



New Look EFM

Change is happening with EFM in New Zealand...

After much anticipation, a new EFM curriculum was launched in Sewanee earlier this year, and groups in the USA, UK, and Canada have begun using the new material. Here in New Zealand, the new curriculum will be rolled out from February 2014. More about this is on pages 2-3.

There has also been change in the NZ EFM Board. After

EFM finances. The Board is in the process of considering a new Executive role for the administration and promotion of EFM in New Zealand.

In the meantime, the Board has appointed Judith Wigglesworth as Interim Executive Officer, to administer EFM here in New Zealand including the

EFM is on the cusp of an exciting new era...

many years of dedicated to service to the Board, Peter Williams (Chair) and Michael Holland have stepped down. Barrie Gimson, the National Administrator of EFM since it began in New Zealand, also retired at the end of September. The EFM community thanks each of them for the commitment and energy they have put into EFM over many years, and wishes them well in their future ministry.

At present, the Board is led by Bill Atkin as Interim Chair. Bill is also responsible for the

introduction of the new curriculum.

Judith writes:

I live in Wellington and was part of an EFM group based at Wellington Cathedral of St Paul in 2001-2005. Since 2007 I have become more involved in EFM, first as mentor and more recently as trainer and board member. Last month I represented NZ trainers at a Training of Trainers event in Sewanee. See page 4.

EFM is on the cusp of an exciting new era, and I look forward to helping EFM move ahead. I have been in touch with

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EFM Contacts

We have a new email address, matching our domain name. Please update your contacts.

admin@efm.org.nz

www.efm.org.nz

most of the active mentors around the country. Feel free to contact me if you'd like to share news of what's happening in your area.

If anyone would like to talk about new possibilities for EFM where you are, I'd love to hear from you, and if you have any queries, I will try to answer them!
Judith

Judith Wigglesworth
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New EFM Curriculum

EFM has introduced an all new curriculum, the first major revision of the programme in nearly 15 years.

RRG

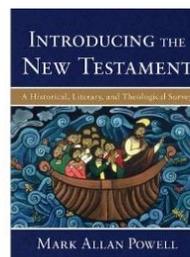
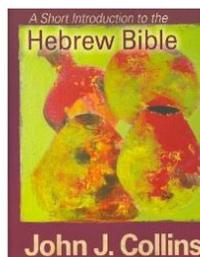
Although EFM has always been a programme in adult Christian formation as well as theological education, the new curriculum places more emphasis on formation for ministry in the world.

A **Reading and Reflection Guide (RRG)** replaces the previous Parallel Guides and Common Lessons. Each volume of the RRG covers 36 weekly sessions arranged in five six-week units.

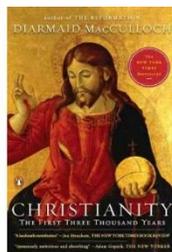
The RRG will be produced in four volumes, each with a theme. Volume A, "Living Faithfully in our World", is being used by the USA now, and will be used by NZ groups using the new curriculum in 2014.

Text Books

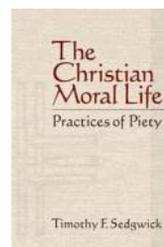
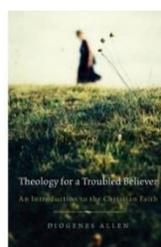
While everyone in each year of study uses a common RRG, each individual studies the Christian tradition in a set order, similar to the present curriculum. Recognised text books have been chosen to study the Christian tradition.



Year 1 Hebrew Scriptures Year 2 New Testament



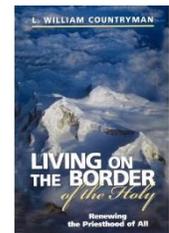
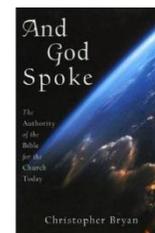
Year 3 Church History



Interlude Books

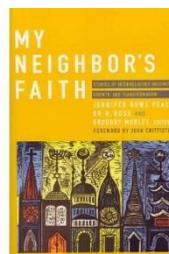
In addition to the books for their particular year of study, all EFM participants, whatever their year of study, read the same two "interlude books", which are slotted in between particular units of the RRG.

