



Office of Christian Formation

What is a cohort?

- ❖ Our cohorts are groups of 6-10 leaders who have a similar focus or interest in ministry development. Cohorts provide a setting where colleagues learn and support one another while identifying goals, challenges, and options for the future. Each cohort is led by an ICF (International Coaching Federation) trained coach and meets over Zoom for a designated number of sessions. Cohorts are a process of transformation in which you identify your goals, consider your challenges, explore your options, and create a plan of action to meet your goals.
- ❖ These cohorts are free of charge to you because they are offered in partnership with these Christian Formation Collective partners: APCE, POAMN, PYWA, and UKirk.
- ❖ These cohorts are open to faith formation leaders, including volunteers, educators, youth workers, CREs, and pastors.
- ❖ Attendance in a cohort is very important. Your presence matters for your development, as well as for the others in the group. **Read each description carefully and the date/times the cohort will meet BEFORE you register to ensure that you understand the cohort's purpose and that you are able to attend.** These are only 4-week cohorts, so regular participation is expected. Questions? Please contact christian.formation@pcusa.org
- ❖ **These 90-minute cohorts will meet once a week for 4 weeks beginning the week of October 12 and running through the week of November 2, 2026.** Registration open September 15 – 30, 2026.

Fall 2026 Cohorts

Intentional Older Adult Ministry - Ministry with older adults is an important component of ministry for congregations and other faith-based organizations. This cohort invites participants to develop a new intentional Older Adult Ministry, strengthen an existing ministry, or develop a clearer focus for or integration with other existing ministries. This coach-facilitated cohort is a great place to connect with and support colleagues who share your interest in older adult ministry.

Coach: Sarah Erickson, Mondays 3-4:30 pm ET / 2-3:30 pm CT / 1-2:30 pm MT / Noon-1:30 pm PT

Building Support for Campus Ministry in Congregations – God is working powerfully in the lives of college students across the country, but those stories are often the best-kept secret in the church. It can be easy to assume that people in our local churches don't care as much about college students as they do about other things when often it is because they don't know as much about it and the tangible ways they can support what God is doing in and through campus ministry in the congregation and beyond the church walls. This cohort will explore ideas and strategies to build congregational support for campus ministry and participants will be invited to create their own action plan to invite local churches to join in their mission and ministry with young adults. *Coach: Gini Norris-Lane*

Fridays, Noon-1:30 pm ET / 11-10:30 am CT / 10-11:30 am MT / 9-10:30 am PT

New to Faith Formation or Youth Ministry - Is this your first call or role involving faith formation with children, youth, young adults, adults, older adults, or intergenerational ministry? Whether you serve full-time or part-time as an educator, CRE, pastor, or volunteer, this cohort offers a space to connect with others, learn best practices, receive coach-facilitated support, and set goals for your ministry.

Coach: Kim Ness, Tuesdays 3-4:30 pm ET / 2-3:30 pm CT / 1-2:30 pm MT / Noon-1:30 pm PT

Where 2 or 3 are Gathered – Sunday School class with just a few people? How do you lead games when there are only a couple of youth present? Do you have small classes or groups with 5 or fewer participants? This cohort is designed for volunteer and paid church leaders who have small classes or groups with 5 or fewer participants, whether in a small church or a large church context. Through coach-supported conversation, participants will exchange ideas, set goals, and explore practical ways to help small ministries move from simply getting by to truly thriving.

Coach: Sandy Safford, Fridays 12-1:30 pm ET / 11 am-12:30 pm CT / 10-11:30 am MT / 9-10:30 am PT

Partnering with Parents/Caregivers – This cohort focuses on ministry with families, not only their children. Participants will explore ways churches can support parents and caregivers as they nurture the faith of their children and youth, helping them grow and discover who God created them to be in today's world. Together, the cohort will share ideas, offer support, and set ministry goals for partnering well with parents. *Coach: Shannon Guse*

Thursdays 1-2:30 pm ET / Noon-1:30 pm CT / 11 am- 12:30 pm MT / 10 -11:30 am PT

Building Student Leadership – How can we help students grow as leaders in our churches, campus ministries, and communities? In this coach-facilitated cohort, participants will share resources, support one another, and set ministry goals while exploring practical ways to deepen leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.

Coach: Kim Ness, Wednesdays 11 am-12:30 pm ET / 10-11:30 am CT / 9-10:30 am MT / 8-9:30 am PT

Partnering Well with Community Partners – Developing strong partnerships with other churches, community groups, and local organizations can expand our ministry and strengthen our impact. By working together on mission efforts and responding to deep community needs, we serve more effectively and sustainably—we can't do it alone. Share ideas and partnerships that work in your context and set goals to develop a new partnership with the support of a coach facilitator and your cohort.

Coach: Becky D'Angelo-Veitch,

Tuesdays 1:30-3 pm ET / 12:30-2 pm CT / 11:30 am-1 pm MT / 10:30 am-Noon PT

Transitions in Ministry - Are you beginning a new call, stepping into a new or expanded role in your ministry context, between churches, or discerning what comes next? Seasons of transition can feel overwhelming and lonely. This cohort offers support, shared reflection, and space to set goals as you create a roadmap for your next steps in ministry. *Coach: Becky D'Angelo-Veitch*

Fridays, 11 am-12:30 pm ET/ 10-11:30 am CT / 9-10:30 am MT / 8-9:30 am PT

Contemplando a Cristo, viviendo plenamente:

Profundiza en Cristo, vive tu identidad y sirve con fidelidad

A través de conversaciones apoyadas por un coach y prácticas espirituales, las y los participantes profundizarán su relación con Cristo y explorarán lo que significa vivir desde la identidad que Dios les ha dado. Juntos reflexionaremos sobre la transformación espiritual, cultivaremos prácticas que sostienen una fe para toda la vida y descubriremos cómo una vida más profunda en Cristo puede fortalecer nuestro testimonio dentro de nuestras familias, congregaciones y comunidades. Esta cohorte está diseñada para pastores, líderes de iglesia y voluntarios de ministerio que buscan crecer en su fe y liderazgo.

Coach: Madeline Alvarez Soto

Lunes, 6:00 a 7:30 p. m. (EST) / 5:00 a 6:30 p. m. (CT) / 4:00 a 5:30 p. m. (MT) / 3:00 a 4:30 p. m. (PT)

Offered in partnership with these Christian Formation Collective partners:



Register: cfportal.churchcenter.com/home