

EPIC Frequently Asked Questions

What is EPIC? E.P.I.C (Effective Practices for Innovative Congregations) is a Virginia Synod leadership development conference designed to strengthen congregational leaders for their ministry in the congregation and in the world. Each event will have a five 18-20 minute presentations in the morning and workshops in the afternoon to address the needs of congregational leaders.

Why offer a leadership development conference? Serving in a leadership role in a congregation requires additional skills and information that isn't always needed in daily life and work. By offering an event that focuses on effective leadership and innovative practices, the Virginia Synod hopes to support and equip congregations to be outposts for God's ministry in their context.

Who should attend? EPIC is designed for anyone who has a leadership role in a congregation from elected Congregation Council members to informal leaders who assist with worship. Anyone who might enjoy the conversation and workshops is welcome to attend.

Where will EPIC take place and what will it cost? The Virginia Synod will offer EPIC in three locations around the Synod – Hampton, Harrisonburg and Roanoke. The cost is \$15 per person to help cover the cost of lunch.

Will there be a simulcast or recording? The plan is to create a simulcast or recording of the morning presentations, but the details are still being finalized. Since there are multiple workshops happening at the same time, we will not be simulcasting or recording the workshops.

What will we learn? In the morning, you will hear presentations designed to inspire and educate focused on the core values of the Virginia Synod: Christ-Centered, Compassion, Community and Peace. In the late morning and afternoon, you will have the opportunity to attend two different workshops. Workshops currently being planned include:

- Council President/Vice-President Workshop: Moving from Reporting to Visioning
- Financial Officer Workshop: Best Practices in a Digital World
- Tapestry 101: Introduction to Available Resources for Difficult Discussions
- Growing Younger
- Communication: Creating a Good Digital First Impression
- Opening Giving Doors
- Congregational Vitality
- Options for Worship
- Ministry with Older Adults