

## DOCUMENTING OUR MINISTRIES

**MINISTRY:** *VIA MEDIA*

**DATE OF THIS DOCUMENTATION UPDATE:** 28JAN2009

### MINISTRY DESCRIPTION:

There are two *Via Media* series that St. Michael's offers periodically: the Original Series and the more recent Values Series. We purchased the rights to both from Every Voice Network.

**The Original *Via Media* Series** introducing the Episcopal Church is an eight-part series offering a rich, in-depth exploration of the Episcopal Church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is a great way for newer member of the Episcopal Church to explore the Anglican way of being Christian.

Each session begins with a video involving several people who explore a particular topic. These topics include "God," "Jesus," "Holy Spirit," "Word," "Sin," and "Hope" (along with others). When the video ends, the conversation continues, facilitated by suggested questions and a discussion leader. Participants thus have the opportunity to explore their own faith in light of these video presentations and ultimately to wrestle with such questions as

- Who is Jesus?
- What does it means to be a Christian?
- What it means to participate in the Eucharist?

**The Values Series** was developed as a sequel to the original *Via Media* series (an eight-part series exploring what it means to be an Episcopalian). In keeping with the design of this earlier series, the video discussions spill out into the room and into our discussion groups, encouraging us to listen to one another and to share our thoughts and ask our questions about these issues.

Topics covered in this six week series are

- "Communion: An Ethical Choice"
- "Repentance: An Ethical Journey"
- "Witness: An Ethical Example"
- "Service: An Ethical Imperative"
- "Respect: An Ethical Right"
- "Go Forth! Ethics in Action"