



Episcopal
Community
Services

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CHALLENGE POVERTY.

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**Episcopal Community Services
and the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania
Appoint Chaplain The Rev. David R. Anderson**

January 30, 2019 – Philadelphia, PA – Episcopal Community Services (ECS) and the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania announce the appointment of The Rev. David R. Anderson as Chaplain. Rev. Anderson will work with the staffs of both organizations and with volunteers from across the Diocese.

The leaders of both ECS and the Diocese aim to deepen their responses to the persisting problems and trauma that intergenerational poverty creates. A new Covenant between ECS and the Diocese provides a basis for their shared goal of eliminating poverty. It is founded in respecting the dignity of all human beings.

“Our hope is that together we can grow in our responses to the persistent challenges of poverty,” said David E. Griffith, ECS executive director.

The Rev. Anderson is an Episcopal minister living in Springtown, Pa. After completing graduate studies in English literature at the University of Chicago, he taught English literature and writing workshops at Columbia College (Chicago) and Northern Illinois University. Sensing a vocation to ministry, he attended Yale Divinity School, graduated *magna cum laude* and was ordained in the Episcopal Church. He has served parishes in both Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

Rev. Anderson is the author of *Breakfast Epiphanies: Finding Wonder in the Everyday* (Beacon Press, 2002), named by *Spirituality & Health* as one of “The Best Spiritual Books of 2002.” His latest book, *Losing Your Faith, Finding Your Soul: The passage to new life when old beliefs die* (Convergent Books) was published in September 2013.

Rev. Anderson has served on numerous boards, including the Trustee Board of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, where he also served as President of the Graduate Society Council. He was selected by the Episcopal Church Foundation to participate in the Clergy Leadership Project, and for a



sabbatical to pursue his writing he was the recipient of a grant from the Lilly Foundation.

Anderson is married to Pam Anderson, a cookbook author and food blogger. They have two daughters.

You can read Rev. Anderson's written work at findingyoursoul.com.

To learn more about Episcopal Community Services, visit ecsphilly.org or contact Robert Pierson, 215.351.1459, robertp@ecsphilly.com or Lisa Simon, 215.545.4715 x22, lsimon@sprytech.com.

About Episcopal Community Services

Episcopal Community Services (ECS) is a multi-service agency that embraces adaptability and program innovation in order to meet the evolving and diverse needs of Philadelphians who have been disadvantaged by poverty. ECS has a 148-year legacy of transforming itself in times of crisis and providing essential support services for the city's most vulnerable. Today, its mission is to challenge and reduce intergenerational poverty, and guided by a new strategic plan, ECS' programs focus on increasing people's ability to achieve economic independence and mobility.



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