

Rev. Stephanie Escher Affirmed as Jubilee!'s New Minister

Jubilants officially affirmed Rev. Stephanie Escher as our new minister at the March 24th Sunday Celebration. Stephanie is an ordained Methodist Elder with over 15 years ministerial and chaplaincy experience. She embodies the top qualities that the 86 Jubilants who responded to our community survey said they most desired in our new minister: a deep connection with Creation Spirituality, honors all spiritual paths, inspiring and challenging speaker, and authentic and compassionate presence.



Stephanie most recently served as Manager of Mission & Spiritual Care for 30 chaplains in seven hospitals in the Milwaukee area. In addition to her extensive ministerial and chaplaincy experience, she has been an IT project manager, worked in banking, has been a professional musician with a record label, and served as a church music and arts director. She is an enrolled member of the Ojibwe Nation, and was a featured speaker at a National Health Care Reform Rally along with First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton. She has a BA in psychology and an MDiv from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Stephanie was part of a community called Sacred Journey that was founded on the Jubilee! model and as she researched its origins and learned about Howard Hanger she says, “...*his trailblazing work connected me more deeply with my own North Star and the immense capacity within to imagine, dream and build a future with kindred spirits.*”

When asked about her own spiritual practices, Stephanie responded, in part:

My spiritual practice at its core is to find hidden light in all its forms. I often practice in nature. Light is easiest to spot at play within the trees. I play piano and wander deep beneath the music in search of lost bits of light buried in the halls of my own wounded spirit. I hold space as those I touch in my life reckon with the trauma of light distorted. Encounters with light, in all its forms, helps me remember that I am light. And, in turn, this is the porch light I leave on so that others who have forgotten what they seek might remember. This is my sacred work and it brings me life, abundant.

Answering the question “Why Jubilee!?” Stephanie commented, “*I still feel really called to work with communities in transformation. That’s my jam. That’s where I feel like I light up.*”

Stephanie’s unique background with experience in Creation, Celtic and Native spiritualities; deeply authentic presence; capability as an inspiring speaker; and leadership in various fields are an excellent fit for Jubilee!’s new minister during this time of transformation and growth.

Stephanie will begin serving as Jubilee!’s new minister on May 19th.