EDUCATION for MINISTRY (EfM)

Report to the 143rd 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)*. The program offers both a four year (*Classic*) and a one year introduction (*Wide Angle*). The 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. The one-year program offers an authentic EfM seminar experience that incorporates the Core Practices to those who may want to try EfM without the four-year commitment of the classic program and those that want to continue in their groups after they graduate from the 4-year program.

In 2025/26 there were 10 active EfM groups in East Carolina. Active 2025/26 groups are located in Morehead City, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Kinston, and Wilmington. Three people within the Diocese participate in EfM Online. In the 2025-26 academic year, 61 East Carolina students were enrolled in EfM.

CONGRATULATIONS to these 13 *Class of 2026* graduates:

from the **Fayetteville** area – Bobby Jones, Dionne Johnson, Debby Hickey (Wide Angle)

from the **Morehead City** area – Rev. Deacon Robin Smith and Marion Morris(Classic)

Pamela Ball, Debbie McLean, Nora Webb (Wide Angle)

from the **Wilmington** area – Allison Rankin, Beth Cornelison, Pamela Nesbitt (Classic)

Ellen Wells, Frances Trask (Wide Angle)

East Carolina EfM groups are offered both In-Person and online meetings.

Mentors are the shepherds of the seminar group community, the bedrock of EfM's ongoing success, and a valued member of a broader EfM community.

Annual mentor accreditation is required and is now available in person and online. Here is a link with current Mentor Training requirements, options and registration details. East Carolina is honored to have 9 active Mentors.

For the most up to date information about EfM in the Diocese of East Carolina, how to join an existing group, or begin a new group, contact Natasha Clay at claynatasha@rocketmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Natasha Clay, Diocesan EfM Coordinator

https://dioeastcarolinaefm.wordpress.com