



The Small Church Residency Program

is a timely and innovative program focused on spiritual, vocational, and congregational transformation. The program pairs small, underserved congregations in rural, small town and urban settings with recent seminary graduates in two-year pastoral calls. The program is designed to renew the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) by developing missional pastors and equipping them to serve and grow small congregations.

How to get started?

If you think the Small Church Residency Program is what your church is looking for, then here is how to proceed...

- Contact the Small Church Residency Program office to let them know of your interest (followed by contact info).
- Meet with your Session and PNC and get their approval.
- Meet with your Presbytery COM Liaison to acquire the necessary presbytery approvals and commitments.
- When filling out your congregation's Ministry Information Form (MIF) on the Church Leadership Connection, check the position title "Solo Pastor (For Such a Time as This Pastoral Resident)."

For more information, please contact Cindy Cushman at 502-569-5381 or residency@pcusa.org.



Small Church Residency Program

Growing Leaders, Growing Churches

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS



An Invitation to Congregations

presbyterianmission.org/residency



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“Yes we are alive. Yes, we do have a future. Yes, God is still at work in our church. There is more we can do.”

*—Sara Bramlett, ruling elder,
First Presbyterian Church,
Pontotoc, Mississippi*

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Is your church eligible to participate?

The program is designed to serve small congregations that are open to change and interested in increasing their community engagement and exploring new ministries. Participating churches must:

- Be small churches (generally, though not strictly, defined as less than 100 members or less than 75 in worship).
- Be able to support a full time pastor at the presbytery minimum salary for the two year period (yoked parishes, or congregations sharing a pastor, are accepted).
- Have presbytery's commitment to pay their portion of the salary support grant (\$3,000 per year for one congregation, \$2,500 per year if there is more than one congregation participating in the presbytery).
- Have presbytery's commitment to assign a pastor mentor for the resident and organize a cluster learning group with other new pastors that would meet monthly.



Is the Small Church Residency Program a good fit for your church?

The program is seeking churches that...

- May have few members, but are active and ready to explore God's call for them in their community.
- Are located in a changing community with possibilities for new outreach.
- Are located in a community of high need, with a membership that desires to serve God's people in its midst.
- Are interested in being a "teaching congregation" for a new pastor as he or she develops their gifts and skills in pastoral leadership.

What benefits will your church receive?

- A new pastor who has a passion for learning about and serving the small church.
- A new pastor who receives specialized training in church growth and community engagement from national staff.
- Ongoing support from the presbytery through the salary support grant, and the pastoral resident's mentor and learning cluster group.
- Ongoing support from the Small Church Residency program office, which subsidizes the salary support grant and mentor stipends and offers a connection to the denomination's leaders in church transformation, leadership development and theology and worship.