographic location, time demands due to work and family, and financial stress.

Some features of this past year's CPE experience are:

- Continued training for our first Parish/Community Chaplain serving in Brookings
- Continued training and clinical chaplaincy work placed in the Graduate School of Education, California State University in Chico CA
- A fully "onboarded" Supervisory Education Fellow, Godfree McIntyre, Ph.D. candidate at Claremont School of Theology, who is supervising one of two cohorts presently in progress
- The present unit's focus is "Contextualizing Spiritual Care" with an eye toward exploring "Decolonizing" CPE and chaplaincy.

All inquiries into the program and whether it is a "fit" for one personally, or conversation regarding how clinical training may enhance the ministries of a parish community, are most welcome. Email the Reverend Kurt Neilson at [torabb2007@gmail.com](mailto:torabb2007@gmail.com)