

March 4, 2009

To: Standing Committees and Bishops

From:

Bruce E Caldwell  
Bishop of Wyoming  
123 S. Durbin  
Casper, WY 82601

**A letter of Support for the Northern Michigan Process of Discernment**

Over the past months I have served, along with Bishop Tom Ely of Vermont and Dr. Fredrica Harris Thompsett, Professor Emeritus of E.D.S, as a reflector on the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan's process of discernment. The purpose of the process was to identify a ministry team which will share Episcopal responsibilities in relationship with a Bishop/Ministry Developer. The process has in my mind been successful.

The Diocese of Northern Michigan was scrupulous in checking in with the office of pastoral development to insure that diocesan and national canons were followed. They set up a fair process of affirmation and received overwhelming support from the people in the diocese for the process and the outcome. A number of well qualified individuals engaged in the process of discernment for the position of Bishop. The process was diligent, careful, open and respectful. I have no hesitancy in honoring both the process and the outcome.

I am aware that some questions have surfaced since the discernment regarding Kevin Thew Forrester's orthodoxy. I have known and worked closely with Kevin for over a decade and I am convinced that he is a person of strong Christian faith, a thoughtful theologian, and a voice of advocacy for baptismal ministry which is much needed in the Church. In my opinion, he will have no difficulty as a bishop guarding the faith and unity of the church.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Caldwell', written in a cursive style.

Bruce Caldwell  
Bishop of Wyoming