I am a deacon in the Episcopal Church. Presently I am the deacon for Church by the Pond and serve at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford. The programs I am connected to are Church Street Eats and Church by the Pond. The Church Street Eats program is a feeding and clothing ministry. We serve lunches on Saturdays and Sundays and two dinners during the month. What is somewhat unique about this program is that it is supported by over 40 different organizations. They are primarily religious groups representing a wide variety of denominations but also include some secular groups such as schools and businesses. What we found was that there were many people looking for opportunities to serve the community but could not sustain a ministry like this on their own. This program allows for groups and individuals to serve at a level that they are able. The balance is in providing continuity to the people we serve while allowing for some freedom of individuality for those who are doing the serving. The Church Street Eats ministry just celebrated its 10th anniversary in June 2014. We serve over 10,000 meals per year.

The Church by the Pond is an Ecclesia Church was inspired by the Common Cathedral in Boston. One the physical needs of the community were met it seemed like a natural progression to offer a service meeting the spiritual needs. Celebrants for CBTP come from local Episcopal and Lutheran Churches. Our first service was on June 11, 2011.

Presentation Length: 45 minutes (can be adjusted)

Availability: Evenings & weekends

Geographic limitations: Anywhere in CT.

Contact information:  
donald.richey@snet.net  
860-685-1278

For more information: www.churchstreeteats.org | www.churchbythepond.org