

## **Education for Ministry (EFM)**

Every baptized Christian is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EFM) Program provides persons from all walks of life the education to “be” Christians and to carry out their ministry. All Christians need a Christian Education that supports their faith and that prepares them to express that faith in day-to-day events. EFM emphasizes that the foundation for bringing Christ to the world lies in a church empowered by active, theologically articulate laity.

EFM is a worldwide program developed by the School of Theology of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Completion of the program takes four years, during which participants study the Old and New Testaments, Church History, and Theology. Students meet regularly in seminar groups led by a trained mentor. EFM teaches students how to think theologically, to bring together the events of everyday life, scripture and Christian tradition. It deepens their faith and understanding of their Christian heritage and provides them with a new confidence to be Christ’s minister.

After several years of hiatus the EFM program started up again at St. Paul’s in Sept 2011. The following are first year students: Susan Cerullo and Mary Walsh from St. Paul’s Wickford, Peg Collins and Paul Jordan from Ascension Wakefield, and Janet Hunt from Emmanuel, Newport. We have a very lively group who are diligent in their readings and we have interesting discussions and reflections. We will be looking to add new students in Fall 2012. If you feel ‘nudged’ by the Spirit, or need more information contact the mentor, Ninni Jacob, at [ninnijacob@hotmail.com](mailto:ninnijacob@hotmail.com)