

EPISCOPAL ACADEMY & WORKSHOPS
selected workshop options

BUILDING LEADERSHIP

Vestries: Their Role from A to Z

This workshop is based on the award-winning publication from the Episcopal Church Foundation, *The Vestry Resource Guide*. It is designed for new vestry members, or for wardens and clergy who are responsible for orienting new members. Explore what it means to lead a community of faith; to share spiritual leadership; to embrace differences; to serve as stewards of resources, and to manage transitions. Share your insights about how to shape vestry service to be meaningful and effective.

Tools for Vestry Leaders

This workshop will explore the role of the vestry in spiritual discernment, envisioning the future, marshalling resources to achieve goals and assessing progress. Move your vestry from a focus on day-to-day management or crisis-response toward more effective leadership. You will learn about tools and resources available to assist you. The workshop is designed for clergy, wardens or vestry members.

GROWING FINANCIAL CAPACITY

Faithful Stewardship in Tough Times

Christian communities have long relied on the gifts of faith, hope, and love to see them through tough times. In these difficult economic times, faithful stewardship will not only depend on these spiritual gifts, but on sound knowledge and practical action. We will take a look at fundraising and the economy from a historical perspective, and share best practices and trends in the current climate. You will learn key tips toward sustaining your stewardship practices, such as how to: keep donors engaged, focus your fundraising efforts, build a fundraising team, and adapt your budget. We'll help you position the congregation for eventual economic recovery. Most importantly, you'll discern ways to stay focused on your congregation's mission, responding to God's call during these challenging days.

Basics of the Parish Capital Campaign

A step-by-step understanding of the three phases: Discernment, Feasibility Study, and the Gifting Phase. There is only one type of parish capital campaign to undertake – a successful one. This time-tested methodology has led hundreds of Episcopal parishes to successful efforts. Learn how to prepare for and execute a campaign for your church.

Setting Up a Planned Giving Program for Your Parish

Take the mystery out of planned giving for your parish. Learn in easy to understand terms how planned giving differs from annual stewardship and capital campaigns, and how your parish can build endowment through wills and life income gifts. After a review of the planned giving instruments, you will learn about the importance of a parish vision, protecting and growing your endowment, and how to invite others to remember your parish through estate and financial planning. You will leave the workshop with a plan of action.

Creating and Managing Your Endowment

Whether your congregation, diocese or organization is just starting to plan for an endowment, or if you wish to learn how better to manage and control an existing one, this workshop reviews best practices in endowment management. You will examine important documents to use for structuring your endowment and for clarifying its purpose. Participants will also learn about endowment policies and investment options which not only seek to protect an existing endowment, but will demonstrate how endowment can be used as to enhance your ministries and overall mission.

Annual Stewardship

More than just raising funds to meet the needs of the parish operating budget, annual stewardship is an opportunity to nurture and grow our faith and spirituality within our Episcopal communities. We will guide you to the most effective ways to tell your story, motivate your congregation, and develop successful programs. We will explore the theology of Christian stewardship, help you understand how to define the mission and vision of your church, develop a financial ministry plan, show you tools to communicate often and openly with the entire congregation, and how to ask – and thank – more effectively.

TOPICS BY ECF FELLOWS

For 45 years the ECF Fellowship Partners Program has provided financial support for academic and transformational ministry Fellows. The program is intended to foster the formation of people in Episcopal congregations, as Fellows share their knowledge, experience, and best practices with the wider Church in practical ways. These are a few of the Fellows and topics that may be available as workshops.

The Work of the Vestry as Spiritual Discernment

The Rev. Dr. John Lewis and the Rev. Jane Patterson are dynamic teachers and biblical scholars who work with laity who want to understand how scripture can become a lively guide for daily Christian living. They have developed a process for teaching vestries how to become communities of spiritual discernment, setting priorities and making decisions in light of a Christ-like pattern of action. They are co-directors of the WorkShop, San Antonio, TX.

Congregations and the MDGs

2007 ECF Fellow the Rev. Devon Anderson is piloting a process in the Diocese of Minnesota to equip members of congregations to adopt the Millennium Development Goals as an active, central part of their parish's mission and how to translate the broad goals into clear outcomes. In doing so she has gained extremely valuable insights into lay leadership development. A compelling speaker deeply dedicated to this work, she will share what she has learned in the first year of the successful pilot.

Including Children with Special Learning Needs and Their Families in Faith Communities

The Rev. Dr. Susan Richardson, a 2008 ECF Fellow, maps the basic tools that clergy and staff need to work with children with learning differences and their families. She offers examples and advice on how to welcome these families in the congregation and to understand the broader social and emotional landscape those families find themselves in. The goal is to help staff increase understanding and support for the children and parents in their particular parishes and to feel more comfortable with their own questions and uncertainties.

Creating Radically Welcoming Communities

The Rev. Stephanie Spellers is a 2008 ECF Fellow and the author of *Radical Welcome: Embracing God, The Other, and the Spirit of Transformation*. She will share lessons from working with a young, multicultural team to develop The Crossing, an emerging worship ministry at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston, Massachusetts, which intentionally practices radical welcome. This workshop will offer participants strategies for moving beyond mere diversity in their congregations in order to welcome "the Other," plan for real transformation, and reckon with fear and resistance to change. Come learn how to share radical welcome in your own faith community.

To learn more about ECF's Episcopal Academy & Workshops, or to discuss additional workshop topics, please contact Kate Adams, VP of Program, at 800-697-2858 or Kate@EpiscopalFoundation.org.

Visit our website at www.EpiscopalFoundation.org.