Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC)



CUIC Institute on Ecumenism

2026-2027

CUIC created the "CUIC Institute on Ecumenism;" a young adult cohort, in order to help train persons within the United States in the Ecumenical and Interreligious Movements. Participants will be trained in the history and theology of the Ecumenical Movement, the history and theology of the Interreligious Movement, current trends in both, and the particular connections among the CUIC Member Communions.

The cohort will represent the 10 CUIC Member Communions and may be lay or clergy. The age range for young adults includes anyone around 40 and younger. Those chosen must be able to commit to 10 months of training, be able to travel to two three-day, in-person gatherings in the United States, have access to a phone and internet, and be willing to organize and lead a ministry project in their home context. Those chosen to participate in this special training agree to each of those requirements and agree for their name and image to be used in articles and advertisements of CUIC. Applications are due to CUICinstitute@gmail.com no later than August 14, 2026.

Given/First Name: _____

Family/Last Name: _____

Denominational Affiliation: _____

Current Ministry Role/Position: _____

Local Congregation in which Membership is Held:

_____

Mailing Address: _____

_____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please confirm you have each of the following by putting a check in the corresponding box:

_____ Access to a computer and internet for video conferences
_____ Ability to read and speak fluently in English
_____ Reached the age of at least 25 but not more than 45 as of June 30, 2025
_____ Ability to commit to this training for 1 year
_____ Approval from your denomination

Please answer each of the following questions in English in 200 words or less:

1. When have you demonstrated leadership and facilitation skills?

2. Describe your strongest gifts for leadership?

3. Describe an ecumenical or interreligious ministry project in which you participated.

4. Why are Christian unity and interreligious relationships important to you?

5. What will you do with this specialized training after your time commitment is completed?

6. Why are you applying for this training and what do you hope to gain?

*Signature of denominational official in support of your application:

_____ Date: _____

*Signature of person submitting this application:

_____ Date: _____

To this application form add:

1. A letter of reference from an official within your denomination.
2. A letter of reference from someone attesting to your leadership skills.
3. A letter of reference from someone attesting to your ecumenical commitment.

Any questions may be sent to The Rev. Erin Betz Shank, Director at CUICinstitute@gmail.com.

Schedule for 2026-2027:

*All meetings (except for the 2 in-person gatherings) will be via Zoom, 11:00am-1pm, EST.

Friday, September 11, 2026
October 18-20 - In-person meeting in Washington, DC
Friday, November 6, 2026
Friday, December 4, 2026
Friday, January 8, 2027
Friday, February 5, 2027
Friday, March 5, 2027
Friday, April 9, 2027
May 23-25 – in-person, location TBD
Friday, June 4, 2027