

**Special Diocesan Convention  
St. Stephen's Church  
Escanaba**

**February 21, 2009\***  
beginning with Holy Eucharist  
at 10:00 a.m. EST

\* In the event of inclement weather, the Convention will convene on February 28 (if needed March 7 will be the third date).

Each congregation is entitled to four delegates. Delegate names (and \$10 registration fee, including lunch, for each) are due in the diocesan office by February 7. Visitors are welcome to attend.

In accordance with the Canons of the Diocese, each ballot will be counted in two ways: two-thirds of all votes cast and a simple majority of all delegations present.

**Episcopal Ministry  
Discernment Team**

Dawn Aldrich (Sault Ste. Marie)  
Marci Altmaier (DeTour)  
Nancy Auer (Calumet)  
Judy Britton (Little Lake)  
Cathy Clark (Ishpeming)  
Robert Flaminio (Gladstone)  
Susan Harries (Sault Ste. Marie)  
Mary Johnson (Iron Mountain)  
Bill Kangas (Ishpeming)  
Kathy Lenten (Negaunee)  
Marion Luckey (Munising)  
Warren Maki (Crystal Falls)  
Al Pieper (Crystal Falls)  
Charlie Piper (Iron Mountain & Menominee)  
Rayford Ray (South Central Region)  
Suzanne Ray (Gladstone)  
David Simmons (Escanaba)  
Sharon Stenglein (Harvey)  
Mary Sullivan (Marquette)  
Robert Trautman (Newberry)  
Kristen Zerbst (Houghton)

# Announcing the discernment results for the Episcopal Ministry Support Team & Bishop / Ministry Developer

Meeting for the final time on January 17th, the Episcopal Ministry Discernment Team completed its discernment of the new Episcopal Ministry Support Team, including a Bishop/Ministry Developer. The names of the team will be brought before the Special Diocesan Convention for affirmation (election) on Saturday, February 21, 2009 at St. Stephen's Church, Escanaba, beginning at 10:00 a.m. EST (see details below). The discerned names are:

**Ministry Developers:**

Manuel Padilla  
Charlie Piper  
Rayford Ray

**Bishop/Ministry Developer:**

Kevin Thew Forrester

**Regional Representatives:**

Jim Heikkila (Western)  
Kathy Lenten (North Central)  
Susan Harries (Eastern)  
Gin Mannisto (South Central)

**Diocesan Operations Coordinator:**

Jane Cislucyis

**At Large Members:**

TBA

The discernment process began with the October 2007 Diocesan Convention where the diocese looked closely at its identity, values and vision. The conversation continued in each congregation and resulted in a clear direction for what followed.

The Episcopal Ministry Discernment Team was formed in early 2008 with twenty-one members, including four members from each region and representatives of the Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, and the Core Team. Two additional members were appointed by the Standing Committee to insure as broad a representation of the diocesan family as possible. Jo Gantzer (Diocese of Michigan) served as the team's companion who, along with three outside "reflectors," kept the team focused and informed. The "reflectors" were Bruce Caldwell (Diocese of Wyoming), Tom Ely (Diocese of Vermont), and Fredrica Harris Thompsett (retired professor, Episcopal Divinity School).

The Discernment Team was charged with adapting the discovery (discernment) process used in most congregations throughout the diocese to form a covenant group. The team's decision to present a single name for bishop/ministry developer—along with the names of the EMST—was firmly supported by the October 2008 Diocesan Convention which focused much of its time and attention on the unfolding discernment process.

Assuming the affirmation of the Special Convention and the satisfactory completion of the consent process, the Commissioning of the Team – including the ordination of the Bishop/Ministry Developer – will take place on October 17, 2009 in Marquette.

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## ◆ Members of the Episcopal



### Jane Cislucyis

Born and raised in St. Louis and a graduate of NMU (Media Studies and Communication), she has lived in the UP since 1995. She hosts and produces folk programming on public radio.

She began working part-time for the Diocese in May of 1996 and full-time in 2004 as Diocesan Operations Coordinator and member of Core Team. She and her husband, Bob, live in Marquette and have two children.



### Kathy Lenten

Resident of Negaunee Township for most of her life, she currently is Senior Warden and Outreach Coordinator at St. John's Church, Negaunee, Secretary of the North Central Region, Parish Administrator of St. Paul's Church, Marquette, and member of the Episcopal Ministry Discernment Team. She is involved in a wide variety of community activities. She and her husband, Jack, are the parents of three children.

