



Checking In:

Orientation for New CMC

Pastor Couples

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us the spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.

2 Timothy 1:6-7



Checking In

Most people experience a steep learning curve in their adjustment to a pastoral role:

- ✓ Changes in personal relationships
- ✓ Drop in salary
- ✓ Filled-up evenings and weekends
- ✓ Many hats (study, public speaking, counseling, public relations, administration, supervision)
- ✓ Feelings of isolation

The two-year ***Checking In*** program helps new pastors and spouses:

- ✓ Form ministry identities
- ✓ Develop pastoral skills
- ✓ Broaden theological knowledge.

Checking In groups new pastoral couples into a cohort under the care of a mentor couple.

Who qualifies for Checking In?

Checking In is a program that equips pastors and spouses at the beginning of their ministries. Associate or lead pastors in the first two years of their first pastoral placement qualify.



What does *Checking In* involve?

Three to six pastors and spouses will be placed in a ministry cohort with a mentor couple selected and trained by the CMC office.

Each year, the mentor couple will meet with the group six times via phone or video conferencing and will have at least one individual meeting with each pastoral couple.

Checking In will begin with a retreat for the new pastoral couples. For convenience of travel, the retreat will be held immediately following CMC's annual conference. Child care will be provided. The retreat will include worship, resourcing from speakers, participants' stories of God's call, and informal fellowship.

Soon after the retreat, each couple in the cohort will meet with the mentor couple to identify their strengths and weaknesses in relationship to pastoral ministry. The mentor couple will also guide the new couple in strengthening their pastoral skills, theological knowledge, and personal development. Together they will develop an individualized plan to guide the new couple over the two-year program and beyond.

In the course of the program, each pastor is encouraged to develop a ministry toolbox. This will involve online resources, books, Equipper series, and RBC classes adapted for ministers on location.



What is the cost to participate in *Checking In*?

While CMC is subsidizing much of the cost of the program, the local congregation is asked to contribute \$300 per year or \$600 total for the two year program.

Limited scholarships are available.

For more information or to apply contact:

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