

The Very Reverend Ronald D. Pogue

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Mission Objective

The Holy Spirit has equipped and empowered me to foster hope, lead change, inspire action, and glorify God. I am now retired but open to a call to a place of interim ministry where I may continue to express my gifts, skills, and experience in the service of Christ's Church.

Vocational Experience

Co-Consultant

Diocese of Arkansas Bishop Search

The Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas engaged Anne Schmidt and me to serve as consultants in their search for a new Bishop. The process, initiated and governed by the Standing Committee, involves formation of a Search Committee and a Transition Committee. Development and publication of a profile, an application process, interviews, and a discernment retreat eventually lead the Search Committee to recommend a slate of candidates to the Standing Committee, which places the slate before the diocese for election. The Transition Committee manages "meet and greet" sessions around the diocese, assists with the electing convention, plans the Consecration in consultation with the Office of the Presiding Bishop and newly elected Bishop, oversees the care of the retiring Bishop, and assists the new Bishop with the transition into office.

Interim Rector

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church

Keller, Texas

September 2019 – July 2021

St. Martin's is a parish of The Episcopal Church in North Texas (formerly The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth). It was a strong program size parish prior to the schism caused by the former Bishop, Jack Iker. St. Martin's refused to follow Mr. Iker and continued to pursue its mission, even though they lost members. The spiritual core and resiliency of the parish remained strong through the twelve-year legal conflict resulting from that schism. In the end, the Texas Supreme Court handed down a ruling that was not favorable to The Episcopal Church. The diocese lost a number of properties and other assets as well as its name. St. Martin's did not lose its property in the process. There are eleven acres of prime land and three buildings in a unique location on the line between Keller and Southlake, Texas. I was called as Interim Rector following the departure of the third Rector, who accepted a call to a parish in Arizona. The following are the primary accomplishments in this parish:

- Collaboratively developed a model for mission and governance and recruited committed leadership.
- Revised the Sunday morning schedule to allow appropriate time for Christian Formation.
- Put in motion a program of Christian Formation for all ages.
- Led the parish through the worst of the COVID pandemic with new capacity for the use of video in worship and other ministries.
- Mentored two Curates.
- Adopted all necessary policies and laid the groundwork for an endowment and legacy society.

- Led two stewardship campaigns that resulted in a combined increase of 22% in giving.
- Assisted the Search Committee, Diocesan Transition Officer, and Transition Committee in their search for a new Rector.
- Conducted Holy Conversations and assisted in a self-study necessary for discernment and the development of a parish profile.
- Addressed lingering hurts and disappointments that could hinder congregational health if allowed to go unresolved.
- Attended to the pastoral and liturgical needs of the parish, including finding creative ways to do so in the midst of a pandemic when in-person worship and sick calls were prohibited.
- Fostered the commitment of the parish and the diocese to full inclusivity,
- Hired an Organist/Choirmaster with exceptional credentials, personal and professional qualifications, and true spirit of teamwork long needed in this parish.

Interim Dean

St. Andrew's Cathedral
Jackson, Mississippi
August 2017 – June 2019

The Cathedral Church for the Diocese of Mississippi is located in downtown Jackson, Mississippi. It is a resource size congregation with a current budget of \$1,456,630 and an endowment of almost \$2 million. St. Andrew's also has an exceptional school with grades PreK 2 through 12. The Dean is a member of the Board of Trustees. The Reverend David Elliott, a retired priest of the diocese, served as Interim Dean for one year following the departure of the former Dean, who was deposed due to Title IV violations involving sexual harassment. Dean Elliott spent the year working with the parish and diocese to address the pastoral and emotional system issues related to the former Dean and his ministry there. I arrived after Dean Elliott and spent 22 months continuing the healing process and adding the intentional work of interim ministry. Much of my focus was on the organizational health of the parish. The former Dean, with the Vestry watching, neglected most of the various ministry groups necessary to carry out the work of the Church. Together with the Vestry and Staff, I devised an organizational plan and recruited people to serve. In addition to the usual work of a Dean and Rector, the following are among the highlights of my intentional interim work at St. Andrew's Cathedral:

