



Contact:
Jo Ann Hardy
313-833-4422
jhardy@edomi.org

Episcopal Bishop Bonnie Perry Calls for Support of Transgender People as Part of Celebrating Pride Month

DETROIT, Mich., June 15, 2023 — The Rt. Rev. Dr. Bonnie A. Perry said the Episcopal Church is standing behind transgender people as they face a national wave of anti-trans legislation.

Perry, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan, called attention to the more than 500 bills circulating in 49 states that target transgender rights in healthcare, education and other areas in a [video statement](#) released this week celebrating Pride Month.

“Any of us who are transgender, who know folks who are transgender, who are parents of transgender kids — we know what a scary time it is right now in our country,” Perry said.

Perry noted anti-trans legislation is focused on a group that comprises a small percentage of the U.S. population.

“What’s going on? What is it about our transgender siblings that is so scary? I do not know. But what I do know is that you — if you are transgender — be you. We love you. Be safe. Know that we in the Episcopal Church are there for you and that we will stand with you when you speak,” Perry said.

Perry also reiterated the Episcopal Church’s position on being a welcoming place for all people.

“Know that in the Episcopal Church we are completely and utterly welcomed for who we are, how we are and how God is acting in us,” she said. “Happy pride, friends.”

About Episcopal Diocese of Michigan

Organized in 1832, Episcopal Diocese of Michigan consists of 75 congregations and more than 17,000 baptized members in the southeastern region of Michigan. The Rt. Rev. Bonnie A. Perry was consecrated on Feb. 8, 2020, as the 11th bishop of the diocese. Prior to her election as bishop, Perry spent 27 years as rector of All Saints’ Episcopal Church in Chicago, one of the largest and the most active congregations in the Diocese of Chicago.

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