

College Pastoral Internship Project

The College Pastoral Internship Program has proven to have a powerful impact on both interns and congregations alike. We measure the success of this program not by the number of interns who become pastors, but rather by the number of students whose calling is clarified by the experience. That said, approximately 75% of interns enter the candidacy process after their pastoral internship experiences.

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Every intern has reported that the experience has helped them gain clarity about how God is calling them to serve the church: as a clergyperson, as a lay staff member, or as a lay leader in their congregations. Congregations are revived by the presence of young, enthusiastic leaders in their midst.

Emerging Leaders Initiative

Texas Annual Conference
The Center for Clergy Excellence
5215 Main Street | Houston, Texas 77002
Phone: 713.521.9383 | Fax: 713.523.9173
www.txcumc.org



“The Pastoral Internship Project was a great and unique experience for me. Through my experience at the Texas A&M Wesley Foundation, I had already discerned a calling into the ministry, but this program gave me the first hand experience to **confirm and clarify** that call. Pastoral ministry can never be adequately explained apart from living out the vocation; this program provided the mentoring and experience I needed to prepare for the next steps. ”

REV. JEREMY WESTER
2007 CPIP PARTICIPANT

The College Pastoral Internship Project (CPIP) is designed for individuals 19 to 24 years of age who are interested in exploring ordained ministry as a career. The program lasts ten weeks, during which the intern is given the opportunity to experience pastoral ministry by participating in a directed program of involvement across the church's life. Interns typically assist in the areas of children's and student ministries, adult education, missions, outreach, pastoral care, and proclamation, as well as a variety of other areas, tailored to the interns gifts and desire to explore.



to provide feedback and support for the intern's work and gifts in ministry.

Interns serve under the supervision and care of a mentor pastor, specifically chosen for his or her ability to nurture a young person in their call to ministry. Mentor pastors meet regularly with interns to reflect on their ministry experiences and the ways that God is leading them. Additionally, each intern meets regularly with a Lay Encouragement Committee, composed of congregation members who commit to pray for the intern and

“The best part of this experience was seeing the love for the Lord that a young intern has, and how excited they are about it. I would love for our church to host an intern again. It is great for us as a church to **mentor and lead others**, helping them in their journey...”

2010 LAY ENCOURAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEMBER

Those selected for the project have completed at least one year of college, earning no less than a 2.5 grade point average, and have at least some past experience in such mission programs as U.M. ARMY, Partners in Mission trips, or the equivalent. They also demonstrate personal maturity, an understanding of Christian discipleship, and a heart of service to others. He or she must also be a person of faith embodying and modeling a Christian lifestyle of high moral and ethical standards and integrity.

The Texas Annual Conference provides interns with a stipend of \$3,000, in addition to funding the orientation and reflection retreats that begin and end the internship experience. Each church provides housing arrangements for the 10 week internship period, as well as paying for incidental ministry expenses, such as mileage reimbursement. Such details are arranged between the mentor pastor and the intern during the orientation retreat.