

## **ABSTRACT**

The diploma thesis aims to understand, through theoretical and empirical processing, how it is possible to support the offer of spiritual programs for seniors within the social services of the Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren retirement home by knowing the principles on which the activity offered to seniors to meet their spiritual needs should be exposed. The thesis is divided into two main parts. The first part of the thesis outlines the theoretical basis. It defines the basic concepts and defines the main connections between spiritual needs and the possibilities of their satisfaction. It also describes the principles of activation and the role of churches and church organizations in the pastoral activity of seniors in terms of their spiritual accompaniment. The second, practical part of the thesis aims to use a qualitative approach using the method of semi-structured interviews with pastoral workers, clients of homes and employees of homes to answer the basic research question concerning the formulation of common principles leading to the support of the offer of spiritual programs within residential services for seniors Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren.

**Key words:** Old age, home for the elderly, spiritual needs, spirituality, pastoral care, pastoral worker, Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren