



Standing in the shadow COURTESY OF
CHRIS HIGHLAND

Leader

Continued from Page 2D

needs as much as blankets, bus tickets and bags of clothes.

This consideration of “one step back” leadership wouldn’t be complete without a bow to my old friend, Bob. He was the tie-dye-guy who became the thread through all my years of chaplaincy (Bob loves to wear a tie-dye shirt and colorful knit cap). We could always count on Bob to compose a poem to read in a gathering or bring a donated

bouquet to a memorial.

I was known as “The Chaplain,” the leader, but Suzanne, Robert, Rosie, Liz and Bob were chaplains too, and sometimes more effective.

In significant ways, I was following their compassionate steps among “our people” outside.

Chris Highland served as a Protestant minister and interfaith chaplain for many years. He is a teacher, writer, freethinker and humanist celebrant. Chris and his wife Carol, a Presbyterian minister, live in Asheville. Learn more at chighland.com.