:thics

Primary Objective
To raise awareness of what kinds of decisions and situations require ethical reflection in a congregation and to be able to draw on resources to respond to situations in the congregation. Teams will be able to:

1. Complete a Team and Individual Assessment and Learning Plan
   Suggestion: complete the "How Am I Equipped" column on the Individual Assessment, then complete the Team Assessment, then finish the Individual Assessment.

2. Understand and articulate the sources of authority in ethical reflection and scripture, tradition, reason and experience.
   a. Understand how scripture is used in ethical reflection/decision making
   b. Understand how different schools of ethical decision making would approach an issue (rule morality, natural law, imitation Christi, situational ethics)

3. Understand the limits and boundaries in pastoral care situations

4. Identify the processes used in the church to arrive at ethical decisions.

5. Guide the congregation in articulating a position on an issue or policy

6. Articulate the Episcopal Church's position on at least two contemporary issues relevant to the congregation's context.

Module: Ethics
Session 1 Team Assessment and Learning Plan

Primary Objective
To raise awareness of what kinds of decisions and situations require ethical reflection in a congregation and to be able to draw on resources to respond to situations in the congregation. Teams will be able to:

Competency	How is the team equipped? Name the gifts, knowledge and skills already present in the team	What the team needs/wants to learn.	How the team will accomplish this learning? What format will the team use to provide evidence of the learning?	Observations about the team process of reaching this competency.
Understand and articulate the sources of authority in ethical reflection and scripture, tradition, reason and experience. Understand how scripture is used in ethical reflection/decision making. Understand how different schools of ethical decision making would approach an issue (rule morality, natural law, imitation Christi, situational ethics).				
Understand the limits and boundaries in pastoral care situations.				
Identify the processes used in the church to arrive at ethical decisions.				

Guide the congregation in articulating a position on an issue or policy.				
Articulate the Episcopal Church's position on at least two contemporary issues relevant to the congregation's context.				

Module: Ethics
Session 1 Individual Assessment and Learning Plan

Primary Objective
To raise awareness of what kinds of decisions and situations require ethical reflection in a congregation and to be able to draw on resources to respond to situations in the congregation. Teams will be able to:

Competency	What knowledge, skill, experience do you bring to this competency?	What would you like to learn or what experience would you like to create?	What format will you use to provide evidence of your learning?	Observations about your process of reaching this competency.
Understand and articulate the sources of authority in ethical reflection and scripture, tradition, reason and experience. Understand how scripture is used in ethical reflection/decision making. Understand how different schools of ethical decision making would approach an issue (rule morality, natural law, imitation Christi, situational ethics).				
Understand the limits and boundaries in pastoral care situations.				
Identify the processes used in the church to arrive at ethical decisions.				

Guide the congregation in articulating a position on an issue or policy.				
Articulate the Episcopal Church's position on at least two contemporary issues relevant to the congregation's context.				

Module: Ethics
Session 2: Understand and articulate the sources of authority in ethical reflection and scripture, tradition, reason and experience

Competency	Reading	Suggested Activity	Reflection	Resources
Understand and articulate the sources of authority in ethical reflection and scripture, tradition, reason and experience. Understand how scripture is used in ethical reflection/decision making Understand how different schools of ethical decision making would approach an issue (rule morality, natural law, imitation Christi, situational ethics)	*Renewing Moral Theology: Christian Ethics as Action, Character and Grace* by Daniel A. Westberg (Author) Paperback – May 2, 2015 *Formed by Love (Church's Teaching for a Changing World*) by Scott Bader-Saye (Author) Paperback – March 15, 2017 *Sex, Moral Teaching, and the Unity of the Church: A Study of the Episcopal Church* by Timothy F. Sedgwick (Author) Paperback – October 1, 2014 *The Christian Moral Vision* by Earl Brill, 1979 *The Eye of the Storm: Living Spiritually in the Real World* by Kenneth Leech, 1992	The websites at several universities give some helpful information on ethic. You will be able to find steps in a process.		http://www.nacsw.org/Publications/Proceedings2010/BelangerKAFaith.pdf http://www.crivoice.org/holyliving.html https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/wcc-programmes/justice-diakonia-and-responsibility-for-creation/ehaia/world-council-of-churches-statements-and-studies/1997-facing-aids-the-challenge-the-churches-response/chapter-4-ethical-perspectives https://blink.ucsd.edu/finance/accountability/ethics/index.html https://www.scu.edu/ethics/ethics-resources/ethical-decision-making/a-framework-for-ethical-decision-making/ https://www.brown.edu/academics/science-and-technology-studies/framework-making-ethical-decisions https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/am-i-right/201207/five-steps-better-ethical-decision-making/

