



WHITWORTH

Office of Church Engagement

“Minds and Hearts Set on Christ”

Whitworth University’s Office of Church Engagement in partnership with the Yellowstone Presbytery

Program Description

The preparation for and the proclamation of the Scriptures is a complex responsibility requiring the pastor to be a faithful interpreter of both the Bible and the congregation in a highly relational context. This cohort-based PC(USA) grant project provides time, space, community, and resources to reflect on the quality of the pastor’s relationships with God, self, colleagues, congregations, and the Scriptures. The project team invites presbytery cohorts of pastors into a year-long process to pursue together these three goals:

- Renewing our spirits - “Rekindling my love for the lover of my soul”
- Relating in our communities - Pastor cohorts and congregations
- Refining our craft - “Mind and Heart” preaching and teaching of God’s Word

Cohorts will attend the Whitworth Institute of Ministry (see more below), including a specific Preaching/Teaching track as well as Dale Bruner teaching portions of Matthew’s Gospel and will continue meeting on a monthly basis from Sept. to Aug.

Timeline

March-April	Cohort participants contact their presbytery to sign up for a cohort and then register for the Whitworth Institute of Ministry (WIM).
May-June	Cohort preparation (cohort meeting and light reading) before WIM
July 18-22	WIM (involvement in the “Mind and Heart” track and Biblical Formation track on Matthew with Dale Bruner)
Sept.-Aug.	Monthly cohort gatherings either in person or online with regular readings, reflection, and prayer partner support

Cohort Participant Finances

- WIM program registration* - \$50 (grant scholarship pays \$250 of \$300 program registration)
- WIM room and meals** - \$350 for a single room, \$325 for a double occupancy room
- Travel to WIM

*Participant financial commitment may vary depending if a presbytery or congregation contributed towards some costs. Please contact your Executive Presbyter.

**In lieu of housing on campus, participants can request to stay with families from churches close to the Whitworth campus. Participants/families choosing to stay off-campus with a church family can pay for meals a la carte.

“Mind and Heart” Project Teachers



GEORGE GOODRICH

George Goodrich (D.Min.) has been the co-general presbyter for the Presbytery of Yellowstone, Montana, from 2004. Goodrich served as senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Reading, Penn., from 1984 to 2004. He was associate pastor for youth and camping at First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, Penn., from 1978-84. In line with his passion for nurturing spiritual formation and discipleship in pastors and congregations, Goodrich recently completed certification in spiritual direction through Leadership Transformations' Selah Program. Goodrich is married to the Reverend Kathy Goodrich, with whom he serves as co-general presbytery.



ERIC PETERSON

Eric Peterson, a theology graduate of Whitworth University, where he now serves on the board of trustees, earned his M.Div from Princeton Theological Seminary with a concentration in preaching. He recently completed his D.Min at George Fox Evangelical Seminary in semiotics and future studies. His doctoral research and writing focused on the sacrament of baptism as a pedagogy for congregational formation. Peterson, who calls himself “a village pastor,” is the founding pastor of Colbert Presbyterian Church, where he has served since 1997. He and his wife, Elizabeth, are the parents of six children.



RON PYLE

Ron Pyle completed his Ph.D. at the University of Washington. He has two master's degrees, one in speech communication and one in theology. His doctoral research, on the preaching of Charles Finney, reflects his research interests in public address, rhetoric, and religious communication.

Pyle teaches a variety of courses related to interpersonal relationships, theories of communication, African American preaching, and analysis of social influence. He also teaches courses in preaching and small-group ministry. Pyle leads seminars for pastors and church staff on topics including pulpit communication, mentoring, and conflict management in the church.



MINDY SMITH

Mindy Smith studied theology at Whitworth, graduating in 1998. She served on the Young Life Staff for three years in Spokane, Wash., before beginning her study at Princeton Theological Seminary. Smith graduated with her M.Div in 2006. Following graduation, she spent two years serving in the inner city with underprivileged Latino students. In Phoenix, she worked at First Historic Presbyterian Church as the executive director of Downtown Urban Community Kids. In summer 2008, she received a call to serve as the campus pastor of Whitworth University. She runs a thriving small-group program at Whitworth, teaches pastoral-care and ministry-training classes, and enjoys preaching regularly during weekly chapel. She recently began her doctoral work at George Fox Theological Seminary, studying preaching.

Whitworth Institute of Ministry (WIM)

WIM 2016, July 18-22, features Mike Breen and Brenda Salter McNeil. This summer's WIM addresses the question of how Christians can be effective witnesses for the Gospel during these incredibly tumultuous times of cultural change. Building upon this famous phrase from the Book of Esther -- "Maybe you were made for such a time as this!" (Esther 4:14, The Message) -- WIM 2016 will address the vital question of what Christian discipleship looks like in the 21st century.

Contact Information

Please contact your presbytery for more information or email the OCE at oce@whitworth.edu with questions. To sign up for WIM, please visit our website at www.whitworth.edu/wim.