

Meet Eric S. Petry
Candidate for Perry Township Trustee 2026
“Healthy communities require holistic care”

About-

With over thirty-five years of experience as a Tradesman, I am currently employed as a carpenter and project manager for Golden Hands Construction where we specialize in historic restoration.

As a continuing education student at Indiana State University, I earned a Bachelor of Science in Adult Career Education in 2020, followed by a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in both Human Resource Development and Non-Profit Management. My primary topic of research was affordable housing issues. My capstone project for my Master’s degree was focused on these issues as they specifically pertain to Bloomington.

I have spent the better part of the past decade working to understand the contributing factors related to poverty. These issues must be addressed from a holistic perspective. Despite overwhelming odds and seeming futility, perceived limitations do not abdicate the responsibility to seek solutions.

I moved to Bloomington in 1995. I am deeply rooted in the community, have raised four children here, and served my community by volunteering my services with a wide array of local organizations. I rarely use the word “community” without the word “service”. My record of volunteer service includes constructing homes with Habitat for Humanity, fifteen years of leadership in various roles within a local Boy Scout troop, currently serving as the chairperson for the Building and Grounds Committee at Trinity Episcopal Church, and continuing to support individuals struggling with addiction and mental health issues in the Bloomington community.

Vision-

*I once heard that a cynic sees a glass half empty. An optimist sees a glass half full.
Meanwhile, a giving person sees a glass half full, then looks for someone who might be thirsty.
I aspire to be the latter.*

Mr. Combs left a legacy of community service that profoundly impacted the lives of whom he served. The foundational work Mr. Combs put in place is solid and needs not to be rebuilt but rather built upon. My vision for our township is to continue Mr. Combs’ path of identifying the gaps within our social services safety net and seeking ways to creatively solve the issues facing our constituents.

Federal funding shortfalls are placing great strains on local social services. This current climate of uncertainty calls for calm and innovative leadership. I will work to create a horizontal organizational structure guided by empathy and pragmatic leadership. Leadership that is both transformational and authentic. When faced with difficult problems, the best solutions... indeed the best decisions... come from collaborative efforts integrating diverse viewpoints. This is how I have led in the past and will bring this to Perry Township.

For more information, please feel free to contact me: ericspetry@gmail.com