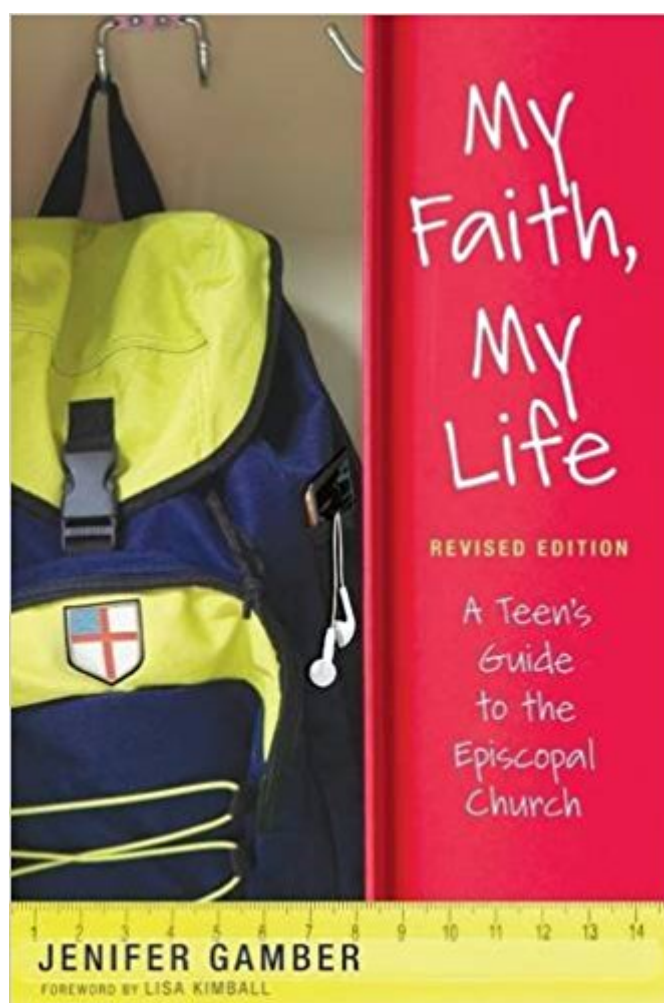


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# My Faith, My Life, Revised Edition: A Teen's Guide To The Episcopal Church



## Synopsis

This revised edition of the best-selling 2006 title now includes end-of-chapter questions for the readers as well as updated material sprinkled throughout to reflect what has occurred in the past 10-years in the church and world. The Five Marks of Mission and what it means to be a disciple of Christ will be a focus of this new version, which also models student-centered learning as opposed to teacher-driven instruction. For teen study and confirmation preparation, this book can serve as a curriculum for helping teens discover Scripture, church history, sacraments, the meaning and practice of prayer, and what ministry means in the lives of real teens today. A framework for small-group gatherings for each chapter is included as a new section in the back of the book. Bestseller revision to release in time for Confirmation season and in advance of the 2015 General Convention of the Episcopal Church Includes study guide questions, plus a new companion Leader's Guide Foreword by Dr. Lisa Kimball, Virginia Theological Seminary

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jenifer Gamber, a textbook editor for McGraw-Hill Higher Education, is youth facilitator and confirmation leader at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She is a member of the board of directors of Forma (a network of Episcopal Christian educators), leads retreats, and speaks about issues relating to teen faith. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

As preparation for my confirmation into the Episcopal church, my priest made this book required reading. "Do not be put off by the teen guide part of the title", he cautioned. How correct he was! In some ways, some concepts in the book might prove to be too difficult for a young teen to grasp. As a fledgling Episcopalian, I learned not only about the liturgy and sacraments, but also the origins and meanings of the various rituals that differ substantially from those I had been raised with in the Presbyterian church. As a lifelong Christian, I learned more about the Bible and how best to study it. I also came away with new feelings about prayer, that are not unique to the Episcopal church. The book was not only educational, but it fascinated me. Having just experienced Holy Week, for example, I learned why the Great Easter Vigil is the most important day in the Episcopal faith. The service itself is magnificent, but understanding its meaning made it even more dramatic and moving. Jenifer Gamber made the Episcopal church come alive for me. Her writing style made what could have been a dry subject fascinating. *My Faith, My Life* would make a great gift to new Episcopalians and to those who need a refresher course. Father Lou advised me well.

I bought this book for my 16 year old Godson. Kevin has spiritual depth, has been steadily involved with the Episcopal Church for about five years, and has a jumble of knowledge about the Church. *My Faith, My Life* is just right for Kevin. It sorts out the Christian faith, as understood in the Episcopal Church, the role of Scripture, the centrality of the Trinity for Episcopalians, the history of the Church, and the common practices of Episcopal liturgy. The language is clear and concise, written with teenagers in mind, in a friendly, easy style. It will be a pleasure to give the book to Kevin. At 183 pages, *My Faith, My Life* is a well-written, complete, and understandable introduction to the Episcopal Church. While right as an introduction for teenagers, it should prove just as valuable for adults seeking to understand the Episcopal Church. It provides provides the basics, a clear framework for understanding both the spiritual church and the organizational church. The framework should make it easier to integrate the sermons, lessons, readings, and other experiences in the Church into a consistent theology and sense of mission.

I purchased this book for the four teenagers in my youth confirmation class at an Episcopal Church in California. As I was reading the book, I reflected on my own confirmation class many years ago and discovered the only thing I remember about the class was the teacher's name - not that Holy Confirmation had anything to do with continuing a spiritual journey begun at Holy Baptism. It is my hope that the youth in my class will discover and appropriate for themselves a working language of faith that will sustain them on their spiritual journey. Although much of the content of the book is

historical and factual, it also presents the faith journey as a living reality - one to be embraced and lived in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Teenagers have a great hunger for the spiritual life but often flounder in the modern trivia of life that consumes so much of their time and energy. This book will engage their minds and hearts, encourage them to live out their Baptismal Covenant in meaningful ways, be actively involved in the life of the congregation, and be a useful resource for them for years to come.

If you are looking for an engaging and relevant resource for either middle school or high school youth groups- look no further! This is the best resource I have found and is flexible enough to be right-sized into different length modules. I highly recommend it!

This book is really perfect as a preparation for confirmation, but it is by no means for teens only! It is a very readable, comprehensive and well-organized introduction to the Episcopal Church. I very much enjoyed reading it, and the adults in confirmation classes also praised it highly. I certainly recommend it to anyone who wants to know about the Episcopal Church--from whence we came, how we worship, what we believe, how the church is organized, and how we see our place in the Anglican Communion.

Excellent overview of Anglican theology and practice.

The book appeared to be a good buy for my granddaughter. It arrived promptly and I hope it was a good selection for her.

This book has been exceptionally helpful. I have recently changed churches and this book has given me direction in the church and its protocol.

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