- Adopted Bylaws for the first time in the history of the parish.
- Developed an organizational model for mission and governance.
- Launched a campaign to recruit people to serve in surviving, revitalized, and new ministry groups.
- Worked with the Finance Committee to reduce the accumulated deficit from \$140,000 to \$52,000.
- Led two stewardship emphases resulting in a 27% increase in the amount pledged.
- Brought the Cathedral into compliance with national and diocesan canons that had been overlooked.
- Strengthened the role and image of the Cathedral in the diocese and wider Church.
- Worked with the Bishop in resuming the work of the Cathedral Chapter.
- Expanded the number of Eucharistic Ministers and the work of the Pastoral Care Commission.
- Doubled the number of Vergers.
- Replaced the choir vestments.
- Established an Endowment Committee and developed a program to promote planned giving.
- Oversaw the writing of an investment policy and revision of the gift acceptance policy.
- Set the stage and secured funding for a staff member for families with children and youth.
- Instigated a discernment-oriented nomination process for Vestry elections.
- Helped the Vestry through a process of appointing Profile, Nomination, and Transition Committees.
- Adjusted the Sunday morning schedule to allow more time for Christian formation.
- Provided letters of agreement (required by diocese but never written) for both Canons.
- Restored the appropriate level of participation of the Dean in the life of the school.

Interim Dean

Saint John's Cathedral
Denver, Colorado
July 2016 to July 2017

The Cathedral Church for the Diocese of Colorado is located near the State Capitol. It is a resource size congregation with a budget of \$3.9 million and an endowment of \$22 million. In July of 2016, I followed The Rev. Dr. Patrick Malloy who very effectively served as Interim Dean for the first year of the transition after Dean Peter Eaton left to become Bishop of Southeast Florida in 2015. During interviews, I was advised that the Cathedral's operating debt was projected to reach almost \$2 million by the end of 2016. This debt was incurred due to a clergy staff expansion plan begun in 2013 and was financed by a line of credit at a Denver bank. Over the past several years, the ministries of the Cathedral had become heavily staff-driven and involvement of the laity had seriously diminished. Despite these liabilities, the emotional system is remarkably healthy, the leadership of the Vestry is clear-sighted and courageous, and the desire to reach out to neighbors in need is strong, as evidenced by a partnership with St. Francis Center to develop a \$10 million, 50 unit apartment building on Cathedral property to provide fifty units for formerly homeless neighbors. Here are some of our accomplishments:

- Reduced and realigned Staff, along with other changes, to bring about financial stability.
- Began addressing approximately \$2 million of deferred maintenance such as replacement of all roofs, rebuilding of an aging elevator, replacement of rooftop heating units, major repairs to the primary boiler, replacement of wiring, breakers, fixtures, and controls of Cathedral lighting system, upgrades to exterior lighting, installation of LED bulbs in most fixtures.
- Developed a balanced budget for 2017 with the highest amount pledged in the last twelve years (a 9% increase over 2016) and used the endowment to retire operating debt and finance deferred maintenance.
- Audited the membership records, resulting in moving 449 individuals to the "inactive" rolls.
- Began the process of restoring lay leadership and engagement in the various ministries of the Cathedral community, forming or re-forming commissions and ministry groups to engage the laity.
- Updated the bylaws.
- Strengthened relationships with the Bishop and Diocese.
- Concentrated on various efforts to reach the millennial age cohort, resulting in their increased participation.
- Opened the doors of the Cathedral for prayer, reflection, and conversation to the wider community following the 2016 presidential election and some terrorist activity.
- Began offering First Monday Quiet Nights and Neighborhood Suppers to invite the wider community to get acquainted.
- Delivered to the new Dean a debt free Cathedral with \$2 million set aside to finance deferred maintenance projects and a balanced budget.
- Annual Stewardship advanced to the highest level in over five years and rose 10% over 2016.

Interim Rector

St. John's Episcopal Church
Jackson, Wyoming
February 2015 to July 2016

St. John's Episcopal Church (The Episcopal Church in Jackson Hole, Wyoming) is a program-sized parish that serves as a resource in the Diocese of Wyoming and the region. In addition to the main church and congregation in the town of Jackson, the parish includes the Chapel of the Transfiguration in Grand Teton National Park and the Chapel of St. Hubert the Hunter in Bondurant, Wyoming. The Rector of St. John's oversees the seasonal ministries at those two sites and ensures that clergy are provided. Thanks to efforts on the part of the previous Rector, the parish is especially healthy. In addition to the usual pastoral and

priestly duties, my work during the transition is largely focused on development of stewardship as a spiritual discipline for each member, involvement and reinvigoration of various ministry teams, expansion of pastoral care ministries, support of an already strong staff, and guidance in the development of a comprehensive program to build the assets of the endowment. Some results are:

