

**The Rev. Canon Stephen T. Lane**  
**935 East Avenue**  
**Rochester, NY 14607**

**OBJECTIVE:** To lead Christ's people in grappling with a changing world, building faith communities that are just, broadly inclusive, responsive to the needs of their members and the world around them.

**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Twenty-two years as a priest in program and pastoral sized parishes
- Eight years as diocesan Canon for Deployment and Ministry Development
- Passionate and thought-provoking preaching
- A collaborative approach to ministry including ordained colleagues and lay leadership
- Regular use of small groups for study and spiritual growth
- Fifteen years as an officer of Province II of the Episcopal Church
- Seven-time Deputy to General Convention; Cognate Chair of the Ministry Committee (2006)
- Six years as a member of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church; liaison for the President of the House of Deputies to the Standing Commission on Ministry Development
- Member and Chairman of the Board, Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency, Rochester, NY

**PASTORAL SPECIALTIES**

**TRANSITION MINISTRY:** The Episcopal Church is in transition. Historically a church of small towns and agricultural centers, the Episcopal Church is increasingly urban and multi-cultural. 80% of Episcopal congregations have 100 or fewer attendees on Sunday morning. 80% of Episcopalians attend larger congregations. All congregations, regardless of size, must wrestle with this change. How will we serve Christ if we're no longer the church on the green? Transition affects liturgy, programming, lay and ordained leadership, the language of worship and ministry, pastoral care and social life. My work has largely focused on how congregations can do a better job of managing transition. Often this has involved the search for ordained leadership, but it has also involved developing rural ministry clusters and reshaping urban congregations to address changed neighborhoods.

**TEACHING:** A key to managing transition is education. Today's Episcopalians need not only education in the basic tenets of Christian faith and our Anglican heritage, but also training in evangelism, hospitality, stewardship and cultural competence. I regularly consult with Vestries and Search Committees. I lead planning workshops and Mutual Ministry Reviews. I work with newly ordained and newly deployed clergy (Fresh Start). I'm a certified Family Systems instructor. I'm the diocesan Safe Church (sexual misconduct prevention) trainer. Every occasion is an opportunity to teach and to help us see the new realities we're facing more clearly.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Administration can be a tool for pastoral care, for education, and for the development of new leadership. As a Diocesan Deployment Officer, I'm regularly in touch with the clergy of the diocese. I work closely with them on the development of Church Deployment Profiles and resumes, trying to find that place where their "deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." (F. Beuchner) I coach them for interviews. I work with clergy and congregations on the development of their relationships, especially when the clergy are new, and help them implement policies, programs and structures that fit their culture and ministry opportunities. I oversee the training and support of diocesan stewardship consultants who work with congregations by request. That ministry is largely a pastoral ministry of helping congregations connect their histories, their hopes and their resources.

**PASTORAL CARE:** "It's all about relationship." That's a phrase used frequently by deployment officers. Ministry is about the relationships between pastors and congregations, members of congregations with one

another, and congregations with their neighborhoods. All the education in the world will not suffice, unless we pay attention to the people right in front of us. Pastoral care is about respecting each person's history, needs, skills, hopes and relationships. It's truly about seeking Christ in every person. Every ministry in the church is pastoral, even if it deals with structures and policies, with social change and with justice. Pastoral care requires not only a willingness to be present in crisis, but the every day work of building good relationships with colleagues in ministry.

LITURGY: For four years I was responsible for worship at the Executive Council. That's gave me the opportunity to work with various preachers and worship leaders, to develop multi-cultural and multi-lingual services, and to experiment with various Eucharistic texts and with different musical and visual styles. In the diocese, I've been involved in the development of worship for large public services. We have a wonderful heritage in our Anglican worship, but we need to work hard to adapt that heritage to our rapidly changing world.

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY MINISTRY: The context for the life of faith is the world we live in. Throughout my ministry, I've made an effort to encourage a wide variety of ministries to our community. For ten years I chaired a local CROP Walk, which raised more than \$110,000 during that time. I currently serve as Chairman of the Board of the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency, a not-for-profit, community based health-planning agency. As diocesan Social Justice Officer, I try to connect the bishop and diocese with social justice ministries in the community. These have included efforts to prevent the closing of a large urban hospital, anti-racism training for clergy and congregations, efforts to combat violence in the City of Rochester, and work with congregations to develop ministries to their neighborhoods.

#### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

1971-1975	Diocesan staff, Youth Ministry, Assistant to Bishop, Diocese of Rochester (4 paid staff, \$60,000 budget)
1976-1978	Volunteer at the Park Avenue Project, Rochester, NY – a neighborhood drop-in center
1978-1983	Assistant, Christ Church, Corning, NY (600 members, 6 paid staff, \$180,000 budget)
1983-1985	Interim Rector, then Associate, Christ Church, Corning, NY
1985-2000	Rector, Zion Episcopal, Palmyra, NY (400 members, 4 paid staff, \$135,000 budget)
2000-present	Canon for Deployment and Ministry Development, diocesan Social Justice Officer, and Safe Church Trainer

#### **EDUCATION**

Certificate	CREDO 84R, Delray Beach, Florida, 2005
Certificate	Fresh Start Trainer, 2003
Certificate	Clergy Leadership Project (Cornerstone Project and Trinity Institute), Memphis, TN, 1993-1995
M.Div.	Colgate-Rochester, Bexley Hall, Crozer Seminaries, Rochester, NY, 1978
B.A.	University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, 1971

#### **PERSONAL**

I've been married thirty-one years to Gretchen, who teaches science to troubled high school kids. We have three children and four grandchildren. I take regular family time, a regular day off, and planned vacations. I also make time for continuing education, prayer and meditation, and personal recreation. I like to read, to walk, to sing, to garden, and to play guitar.