The University of the South is well known for its College of Arts and Sciences, one of the country’s top liberal arts colleges; its seminary, one of 10 serving the Episcopal Church; and the Beecken Center, home of Education for Ministry (EfM), which has enlivened the personal ministry of more than 100,000 Christians. What is less well known is that this University, owned by 28 dioceses in the Sewanee Province of the Episcopal Church, is a center for learning that touches people of all ages.

Preparing for adulthood

Come to Sewanee for SUMMA and learn, through debate, how to connect reason, faith, and tradition, while also preparing for college with a rigorous introduction to critical thinking. Or participate in the Young Writers’ Conference, Choral Institute, or the Sewanee Environmental Institute’s field studies experience and develop a creative talent or learn more about the natural world.

On the path to the baccalaureate

Move successfully into adult life by earning a degree at the only University owned and governed by Episcopal dioceses. Study one (or more) of 36 majors, 43 minors, and 15 special programs, including an innovative civic engagement program that leads students to change the world for the better.

Getting ready for church leadership

Congregations raise up individuals who are called to ministry, and the School of Theology provides them rigorous academic training, grounded in a life of prayer and in the shape of the Anglican tradition. The result? Good priests, pastors, teachers, liturgists, and preachers, formed with a servant’s heart to lead the church’s service to the world.

We all have a ministry

EfM builds communities of mutual support and mutual discernment where participants study scripture, history, and theology and read and reflect on how God is calling them to work in the world. Invite Welcome Connect is a transformational ministry that equips and empowers clergy and lay leaders to enrich their practices of evangelism, hospitality, and connectedness. These offerings from the Beecken Center provide learning opportunities to Episcopalians and others whose fervent wish is to live lives of meaning.

Digging Deeper

The Advanced Degrees Program gives Episcopal and other clergy deeply embedded in ministry the opportunity to dig deeper in their understanding of their faith and gain new energy in their ministries.

Kimi deMent, who earned an M.A. in Theology in 2013, leads a faith and justice summit, helping faith leaders understand how to help when parishioners have legal difficulty. The summit is a program of the Beecken Center, in partnership with Sewanee’s Office of Civic Engagement, and the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts, where deMent coordinates a statewide Faith and Justice Alliance.
After Caroline Holmes finished Sewanee as an undergraduate, she earned an M.A. in Theology, concentrating in religion and environment. She’s prepared for a life of service in the world, making strong connections between her life of faith and environmental action.

SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

Caroline Holmes, C’17, T’19, understands that religion and the environment are intertwined and at the very core of her being. She just completed an M.A. in religion and environment at the School of Theology. She is striving for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being, working toward a green and sustainable planet, shopping locally, buying clothes made to last, and walking to work. Reduce, reuse, and recycle is just another way of describing her Trinitarian doctrine of intentional living and coexistence. It is not so much a political statement as it is a method to live by. In 2016, as an Environment and Sustainability major at the University of the South, Holmes fulfilled her capstone project requirement in her hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she taught a class to 15 adult members of Boston Avenue United Methodist Church entitled, “Sustaining God’s Creation.” She cites the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer as her inspiration for what God is calling her to do. “If Christ does in fact exist in community it would follow that the community should be sustainable and the abundance of the community available to all,” she says.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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REPORT FOR
DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

AS OF SEPT. 15, 2019

FINANCES
Donations from the diocese: $5,000
Donations from churches of the diocese: $783
Returns to the diocese in the form of financial aid to college students, seminarians, and ADP students: $318,234
The average return on contribution for an owning diocese is about $34 for each dollar donated

ENGAGEMENT
EfM groups: 11
College students: 9
Seminarians: 3
Advanced Degrees students: 1 plus 5 alumni

WHAT WE DO
PRE-COLLEGE

SUMMA
45-60 participants | $1,000 tuition |
$12,000 given in financial aid

SEI ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD STUDIES EXPERIENCE
22-25 participants | $1,850 tuition |
$8,000 given in financial aid

YOUNG WRITERS’ CONFERENCE
75 participants | $2,400 tuition |
$10,000 given in financial aid

COLLEGE
1,698 students (374 Episcopalians) | $58,000 comprehensive fee | $32 million given in financial aid ($6.2 million to Episcopalians from owning dioceses)

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

SEMINARY
79 residential students | $18,258 tuition and fees |
$1.6 million given in Financial aid

ADVANCED DEGREE PROGRAMS
48 participants in 2019 (73 active students) | $94,000 given in financial aid

SEWANEE MINISTRY COLLABORATIVE
32 participants per year build thriving ministries | minimal cost to participants | fees paid by a grant

BEECKEN CENTER
5,500 current participants | average of 11 EfM groups per diocese