- In reinvigorating or resurrecting various ministry teams, we also designed and implemented a rotation process to ensure turnover and development of new leaders.
- Our fall stewardship emphasis, emphasizing stewardship as a spiritual discipline, resulted in a 15% increase in the amount pledged and a 21% increase in the number of pledges.
- We established a gift acceptance policy, revised the parish bylaws, and engaged the first professional outside audit in seven years. This provided a foundation of integrity and transparency for creation of a legacy society (The St. John's Heritage Circle), launched in December of 2015. As of March 2016, there are twenty charter members.
- My work also provided me with an opportunity to mentor two new Priests, ordained during my time of service.
- We were able to offer church staff a 3% increase, add one part time administrative staff member, and increase the hours for two other administrative staff members.
- We made a transition from one church software to another.
- Through a robust emphasis on involvement,
 - ten new acolytes were commissioned,
 - eight new members of the Altar Guild were commissioned,
 - four people were added to the prayer ministry,
 - the ministry of Eucharistic Visitors was restored,
 - licenses for all liturgical ministers, including new ones, were renewed.
- The Finance Committee, Staff, and all committees and ministry teams collaborated in development of the 2016 Ministry Plan (Budget).
- The Education Committee held *Conversations for Common Ground* on various issues affecting our community during Lent 2016.
- The Evangelism Committee scheduled Mary Foster Parmer to bring her *Invite, Welcome, Connect* program to the parish.
- I assisted the Long Range Planning Committee in a study to determine the feasibility and funding for a capital expansion program.

Interim Rector

Christ Church Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
October 2012 to September 2014

Christ Church Cranbrook is a resource-sized parish in a suburban community of Detroit. It is the largest Episcopal Church in Michigan. Originally a part of and located adjacent to what is now known as the Cranbrook Educational Community, the parish has a rich history, a substantial endowment, extensive ministries, a large staff, and an early childhood center. Two and one-half years after his arrival, the former rector was called to be Dean of the Washington National Cathedral. The Wardens and Vestry are committed to maintaining the momentum of the parish during the transition, particularly in the areas of outreach, ministries with youth and children, hospitality, and stewardship. They also recognize the need for leadership development, creating more opportunities for purposeful service. During my 22 months as Professional Transition Specialist, we not only sustained but increased momentum:

- 34% increase in participation of children and youth;
- 17% increase in worship attendance;
- Achieved substantial increase in giving and involvement in outreach ministries;

- Increased pledges by 10% and total of over \$1,000,000 in the second time in parish history; started the year with a balanced budget for the first time in 20 years;
- Founded a legacy stewardship society;
- Implemented a rotation process for standing committees to open more positions for leadership;
- Accepted 100% of diocesan apportionment for the first time in recent memory;
- Improved relations with the diocese and bishop;
- Expanded hospitality initiatives;
- Added a youth coordinator and a coordinator of ministries with focus on stewardship, outreach, and hospitality.

Interim Rector

Calvary Episcopal Church
Ashland, Kentucky
February 2012 to October 2012

Calvary is a pastoral-sized parish in an Eastern Kentucky town that is adjusting to changes in the economy, culture, and identity stemming from the removal of Ashland Oil Company and Armco Steel. Like other churches in Ashland, Calvary lost members who were associated with these companies. Their rector of seventeen years retired at the end of 2009 and the separation was not a happy one. He took his own life a year later. For the two years following his retirement, the parish was served by a part time supply priest, who did an excellent job with the spiritual and pastoral needs of the parish, but was not expected to perform the tasks of an interim. During my eight-month engagement as a Professional Transition Specialist, my task was to guide them through as many of the developmental tasks as possible and assist the nominating committee and transition officer in moving forward toward extending a call to their next settled rector. In addition to doing that, we also started the Blessings in a Backpack outreach ministry, providing weekend meals to 150 local elementary school children and providing a new opportunity for community building as people gather in the parish hall to assemble the meal packs.

Interim Rector

Church of the Good Shepherd
Lexington, Kentucky
September 2010 to February 2012

Good Shepherd is an endowed, program-sized parish and day school in a university town with a population of 300,000. Intentional interim ministry during transition between settled rectors affords an opportunity to express a full range of priestly gifts and skills:

- Lead a staff of eight full and part-time employees
- Manage interactions between parish vestry and wholly owned subsidiaries:
 - Day school – Pre-K 2 through Kindergarten
 - Refuge, Inc. – A refugee resettlement ministry
 - Shepherd’s House – A long-term recovery ministry
- Oversee the pastoral care of the parish with a team of a deacon, an associate priest, and skilled laity
- Manage three different Sunday services
- Direct annual stewardship campaign team and develop strategies to strengthen endowment
- Direct capital campaign to replace the pipe organ
- Foster parish commitment to extensive Christian formation ministries for children and youth
- Interface with young adults at University of Kentucky and Transylvania University and facilitate involvement of parish in supporting campus ministries

