

## Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Bishop Nominee Biographical Information



**Name:** Peggy L. Harvey-Marose

**Current Position:** Pastor

**Congregation Membership:** Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lewiston, Idaho

**Date of Ordination:** October 22, 1999

*List up to five (5) community, synodical, or Churchwide activities that would shape your call as bishop of this synod.*

- 1) Transformational Ministry Team, EWA-ID Synod 2015-present
- 2) Free Community Dinner, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lewiston, ID 2015-present
- 3) Member, Revitalizing Congregations Mission Table, EWA-ID Synod 2010-2015
- 4) Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Mission and Leadership (2008-2013) - Luther Seminary
- 5) ELCA Youth Gatherings (2009, 2012, 2015) as congregational chaperone and volunteer

*What is the essence of the promises you made at the time of your ordination, and how would you seek to fulfill those promises in your ministry if elected Bishop? (150 words max)*

I promised to trust in God's call, to view the Christian life through a Lutheran lens, and to be a public witness to what God has done through Jesus Christ. As a bishop, I would fulfill these promises in the same way as I have as a pastor only through different responsibilities. Serving the church as bishop, is a calling the same as any ministry. The emphasis of that service is determined by our historical Lutheran experience while adapting to the contemporary experience. We serve the Living Word and the church, in every expression, is a living, breathing witness to that Word. It is the work of loving God, neighbor, and self, going where called, and making disciples where you are. Above all, I trust that whatever happens, wherever I go, and whatever my ministry duties are, I am not alone! God and the Body of Christ (the church) will accompany me. I couldn't do it any other way.

*Describe your spiritual life and the way you prepare for ministry each day. How do you maintain spiritual focus and integrity? (150 words max).*

My spiritual life is grounded in prayer, meditation, and reflection. I begin each day with a period of silence in which I practice centering prayer, read spiritual writings and scripture, practice intercessory prayer, and exercise. This daily grounding keeps me focused on my calling as a child of God and as an ordained minister. I find this particularly true when my schedule is full and I am running from one task or meeting to another. It is important to have time for reflection -- a time when the mind is at rest and the many pieces of my life can come together. While individual quiet time is important for me, it is also important to meet with colleagues and my spiritual director. With their help, I can discover where I might need course adjustments to continue my life of faith and my role as a pastor.

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*What, in your opinion, is the measure of great leadership, and in what ways do you either achieve or aspire to achieve this standard? (150 words max).*

The measure of great leadership is the results. I don't mean in a numbers game or as measured by the world. Great leadership creates an environment in which those involved are encouraged to be creative and dream dreams and in which everyone feels welcome to participate in a discussion regardless of their differing opinions. It is admitting when mistakes are made and dealing with the consequences. It is knowing when to get out of the way of the Holy Spirit. It is being willing to make changes especially when it is difficult. It is allowing others to learn and grow in their leadership. And it is knowing when a decisive decision must be made and making it. I have never achieved this, but I am learning, growing, and trying to be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit. Some days I am better at this than others, but I am always a work in progress.

*What is your leadership style? (150 words max).*

My leadership style is collaborative. I want to create a fruitful work environment that encourages individuals to challenge themselves and grow. I temper this with compassion. Each individual is at a different place in his or her growth as a child of God and as a member of a community. I will press hard when I believe it is necessary and pull back when I believe there is need for time and reflection. I am strategic in my leadership and I take the long view. Circumstances may not be what I want in the present, but I will continue to work toward that goal. I seek new, creative ways of dealing with issues. I try to look at situations from different perspectives to see things in a new way. When I believe in something, I am stubborn and will stick with it even when it seems hopeless. Above all, it's not about me! It is about God! What a relief!