

## **Priorities Discernment Committees**

### **Background**

The bishop search process, which engaged a wide array of Episcopalians in Minnesota, and sought to gain clear direction for the next chapter for ECMN as a body, surfaced values and several areas of strategic work that needed to be prioritized.

Since the election of Bishop Loya, he has distilled the learnings from the bishop search process into 4 priorities: discipleship, justice, faithful innovation and vitality.

The Bishop, in partnership with ECMN Council, is now launching discernment committees, which will further explore these areas of strategic work. Through prayerful discernment, these committees will craft recommendations that will be used by ECMN Council and the Bishop to frame the budget, and the overall work of the organization.

### **These Discernment Committees are meant to**

Provide prayerful recommendations as to how ECMN can more effectively live out and operationalize discipleship, justice, faithful innovation and vitality, on a systemic, faith community and individual level.

*Their work will be to:*

- Let God lead
- Acknowledge that the church is learning something we don't already know.
- Pray, play and practice

## **Initial Discernment Committees - Purpose and Roster**

### **Discipleship**

*Assist ECMN in framing discipleship, paying particular attention to concrete, daily practices and programs that can be used in faith communities to deepen discipleship.*

Roster:

The Rev. Jackie Bernacchi, White Earth

The Rev. Blair Pogue, St. Matthew's, St. Paul

Peter Watkins, St. Clement's, St. Paul

Sheila Foster, Sts. Luke & James, Minneapolis

Chris Sikkema, Calvary, Rochester

Jayan Koshy, St. John the Evangelist, St. Paul

The Rev. Susan Daughtry, ECMN Missioner

### **Faithful Innovation**

*Foster a culture, spaces and models of faithful experimentation in ECMN.*

Roster:

Steve Richards, Sts. Luke & James, Minneapolis  
The Rev. Anna Ostenso Moore, St. Mark's Cathedral  
The Rev. Craig Lemming, St. John the Evangelist, St. Paul  
The Rev. Dana Emery, St. Luke's, Detroit Lakes  
The Rev. Kerri Meyer, Good Courage Farm  
Rachel Babbitt, ECMN Missioner

### **Racial Justice and Healing**

*Oversee and help carry out the design of a common curriculum, in consultation with Catherine Meeks, developing liturgical resources and public art focused on racial justice and healing.*

Roster:

The Rev. Robert Two Bulls, All Saints, Minneapolis, ECMN Missioner  
Edwin Swaray, St. Andrew's Minneapolis  
The Rev. Jered Weber Johnson, St. John the Evangelist, St. Paul  
The Rev. Devon Anderson, Trinity, Excelsior  
The Rev. Linda Finney, Holy Trinity, St. Paul  
Heidi Kim, Breck School  
Craig Warren, St. David's, Minnetonka  
The Rev. Morris Goodwin, Sts. Luke & James, Minneapolis  
The Rev. Katie Capurso Ernst  
The Rev. Lisa Wiens Heinsohn, St. John the Baptist, Minneapolis  
The Rev. Letha Wilson-Barnard, Christ Church, Red Wing

### **Latinx Ministries**

*Develop an intentional strategy for supporting and growing ministries with Spanish speaking immigrants.*

Roster:

The Rev. Rex McKee, St. John the Baptist, Minneapolis  
The Rev. Neptali Rodriguez, El Santo Niño, St. Paul  
The Rev. Julie Luna, St. Nicholas, Richfield  
Steve Mullaney, UEC  
Tom Moss, El Santo Niño, St. Paul  
Newell Searle, El Santo Niño, St. Paul  
Maria Maiela Arriaga, El Santo Niño, St. Paul  
Rachel Babbitt, ECMN Missioner

### **Team Ministry and Rural Congregations**

*Discern the next chapter for team ministry and the development of rural congregations in Minnesota.*

Roster:

Karen Olson

The Rev. Rick Swenson, Sts. John & Paul, Virginia & Eveleth

The Rev. Chris Bebee, St. John's, Mankato

The Rev. Mary Groeninger, St. Mary's, Ely

Bronwyn Clark Skov, St. Luke's, Hastings

The Rev. John Sullivan, Christ Church, Austin

The Rev. Margaret Thor, St. John in the Wilderness, White Bear Lake

The Rev. Sally Maxwell, St. James, Hibbing