



July 2024

Dear friends in Pastoral Ministry,

The Association of Pastoral Ministers (APM) begins a new season as we explore our **Ministry of Hope** and join together in reflection and prayer with Pope Francis who will officially open the Jubilee Year “*Pilgrims of Hope*” in December 2024.

As chair of the APM board it is my privilege to invite you to renew or become a member of this professional organization and participate in one or more of our offerings throughout the year. If you are not currently serving as pastoral minister, perhaps you have a lay ecclesial minister, deacon, religious sister or brother, or parish nurse who is either full or part time and serves in the pastoral care ministry? *Please* invite them to join us as members of APM as this is a valuable opportunity for spiritual and professional growth. We offer individual, student, or parish memberships and scholarships are available. (*see membership brochure*)

We will start our new season with a networking social at the Urban Growler, 2325 Endicott Street, St. Paul on Tuesday, August 20th from 3-5pm. Several joined together last year for this social and found that this is a great opportunity for new and old members to gather to learn more about APM, converse about pastoral related topics, and connect with other ministers.

Each summer the APM board meets, listens, reflects and then plans for the new season. As we reflect on **Ministry of Hope** we will offer afternoon presentations, a retreat day, and banquet—where we present the Mary Mulheron award to a current lay ecclesial minister who is a member of APM and is nominated by a current member of APM. We invite you to consider who you might nominate for this award. In addition, we will also be partnering with the Center for Mission to bring you and your parish colleagues a day rooted in hope, we certainly could all use that! Throughout the year we’ll explore this theme, and you, your parish colleagues, and volunteers are most welcome to join us! By the way, you can find us on-line at: apmspm.org and on Facebook- “Association of Pastoral Ministers”.

Thank you for sending in your membership as soon as possible. I look forward to meeting with you for prayer, reflection, learning, laughter, and friendship. The board is still in need of a few additional committee representatives including Chair Elect—How is the Spirit calling you?

“May the power of hope fill your days” - Pope Francis

Blessings in your ministry,

Barb Uschold Anderson, APM Chair 2024-2025

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