

# Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan



## Missioner Search 2024

# About Us

The [Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan](#) is geographically located in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan (with a few outlying islands).

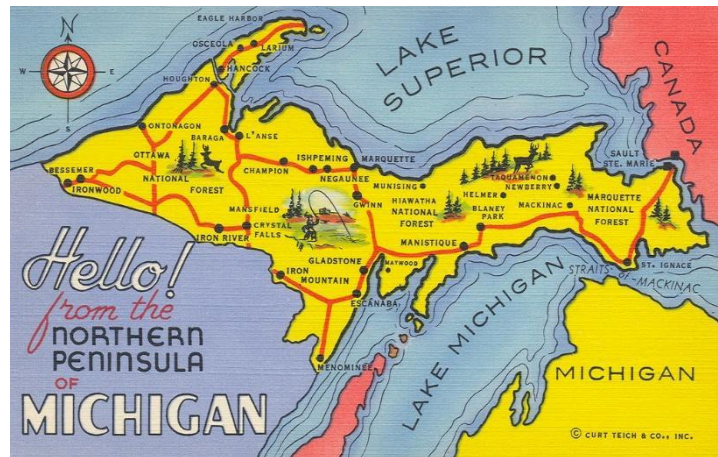
We have 21 congregations, 4 branches of U.P. Wild, 2 Campus Ministries, a weekly online worshiping community, and a monthly dinner church, called Breaking Bread.

As a diocese, we are structured around a model of shared ministry. For more than 30 years, our congregations have engaged in local discernment, formation, and ministry, with Missioners supporting the work of local teams.

Our diocese is especially committed to issues of Care for Creation, LGBTQ+ inclusion, Racial Healing & Reconciliation, especially with our neighboring Indigenous Communities, and other areas of social justice.

Most faith communities in our diocese engage in shared ministry/mutual ministry, with local leaders who have been called and formed, commissioned and some ordained, creating ministering communities rather than communities centered around a minister.

As a grouping of small communities, we truly rely on the gifts of all, with collaborative ministry at the core of our being. Some of our communities operate as “vestry of the whole,” meaning all voices are valued in our community and we make decisions by consensus. While other communities maintain a more traditional structure with vestry elections and oversight.



# The Role of the Missioner

Missioners serve as companions, visionaries, educators, and facilitators on diocesan staff. We are looking for someone to join our team of missioners who is hope-filled, adventurous, and faithful and who embraces a theology of abundance rather than scarcity.

The Missioner will support ministry at the local level by participating in a plan for ongoing congregational ministry development, functioning as a resource person and teacher, and ensuring regular congregational, sacramental and mutual care.

Shared leadership, marked by an ever-widening circle of inclusion, focuses on the (daily) baptismal ministry of all. The Missioner supports and encourages local leaders, helping with visioning and liturgical planning as well as missional engagement in the individual congregations and at the broader level. A large part of the work will also be in supporting the discernment of others in ministry.

The Missioner will be actively engaged in the life of the diocese, including planning and attending events, regular diocesan team meetings, and formation opportunities. The Missioner will serve as a liaison between the diocesan structure and local communities of faith.



# Who We Are Seeking as a Missioner

The Diocese of Northern Michigan has a rich history of innovative, collaborative ministry. We are not looking for a Missioner to come in and save us. We are truly looking for a companion, a visionary, a hope-filled, adventurous, faithful soul who embraces a theology of abundance rather than scarcity.

Called to be a companion, a guide and a mentor we seek someone with experience and giftedness in formation and teaching. The ideal person will have a strong commitment to mutual care and respect for all in community, recognizing the gifts and contributions of all. We seek someone gifted in worship planning, open to creative liturgical expression.

We see great hope and life in our community and we believe we have a part to play in that. We choose life over death and we are seeking someone with a positive perspective who believes in new life, even if it means letting go of some of our old ways.



# Living in Marquette County

Why would you want to live in Marquette County?

