

Community of Hope in the Diocese of West Texas

What is Community of Hope?

Why would anyone need it?



So many questions need to be answered, but none more than these two.

What is Community of Hope? Community of Hope is a ministry that is designed to train lay pastoral caregivers in how to provide a non-threatening, listening and compassionate presence to those in need.

Why do we need it? Each one of us needs someone to listen and be present when life's storms come. Not to be a counselor, not to be a teacher, not even to be an advisor, but someone willing to be a trusted presence when needed. Additionally, the clergy who are often the first person to be contacted when troubles come cannot possibly handle all of the needs of a parish. Trained lay pastoral caregivers are able to offer support in practical and helpful ways to allow the clergy, as the Rev. Patrick Gahan, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Wimberley, said, "...to be able to sleep, knowing that the needs of the congregation are being cared for."

The Diocese of West Texas is blessed to have 10 Centers, plus four in training or discernment:

In Boerne

St. Helena's Episcopal Church

In Corpus Christi

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

In Kerrville

St. Peter's, Episcopal Church

In Rockport

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

In San Antonio

Christ Episcopal Church

Church of Reconciliation

St. David's Episcopal Church

St. Francis Episcopal Church

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

In Wimberley

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Centers in Formation/Training

St. Barnabas', Fredericksburg

St. Thomas', San Antonio

St. Matthew's, Universal City

St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Cuero

To learn more about Community of Hope, click on this link: www.coh-international.com

Or contact:

Carrie Watson

The Community of Hope

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

6000 FM 3237 Unit A

Wimberley, TX 78678-6386

carrie@ststeve.org

512-847-9956