



August 18, 2022

Dear Co-workers in Pastoral Ministry,

I am happy to introduce myself to you as the new chair of the APM Board. I have been blessed to work in ministry for nearly 16 years, 3 of them in pastoral care. I am the Director of Pastoral Care & Communication at Church of St. Michael in Farmington and blessed to work with wonderful people at the parish and with APM.

Last year we were hopeful in our year of **“Emerging Together.”** For the most part, I think we have emerged, at least from the worst of the ordeal that had consumed us for too long. We do, however, tread lightly in all situations as we walk **“Pathways to Healing & Wholeness.”**

We are excited for the events that we have planned for our **“Pathways to Healing & Wholeness.”** Wisdom and Wonder will continue as a virtual gathering & share on pertinent topics. We also have wonderful speakers scheduled to present in person so we can gather for reflection as well as social time together. We hope that you will join us for all of it.

If you are like me, these last few years brought changes to our parishes, our staffs, and even our jobs. I know I have taken on more tasks at the parish, as I am sure many of you have as well. It is in our busiest of times that we need each other the most. The support and friendship that I experience at our gatherings is one of the reasons that I make it a priority to gather with APM members for our events, retreat, and banquet each year. It is time that can be difficult to take away from the office, but it is always time that I am glad that I took. Not only for myself and also for you, my fellow APM members who I am glad I got to spend time with. We have all heard it before, it is important for us to care for ourselves so that we can better care for others and do God’s good work, so I hope that you will make it priority to join us at our programs this year.

A couple of years ago, after I had attended my first APM event, I got a call from one of the board members, whom I now consider a friend, asking if I would be interested in joining the board and helping to shape the programming and offerings. I was reluctant at first because I wasn’t sure I had the time. I am so glad that I said yes. Not only do I get to help provide opportunities for ministers to better themselves and gather together, but I have formed wonderful friendships as well. I invite you to prayerfully consider joining us in any one of the open positions on the board: Co-Chair, Secretary, Hospitality Committee, & Spirituality Committee.

I hope that you will join us on the **“Pathways to Healing & Wholeness”** with your membership to APM. The benefits are worth much more than the information sheet can state. Consider having a parish membership and extending the benefits to your volunteers-they will thank you for it! You will see on the Save the Date card that our first program is already coming up in September. I hope to see you there!

Blessings,

Jennifer Schneider, APM Chair 2022-2023  
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