

Ministry Exploration Weekend

... let each of you lead the life ... to which God called you. —1 Cor.7:17

All baptized persons are called to minister in Christ's name, to identify their gifts with the help of the Church and to serve Christ's mission at all times and in all places.

Title III, Canon I, Sect. 1 (a)

Are you exploring the Holy Spirit's movement in your current vocation? Are you interested in further exploring both lay and ordained ministry? If so, you are in the right place to register for this year's **Ministry Exploration Weekend**. During this time, you are invited to join us as we engage in prayerful conversation about the call of the priesthood, diaconate, and laity with members of the diocese sharing their own call stories.

The **Commission on Ordained Ministry** invites you to attend a **Ministry Exploration Weekend** on January 13th and 14th at **The Episcopal Center in Live Oak, FL**. This weekend retreat is designed to help in your discernment of a perceived call to ministry in the Church.

The following "**Frequently Asked Questions**" are offered to assist you in understanding what to expect from this weekend conference.

Who should attend? You should attend if you discern a call to the ordained ministry or you seek to explore new and deeper ways of living out your baptismal covenant to serve Jesus Christ and your neighbors as a lay person. Spouses are also invited to attend.

What does the weekend cost? Cost is \$110 which includes overnight lodging at the Center and meals in the Varn Dining Hall.

To what does this weekend commit me? This is a first step in the process of discernment and is **required for all who are discerning a call to the ordained ministry**. You may choose to go further or you may decide to stop here. There is no commitment at this time.

Should my spouse attend? Yes, your spouse should attend, especially if you are seeking ordination to the priesthood or diaconate.

What topics will be discussed at the weekend? A variety of topics will be covered including; opportunities for service by the laity, an overview of the process that leads to ordination, a discussion of the educational requirements of ordination, seminary life and the life of a seminary spouse, and the Priesthood and Diaconate.

Will there be time to talk with someone about my call? Yes, there will be one-on-one opportunities to talk with other MEW participants as well as with members of the Commission on Ordained Ministry and other clergy.

I'm not sure I have a call. What should I do? MEW might be just the right opportunity for you to begin your journey in ministry—lay or ordained. Few people are certain about a call until they can explore it with others.

What time does the conference start and when will it end? Conference registration will begin at 5:00 pm on Friday January 13, 2017 at The Episcopal Center in Live Oak, Florida. Dismissal will occur at 3:00 pm on Saturday January 14, 2017.

Are you interested in exploring lay or ordained ministry? If so, please attend the annual **Ministry Exploration Weekend** being held from Friday evening, January 13th - Saturday afternoon, January 14th at The Episcopal Center. The cost of \$110 covers lodging and meals.

<http://campweed.campbrainregistration.com/Home/Landing>

For those discerning a call to the ordained ministry, attendance is required. For additional information please email (The Rev.) Mark Atkinson at fathermark@standrewsjax.com .