- Lead the enhancement evangelism efforts with greater media presence, effective response to newcomers, and systems for incorporating new people into parish life
- Develop information technology team to upgrade computer, telephone, and media resources
- Expand parish communications to include electronic newsletter, online pictorial directory, social networking, telephone tree, communications ministry team, and revised printed parish newsletter
- Lead vestry in strategic planning
 - Clarify parish history
 - Assess present parish identity
 - Update organizational model and staff it
 - Manage leadership changes
 - Identify action items and assign responsibility and resources
 - Strengthen ties with the diocese and wider Church
- Serve as spokesperson for the parish and contribute articles and comments to media
- Engage with ecumenical partners in worship and in service
- Work with Bishop and staff in support of discernment process leading to call of new rector
- Prepare congregation for commitment to new era in mission with settled rector

Interim Rector

Trinity Episcopal Church

Lawrence, Kansas

August 2009 to August 2010

Trinity is a program-sized parish in a university town. Intentional interim ministry during transition between settled rectors affords an opportunity to express a full range of priestly gifts and skills:

- Lead a staff of twelve full and part-time employees
- Oversee the pastoral care of the parish with a team of three deacons, an associate priest, and skilled laity
- Manage three distinctly different Sunday services
- Assist Vestry and Wardens in making changes in parish administration
 - revise and update governing documents
 - improve accounting and financial reporting
 - develop a balanced budget aligned with ministry areas and with new emphasis on outreach
 - produce written position descriptions for paid and unpaid staff
 - strengthen the ability of the endowment to attract legacy stewardship gifts
- Direct annual stewardship campaign team
- Implement needed improvements in Christian formation for all ages
- Interface with young adults at University of Kansas and Haskell University and facilitate involvement of parish in supporting campus ministries
- Lead the enhancement evangelism efforts with greater media presence, effective response to newcomers, and more reliable systems for incorporating new people into parish life
- Expand parish communications to include electronic newsletter, online pictorial directory, social networking, telephone tree, communications ministry team, and publication of a quarterly journal
- Lead vestry in strategic planning
 - Clarify parish history
 - Assess present parish identity
 - Create an organizational model and begin to staff it
 - Identify action items and assign responsibility and resources
 - Institute policies and procedures for fund raising within the parish
- Strengthen ties with the diocese and wider Church

- Serve as spokesperson for the parish and contribute articles and comments to media
- Engage with ecumenical partners in worship and in service
- Encourage expansion of work of the Trinity Environmental Stewardship Team and their relationship with newly appointed Deacon for Earth Care Ministry for the Diocese of Kansas
- Manage leadership changes
- Prepare congregation for commitment to new era in mission with settled rector

Rector

Trinity Episcopal Church

Galveston, Texas

September 1999 to May 2009

Founded in 1841, Trinity is an endowed historic parish church and day school in a majority-minority island community with declining population and significant changes in the economic base. These factors, coupled with a major hurricane in 2008, provided a demanding context for a ten-year ministry as rector during major cultural and economic transition.

- Built and led an effective staff of eight full and part-time employees
- Raised over \$3.5 million for capital needs of the church and its pre-K through grade eight school
- Established “Godly Play” for the Christian formation of our children
- Redesigned the youth ministry, utilizing “Rite 13” and “J2A” curricula
- Promoted youth mission trips
- Emphasized the ministry of scouting, with both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- Worked with campus ministries for local community college, university, and medical school
- Mentored three new priests
- Upgraded the financial accounting systems into full compliance with accounting standards
- Provided spirited, traditional liturgy, maintained biblically and theologically sound preaching
- Expanded lay liturgical ministries
- Performed pastoral care responsibilities and led expanded congregational involvement in pastoral care
- Led the school through transition in headmasters and reaccreditation by both SWAES and ISAS
- Implemented electronic communication, including a weekly email newsletter, improvements to the parish website, a blog, an online pictorial directory, and an automated telephone tree
- Served as dean of the Galveston Convocation, member of St. Vincent’s House Board, and Diocesan Ecumenical Officer
- Led the planning of the first annual Galveston Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
- Represented the parish in a variety of community causes and events, a long-standing expectation of the Rector of Trinity Church
- Chaired a multi-congregational team to host the February 2008 Convention of the Diocese of Texas
- Led pastoral response and outreach efforts following Hurricane Ike in the fall of 2008

Canon Missioner

Christ Church Cathedral

Houston, Texas

June 1996 to September 1999

The Cathedral Church for the Diocese of Texas is located on the original site where it was founded in 1836. In recent years, the Cathedral has experienced a renaissance and has provided leadership in the revitalization of downtown Houston, promotion of downtown living, and outreach to those living on the street. I joined the staff as Missioner at the time I entered the process leading to ordination.

