



## EfM Session Details

**WHERE:** Parish of the Epiphany, 70 Church Street, Winchester (Chapel)

**WHEN:** Sundays, 6-8:00pm  
beginning September 17, 2023

**DURATION:** Weekly during the school year, with time off at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Holy Week

**HOMEWORK:** Two hours (or the best you can do)

**ATTENDANCE:** Regular attendance is expected to maintain group cohesiveness, but we know that things come up for us all

**COST:** \$325 per year (Some scholarship money and/or reduced tuitions are available)



Serious Commitment?  
Yes!  
Worth the Effort?  
Definitely!

In all aspects of our lives, there are bewildering choices to be made, and none more than in the area of spirituality. We need practical tools that can help form us as Christians and make us better able to live faithful lives.

Education for Ministry (EfM) is one very effective tool for formation to help us grow up in every way into Christ." (Ep 4:15)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## What is EfM?

EfM stands for "Education for Ministry". Across the globe there are thousands of participants.

The program was developed and is directed by the School of Theology in Sewanee, Tennessee. It is a program to develop an informed and knowledgeable laity able to live into our own call to follow Christ

## What is ministry?

Ministry may involve many things:

- listening to another's story
- caring for the young or old
- working for justice
- preserving the earth
- maintaining a home
- receiving expressions of concern from others
- praying for others
- teaching someone to read
- feeding and clothing persons with special needs



And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord."

(BCP, Thanksgiving after Eucharist)

## No doubt, you already do ministry, so why EfM?

**The short answer:** It will enhance your life, enrich your faith, increase your knowledge. It will open the door for forging deep, meaningful, trusting relationships with marvelous people, all on unique journeys in their faith. Such experiences take time and intention. They happen as we allow ourselves to be forged and shaped as we wrestle with the meaning of the written word, our understanding of tradition, culture, and our personal experiences. It's about hearing and respecting "the other" even while disagreeing.

## What happens at EfM?

EfM is a four year program and the EfM group often includes multiple years: Year 1 focuses on the Hebrew Bible, Year 2 the New Testament, Year 3 Church history, and Year 4 theology, ethics and interfaith encounter.

## Each week at EfM we:

- **Check-in**, sharing our successes and stresses of the previous week (as each wishes to share)
- **Discuss the readings**. We then express our thoughts, questions, doubts, and reactions to the assigned text for the session.
- **Worship** in the various historical and current versions of The Book of Common Prayer, A New Zealand Prayer Book, historical liturgies, music, dance, poetry, and many other possible forms.
- **Theological Reflection (TR)**, an important process that can help us discern where and how God is at work in everyday life and to equip us to further our commitment to the ways God is working in the world through us. TR helps us process the information that floods our lives from a different perspective.



Our ministry is at hand  
wherever we turn.