



## Sustaining Pastoral Excellence – Learning Cohorts

Application to participate in a *Living Forward* cohort

Credentialed ministers in the ECC who meet all SPE eligibility requirements may apply to participate in one of the learning cohorts. Please review eligibility requirements at the link below before filling out application:

<http://www.covchurch.org/vocational-ministry/spe/grants/>.

By submitting this application, you agree that, if accepted, you will abide by the following commitments:

- FULL PARTICIPATION at retreat and Midwinter Conference cohort events
- Regular prayer for the others in the learning community
- Completion of all assignments, exercises, assessments, and readings
- Assume the costs of books and any misc. expenses that may occur over the course this cohort (this should be minimal)
- Cover any costs above and beyond the allotted travel and housing expenses for participation at retreats
- There is a \$250 application fee for this cohort. Please send a check for \$250 with your application. The check will only be cashed if you are accepted for this cohort.

### **Part I – Personal Information**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Current Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth\*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_

*\*\* The Living Forward Cohort is designed for pastors 55 and older.*

**Covenant Credential:** OWSa OWS<sub>e</sub> CSM CM ML BVL\*

*\*Ministers holding a BVL may be eligible for SPE funds; please review eligibility guidelines and contact Ordered Ministry for more information.*

**MINISTERIAL STANDING:** items to be completed to be in good standing with the ministerium and receive a grant

**Did you pay ministerial dues this year?**    yes    no    **last year?**    yes    no

**Did you complete your Vocational Growth Tool this year?**    yes    no

**Is your Ministerial Profile on CovConnect current within the last three years?**    yes    no

### **Currently Serving Information**

Name:		Average Worship Attendance:	
Church or Institution Address:		Total Church Membership:	
Role/Position (ex: Lead Pastor):		Church Budget:	
Church Chair:		Conference:	

Check the term that best describes where you serve:    Urban    Suburban    Rural    Other

**Ministry History** *(begin with current position, moving chronologically backwards):*

Place	Location	Position	Dates

**Academic History Information:**

School	Location	Degree	Dates

**I am applying for the following cohort:**

☐ **Living Forward Cohort**

***Application Deadline: August 23, 2014***

Grant eligible applicants should submit a **\$250 application fee** with their application. (This will be refunded if not chosen for the cohort.) There is space for up to 15 participants in this cohort.

**Part II – Supporting Information**

*Please note that all grant applications benefit in their review process by providing as much information as possible. Please answer the questions fully; attach additional pages as necessary.*

1) What does “pastoral excellence” mean to you? How do you sustain it?

2) What prompts your desire to apply for this particular cohort?

3) What do you hope to gain from your participation?

4) Do you have any concerns in being able to meet the required commitments listed at the beginning of this application?

5) What questions do you have about the cohorts that you would like answered by Ordered Ministry staff?

6) Have you received permission from your church board/chair to participate? *(This is not necessarily a requirement, but is important due to the time commitment the cohorts require.)*

7) There will be some miscellaneous costs that participants will be required to cover. Will your church be contributing to these expenses? *(Note: Such contributions are not required, but are of interest to the program.)*

☐ Yes, estimated amount \$\_\_\_\_\_ ☐ No

8) How do you anticipate being able to use what you learn to benefit other Covenant pastors? Would you be willing to participate on a cohort presentation team in the future?

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Return completed grant application by mail, email, or fax to:

**Sustaining Pastoral Excellence, the Ordered Ministry**  
**Evangelical Covenant Church, 8303 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631**  
**Fax: 773-583-3292      Telephone: 773-583-3211      [ministry@covchurch.org](mailto:ministry@covchurch.org)      [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org)**