

EDUCATION for MINISTRY (EfM)

Report to the 139th Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina

[Education for Ministry \(EfM\)](#) is a program of theological education-at-a-distance for lay people from the School of Theology of the University of the South (*Sewanee*). This four-year program (*in which students enroll one year at a time*) is an intensive theologically reflective study of the Old and New Testaments, Church history, liturgy, spirituality and personal ministry.

There are 10 active EfM groups in East Carolina. Groups are located in Belhaven, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Kinston, New Bern, Washington, and Wilmington groups. Three people within the Diocese participate in EfM Online. In the 2020-21 academic year, 98 East Carolina students were enrolled in EfM. Of these, 28 were first year students.

CONGRATULATIONS to these 11 Class of 2021 graduates:

from the **Wilmington** area – Lousie Buck, Carl Danielson, Joanne Cheng, Cleve Callison, and Dr Tom Warren;

from the **Fayetteville** area – Vera Guarino and Kerron Elder;

from the **Morehead City** area – JoAnn Riddle and Nancy Stoller;

from the **New Bern** area – Mary Lynn, Guidage;

and from the **Washington** area - Roxanne Holloman.

Well-trained Mentors are the bedrock of EfM's ongoing success. Our East Carolina Mentors have certainly risen to the challenge of offering Zoom-based group sessions, in the midst of the pandemic. Some groups discerned to postpone the beginning of 2021-2022 sessions from September '21 until later in the Fall or early 2022.

Since face-to-face Mentor Training remains suspended, Sewanee offers Zoom-based training sessions, We hope to offer two face to face training sessions in the late fall of 2022 at Trinity Center. East Carolina is honored to have 15 active Mentors, two of whom mentor online groups. And two East Carolina Mentors are Trainers of Mentors worldwide.

For the most up to date information about EfM in the Diocese of East Carolina, our website is <https://dioeastcarolinaefm.wordpress.com>

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Richey, Diocesan EfM Coordinator