Resident in the diocese since his ordination in 1972, he currently serves as Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Iron Mountain (since 1979) and Ministry Developer at Grace Church, Menominee (since 1989). Member of the Core Team, *LifeCycles* design team and EMDT. A native of New York, he graduated from the General Theological Seminary (New York). He and his wife, Linda, have two adult sons who live in Colorado.



### Charlie Piper

Resident in the diocese since 2001, he has been Ministry Development Coordinator, Ministry Developer/Rector of St. Paul's Church, Marquette, and St. John's Church, Negaunee, and, most recently, Eastern Region Interim MD. Primary leadership in the development of *LifeCycles*, member of Comm. on Ministry and Core Team. Ph. D in Moral Theology and a certified Enneagram teacher. He and his wife, Rise, have two children.



### Kevin Thew Forrester

Resident in the diocese since 2001, he has been Ministry Development Coordinator, Ministry Developer/Rector of St. Paul's Church, Marquette, and St. John's Church, Negaunee, and, most recently, Eastern Region Interim MD. Primary leadership in the development of *LifeCycles*, member of Comm. on Ministry and Core Team. Ph. D in Moral Theology and a certified Enneagram teacher. He and his wife, Rise, have two children.

Retired Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve (final duty station at Sault Ste. Marie) and is currently a paraeducator. Member of the Ministry Support Team of St. James Church, Sault Ste. Marie (Education Coord., Presbyter and Preacher). Member of the Youth Planning Group, EMDT, and spiritual director at summer camp. Variety of community service (Red Cross Volunteer). She and her husband, Rick, have 2 grown children, and 3 grandsons.



### Susan Harries

Retired from the Keweenaw County Road Commission after 39 years. A graduate of Michigan College of Mining and Technology, Jim has served on a variety of state and local boards, including as Treasurer and President of the Calumet-Laurium-Keweenaw School Board and various County Commissions. He is Senior Warden of Christ Church, Calumet, a member of the Western Region Board, and lives in Mohawk.

Involvement in the diocese in a variety of ways, including Page Conference Center and as a Community Organizer at KI Sawyer. Member of the Ministry Support Team at St. John's Church, Munising, Team Missioner at St. James the Less, Harvey, and member of the Core Team. She is a Certified Nurses Assistant at the Marquette Medical Care Facility. She and her husband, Chuck, live in Chatham. She has two grown children.



### Gin Mannisto

Companion with the congregations of the South Central Region as Ministry Developer since 1990 (also currently Eastern Region Interim MD). Member of the Core Team (liaison with the Standing Comm.), Justice and Peace Comm., *LifeCycles* design team, chair of General Convention Deputation, and EMDT. Graduate of Nashotah House Seminary. He and his wife, Suzanne, live in Rapid River and have three sons and one grandchild.



### Rayford Ray

The diocese has embraced the concept of an **Episcopal Ministry Support Team** (EMST). The EMST is our vision of a form of leadership that encompasses the gifts and skills of a diverse group of people that will work collaboratively to guide and support the mission and ministry of the people of God in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan. This will provide the setting for a broadly collaborative approach to supporting apostolic ministry in the diocese.

As envisioned, the support team will replace the current Core Team and will be made-up of ten to twelve people, including the ministry developers (and Bishop/Ministry Developer), the diocesan operations coordinator, regional representatives and at-large members (yet to be named). There has been an attempt to balance the number of compensated and non-compensated members. In addition to a time of formation modeled on the covenant group process, there will be an ongoing evaluation of the team leading to a "second generation" in three to five years.



### Jim Heikkila

A native of New Jersey, he has been Ministry Developer for the Western Region since 1988. He graduated from Seabury-Western Seminary. Member of Core Team, Commission on Ministry (chair), and Ecclesiastical Court. He is Living Stones Coordinator and Deployment Officer for the diocese. He and his wife, Peggy, live in Crystal Falls and have two grown daughters and five grandchildren.

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### Manuel Padilla

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## Ministry Support Team ◆

### "Meet the Team"

Friday evening before the  
Special Diocesan Convention  
7:30–8:30 p.m. EST  
St. Stephen's Church, Escanaba

Join us for refreshments and an informal opportunity to get to know those who have been discerned for the Episcopal Ministry Support Team.