

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## MINISTRY DISCERNMENT TEAM

The Diocesan Ministry Discernment Team is composed of lay and ordained volunteers who guide the diocesan discernment process, make recommendations to the Bishop, and serve in the role of mentoring chaplain (one on one) as a friend and mentor who walks alongside those who are discerning their call. Mentoring chaplains assist individuals on their journey in discerning the type of ministry to which they are called, and can act as a support for decision making.

In the past two and a half years, the Team has:

- Conducted two Ministry Discernment Weekends (for those discerning their call) at Bethlehem Centre in Nanaimo.
- Enhanced the set of questions used by assessors at the Ministry Discernment Weekend.
- Developed a Ministry Discernment Toolkit to help explain and clarify the discernment process in the Diocese. The Toolkit can be found on the Diocesan website.
- Discussed the importance of clearer direction on the theological educational expectations of the Diaconate.
- Discussed applying to the Educational Trust for funding to support those discerning the Diaconate.
- Discussed lay ministry and how it relates to the “lay ministry & leadership formation” vision implementation team.

In the coming year the Team will be working on:

- A new, more detailed process for ministry discernment in our Diocese.
- A new process for assessing candidates, that doesn’t necessarily include an in-person weekend event.

Challenges for the Team include a clearer understanding by potential candidates and clergy about the steps in the discernment process, timelines and expectations.

The work of the Ministry Discernment Team directly relates to the Faith in Formation part of our Vision. We celebrate and lift up the ministry of all the baptized and equip and enable both lay and ordained leaders to exercise their gifts for the benefit of all.

Members of the Team are:

Joy Adams Bauer (chair)  
Rev Wally Eamer  
Barbara Holt  
Rev MJ Lewis-Kirk  
Janice Varga  
Rev Cathie Hall  
Rev Ruth Dantzer  
Rev Alastair Hunting  
Jude Chillman (secretary)

Respectfully submitted by:  
Joy Adams Bauer, Chair