The books chosen for each year will reflect the theme of each volume of the RRG.



Interlude Books for Year A

John Collins *A Short Introduction to the Hebrew Bible.*
Mark Allen Powell *Introducing the New Testament.*
Diarmaid MacCulloch *Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years.*
Diogenes Allen *Theology for a Troubled Believer: An Introduction to the Christian Faith*
Timothy F. Sedgwick *The Christian Moral Life: Practices of Piety*
Jennifer Howe Peace et al *My Neighbor's Faith*
Christopher Bryan *And God Spoke*
William Countryman *Living on the Border of the Holy: Renewing the Priesthood of All*



Year 4 Theology, Ethics, Inter-faith Encounter

Working with the new EFM Curriculum

The NZ EFM Board has considered carefully how best to source and provide the new EFM curriculum for participants in NZ.

Following the lead of the UK and Canada, it has decided to ask participants to purchase their own copies of the text books. This will offer flexibility: some may choose to buy the books from a store in NZ, some may choose to purchase online from overseas, and others may wish to download an e-book.

EFM will provide printed copies of the new RRG, following the format used in the USA. We will also provide EFM trainers, mentors and participants with plenty of information on how to source the text books.

To reflect the fact that EFM participants will purchase their own texts books, the Board has decided to reduce the level of EFM fees for 2014 from \$337.30 to **\$260.70** (including GST).

There will no longer be a couple discount. Every EFM participant will be issued with the RRG, but couples may choose to purchase one set of text books to share.

The EFM forms and other documentation will be updated for 2014.

The EFM fee will be reviewed at the end of 2014, once the costs and implications of the new curriculum become clearer.

Rolling out the new Curriculum

In the USA the new curriculum was introduced for all participants, regardless of their year of study, a few months ago (the beginning of the northern hemisphere academic year).

The NZ EFM Board has agreed that All Year 1 and 2 participants enrolling from February 2014 will use the new curriculum. However, the Board recognises that we need to offer some flexibility, particularly for participants about to move into Year 4, and for those in multi-level groups who may currently meet fortnightly. Our situation in NZ is also more complex than in the USA, due the need to incorporate the NZ component, which will fit most logically into Year 3 of the new curriculum.

Some groups re-enrolling in 2014 with participants beyond Year 2, therefore will be offered some flexibility in using the old curriculum for 2014. The Interim Executive Officer and local trainers will work with mentors to help them discern what will work best for a particular group. Fee adjustments will be made where necessary to make sure all group members receive the materials they need.

Here, as in the USA, there will be ways for mentors and groups to give feedback on their experience of the new curriculum.

Congratulations...

...to members of the "Oasis" group in Christchurch, mentored by Margaret Yorke and Margaret Maclagan; and to members of the Year 4 group based at Wellington Cathedral of St Paul, mentored by Jenny Wilkens and Janet Warren, who all graduated recently. Well done!

News from Sewanee

The Training of Trainers event in Sewanee 17-22 November focused on familiarising trainers with the new EFM curriculum, particularly Volume A of the RRG.



The EFM door at the Programs Centre of the School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee

Judith Wigglesworth joined Elsa Bakkum, Assistant Director, Training, and other trainers from Tennessee, Texas, Colorado and Iowa. Karen Meridith, Director of EFM, met with the trainers several times during the course of the week.



View from Sewanee

Some insights from training:

- EFM is still EFM. Although the curriculum may have changed, the essence of EFM has not.
- The new curriculum integrates more effectively the study, common lessons and reflection components of the course than the previous material.
- The new course framework guides the activity of multi-level groups clearly.
- The interlude books will provide a rich resource for common learning and reflection across all year groups.
- Theological reflection is framed more explicitly as a life skill for individuals to engage in their everyday lives, not just as a group activity.



The Memorial Cross, Sewanee



All Saints' Chapel, University of the South



The seal of the University of the South - floor of All Saints' Chapel

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