

**EFCA HISTORY, THEOLOGY AND POLITY COURSE**  
**NATIONAL OFFICE**  
**901 E. 78<sup>th</sup> STREET, MINNEAPOLIS, MN**  
**March 19-20, 2024**

---

**Tuesday, March 14 (8:00 AM-4:00PM) – Lunch provided.**

**Wednesday, March 15 (8:00 AM-4:00 PM) – Lunch provided.**

**The cost for the class is \$50 **FOR THOSE ATTENDING IN PERSON**, and pre-registration is required.**

**Payment can be made online (<https://give.efca.org/>) - for one-time gift put in \$50 in the “other” box and 8008 in Designation box), mailed to above address to - Attn.: Dani Richards, or brought with you the day of the course.**

### **Introduction**

The EFCA History, Theology and Polity course is considered the baseline for any/all the credentials in the EFCA. If one desires to minister in the EFCA and be licensed and eventually receive their Certificate of Ordination or Certificate of Christian Ministry, this material is mandatory. In the past this class was only offered at our EFCA seminary, so all those who desired to minister in the EFCA and who did not attend our seminary were required to meet this requirement through an independent study. We now offer the class in an intensive two-day format in other locations. We believe there is much to be gained in a class setting versus the independent study format.

### **Objectives**

- ❖ Designed for those seeking a greater understanding of the EFCA or anticipating possible credentialing. Attention is paid to history, polity, doctrine, missionary outreach, current trends. Attendees are challenged to consider these distinctives in relation to their own concepts of ministry context and potential.
- ❖ Attendees will become familiar with the heritage and distinctives of the Free Church in order to appreciate its present structure, ministry, and mission.
- ❖ Participants will envision how God might use them in furthering his kingdom through the Free Church.
- ❖ Participants will fulfill one of the key requirements for credentialing in the EFCA.

### **Required Reading**

It is *recommended* you read the three books listed below prior to the course. (It is *required* that the books are read before receiving a permanent Certificate). These books are available at NextStep Resources, the EFCA Bookstore, and they can be ordered by calling 800.444.2665 or online at [www.nsresources.com](http://www.nsresources.com)

EFCA Spiritual Heritage Committee. *Evangelical Convictions*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition  
(Theology) Hanson, Calvin B. *What it Means to be Free! A History of the EFCA*  
(History) Olson, Arnold T. *The Significance of Silence* (Ethos)

### **Instructor**

Greg Strand

Executive Director of Theology and Credentialing

EFCA

[greg.strand@efca.org](mailto:greg.strand@efca.org)

### Ministry License Paper Three Year Renewable

A Ministry License paper must be presented to your district as part of the EFCA credentialing process but is not a pre-requisite for the class.

### **Tentative Course Outline**

Topics will include many/most of the following:

- Church, Churches and Denominations
- History
- Polity
- Statement of Faith (Doctrine/Theology)
- National and District Partnership
- Credentialing and Placement
- ReachNational
- ReachGlobal
- Pastoral Care
- Ministry Advancement
- Christian Investors Financial (CIF)
- Free Church Ministers' and Missionaries' Retirement (FCMM)
- Education (Trinity International University)

### **HOTEL/RESTAURANT INFO:**

#### **Holiday Inn Express MSP Airport** (2 short blocks from the national office)

7801 12<sup>th</sup> Ave S.

Bloomington, MN 55420

Call the hotel directly 952-213-3150 and ask for a room under the Group Name: EFCA History Course

**OR** book online: [Booking Link](#)

We have rooms reserved for the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

Cost is \$114/night and includes a hot breakfast.

Check with the hotel regarding shuttle to the MOA.

#### **Local Eateries:**

Outback Steakhouse – 5 min. walk

1321 E. 78<sup>th</sup> St.

Bloomington

Subway – 5 min. walk

7866 Portland Ave. S.

Bloomington

Jimmy John's – 10 min. walk

7815 Portland Ave. S.

Bloomington

Culver's – 10 min. drive

7801 Nicollet Ave.

Bloomington

Andale Taqueria (authentic Mexican) – 10 min. drive

7700 Nicollet Ave. S.

Richfield

TGI Fridays (across the street from MOA) – 10 min. drive

2201 Killebrew Dr.

Bloomington

**\*\*There are NUMEROUS options inside the MOA, including food courts – 10 min. drive or reserve a shuttle at the hotel.**