

Regional Priest

(Note: this Job Description was created for the Northwest Regional Priest position, the first of three Regional Priest call processes. The general concept of this Job Description will be the same for the East and South region, but there may be duties or areas of focus specific to each particular region.)

December 10, 2007

Reporting Relationship: The Regional Priest is supervised by and reports to the Regional Bishop having oversight of the ministry of the diocese exercised within the region. Inter regional and wider diocesan work and relations of all regional clergy and teams are supervised and coordinated by the Canon to the Ordinary for Program and Pastoral Ministry.

Employment classification: Full time – Exempt

Summary:

The Diocese of North Carolina will have Regional Teams as mandated by our Diocesan Mission Action Plan and adopted by our Diocesan Council. The goal of the regional teams is to build a network of relationships among clergy and congregations in the region as part of the work of fostering greater connectedness, relationship and community within the diocese as it seeks to grow more fully into a community focused on mission. We will know these teams have been successful when the clergy and lay leaders in the diocese:

- Are more knowledgeable about the ministries, strengths and needs in the region
- Are more empowered by and connected to the Bishop and his staff.
- Become more collaborative and develop interconnected ministries within the region.

The Regional Priest is appointed by the Bishop of North Carolina and as a member of the staff of the Diocese of North Carolina subject to the provisions of the Employee Handbook presently approved by the Diocesan Council. Under the oversight of the Regional Bishop, the Regional Priest will lead and coordinate the Regional Team. The ministry of the Regional Priest will require frequent travel throughout the region. At least at first, the Regional Team will be based at Stonehaven, the Greensboro office of the Diocese. The Regional Priest will be expected to conduct meetings and do most work in congregations not in the Regional office.

As a member of the first regional team serving in the Northwest region of the Diocese (see map attached), we seek a founding priest who will be a collaborative leader and a visionary to help us live into this new regional ministry.

The founding regional priest will:

Be:

- Emotionally, Spiritually and Physically Healthy
- A creative self-starter, able to work independently as well as with groups
- A natural networker

Have:

- A humble and collaborative spirit combined with optimistic enthusiasm
- A servant leadership style: (collaborating, facilitating, supporting)
- Experience in Congregational Development
- Broad and varied ministry experience in the Episcopal Church
- Strong process skills
- Experience in systems thinking

Work on:

- Building a network of support, council and advice to shape goals for regional cooperation and ministry.
- Supporting congregations
- Coaching and mentoring clergy
- Supporting and encouraging healthy practices among the clergy
- Empowering existing leadership in local faith communities
- Building on existing strengths in the region
- Facilitating congregational development and conflict resolution
- Building a regional network, linking Congregations and people
- Fostering good communication between congregations and the Diocese
- Providing leadership for wider diocesan networking and shared ministry
- Encouraging individual Episcopalians and Episcopal congregations within their Region to relate/think in new ways about ministry
- Providing opportunities for face to face interaction between congregations and diocesan support/resources
- Encouraging individual congregations of the Region to work together on ministry projects by sharing their God given talents and gifts with each other
- Interacting with clergy/congregations in Region through visits and participation in Sunday liturgy, Vestry meetings, Clericus meetings etc.
- Consulting with Clergy and Vestries on Parish Matters
- Communicating to the Diocese the ministry and visions of the Region
- Encouraging regional Gospel-Based Social Ministry
- Supporting Convocational Deans and Lay Wardens in the work of their convocations

Qualifications:

Several Years experience as an ordained priest in a variety of settings.