Module: Ethics
Session 3 Understand the limits and boundaries in pastoral care situations.

Competency	Reading	Suggested Activity	Reflection	Resources
Understand the limits and boundaries in pastoral care situations	*Practicing Our Faith* by Dorothy C. Bass, 1997 *Simpler Living, Compassionate Life: A Christian Perspective* by Michael Schut, 1999	Invite a professional pastoral care practitioner (generally employed by hospitals) to share with the team about boundaries in pastoral care situations. There may be several people in the community who could form a panel on these issues and the team might invite the whole congregation or even wider to a panel discussion. Your coach will also have contacts among professions in our diocese. Explore "Stephen's Ministries" to see if there are people in your congregation who might pursue this work. Explore the "Living Compass" material. This may be something your team or a team from the congregation would consider pursuing. Create a congregational "yellow" pages and prayer list. List all the various areas of special ministries done by groups or individuals with a key contact and set up a monthly prayer calendar lifting up the various ministries Participate in sexual misconduct training and implement recommended policies in your congregation's context.	What challenges me in my decision making?	https://www.stephenministries.org/ https://www.youtube.com/user/StephenMinistries https://www.livingcompass.org/

Module: Ethics
Session 4 Identify the processes used in the church to arrive at ethical decisions

Competency	Reading	Suggested Activity	Reflection	Resources
Identify the processes used in the church to arrive at ethical decisions.		Using information from Session 2, develop a process and/or manual your congregation would use when dealing with ethical issues that arise. You might include business practices, personnel issues, actions the church might take in the larger community; etc.	How do I make decisions on ethical issues? What thought process do I use and what authorities do I seek?	https://episcopaldiocesefortworth.org/assets/Policy-on-Ethics-Integrity-in-Ministry-..pdf an example of a policy manual developed by the Episcopal Diocese of Ft. Worth http://www.anglican.ca/faith/focus/ethics/codes-ethics/ handbook from Anglican Church in Canada

Module: Ethics
Session 5: Guide the congregation in articulating a position on an issue or policy

Competency	Reading	Suggested Activity	Reflection	Resources
Guide the congregation in articulating a position on an issue or policy		Develop a policy and criteria for a congregational "discretionary" fund. How will you include scripture teaching in this process? Keep track of the process work in order to evaluate and use in other situations		http://www.holycrossredmond.org/About/Vestry/Files/HCPersonelPolicyManual.pdf a personnel policy manual from an Episcopal Church in Redmond, WA

Module: Ethics
Session 6: Articulate the Episcopal Church's position on at least two contemporary issues relevant to the congregation's context.

Competency	Reading	Suggested Activity	Reflection	Resources
Articulate the Episcopal Church's position on at least two contemporary issues relevant to the congregation's context		Make a list of contemporary issues facing faith communities today. As well as discovering the Episcopal Church viewpoint, plan a series of conversations in the congregation and/or wider community that explores how these issues impact your congregation and your local community. Invite governing bodies from other faith communities to share how their denomination deals with the topics. Design a series of sermons, newsletter articles or adult forum on these issues.	How has the team utilized the gifts of the members of the congregation in this work?	http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/topics/ethics/ this web page discusses a variety of ethical topics facing faith communities http://www.patheos.com/Library/Anglican/Ethics-Morality-Community http://www.episcopalchurch.org/sites/default/files/downloads/full_manual_updated_09-30-2013.pdf A manual for business practices from TEC