

**EAT, PRAY, LEARN: EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY**

In the Episcopal Church we believe in an idea described as "the priesthood of all believers". It is a belief that all people who believe in Jesus Christ are called to minister, not only to each other, but to all the people we meet and live with. And by ministering we mean caring for and nurturing others, showing God's love not just through words, but also through actions.

Education for Ministry - EfM - is a curriculum that provides a basic theological education for lay Christians. While it is administered through the Episcopal Seminary

at the University of the South in Sewannee, Tennessee, it is not a degree granting course, nor does it lead to ordination. It is also not a Bible study. It is a four-year program, but students commit to only one year at a time. The first year is devoted to reading and understanding the Old Testament. Second year: the New Testament, Third: the history of the Christian Church, Fourth: contemporary theological issues. EfM groups meet each week to discuss course reading materials, engage in Theological Reflection, worship and share snacks.

So, when you are a member of an EFM group, you gather together with other courageous souls to **Eat, Pray and Learn.**

If you might be interested in joining the Grace St. Paul's EfM program, contact Steve Mattix or Nanalee Raphael. We meet on Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. until noon, Meetings will begin in late August. Skype is often used with members who might need to be out of town. "Snowbirds " too!