

## Institutional Chaplains Report

### Hasenecz Earns National Chaplaincy Certification

The Rev. Fr. Timothy A. Hasenecz, chaplain and pastoral care coordinator at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), has recently earned board certification via the Board of Chaplaincy Certification Inc. (BCCI). The BCCI is an affiliate of the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), a national, nonprofit professional organization.

The BCCI certification program is designed to elevate professional standards, enhance individual performance and designate professional chaplains who demonstrate the knowledge essential to the practice of chaplaincy. Chaplains are certified as board certified chaplains or associate certified chaplains according to established national standards, including a code of ethics.

Hasenecz is responsible for scheduling 37 chaplains for 24/7 coverage at LVHN's three sites—two in Allentown and one in Bethlehem, Pa. He conducts rounds and visitations in the network's Open Heart Unit and Transitional Open Heart Unit. He not only arranges visitations and mobilizes spiritual/religious resources but also personally provides confidential, nonjudgmental spiritual support to patients, families, caregivers and staff of all faiths and walks of life. He aids all in finding inner strength, peace and hope while coping with illness, trauma, loss and life transition.

In addition, he manages LVHN's No One Dies Alone (NODA) program and its 114 trained volunteers. Known as "compassionate companions," NODA volunteers sit with a patient to provide comfort in the last hours of life and to offer respite to a patient's family.

A graduate of St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary, South Canaan, Pa., Hasenecz was ordained by the Orthodox Church in America in 2001. He has held pastorates at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Catasauqua, Pa., and Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, McAdoo, Pa. He lives in Bethlehem.

With commitment to interfaith ministry and the professional practice of chaplaincy care, the Schaumburg, Ill.-based APC serves chaplains in all types of health and human service settings. Members are involved in chaplaincy care of all persons, respecting their diverse cultures and beliefs. The APC advocates for quality chaplaincy care of all persons in health care, corrections, long-term care, rehabilitation, hospice, the military and other specialized settings.