



2025

LEADERSHIP COHORT

The Global Immersion Leadership Cohort forms and equips Christian leaders to mend internal, interpersonal, and institutional divides.

The cohort utilizes live access to leading voices in global faith-based peacemaking, a communal approach to collaborative learning, and personalized coaching and spiritual direction sessions to invite the next-level transformation unique to and necessary for each leader in the program. The 2025 cohort includes an immersion into Northern Ireland, where we will explore the role of faith leaders in accelerating and disarming conflict. Together with our UK-based colleagues, you will become certified in the proven conflict transformation methodology, *Dialogue for Peaceful Change*, born out of *The Troubles* by leaders at the [Corrymeela Community](#). The cohort culminates with a robust synthesis of critical insights, strategy sessions for organizational renovation, program innovation, and local engagement, and a formal invitation to the Global Immersion Fellowship.

This distinctive cohort is designed for seasoned Christian leaders who have institutional influence and are:

- Awakening to the crises that dominate our local and global landscape.
- Searching for a hopeful alternative to a Christianity that promotes domination.
- Seeking guidance and companionship in personal, organizational, and contextual transformation.

2025 Cohort

Our 2025 cohort will be a diverse community of leaders from across North America. We seek applicants from rural, urban, and suburban contexts who operate in congregational, non-profit, and academic spaces. We will meet online from February to July, with an in-person immersion into Northern Ireland in early June.

Framework

The cohort's framework centers on formation and is based on the conviction that holistic peacemaking includes reconciliation to *Self, Faith, Community/Context, and Creation*

World-class facilitators curate each module, which feature a global faculty member carefully selected based on the theme and outcomes of the respective modules.

Facilitators



Dr. Jer Swigart

Co-Founder, Executive Director
Global Immersion
Spokane, WA

Jer is a faith leader, a nationally recognized peacemaker, a mediator, and a trainer known for forming conflict-competent leaders, teams, and organizations. He is the co-author of *Mending the Divides: Creative Love in a Conflicted World* and a Bonhoeffer Senior Fellow at Hebrew College's Miller Center for Inter-religious Leadership. Jer holds an MDiv from Fuller Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Leadership in Global Perspectives from Portland Seminary.



Osheta Moore

Pastor, Author,
Spiritual Director
St Paul, MN

Osheta is a peacemaker, pastor, spiritual director, and sought-after speaker and facilitator. She's the author of *Shalom Sistas*, which invites women into the rhythms of everyday peacemaking, and *Dear White Peacemakers*, written to invite white allies into the work of racial reconciliation. Alongside her husband, Osheta co-pastors Roots Moravian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Global Faculty

Contributing faculty are among the leading voices in global peacemaking, including:



Rev. Ben McBride



Lenore Three Stars



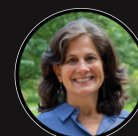
Rev. René August



Dr. David Gushee



Nina Barnes



**Rev. Dr. Ruth
Padilla DeBorst**

2025 Cohort Dates

All modules meet on Fridays from 8-11am Pacific on Zoom.

Each module includes:

- live teaching and conversation with leading voices in global peacemaking
 - peer group working session for processing and deeper integration
 - group spiritual direction
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Modules

MODULE 1: Welcome to the Trailhead: Awakening to a More Spacious, Restorative, Integrated Theology

- Friday, February 7, 2025

MODULE 2: Pilgrimage as Formation: Centering the Question “Who Must I Become?”

- Friday, February 21, 2025

MODULE 3: Reconciled To Self...Embracing Belovedness as the Bedrock of our Peacemaking

- Friday, March 7, 2025

SELAH: Pulling the Threads for Deeper Integration

- Friday, March 21, 2025

MODULE 4, Pt 1: Reconciled to Faith: Understanding the Fusion of Western Christendom and Partisan Politics

- Friday, April 4, 2025

MODULE 4, Pt 2: Reconciled to Faith: Gaining Tools to Untangle the Fusion and Dismantle its Impact

- Friday, April 11, 2025

MODULE 4, Pt 3: Reconciled to Faith: A Working Session for Personal and Organizational Transformation

- Friday, April 25, 2025

MODULE 5: Reconciled to Creation: Journeying from Consumers to Co-Creators

- Friday, May 9, 2025

MODULE 6, Pt 1: Northern Ireland Framing and Preparation

- Friday, May 23, 2025

MODULE 6, Pt 2: Reconciled to Community/Context: Bridging Difference & Transforming Conflict

- June 6-13, 2025: Northern Ireland Immersion
- Dialogue for Peaceful Change Certification

MODULE 7: Remembering, Locating, Imagining: Charting the Course Forward

- Friday, July 11, 2025

MODULE 8: Articulating our Action Plans

- Friday, October 10, 2025

The Cohort Experience Includes:

Peer Groups

Each member will be placed into a peer group where the themes from our content sessions can intersect with your personal formation and leadership practice.

Digital Self-Reflection

Members will be given the opportunity to reflect and interact monthly on the themes of our learning on our private cohort blog.

Resources

Each module will provide and/or generate resources, including video recordings of our content sessions, which will be curated into a digital 'toolkit' you can access throughout and beyond the cohort.

Support

The journey we will take together will explore themes likely to generate the kinds of discomfort and disorientation necessary for transformation to occur. Our team will be available throughout the cohort to offer the support you need.

Coaching & Spiritual Direction

Members will have the opportunity to meet with our facilitators for at least one coaching session (leadership formation, organizational renovation, program development, alliance building with Jer) and one spiritual direction session (interior work and sustaining contemplative practice with Osheta). Additional sessions may be available upon request.

