

As many of you know, +Bishop Jay Lambert retired as Bishop of Eau Claire at the end of 2020. In November of 2020 +Bishop Matthew Gunter of the Diocese of Fond du Lac was called to serve as Bishop Provisional for a period of 2 years. The Diocese is now in the process of exploring what will happen at the end of those two years. As a first step in that process, +Bishop Gunter has called a leadership meeting in September to begin a Trialogue between the three Wisconsin Dioceses of the Episcopal Church--Fond du Lac, Eau Claire and Milwaukee (who also recently called a Bishop Provisional, +Bishop Lee). Please know this does not mean anything specific yet for our Diocese other than the beginning of discernment. We will continue to share updates and information when it is available. Included below is a media release from the Diocese. If you have any questions please contact Mother Meghan. Please keep the three Dioceses in your prayers.

August 18, 2021

## Media Release

### Episcopal Dioceses in Wisconsin Begin Trialogue

Three Episcopal dioceses share a heritage of nearly 200 years after the Oneida brought the Episcopal Church to Wisconsin. Ministry and congregations were developed under the leadership of Bishop Jackson Kemper as missionary and diocesan bishop. More recently, the three dioceses worked cooperatively by co-hosting conferences, clergy gatherings and several other events.

The Milwaukee, Fond du Lac and Eau Claire dioceses have announced they are beginning to explore ways to deepen cooperation and coordination with each bishop and governing body providing their support. Each diocese is experiencing challenges of being the church in the 21st century while adapting to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

An initial leadership meeting will take place in September to discuss how congregations across Wisconsin might work more closely to best serve the witness and mission of the Episcopal Church. The focus will be how to be the body of Christ in this place and time. The meeting will consider how to best engage lay and ordained members of each diocese in future conversations.

The prayers of the Church and its members are asked to support this process.