

# ECMN **The Work of ECMN Deacons**

The Episcopal Church in Minnesota has forty-nine active deacons serving in thirty-eight faith communities. Deacons in the ECMN serve as a bridge between churches and their neighborhoods by engaging the gifts of the people with the needs of the world. Deacons encourage, foster, and organize many ministries, including: feeding the hungry in parish kitchens and through food shelves; serving the homeless; advocating for housing; protesting against gun violence and advocating for

gun control; and working directly with immigrants to furnish their homes, assist in finding work, and improve their literacy skills. In 2016 Bishop Prior formed the Commission for the Diaconate, a networking resource for ECMN Deacons. Sixty percent of the active deacons in ECMN were ordained in the last six years.



The Rev. Rena Turnham,  
Deacon of Community Engagement  
St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Minneapolis



Blessing of the Animals  
St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church, White Bear Lake