Global Immersion Fellowship

Upon completing the cohort, you will be formally invited to become a Global Immersion Peace Fellow. Through quarterly online convenings and annual in-person experiences, we will continue to support your ongoing formation, deepen your relationships with Reconciling Leaders worldwide, and resource your collaborations as they emerge.

Endorsements from Cohort Alumni

My pilgrimage with the cohort was transformational for me as a faith leader, and the experience continues to guide who I am today as an educator in the public school system. I started the journey eager to learn what I needed to do to help my faith community become a place of restoration and peace. By the end of the journey, however, I realized that being a faith leader and peacemaker was less about what I needed to do and more about who I needed to become. I learned the importance of storytelling, surrendering and allowing the Spirit to bring life to the brokenness, binding one another's wounds, allowing space for doubts, always welcoming creativity, and finding peace in the Mystery of it all.

- Mindy Plick, 2021 Cohort
Public School Educator



Nine months before joining the cohort, I was in Myanmar, holding an M16 rifle, and aiming it at a Myanmar Military base. At that time, I believed I was operating out of love for my neighbors, an oppressed ethnic minority called the Karen, who had been targets of intense violent persecution in Myanmar for decades. While motivated by love, embracing violence left me feeling empty, hopeless, and further from justice. I joined the 2022 cohort and through it, I transformed. My soul found repair, and my mind was opened to a faith-infused, hopeful alternative to the path I found myself on. It didn't happen overnight and it didn't happen alone. I'm grateful for how my peers and our guides allowed me to stumble into an embrace of restoration, both for myself and for the world around me.

- Jesse Phenow, 2022 Cohort
Executive Director
The Urban Village



This leadership cohort has been an essential, brave space to process and question some big ideas on a peer level with people who I can be honest and vulnerable with. The progression of modules took me beyond attaining new knowledge to experiencing holistic transformation. Beginning by learning to embrace our own belovedness, the cohort created a strong foundation to examine constructs in faith, government, society, and my own organization that might have otherwise proved too complicated to untangle. The investment of the facilitators and faculty formed me in ways I haven't experienced in any other space as a leader.

-Jen Manlief, 2023 Cohort
Manager of Vehicle Residence Programs
The University Heights Center



This cohort produces leaders in peacemaking who are making the world a better place for the glory of God. The experience ties together what leaders aspire to be—people who close the gaps between themselves and the pain in this world, and equip others to do the same. Informed by global experts in peacemaking and reconciliation, the cohort equipped us to embrace belovedness, starting with ourselves and extending it to all of creation. Through deep biblical reflection, academic knowledge, and experiential learning, we were empowered to question, embrace, lament, and reconcile. The cohort challenged me to make the restorative essence of Jesus real and relevant every day in every aspect of my life. I am an entirely different human being and leader because of this cohort's inspiration to practice peace with every inhale and exhale. If you're a leader who is fueled by your faith and who wants to get better at tending to the world's pain for God's glory and neighbors' good, I implore you to join this cohort!

-Dr. Rahn Franklin, 2024 Cohort
Vice President of Inclusive Excellence
Bethel University



Cost

\$4000

Cost includes:

- all live virtual programming from February - July, 2025
- one-on-one coaching with Jer
- one-on-one spiritual direction sessions with Osheta
- in-person immersion for seven days, including
 - a three-day immersion into *The Troubles* in Northern Ireland
 - covers programming, lodging, most food, and transportation*
 - a four-day certification in the Dialogue for Peaceful Change Conflict Transformation Methodology at the Corrymeela Community
 - covers programming, lodging, food, transportation

*Cost does not include flights, transportation from the airport to the hotel, and nominal meals during immersion

Funding Support

We understand that the cost can be a challenge, but we're here to help you overcome it with a proven strategy to fund your tuition.

We recommend a balanced approach: cover 1/3 of the cost yourself, 1/3 from your organization, and 1/3 from a supportive team of funders who believe in your mission as a peacemaker.

To assist you, we've created a fundraising letter template. This template has been successfully used by past Global Immersion participants and can help you secure the necessary support. You can find this template on the next page.

Request for Funding Template

Dear (First Name),

(Brief introductory paragraph for personal updates, well wishes, etc.)

I've recently been nominated for a prestigious leadership development cohort hosted by Global Immersion that equips Christian leaders with the vital tools for transforming conflict within ourselves, our organizations, and our contexts.

The cohort utilizes live access to leading voices in global faith-based peacemaking, a communal approach to collaborative learning, and personalized coaching and spiritual direction sessions to invite the next-level transformation unique to and necessary for each leader in the program. It includes an immersion into Northern Ireland, where we will explore the role of faith leaders in accelerating and disarming conflict. While there, we will gain certification in the proven conflict transformation methodology, *Dialogue for Peaceful Change*, born out of *The Troubles* by leaders at the Corrymeela Community. The cohort culminates with a robust synthesis of critical insights, strategy sessions for organizational renovation, programmatic innovation, and local engagement, and a formal invitation into the Global Immersion Fellowship as a Peace Fellow.

As you know, I am someone who longs to leverage my faith to participate locally and globally in the holy work of repair. Through this nomination and application process, it has become clear that this cohort is what I need to level up my leadership.

The entire cost for my participation in this cohort is \$4000 + flight. My strategy is to fund a third of this myself, ask my organization to fund a third of it, and invite a small community of investors to fund the final third. I'm writing today to invite you to join that community of funders. Will you invest in peace by contributing (\$ amount) to my formation and its exponential impact within my organization?

All donations are tax-deductible as they will be given to and processed by Global Immersion, a registered 501c3.

[INSERT DONATION INSTRUCTIONS or LINK]

I will personally follow up with you by x date by phone or in person so that I can answer any questions you may have. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to call (phone #) or to email (e-address) with any questions you may have. Thanks in advance for your consideration and your partnership.

Yours,
(Name)