



Education for Ministry (EfM)

Have you ever thought:

“Where did that come from in the Bible?”

“I’m really struggling with what the Bible (or the church) says about...”

“My faith has nothing to do with this situation!”

“I want something more involved than just another Bible study.”

“What is MY ministry?”

Many people do. Every baptized person is called to ministry. During the service of confirmation we ask God to “Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them.” Lay-persons face the difficult and often subtle task of interpreting the richness of the church’s faith in a complex and confusing world. They need a theological education that supports their faith and helps them to connect that faith to their daily lives. Education for Ministry (EfM) provides a four-year curriculum that develops a theologically informed, reflective, and articulate laity who are prepared to listen for and respond to God’s call. EfM helps lay persons discover and exercise their varied gifts for ministry in the places where they live and work.

We have a long standing EfM group in the area that has had members from Trinity, Emmanuel, Foley Mills, St John’s, and also several other parishes, including St. Mark’s, Fincastle. This group is a close community that supports and inspires each other as we learn and wrestle with where we are with God, the Bible, and Church. And we are always interested in new members joining us! We currently meet on Zoom on Wednesday evenings September to May.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, you can contact either of the mentors for the group: Marty Siebken (St John’s in Waynesboro) at siebkenm@hotmail.com 540.337.4581 or Joe Fiechtl (Trinity in Staunton) at jglsmk@gmail.com 423.967.7556. **For an “insider’s perspective” from one of our own St. Mark’s parishioners, you can contact Mike Parish (Michael.L.Parish@gmail.com or 540.521.9123) who will be entering his second year with this group in September.**