CHAPLAIN TO RETIRED CLERGY AND SPOUSES

The title of this report could read, "Chaplain to Retired Clergy, Spouses and Surviving Spouses," as that is the title the Church Pension Fund uses for this position. I have been serving for many years, and find it most satisfying for myself and those being served.

Principally, my work is recognizing birthdays of those whose ministry included service in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, past and present. Through the year, some 170 greeting cards are mailed to those in the Pittsburgh area, as well as those now living in places other than Pennsylvania. In addition, cards are mailed and phone calls made to those experiencing illness and those who have lost a spouse or son or daughter.

We are blessed in enjoying the company of others when Bishop McConnell hosts a luncheon twice each year. The Church of the Atonement, Carnegie, provides the winter event and the Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill, the spring event. This becomes an opportunity to check in with one another, learn what we are doing in family and parish ministry, and receive words of appreciation from the bishop. We are always pleased when Betsy McConnell can be with us, and diocesan clergy and staff also attend as their calendars allow.

Since 2016, the Rev. Scott Quinn and the Rev. Carol Henley have assisted with this ministry. Scott assists with home visits and at hospitals, and Carol works to recognize significant clergy anniversaries for those active as well as those retired. We meet on occasion to coordinate our efforts as we work to serve those who serve the Lord and our church.

Diocesan funds provide the greater part of the cost of postage, greeting cards and mailing. Funds are also available for the twice each year luncheon.

With this chaplaincy, Marilyn and I have been able to attend the Provincial Retiree Gathering, when possible, which is usually held in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. We are grateful to the Church Pension Fund for making that possible.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Arthur C. Dilg