

## EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EfM)

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 11 active EfM groups in East Carolina. Groups are located in Belhaven, Fayetteville, Goldsboro, Kinston, Morehead City, New Bern, Wilmington, and Washington group. Seven people within the Diocese participate in EfM Online. In the 2019-2020 academic year, 98 East Carolina students were enrolled in EfM. Of these, 28 were first year students.

### **CONGRATULATIONS to these 12 Class of 2020 graduates:**

from the **Wilmington** area – Lee Stroud, Carol Coffman, June Davison, Catherine Schmid, and Margaret Haughey;

from the **Fayetteville** area – Michael Gould and Karl Vaughn;

from the **Goldsboro** area – Xena Markine-Morrison;

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

from the **New Bern** area – Anne Ocorr;

and from the **Washington** area - Mary Ellen Adams

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 2020-2021 sessions from September '20 until later in the fall or early 2021.

Many other creative measures are being taken to ensure EfM group continuity and Mentor training. Sewanee has offered Zoom-based training sessions, while face-to-face sessions are suspended, until (at least) September 31, 2021. One face-to-face training session was offered at Trinity Center in 2020. We hope to offer a face-to-face training session in the late fall of 2021 and resume offering two sessions in 2022. East Carolina is honored to have 17 active Mentors, two of whom mentor online groups.

While our diocesan EfM website is under reconstruction, please visit <http://efm.sewanee.edu/> for program details and Mentor training schedules. For more information about: EfM in the Diocese of East Carolina; starting a new EfM group; EfM Online; and EfM Mentor training, please contact me at [piergazer@gmail.com](mailto:piergazer@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Richey, Diocesan EfM Coordinator