- Oversaw development of a strategic plan
- Led the Outreach Council in its work, including organizing Episcopalians Against Hunger, which conducted highly successful food drives
- Recruited, trained, and led an effective Evangelism Council that welcomed over two hundred new members a year for two of my three years there
- Edited the weekly Cathedral newsletter
- Chaired the Downtown Historic District board for two years and represented the Cathedral's interests in downtown revitalization by providing leadership for implementation of the Cotswold Project, a \$60 million streetscape improvement program for the north end of downtown Houston
- Shared in the Sunday and daily worship and preaching rotation with colleagues
- Shared in full range of pastoral duties with colleagues
- Taught in the Adult Forum
- Collaborated in development and leadership of *Basics of the Faith* course offered every other month
- Served as frequent spokesperson for the Cathedral in the media, community forums, and public appearances

Senior Pastor

Bethany United Methodist Church
Houston, Texas
June 1990 to June 1996

Following a visioning and strategic planning process for this 550 member urban parish, my ministry focused on the following areas:

- Led new initiatives to reach people in the surrounding neighborhoods
- Established a multi-generational Wednesday evening program of fellowship, study, and worship
- Guided a capital campaign to replace the 250 space parking lot
- Worked with associate to design a new monthly inquirers' class
- Trained a team of lay leaders
- Expanded the weekday early childhood program
- Hosted a Hispanic congregation and a congregation of the Church of South India
- Expanded the ecumenical senior adult enrichment program
- Started AIDS and Alzheimer's Care Teams

Senior Pastor

Spring Woods United Methodist Church
Houston, Texas
June 1986 to June 1990

At this 2,000 member suburban parish, I served, in effect, as an interim following a 20-year pastorate. Highlights of my ministry there include:

- Guided outreach ministry in starting a literacy ministry to assist non-English speaking immigrants
- Added a third Sunday service designed as an alternative to the two existing traditional services
- Managed transition from a high interest church bond debt service by refinancing the \$1.3 million debt
- Led an audit of membership rolls and replaced those lost or dropped with new members
- Developed year-round stewardship and trained a team to lead four pledge drives that increased giving
- Formed a staff of twelve full and part time staff, including adding staff to strengthen youth ministry
- Equipped laity to share in pastoral care, including formation groups shepherded by skilled laity

Senior Pastor

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church

Houston, Texas
January 1978 to June 1986

Bering is an urban parish originally founded as a German-speaking congregation in 1848. Parish leadership had diminished and the surrounding neighborhood had gradually deteriorated. The chief focus of my ministry was to help the congregation find a new purpose and discover new ways to be the Church. Those 8 ½ years represented a “tipping point” in their history. Highlights include:

- Persuaded longtime members to welcome a diverse group of neighbors to worship and membership
- Offered the facilities for performing and visual arts groups
- Recruited and equipped a new generation of leaders, some of whom broke gender and ethnic barriers
- Established an emergency overnight homeless shelter during winter months
- Guided development of ministries for persons with HIV/AIDS, their families and friends, including a counseling center, support groups, a dental clinic, and a day center

Associate Council Director

Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church
Houston, Texas
September 1975 to January 1978

Appointed by the Bishop to provide judicatory resources, training, and support in the ministries of evangelism, education/formation, worship, stewardship, children and youth for 500 congregations.

Associate Pastor

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Houston, Texas
July 1973 to September 1975

As Associate Pastor at this 6,000 member urban parish, I had a full range of pastoral responsibilities, shared with colleagues under supervision of the Senior Pastor. I provided staff oversight for the Outreach Council, gaining my first lessons in meals on wheels, food pantries, new church development, refugee resettlement, and seafarer ministry, which were elements of our outreach. I also became experienced in stewardship education and organization for ministry.

Associate Pastor

Stone Mountain United Methodist Church
Stone Mountain, Georgia
June 1972 to July 1973

My role as a part time student associate in this program size rural parish was primarily in youth ministry and visitation of new and inactive members.

