

Petition Candidate Application

Instructions

As outlined in the Petition Process for the Election of the First Bishop Diocesan (available at greatlakesepiscopal.org/bishop-search/petition), submit the following materials to standingcommittee@greatlakesepiscopal.org no later than **11:59 p.m. ET on Wednesday, August 5, 2026**:

- this form, signed (see reverse) to indicate willingness to be nominated and authorize the conduct of all required background checks,
- current résumé,
- call letter (written statement outlining what calls the applicant to apply as a petition candidate for this position along with their strengths and growing edges),
- current Vocation Hub profile,
- the names, email addresses, and phone numbers for three references (ecclesiastical authority, colleague in ministry, and lay person),
- links to two of the applicant's sermons,
- written responses to the prompts below,
- a completed signature page (available at the above-listed URL) for each of the required seven (7) clergy member and seven (7) lay member petitioners.

Prompts

1. The Diocese of the Great Lakes encompasses remarkable diversity—geographic (from Lake Huron to southern Lake Michigan), cultural (multiple languages and traditions), socioeconomic, and theological. Yet we are called to be one Body of Christ. Describe a time when you have led or participated in ministry that brought together diverse communities while honoring their distinct gifts and identities. How did you navigate the tension between unity and particularity?
2. Episcopal ministry demands both tender pastoral care and sophisticated institutional stewardship, especially in a complex diocese with diverse perspectives, parish sizes and ministries. How have you maintained spiritual groundedness while exercising administrative responsibility? Share a specific example of how you have integrated prayer and discernment with practical decision-making in a leadership role. What sustains you spiritually in the demands of institutional ministry?
3. Jesus prayed “that they may all be one” (John 17:21), yet he also sent disciples out “two by two” (Mark 6:7) to serve in their particular contexts. The Diocese of the Great Lakes includes parishes that are geographically distant and culturally distinct, each with unique ministries and challenges, yet all called to be part of one diocesan family. Describe your experience building connection and collaboration across differences—whether geographic, cultural, theological, or institutional. How have you strengthened relationships while respecting autonomy? Share a specific example of how you have helped separate communities or organizations discover shared mission without losing their distinctive identities.

Willingness to be Nominated, Background Check Authorization

I, _____, affirm my willingness to be nominated as a
Printed Name
petition candidate to stand for election as the first bishop diocesan of the Episcopal Diocese of the
Great Lakes and authorize the conduct of all background checks required of applicants.

Signed

Date