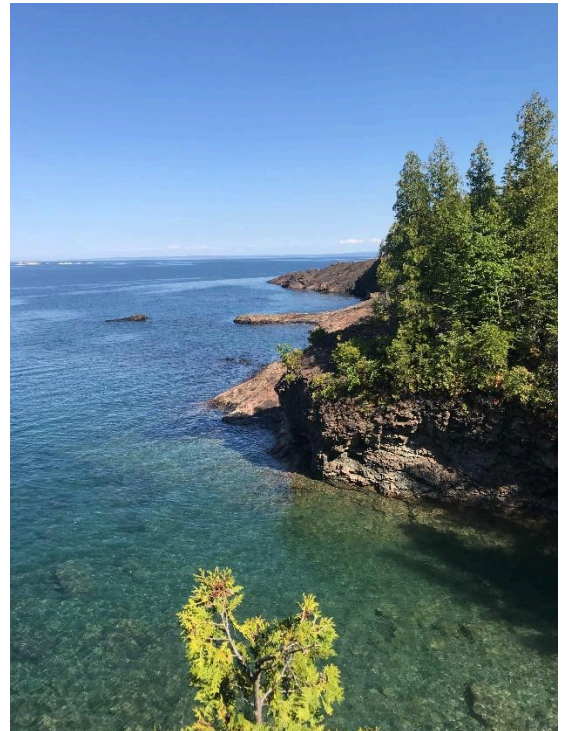
- #1 of 10 Underrated U.S. Adventure Destinations – Upper Peninsula (Yahoo Travel)
- Best Paddling Towns - Marquette (Canoe & Kayak)
- #5 Best Small Town Cultural Scene, 2024 - Marquette (USA Today)
- #8 Best Small City in America – Marquette (NerdWallet)
- #23 Best Place for Millennial Job Seekers in the Midwest – Marquette (NerdWallet)
- #10 Best Place for Young Families – Ishpeming (NerdWallet)
- 25 Best Places to Travel in 2015 – Marquette (Gear Patrol – The Adventure List)

Marquette County has a population of 67,676, with the entire Upper Peninsula Population being 296,600. Located on the beautiful shores of Lake Superior, Marquette has an abundance of areas to explore and enjoy a deep connection to creation.

Cold weather activities include hockey, skiing, snowmobiling, and ice fishing, while in the spring and summer we enjoy mountain biking, hiking, camping, and kayaking. The Iron Ore Heritage Trail is a beloved asset. The geography of our area is stunning and we truly feel blessed by our environment, though winters are very harsh and long (with up to 250 inches of snow!).

Marquette County is an active area with a wide variety of arts, outdoor recreation, and cultural opportunities for a small community. Because it is geographically isolated, the area promotes a strong sense of community. Indigenous communities are an important part of the heritage and daily life of the area.

Economically, the area is a mix between local businesses and larger corporations. Tourism industry in the summer is particularly strong. Because Marquette has a four-year university (Northern Michigan University) and a regional medical center, it has more amenities than most communities its size. We have a blend of traditional extractive industries like mining and logging as well as industries like academia, health care, and small business. Marquette has a revitalized downtown full of locally owned restaurants and businesses.



<p><b>Distance to Larger Cities</b> Green Bay, WI: 177 miles Milwaukee, WI: 294 miles Chicago, IL: 384 miles Minneapolis, MN: 392 miles Detroit, MI: 455 miles</p>
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# What We Can Offer You

- You will work alongside communities of committed followers of Jesus who will partner with you in this ministry
- An amazing group of colleagues
- Warm hospitality and deep care
- Direct communication and a willingness to work together to find consensus
- Open minds and hearts
- Financial assistance with moving expenses
- A base salary of \$77,000 with diocesan automobile, cell phone, premium health insurance, pension with Church Pension Group
- \$1500 support for Continuing Education
- 4 weeks (5 Sundays) paid vacation

## Next Steps & Timeline

- Please send resume and cover letter to Steve Godfrey at [sgodfrey@upepiscopal.org](mailto:sgodfrey@upepiscopal.org)
- Applications will be received until September 9, 2024