



April 12, 2023

Pennsylvania Southeast Conference United Church of Christ
Board of Directors and Rev. Bill Worley, Conference Minister
1441 Laura Lane, Ste. 100
Pottstown, PA 19464

To the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference Board of Directors and Rev. Worley:

Phoebe Ministries is thankful for our long-time partnership with the United Church of Christ and its congregations, who have supported our mission and ministry since our founding 120 years ago.

We are proud of our roots as a faith-based organization and stand committed to our mission "A community of faith, called by God, to enrich the lives of our seniors, their families, and the communities we serve."

In 2022, our UCC partners and 110 congregations gave us vital support, including financial contributions, in-kind donations, and volunteer service. We appreciate the opportunity to update the Conference on Phoebe's many accomplishments over the last year, which included continuing our Pastoral Care Services, our Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program, the growth of our CPE Endowment, and notable changes within our Pastoral Care team.

Pastoral Care Services enable us to promote the spiritual well-being of our residents at every level of care. Over the last year, Rev. Dr. Scott Brooks-Cope, Phoebe's Regional Director of Pastoral Care and Education, eight chaplains, nine Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) interns, and thirty-three pastoral care volunteers provided a variety of programs and support services. These included one-to-one visits with residents, weekly worship services (in-person and on TV), Bible study, devotions, small group activities, Chaplain's chats, monthly communion, book study, and meditation. Chaplains facilitated support groups, provided counseling, spiritual support, and end-of-life visits, and consoled Phoebe employees who continued to feel the impact of the COVID pandemic. Phoebe Allentown incorporated a new collaborative art program led by Rev. Jameson Baxter for independent living residents at The Terrace and seniors at Miller Personal Care. We also offered monthly Roman Catholic worship at each community and monthly Jewish services at Phoebe Allentown and Phoebe Wyncote.

Spirit Alive™, our unique, interactive method of worship designed to meet the spiritual needs of seniors with mid-to-late-stage dementia, was overseen by Emily Southerton, Chaplain and Spirit Alive Coordinator at Phoebe Berks, and Rev. Dr. Scott Brooks-Cope. Over the past year, Rev. Southerton provided Spirit Alive training for new chaplains, volunteers, and several groups, including the National Association of Catholic Chaplains and the National Association of Jewish Chaplains. This March, Phoebe received word that we won the 2023 *Innovation of the Year* Distinguished Service Award from LeadingAge PA for our work with the Spirit Alive™ program.

Under the direction of Rev. Dr. Scott Brooks-Cope, an ACPE Certified Educator, and Leah Knox, an ACPE Certified Educator Candidate, Phoebe continued its Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Program. Accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., the program offers clergy, seminary students, and qualified community members of all faiths a way to practice ministry to seniors. In addition to academic work, the program uses hands-on learning and clinical supervision on-site by Phoebe chaplains to help students develop relationship-building skills and techniques to assist seniors coping with loneliness and loss. The 2022-2023 CPE program enrolled a total of seven students. Three students graduated in March 2023. An additional four students are enrolled in our Spring session. The CPE Program will turn 25 this summer. Plans are underway for a 25th Anniversary Dinner at Lehigh Country Club, scheduled for June 15, 2023. The keynote speaker will be Naomi Washington-Leapheart, the Director for Faith-Based and Interfaith Affairs for the City of Philadelphia. Details regarding this special event and sponsorship opportunities are available online at phoebe.org/cpe25years or by calling 610-794-5132.

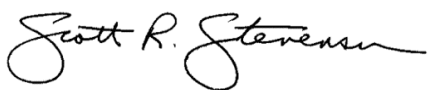
The CPE program is made possible through funds from the Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Endowment, which has grown to \$244,668. The endowment enables us to provide scholarships to CPE students and training for our Certified Educator Candidate, the Rev. Leah Knox. Once Rev. Knox completes her supervisory training, Phoebe can hold additional CPE classes, opening the program to more ministry students, and provide nationally known speakers in pastoral care for the community.

Phoebe's Pastoral Care team reached several milestones and welcomed new staff members. In September, Rev. Albert Martin celebrated his 20th anniversary of employment at Phoebe Allentown. On October 20, we held the installation service for Rev. Jameson Baxter, our new Chaplain for independent living and personal care at Phoebe Allentown. Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, PNEC Conference Minister, presided, and Rev. Lynne Mikulak, ACPE Educator, provided the preaching. Rev. Jamie Moyer, Chaplain at Phoebe Richland, retired in December after eight years of service. The Rev. Christian Creyer was hired as her replacement. Rev. Ray Hurst, Chaplain at Phoebe Berks, retired in January 2023 after a three-year tenure. The Rev. Strother Gross was hired as the new Chaplain at Phoebe Berks.

I am also pleased to report several achievements within Phoebe's additional service lines. Pathstones by Phoebe, one of fewer than 40 Continuing Care at Home (CCAH) programs in the country, provided quality services to 98 members. Phoebe Pharmacy welcomed Pine Run Retirement Community, a 200-bed facility owned by Doylestown Hospital, as a new Pharmacy customer. Phoebe worked with PA State Representative Michael Schlossberg to apply for a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant. The state has designated \$1 million toward renovations at The Terrace at Phoebe Allentown. Phoebe is working on a business plan for the use of the funds. Chestnut Ridge at Rodale, Phoebe's new independent living community in Emmaus, will welcome our first residents in the Summer of 2023. Through the generosity of others, Phoebe continued to deliver on its promise of Charitable Care and provided \$17 million to assist our residents in need.

I am extraordinarily grateful for the depth of generosity and commitment shown by our faith community. Thank you for being part of another successful, rewarding year.

Peace,



Scott R. Stevenson
President & CEO