

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Thursdays at 5:30 pm, September thru May.

Thoughtful people are asking....What is EfM and why should I consider joining?

Short answer: EfM is the acronym for Education for Ministry, a distance-learning program of the Episcopal Seminary in Sewanee TN.

It is a four-year program of study, group reflection/discussion, worship, Christian community and spiritual friendship.

Why should I consider joining? Have you ever read a book that really engaged you and made you think? Or, watched a movie or heard a talk show or had a conversation that seemed to challenge your view of life or your faith? Have you ever opened the Holy Bible but found it too difficult to understand how it could relate to questions raised by life's big and little questions? Do the current political issues within the church frustrate you and cause you to wonder if the church has ever before gone through such turmoil? Did you come to the Episcopal church from another Christian denomination or another faith and wonder what the Episcopal church "thinks" about this or that? Do you sometimes think that you are the only one who struggles to understand your faith? Do you love the thoughtful sermons preached every Sunday at St. Peter's but wish the conversation could continue? If you find yourself answering yes to any of these questions you might be a good candidate for EfM. More

EfM is a group of faithful seekers or seekers who wish to explore Christian faith. The reading materials and group activities from Sewanee provide the basis on which the group explores the Old and New Testaments, Church History and modern philosophies. The small group itself is a group of accepting and caring people who will listen to you with love, support you when life is difficult and laugh with you at life's absurdities.

We are reminded from time to time that we are all called to ministry when we are baptized. In our secular lives we sometimes need to do some serious study about topics such as health, diet, relationships, politics before we embrace a major life decision or adopt a position about an issue. The same is true of our life in the church. Living the life of a Christian should be more than sitting in the pew on Sunday and serving on committees in the parish. The Church needs Christians who want to grow in their faith. Come, grow with us.

EfM is one of the best educational bargains around. Contact [Fr. Jeff](#) or [Natalie Kerr](#).