Education

Houston Graduate School of Theology, Houston, Texas
Doctor of Ministry, *magna cum laude*, 1997
Project: "Equipping and Empowering Leaders in the Congregation"

Candler School of Theology, Emory University
Master of Divinity, *cum laude*, 1973
Major: Church History

The University of Houston

Bachelor of Science, 1970
Major: Sociology

Recent Continuing Vocational Formation

Upon Request

Recent Community and Church Leadership Roles

Interim Ministry Network – Secretary of the Board of Directors 2018 to 2019, Treasurer 2019-2021, Chair of the Fund Raising Committee, 2020-2021.

Interim Ministries of the Episcopal Church – Board Chair 2017 to 2019

Member, Board of Directors, St. Andrew’s Episcopal School, Jackson, Mississippi 2017-2019

Certified Professional Transition Specialist – Interim Ministry Network 2012 to present

Creator and Administrator of *Unapologetically Episcopalian*, a Facebook gathering place where over 17,000 people celebrate the many positive ways Episcopalians in 16 nations are unapologetically spreading the gospel of Christ. 2010- present

Professional Transition Specialist, 2011 – present

Met the educational and experience requirements for PTS certification with Interim Ministry Network.

Kentucky Credentialed Mediator, 2010

Met the educational and experience requirements for credentials in general and domestic mediation with Kentucky Supreme Court.

Kansas Credentialed Mediator, 2009

Met the educational and experience requirements for credentials in general and domestic mediation with Kansas Supreme Court.

Member of the Board, Transition Ministries in the Episcopal Church, 2011 – 2014

Association of Episcopal clergy engaged in interim ministry.

Member of Episcopal Communicators, 2010 – 2015

Association of persons involved in communications in the Episcopal Church

Author of *e-piphanies.com*, an online interactive journal and blog devoted to glimpses of God at work in our lives. 2007- present

Certified Intentional Interim Minister, 2009 – present

Met the educational and experience requirements for certification with Interim Ministry Network.

Texas Advanced Credentialed Mediator, 2009

Met the educational and experience requirements for credentials with Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.

Member, Downtown Clergy Association, Lawrence, Kansas, 2009 - 2010

Ecumenical and Interfaith clergy of Lawrence, Kansas

Nominee for Bishop of Northwest Texas, 2008.

Member, Board of Directors, St. Vincent's Episcopal House, Galveston, 1999 - 2001, 2007- 2009
St. Vincent's House serves the disadvantaged, underserved, and working poor population of the greater Galveston community with essential programs and services to enhance their mental, physical and spiritual well being, including food, shelter, healthcare, and childcare.

Nominee for Bishop of Oklahoma, 2007.

Member, Citizens Advisory Board, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, 2002-2009
The CAB meets regularly with President and Administration of University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston to receive and provide information regarding the medical school and the community.

Member, Board of Directors, American Heart Association, Galveston Division, 2004-2009 (Chair 2007-2008)
The Galveston Chapter of The American Heart Association, like the national organization, is committed to fighting heart disease and stroke and raising awareness of these diseases.

Trustee, The Jack and Katherine Pearce Educational Foundation, Galveston, 1999-2009
Trustees of the Pearce Foundation direct the investment and disbursement of funds for no interest higher education loans for qualified graduates of Galveston high schools.

Senior Fellow, The American Leadership Forum, 1997-present
American Leadership Forum is a national network of chapters, each dedicated to building stronger communities by joining and strengthening leaders to serve the public good. It enhances leadership by building on the strengths of diversity and by promoting collaborative problem solving within and among communities.

Past Community and Church Leadership Roles

Member, Downtown Ministerial Association, Lawrence, Kansas
An ecumenical association of clergy from churches around the city of Lawrence, Kansas, dedicated to bringing parishes together to address a variety of needs, including the needs of those who are hungry, homeless, and at risk.

Galveston Historical Foundation Board of Directors and Steering Committee, 2004-2006
Galveston Historical Foundation is the largest membership-based historic preservation organization in the United States and is responsible for a wide range of projects to preserve the architecture and heritage of Galveston Island.

Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, Episcopal Diocese of Texas, 1997-2006
Appointed by the Bishop of Texas to represent him in the ecumenical and interfaith work of the diocese.

Chair, Commission on Ecumenical and Interchurch Relations, Episcopal Diocese of Texas, 1997-2006
The commission works with the Bishop in pursuit of ecumenical and interfaith work.

Member, Board of Directors, Texas Conference of Churches, 1994-1996, 2004-2005
The Texas Conference of Churches is the statewide ecumenical organization for the entire State of Texas.

