



UP Update

Diocese of Northern Michigan

February 17, 2010

Bishop Search Committee Formed

The diocese has chosen an 11-member committee to guide the search for our next bishop.

The members are: Mary Sullivan and Gladys Dompierre from the North Central region, Carol Clark and Kim Moote from the South Central region, Warren Maki and Leonard DeWitt from the Western region, Pam Finkel and Phil Schaffer from the Eastern region, Pat Micklow for Diocesan Council, Arlene Gordanier of the Standing Committee and Ministry Developer Charlie Piper.

“The Standing Committee was committed to having a search committee that is representative of our diocese’s geography and diversity,” said Linda Piper, chair of the Standing Committee. “With this committee, we have achieved that goal. We are grateful to all of its members for agreeing to serve.”

The Search Committee will meet twice a month in a central location, most likely Escanaba or Negaunee, for at least nine months beginning in February. The Standing Committee has suggested the following calendar for the search:

- Deadline for submission of names: May 2010
- Interviews and visits: August –September 2010

- Announcement of candidates: October 2010
- Election: November 2010
- Ordination: Spring 2011

The Search Committee’s regional representatives were chosen after extensive consultation. Members of each congregation discussed potential search committee candidates with their congregational representatives, and identified up to two candidates per congregation. Congregational representatives then met by region to discuss and vote on the names brought forth.

The Diocesan Council and Standing Committee followed a similar process, discussing potential candidates at an initial meeting and then electing a representative one month later.

In October 2009, the diocesan convention had given the Standing Committee the authority to appoint additional members to the committee to insure that it was representative of the diocese. The Standing Committee named Charlie Piper, who was chosen in order to ensure that the Search Committee included a ministry developer.

Diocesan Prayer for Episcopal Search Process

God of infinite possibilities and limitless compassion, open our eyes to see your hand at work among us and despite us: guide our diocese as we move forward in trust and tranquility; give to the Episcopal Search Committee calm hearts, steady wills, and wisdom born of love; and grant us patience and peace, that we may remain faithful on this journey to live into our calling as your servant people. We ask this in the name of your Son. Amen.