**Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC)**



**CUIC Institute on Ecumenism**

April 2025

*CUIC created the “CUIC Institute on Ecumenism” in order to help train persons within the United States in the Ecumenical and Interreligious Movements. Young adults chosen to participate 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.*

*This second cohort will represent the 10 CUIC Member Communions and may be lay or clergy. Priority will be given to people in their 30’s, but those marginally outside those ages should still consider applying. 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 the 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 Rev. Erin Betz Shank at* [*erintlin@yahoo.com*](mailto:erintlin@yahoo.com) *(with a copy to Rev. Jean Hawxhurst at* [*jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org*](mailto:jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org)*) no later than June 30, 2025.*

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?

1. How will you get other young adults in your area to join your project?

\*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.

Email all of the above to Rev. Erin Betz Shank at [erinltin@yahoo.com](mailto:erinltin@yahoo.com) (with a copy to Rev. Dr. Jean Hawxhurst at [jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org](mailto:jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org)) no later than June 30, 2025.