

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

EFSM was initiated in 1977 with a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. EFSM is a 3-year course, open to congregations whom meet one of the following criteria:

- (1) A congregation with 100 or fewer members, a bi-vocational Minister-in-Training and the commitment to develop a shared ministry (Offered in English or Spanish)

- (2) A congregation which is developing a team of Ministers-in-Training (MIT), wherein the ministers are bi-vocational, and the congregation has a commitment to develop a shared ministry

- (3) A congregation which is seeking to develop pastoral leadership in a specialized ministry area and the congregation has a commitment to develop a shared ministry

- (4) A free church congregation of any size that wishes to use EFSM as a means of training persons newly called to the ministry team of that congregation

EFSM engages the resources of its participating congregations and features educational experiences for the Ministers-in-Training, for their support team and for the whole church family. With EFSM, the congregation grows together.



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Education for Shared Ministry (EFSM) Certificate-Level Training Program

Four Tracks for Ministry Training - Commissioned Minister Status

EFSM - Current Format

EFSM Ministry Team