



The Episcopal Church in Delaware

Lay Ministry Training for Licensed
Worship Leader and Licensed Lay Preacher

The Stevenson School for Ministry

Endorsement by the Vestry and Rector/ Priest serving the community

The Episcopal Church in Delaware is calling forth and enriching the ministry of all the baptized in our congregations. We contracted with The Stevenson School for Ministry, in Central Pennsylvania (SSFM) to provide the necessary training to be licensed as a worship leader and/or lay preacher. Moving into the future, all licensed lay preachers and lay worship leaders will need to complete these courses to be licensed by the bishop for these ministries.

It is necessary for the vestry and priest serving the congregation to recognize the gifts and readiness of the individual being licensed.

The support of the vestry means that they will prayerfully and financially assist with 1/3 of the cost of each class (the student will cover 1/3, and the diocese 1/3).

Completion of the following coursework with a passing grade (pass/fail or numerical) from SSFM will be expected for licensure. If the individual seeks further discernment for the diaconate, courses should be taken with a numerical grade.

- A. Lay worship leaders must complete three courses (Hebrew Scriptures, Christian Scriptures, Introduction to the Book of Common Prayer)
- B. Lay preachers must complete all the coursework for lay worship leaders as well as Homiletics I.
- C. Lay worship leaders and lay preachers must complete or be up to date with Safe Church and Unconscious Bias training.

The support of the clergy means that in the spirit of collaboration they will prayerfully support and utilize the services of lay preachers and lay worship leaders when they are licensed.

The endorsement of the candidate should include their name, the congregation's name, that they are a communicant in good standing, and their identified gifts for this ministry.

Please sign and date your letter of endorsement.

We are grateful for discerning leaders for this ministry.