

Name: Kimberly I. Meinecke

Current Position: Vicar, St. David's Episcopal Church, Spokane, WA

Congregation Membership: Salem Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA

Ordination Date: August 17, 2002

Previous Positions:

- Interim Ministry for the Northwest Intermountain Synod (formerly the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod):
- Immanuel, Boise, ID (2015-16); Trinity Bonners Ferry, ID (2013-2014); Messiah, Spokane, WA (2011-12); Christ the King, Goldendale, WA (2002)
- Mission Development with the Northwest Intermountain Synod (formerly the Eastern Washington Idaho Synod): Love of God, West Richland, WA (2012-13)
- Pastor, Christ the King, Goldendale, WA (2002-2010)
- Interim Pastor, Gloria Dei, Knoxville, TN (2001)



Education and Earned Degrees:

- Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, 1997-1999, Certificate of Studies
- The University of Chicago, Divinity School, 1993-1997, Masters of Divinity
- St. Olaf College, 1988-1992, Bachelor of Arts in Social Work

List up to five current or past synod or churchwide activities that would inform your service as bishop of this synod:

- Coach with Faithful Innovations
- Synod Council, At Large Position (6-year term)
- Synod representative on Lutheran Ecumenical Resource Network
- Synod committee member and chair of committee, Byberg Preaching Conference
- Intentional Interim pastor in six congregations (four in this synod)

List up to five current or past community-related activities that would inform your service as bishop of this synod:

- Board member and part of fundraising team of Spokane Alliance
- Member of Foundation Board of Episcopal Diocese of Spokane
- Mentor for new clergy (Episcopal Diocese of Spokane)
- College for Congregational Development
- Community participant in Horizons (building community strength to overcome poverty in the area)

What gifts would you bring to the office of bishop of this synod?

Each day, I am deeply rooted in the love of Jesus, the grace of God, and the life of the Spirit. The promise of God fills me with joy. As I begin each day, I remember my baptism and strive to live in the Baptismal Covenant with God. Trusting in the Spirit, I am curious, ask questions, and wonder. I continue to learn about and practice being a healthy leader. This has included studying and being coached in Compassionate Communication and Bowen Family Systems Theory, specifically as it functions in congregations. I practice healthy leadership in congregations in places I have served as a called pastor and as an Interim. I come with training and experience as a coach (individuals or teams), including in the area of stewardship. Additionally, I bring ecumenical perspective and experience; for the past seven years, I have served in full communion partnership in the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane. Finally, I have a "big picture" perspective, and am not afraid of administrative details.

What do you see as the principal challenge to this synod in the next six years, and how would you address it?

One of the ongoing principal challenges to the Northwest Intermountain Synod is Financial Stability and Sustainability. Of course, there are a number of other challenges which face our congregations, ministries, and synod, but this one is core to our viability and thriving. Because it is often also a challenge in congregations, I am aware of the significant anxiety any talk of money and finances may expose. Yet, this is a place to practice trust in God's providence, abundance, and generosity. To address this challenge, I would take a multi-pronged approach: create opportunity to learn about and talk about our faith-filled relationship with God and with money; to create and challenge the synod to begin funding an endowment for staffing, and to strengthen the connections between congregations and within the synod.

Describe your leadership style.

My leadership style is marked by learning, curiosity, and building consensus. I strive to be collaborative by hearing and understanding the perspectives of others, particularly those which may be overlooked. I deeply appreciate, respect, and am grateful for the work of others. In this ever-changing culture, I am also looking to be creative, adaptive, and innovative when possible; and empower those with whom I work to take risks and experiment. My style is also joyful and fun, centered in the love and joy of God's presence among us.