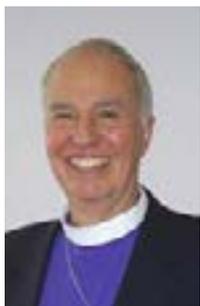




A Short History of ECMN

The history of the ECMN begins in the early 1800's in the wilderness and is tied to the Dakota and Ojibwe nations. Our first bishop, The Rt. Rev. Henry B. Whipple, had a 42 year-tenure and was known as a strong advocate for indigenous peoples through conflicted and troubled times. Minnesota became a state in 1858, and we have since had eight bishops and changed our name from the Diocese of Minnesota to the Episcopal Church in Minnesota (ECMN) to signify a new identity as a network of faith communities. In the mid-to-late 1800s, three schools, including a seminary, were founded, as was the Sheltering Arms Foundation for homeless children. We ordained our first woman priest in 1974. To better serve remote areas, a lay-clergy Team Ministry model was adopted in the 1940s and continues today in urban areas as well. Our history includes multiple forms of outreach, including support for youth through camps, retreats, and mission trips. For more go to <https://episcopalmn.org/a-brief-history-of-ecmn>.

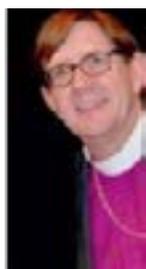
The Last Three Bishops of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota



Robert Marshall Anderson was consecrated the seventh bishop of Minnesota in 1978 and served until 1993. Among his many accomplishments, the Episcopal House of Prayer was designed and built at the invitation of the Benedictine Monks from St. John's University on the University campus in Collegeville, Minnesota. This spirit-filled facility for meetings and spiritual retreats is still in use today. At the time of his death in 2011, then-Presidenting Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori said of Bishop Anderson that he "was a leader in developing effective responses to sexual misconduct," and "was a tireless advocate for Native Americans throughout his ministry."



James Louis Jelinek was consecrated the eighth Bishop of Minnesota in 1993 at the Abbey Church at St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. During his 17-year episcopate, Spanish-speaking and Hmong ministries and Team Ministry programs were begun and have multiplied today. In addition, Bishop Jelinek instituted the Bishop's Commission on Mission Strategy resulting in a number of changes within in the Diocese of Minnesota. New offices were purchased on Clifton Place to provide space for the Bishop's staff and affiliated programs.



Brian Norman Prior, consecrated the ninth Bishop of Minnesota in 2010, is our current bishop. He has placed special emphasis on growing programs for youth and young adults and establishing a network of faith communities encouraged to engage God's mission in the world. During his tenure, the diocese was formally renamed the Episcopal Church in Minnesota (ECMN) and reorganized into seven Mission Areas. The Trustees forgave property loans of close to 1.2 million dollars, and seed-project grants, called Missional Innovative Partnerships were created to encourage faith communities to concentrate on mission by partnering with neighboring organizations. The School for Formation was created to offer local courses and workshops for ordination. Bishop

Prior authorized the creation of the ECMN Retreat Center in partnership with Shattuck-Saint Mary's School in Faribault, which developed an inn on the historic campus. In 2017, the offices on Clifton Place were sold to the White Earth Nation, and a three-story building in North Minneapolis was purchased and refurbished (without mortgage) as the new central offices for the Episcopal Church in Minnesota. In addition to space for the ECMN offices, this provides office or meeting space for faith groups and community organizations.



A Short History of ECMN

Bishops of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

- I. Henry Benjamin Whipple (1859-1901)
- II. Samuel Cook Edsall (1901-1917)
- III. Frank Arthur McElwain (1917-1943)
- IV. Stephen Edwards Keller (1943-1956)
- V. Hamilton Hyde Kellogg (1956-1971)
- VI. Philip Frederick McNairy (1971-1978)
- VII. Robert Marshall Anderson (1978-1993)
- VIII. James Louis Jelinek (1993-2010)
- IX. Brian Norman Prior (2010-2020)
- X. Your Name Here (2020-?)