Chair, HIV/AIDS Commission, Episcopal Diocese of Texas, 1996-1999

The HIV/AIDS Commission provides leadership in educational programs and ministries with persons with HIV/AIDS within the diocese.

Dean, Galveston Convocation, Episcopal Diocese of Texas, 1999-2001

Appointed by the Bishop with responsibilities for convening clergy and people of the convocation for common cause, mutual support, communication, and diocesan life.

Member, Executive Board of the Bay Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, 1999-2001

The Executive Board of a Boy Scout Council governs its work, providing the Scouting program for young people in the region in partnership with chartered organizations and the National Council, BSA.

Member, Advisory Board of the Sam Houston Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, 1984-1999

An Advisory Board of a large Boy Scout Council assists the Executive Board in its work. My role included a period of service as Relationships Committee Chair, working to strengthen the relationship between the council and all the organizations that sponsor units of the Boy Scouts of America within the council.

Member, Board of Directors, Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston, 1978-1986, 1996-1999 (Chair 1985)
IM (formerly Houston Metropolitan Ministries), the principal ecumenical/interfaith organization for the greater Houston area, brings people of diverse faith together for dialogue, collaboration, and service. IM oversees programs such as Refugee Services, Meals on Wheels, Foster Grandparents, Youth Victim Witness, and Interfaith Dialogue.

Chair, Board of Trustees, Houston Graduate School of Theology, 2000-2004

HGST is the only fully accredited, ecumenical, multicultural school of theology for the nation's fourth largest city. I chose to earn a D.Min. from this school not only because of the quality of the experience, but also to reinforce my commitment to building this center for theological education in Houston. During my tenure as chair, we received full accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools and hired the third president.

Chair, Downtown Historic District/Market Square Economic Development Corp., 1996-1998

DHD provided oversight and coordination of stakeholder involvement in the ongoing restoration and preservation of the national historic district that comprises the original 1836 town site of the City of Houston. During my tenure as chair, we hired a new executive director and provided leadership to begin the Cotswold Project, a \$60 million streetscape improvement program for the historic district.

Chair, Religious Relationships, Sam Houston Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, 1994-1998

Responsible for strengthening relationships with religious organizations that sponsor Boy Scout units in the Houston metropolitan area.

Member, Board of Directors, Holocaust Museum of Houston, 1996-1998

Served on the board at the time of approval of design through construction, dedication, and opening of Houston's Holocaust Museum.

Member, Design Review Team, Texas Avenue Revitalization Project of Central Houston, Inc., 1997

Responsible for developing design for improvements to the original major thoroughfare in Houston's original 1836 town site. Christ Church Cathedral and the Diocesan Center are located on Texas Avenue.

Vice President, Board of Directors, Houston Gulf Coast Chapter, American Leadership Forum, 1998

(ALF purpose described above) The chapter board hires the executive director, adopts the budget, oversees fund raising, approves program, sets local policy, ensures compliance with national policies, approves candidates for each annual class, and grants Senior Fellow status to those who successfully complete the year-long course of training.

Member, Ecumenism and Interfaith Commission, RC Diocese of Galveston-Houston 1980-1997
The Roman Catholic Church in Houston includes non-Roman Catholics on its Ecumenism and Interfaith Commission. I had the privilege of serving on this diverse commission for seventeen years.

Spiritual Director, Houston Emmaus Community, 1992-1994
The Walk to Emmaus is an ecumenical expression of Cursillo. I served for two years as Spiritual Director, giving oversight to the selection and qualification of clergy leadership for the ministry.

Chair, the Liturgy Committee, Foundation for Interfaith Research and Ministry, 1991-1993
The Foundation for Interfaith Research and Ministry was the successor to the Houston Interfaith AIDS Coalition, of which I was a co-founder. Its primary work was to foster ministry to persons with HIV/AIDS, including development, training, and supervision of AIDS care teams in congregations.

Member, Board of Directors of Northwest Assistance Ministries, 1986-1988 (vice president 1988)
NAM is the ecumenical/interfaith social outreach ministry for the northern part of Harris County, Texas. During my service on the board, we hired the first executive director and expanded the range of services.

Member, Board of Directors, Mental Health Association of Harris County, 1984-1988 (president 1987)
My involvement with mental health in Houston originated with advocacy for homeless persons, many of whom suffer chronic mental illness in a state that is among the bottom two or three in the nation in public mental health services. During my service as chair, we successfully lobbied for greater appropriation of funds by the state legislature and conducted a media campaign to encourage people suffering from depression to seek help.

