

# Stittsville Celebrates Education for Ministry Graduates

**By William Passmore**

The Diocesan graduation service for Education for Ministry (EfM) took place on a glorious summer evening on Tuesday, June 5. Six students from the Lanark and Stittsville/Kanata EfM seminar groups have completed their four years of Theological study. The course provides teaching in the Old and New Testaments, church history, and modern theology and ethics. It also prepares them to develop and expand their baptismal ministry as lay people.

Rev. Jane McCaig celebrated the Eucharist. The six graduates; Sylvia Giles and Brenda Million (St. James, Carleton Place), Shirley Chenette (St. Thomas, Stittsville), Gillian Mattock (Parish of Huntley), and Dot Sweeney and Heather Coles (St. Paul's, Hazeldean-Kanata) gave mini homilies where they shared what the program meant for them and how their baptismal ministries have expanded. We heard how some were now lay readers, others churchwardens, others working with



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***Recent Education for Ministry Graduates and Mentors. L-R: Joe Million (mentor), Dave McCreery (mentor), Rev. Jason Pollick (EfM Coordinator), Sylvia Giles, Brenda Million, Shirley Chennette, Heather Coles, Dot Sweeney, Gillian Mattock, Rev. Jane McCaig (mentor), and William Passmore (mentor).***

seniors and the developmentally challenged, and others in leadership role in the foodbank. All stated how their faith had deepened and been challenged.

Rev. Jason Pollick, Diocesan EfM Coordinator, provided a priestly reflection on what the graduates shared. He said for them this was not an ending, but a beginning as the church will be blessed by their ministries.

The continuing students participated in the liturgy.

Stephen Picard (Christ Church, Aylmer) and Shalini Raphael read the scriptures and Susan Lomas (St. Thomas, Stittsville) lead the prayers of the people. The St. Thomas contemporary music band "Cornerstone" lead the worship.

The evening conclude with a time of fellowship.

*For more information about the Education for Ministry program, please visit:*  
[efmcanada.ca](http://efmcanada.ca) or  
[ottawa.anglican.ca/efm](http://ottawa.anglican.ca/efm)