

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh



July 28, 2016

The Campbell Foundation
c/o Dr. Bruce Bickel
The Tower at PNC Plaza
300 Fifth Avenue, 27th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Dear Dr. Bickel:

At the suggestion of John Harmon, Esq., I submit for your consideration a proposal for the Campbell Foundation to underwrite some of our current ministry to senior adults.

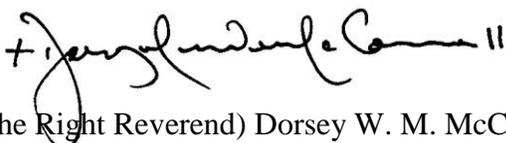
The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh reaches over 9,000 members across thirty-five (soon to be thirty-seven) parishes. Five years ago the average age of these members was at least 62, and I suspect the mean is actually considerably higher. These communities do not only provide a strong social support to those who belong; by means of their witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ to those around them, these parishes sustain, in often powerful ways, those who are most vulnerable in their communities. A comprehensive survey of our parishes' outreach programs in 2015 identified over twenty parish-based ministries focused on seniors, ranging from Meals-on-Wheels, to Bible Study and quilting groups, from supporting Alzheimer's caregivers to teaching Godly Play to residents of a nursing home. Every one of these ministries depends upon a stable parish with well-trained clergy and committed lay leadership; they are all volunteer-intensive, and are sustained by the resources of the local congregations who are in turn supported by the bishop and his staff.

Two special assistants to the bishop – known as *canons* in Anglican parlance – have particular responsibility for seeing that these local mission and outreach efforts thrive: our Canon for Mission is Kimberley Karashin and our Canon for Congregational Development and Director of Administration is the Reverend Ted Babcock. Together with our treasurer, Kathi Workman, they pour many hours a week into assisting church vestries with matters related to sustaining their ministries with and for seniors. Ted, Kim and Kathi work to encourage and empower congregations to keep their outreach efforts going. They help birth ideas, find money, support volunteers and raise up leadership. They are frequently on the road meeting with vestries over budget issues, helping them imagine new ways of reaching folks who have been left out, even directly meeting pastoral needs of seniors when no one else can.

The total cost of the two canons, amounting to one FTE is annually \$84,000. Allowing for expenses related to their work and the relevant time put in by our treasurer, the cost is well over \$100,000 – still a bargain, considering how many people they assist. The Diocese of Pittsburgh is not wealthy, however, and it is an ongoing strain on our budget of just over \$1 million to meet the growing needs of an aging population while reaching out to younger demographic groups and conceiving and planting new ministries with other emphases.

In order to maintain the vibrant quality of these current ministries, I am requesting a three-year grant of \$50,000 per year to offset some of the indirect costs of ministry to senior adults made possible by our canons. This grant of \$150,000 over three years will assure that we can continue supporting effective ministries to vulnerable seniors at the same time as we expand our ministries of education for families and evangelism for the world.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dorsey W. M. McConnell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning and a double vertical line at the end.

(The Right Reverend) Dorsey W. M. McConnell, D.D.
VIII Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh
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