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.
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

REPORT FOR
DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA
AS OF SEPT. 15, 2019

FINANCES

Donations from the diocese: $500
Donations from churches of the diocese: $4,899
Returns to the diocese in the form of financial aid to college students, seminarians, and ADP students: $607,607
The average return on contribution for an owning diocese is about $34 for each dollar donated

ENGAGEMENT

EfM groups: 18
College students: 40
Seminarians: 1
Advanced Degrees students: 3 plus 9 alumni

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

Growing up, Perry Hodgkins Jones, T’15, developed a kinship with Mother Nature that blossomed into a spiritual mission to defend the environment. This past November, Jones, who holds an M.A. in theology, with a concentration in religion and the environment, was able to exercise some of that spirituality as part of a small delegation representing Presiding Bishop Michael Curry in Bonn, Germany, at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP23). The Episcopal delegation included scientists, a bishop, theologians, priests, students, and musicians who are active in environmental work. “Many identify religious institutions as being either perpetrators of abusive behavior... or as passive bystanders to the destruction of the planet,” Jones says. “The Episcopal Church stands to be neither, but part of the solution, working creatively to create climate resilient communities and heal Creation.” Jones works for a nonprofit that provides fifth-graders in North Carolina and part of South Carolina with the opportunity to go on field science expeditions with naturalists.

Perry Jones (at right) earned a M.A. in theology with a concentration in religion and the environment, which prepared her to represent the Episcopal Church on the world stage.