First Chair of the Board for Omega House, a hospice for terminally ill AIDS patients, 1986-1987
As a founding member and first chair of the board of Omega House, we developed the program, raised initial funding, secured the facility, and began operations.

Regional Vice President, the National Coalition for the Homeless, 1985
Having operated an emergency homeless shelter in my church during the winter of 1983-1984 and as a founder of the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston and Harris County, I was invited to be a regional vice president of the National Coalition for the Homeless for one year.

Committee Member, the Mayor's Showcase on Aging, 1985
Assisted the Mayor of Houston and staff in planning and presenting a comprehensive conference on aging and services for those who are aging in the region.

Founder and President, Coalition for the Homeless of Houston & Harris County, 1984-1986
The Coalition was formed at my suggestion and with the support of Mayor Katherine J. Whitmire and Federal Judge Woodrow Seals to address needs and better coordinate services for homeless persons in our region.

Chair, Mayor's Hearing on Children and Youth: Panel on Emergency Housing, Houston, 1984
Appointed by the Mayor of Houston to undertake a comprehensive review of needs of and services for homeless children and their families.

Member, U.S. House of Representatives Task Force on Health Care for the Homeless, 1984
Appointed by my Member of Congress following my testimony before a joint House/Senate hearing on homelessness in America.

President, Houston Metropolitan Ministries (now Interfaith Ministries), 1985-1986
(Described above)

Member, Board of Directors, Religious Communities for the Arts, New York, New York, 1980-1982
A national foundation that provides grants in various places across the country for religious communities that are fostering the arts.

Chair, the Houston Conference on the Arts and Religious Communities, 1981
Houston has many religious communities that foster the arts. Because of my interest and the work of my congregation, I was asked to chair a team of people to plan and present a city-wide conference to highlight ways religious communities might expand their involvement with the arts.

Honors

The American Heart Association, Service Award, 2008
For leadership and fundraising while serving as chair of the AHA Galveston Division

Distinguished Alumnus Award, Jefferson Davis High School, Houston, Texas, 1998
For activities in support of the high school in years following graduation

Boy Scouts of America, Silver Beaver Award, 1992
The Silver Beaver Award is the highest distinguished service award of the Boy Scouts of America at the council level. Recipients of this award are registered adult leaders who have made an impact on the lives of youth through service given to the council.

Boy Scouts of America, Torch Award for Scouters, 1989
One of the BSA Religious recognitions for adults who emphasize the spiritual values in Scouting

Boy Scouts of America, Woodbadge, 1986
Wood Badge is the most advanced training available for volunteer Boy Scout Leaders.

Community Leadership Award, Mental Health Association of Houston & Harris County, 1986
Given by the MHA in recognition of service to the community in support of mental health advocacy

Certificate of Appreciation, the Houston City Council, 1984
Given by the Houston City Council in recognition of leadership in formation of the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston and Harris County, Texas

Mayoral Citation, the City of Houston, 1984
Given by the Mayor of Houston, Katherine J. Whitmire, in recognition of leadership in providing emergency shelters for homeless people during the winter months.

Religious Service Award, National Conference of Christians and Jews, 1983
Given by NCCJ in recognition for leadership in fostering understanding in Jewish/Christian dialogues

Community Service Award, Inner View Newspaper, 1981
Given by community newspaper in recognition of efforts in community organization

Religious Leader of the Year Award, Houston Jaycees, 1981
Jaycees in recognition for citywide leadership in ecumenical and interfaith response to HIV/AIDS

Theta Phi, National Theological Honor Society, 1973
Given in recognition of academic accomplishments while in seminary

Vigil Honor Member, BSA Order of the Arrow, 1967

The Vigil Honor is the highest level of recognition within the national honor camper program of the BSA.

Eagle Scout, 1962

The rank of Eagle is the highest rank that may be earned by a Boy Scout and is awarded to boys who have successfully completed the advancement, leadership, fitness, and service requirements.

Hobbies

I enjoy walking, backpacking, cycling, and travel, particularly to historic sites. I also enjoy gardening, cooking, genealogical research, and reading.

Personal

Born: February 4, 1948, Houston, Texas

Married: Gay Elva (Wunderlich) Pogue, Houston, Texas - February 9, 1969

Gay is a retired English teacher and holds a Master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of St. Thomas, Houston. She served in teaching and administrative positions in the Houston, Galveston, and Texas City, Texas schools. Gay has a special interest in the education of urban youth and in helping students develop reading and writing skills. She is also a professional artist, working in several mediums, including icons.

Children: Ronald Dennis Pogue, II
Matthew Kenneth Pogue

Age 51
Age 45