

EPISCOPAL 101

Church of the Holy Comforter, Vienna, VA
October 2023 – March 2024

Tuesdays 7:15–8:30 pm
(mostly) via Zoom

A class for newcomers and old-timers alike—anyone who seeks a deeper relationship with God and to learn more about the Episcopal Church. We will meet weekly during the autumn months, then once a month during the winter.

Leaders and facilitators:

The Rev. Ann Gillespie, Senior Associate Rector
(agillespie@holyccomforter.com; 703-938-6521, ext. 15)

The Rev. Jon Strand, Rector
(jstrand@holyccomforter.com; 703-938-6521, ext. 11)

Mike Croghan (mcroghan@gmail.com) Anne Martin (annemart1@icloud.com)

Tom MacCracken (tgmacc@earthlink.net) Frances Sullinger (fsullinger@verizon.net)

Primary resource book:

Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe, *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs and Practices* (Cincinnati: Forward Movement, 2018)—available from Amazon.com and other sources as a paperback (\$22) or Kindle e-book (\$9.99); participants purchase their own copy. About half of the chapters will be assigned in preparation for specific class meetings, with the others available to be read as desired. Class periods will then be spent in discussion.

Outline of the Course

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Clergy Present</u>	<u>Reading Assignment in <i>Walk in Love</i></u>
Oct. 3	Getting Started <i>Telling our stories; hopes and expectations for the class</i>	Jon	Introduction
Oct. 10	Baptism	Ann	Chapters 1–3
Oct. 17	Instructed Eucharist <i>What happens and why</i> IN PERSON AT HOLY COMFORTER (IN THE CHAPEL)—NOT ON ZOOM	Ann	Chapters 4–5
Oct. 24	Scripture	Jon	Chapter 14
[Oct. 31	No class: Halloween]		
Nov. 7	Church History <i>Pre- and post-Reformation, in Europe and America</i>	Ann	Chapter 1 in Christopher L. Webber, <i>Welcome to the Episcopal Church</i> , available as a preview on the publisher’s website (link to be provided)
Nov. 14	The Book of Common Prayer and the Church Year <i>History, contents, guide to use</i>	Jon	Chapter 10

[Nov. 21 No class: pre-Thanksgiving]

Nov. 28 Creeds and Church Structure Ann Chapters 13, 17–18

Dec. 5 Life at Holy Comforter Jon Chapters 20 & 23
Ministries: mission and outreach, service and participation, spiritual gifts, stewardship

After Christmas the course will continue with three more sessions, which will be required for participants and also open to the whole congregation:

Jan. 16 Prayer Ann Chapters 9, 16, 24
IN PERSON AT HOLY COMFORTER (IN THE CHAPEL)—NOT ON ZOOM

Feb. 5 Music in the Church Jon Chapter 1 in Matthew Hoch,
MONDAY *With David Kelley, our Minister of Music, as guest presenter*
IN PERSON AT HOLY COMFORTER (IN THE SANCTUARY)—NOT ON ZOOM *Welcome to Church Music and the Hymnal 1982, available as a preview on the publisher's website (link to be provided)*

Mar. 19 Holy Week and Easter Ann Chapter 11

Finally, on a date to be announced later (probably in late May or early June), the Bishop's visit to Holy Comforter will provide an opportunity for baptism, confirmation, or reception for those desiring it.