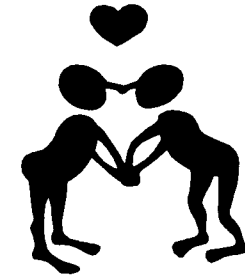


The Clergy Spouse Support Ministries

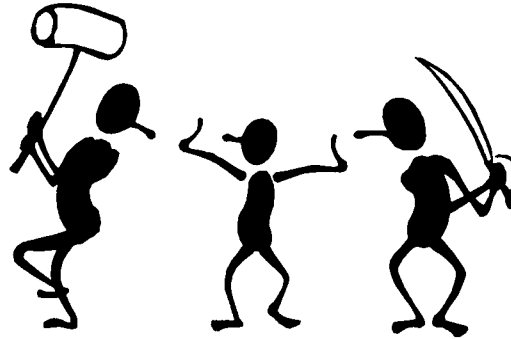


Whereas:

Most Presbyterians live blissfully in the new millennium, but for the Pastor's Wife or Husband, it may as well be 1882. While (usually) not expected to wear hats and gloves, it is not at all unusual for a congregation to assume the Pastor's Spouse WILL play piano, type bulletins, and know times and locations of every meeting for the next week.

Some church members are astonished to learn the Pastor's Wife will not be attending each Women's Luncheon. If the Pastor's Spouse happens to be a Husband, the absence is excused because, of course, *he works.*

○ This ministry helps spouses and survivors obtain information on health and retirement benefits and other BoP programs.



You can establish a Clergy Spouse Support Ministry in your Presbytery.

We can help you do it.

Starr Luteri
12462 So. 175th Ave.
Goodyear, AZ 85338
623-386-0556
starrdark@cox.net

*"I don't know the committee schedule,
I don't pour punch,
I don't play piano or run the church office,
I just sleep with your pastor."*

○ An experienced Clergy Spouse, already covered by the Board of Pensions, is ideal for this ministry.

➤ Budget for travel, ministry, program and office expenses

○ Regular contact with all clergy families can be maintained by telephone



and mail, keeping funds available for any emergency needs, program scholarships, continuing education, etc.

➤ Open communication with COM, Presbytery Executive, and Church Secretaries

○ This ministry maintains contact with clergy families as they enter and leave the presbytery, as well as a communications network to give support through life changes.

➤ A working relationship and familiarity with Board of Pensions contacts and representatives.

Whereas:

Phone calls to the Pastor's Spouse are equal to or better than phone calls to the church office. If one does not wish to "bother the pastor," any information may be given to the pastor's spouse.

The Pastor's home is the Church Manse, and as such is open to members at all times, may be used by committees, church school classes and luncheons, as well as for files, video equipment and copy machines. This applies whether or not the church actually owns the house in question.



Whereas:

The Pastor's Children are pure in thought, word, and clothing. Always. Such offspring are cute and quiet in infancy, clever and quiet as children, and responsible and quiet as teens. Did we mention that they are quiet?



Whereas:

Pastors' Spouses are to excel in manner and style of dress; modest and appropriate in a quality equivalent to but not exceeding that of well-to-do persons of the congregation but obtained (by God's grace) within the Pastor's salary;

And most notably **Whereas:**

Clergy Spouses experiencing personal emergencies, marital stress or spiritual crisis have no pastoral services available to them, except for their own spouse, who is moderating a meeting at the church in the moment of crisis.



Therefore:

Pastors' Spouses are prone to extreme levels of stress, possibly

equivalent to or exceeding that of disgruntled postal workers.



The Presbytery of Grand Canyon has addressed this intolerable situation by the establishment of

The Clergy Spouse Support Ministries

Here is an inexpensive ministry opportunity that will have enormous impact on the well-being and effectiveness of Clergy Families throughout your own Presbytery. The requirements are few:

- One part-time person on Presbytery Staff; with salary (critical to establish credibility).
 - This person, whether lay or clergy, needs strong pastoral care and communications skills, as well as energy to encourage others.