

2025 Spring Credentialing Course

Opportunities (updated 12/17/24 teb)

There may be other courses offered through specific conferences or AFMEI/JWSF schools. If you have any questions, you may **connect with the embedded links provided below** or contact us at (317) 616-4801 or credentialing@fmcusa.org or visit <https://leadership.fmcusa.org/courses>

Please note there are registration dates and specific course dates for some courses.

LMC-Level Content Areas

At the Local Ministerial Candidate level, satisfactory evidence of mastery in the following content areas will be required:

The Free Methodist Way	Basic Christian Doctrine
History and Polity of the Free Methodist Church	Wesleyan Theology

*These are the **ideal content areas** for candidates to explore and master **early in the credentialing process**. They help with understanding and alignment of Christian ministry within the Wesleyan Holiness movement, particularly the Free Methodist Church.*

CMC-Level Content Areas

At the Conference Ministerial Candidate level, satisfactory evidence of mastery in the above LMC-level and the following content areas are required:

Old Testament Survey*	New Testament Survey*	Systematic Theology	Inductive Bible Study/Hermeneutics
Old Testament Elective (i.e., book of the Bible)	New Testament Elective (i.e., book of the Bible)	Personal Formation and Self Care*	Homiletics*
Shepherding, Leadership, and Church Administration*	Congregational Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Care*	Community Engagement, Evangelism, and Justice*	Cross-Cultural Experience*

These are content areas related to the Outcomes-Based Ordination process. Candidates who explore and master these content areas, ideally will display significant evidence of the 15 outcomes in the Heart, Head, & Hands categories. Proviso: These are standards. Where the MEG Board needs to determine equivalency to satisfy these standards, they have the authority and flexibility to do so.

**Consecrated Deacon Candidates ideally show mastery in Bible and two determined Practical Theology areas*

SORTED BY CATEGORY & COURSE

FMC

- **The Free Methodist Way**
 - a FREE, abridged FM Way Special Module (in English) is now placed on the [LMC Path](#) and Transfer Candidate Path as an option to briefly introduce candidates to the five values of the FMCUSA
- **El Estilo Metodista Libre (curso intensivo en español), cohort offered as needed**
- **History & Polity of the Free Methodist Church**
 - [Central Christian College of Kansas](#) \$150, register by January 1, 2025 (course begins online January 9, 2025- 6 weeks)
 - [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University
 - [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
 - [The River Institute/Asbury](#) (annual cohort in progress began Sept. 16, 2024; fall dates in 2025)
 - [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
 - [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$110 [Pathwright History & Polity Preview](#) Self-paced, up to 8 months to complete
- **Historia y Gobierno Metodista Libre (curso intensivo en español), jueves/Thursday evenings; enero/January 9 thru febrero/February 20, 2025 on Pathwright and Zoom; register at [FMC-USA](#), \$110**

THEOLOGY

- **Introduction to Christian Doctrine**
 - [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$110 [Pathwright Introduction to Christian Doctrine Preview](#) Self-paced, up to 8 months to complete
- **Introducción a la teología cristiana**
 - [Asbury Latino Center](#)
- **Wesleyan Theology**
 - [Central Christian College of Kansas](#) \$150, register by January 1, 2025 (course begins online January 9, 2025- 6 weeks)
 - [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
 - [The River Institute/Asbury](#) (annual cohort in progress began Sept. 16, 2024; fall dates in 2025)
 - [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
 - [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University
 - [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Wesleyan Theology Preview](#) Self-paced, up to 8 months to complete
- **La Teología Wesleyana (curso intensivo en español)**
 - [Asbury Latino Center](#)

- SPANISH con Dr. Guillermo Flores; on Pathwright, Zoom meetings, assignments; \$110, through [FMC-USA](#), cohort offered as needed
- **Systematic Theology**
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Systematic Theology Preview](#) **TWO OPTIONS**
 - Self-paced, 3-8 months to complete.
 - OR 13-week cohort with Dr. Roberta Mosier-Peterson (limit 12 students; current cohort in progress thru Jan. 31, 2025; new dates TBD)

BIBLE

- **Old Testament Survey**
 - [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University
 - [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
 - [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
 - [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH
 - [The Ministry Training Center](#), \$150, self-paced
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Old Testament Survey Preview](#) Self-paced, up to 8 months to complete
- **New Testament Survey**
 - [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University
 - [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
 - [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
 - [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright New Testament Survey Preview](#) Self-paced, up to 8 months to complete
- **Inductive Bible Study/Hermeneutics**
 - [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University
 - [The River Institute/Asbury](#) (annual cohort in progress began Sept. 16, 2024; fall dates in 2025)
 - [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
 - [The Ministry Training Center](#), \$100, ENGLISH two Saturday sessions 2/1; 3/8; in person and on zoom; Registration deadline 1/10/2025
 - [The Ministry Training Center](#), \$100, español/SPANISH dos/two sabodos/Saturday sessions 2/8; 3/15; in person and on zoom; Registration deadline 1/10/2025
 - [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
 - [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH
 - [FMC-USA](#), \$165 (multiple instructor choices) [Pathwright Inductive Bible Study Preview](#) Self-paced, 3-8 months to complete
- **Old Testament elective**
 - “Zechariah” [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
 - “Genesis – OT Inductive Bible Study” Anytime on Pathwright [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Genesis – OT Ind Bible Study Preview](#); self-paced, 3-8 months to complete
 - “Minor Prophets – OT Inductive Bible Study” Anytime on Pathwright [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Minor Prophets – OT Ind Bible Study Preview](#); self-paced, 3-8 months to complete

- **New Testament elective**

- “Acts” [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
- “Hebrews – NT Inductive Bible Study” [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Hebrews – NT Inductive Bible Study Preview](#); self-paced, 3-8 months to complete
- [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH

PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

- **Personal Spiritual Formation**

- [The River Institute/Asbury](#) register by Aug. 26, 2024 (cohort begins Sept. 16, 2024)
- [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
- [Asbury Latino Center](#)
- SPANISH con Dr. Guillermo Flores; on Pathwright NEW!, Zoom meetings, assignments; \$110, through [FMC-USA](#), cohort offered as needed

- **Homiletics**

- [The River Institute/Asbury](#) register by Aug. 26, 2024 (cohort begins Sept. 16, 2024)
- [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
- [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University
- [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
- [The Ministry Training Center](#), \$150, ENGLISH three Saturday sessions 4/5; 5/10; 6/7; in person and on zoom; Registration deadline 3/20/2025
- [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
- [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH
- [FMC-USA](#), \$165 New! [Pathwright Homiletics Preview](#); self-paced, up to 8 months to complete

- **Leadership, Shepherding & Church Administration**

- [The River Institute/Asbury](#) register by Aug. 26, 2024 (cohort begins Sept. 16, 2024)
- [Online Pastoral Education Center](#), Self-paced, \$150
- [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
- [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
- [FMC-USA](#), \$165 [Pathwright Leadership, Shepherding, & Church Administration Preview](#); self-paced, up to 8 months to complete **(COMING SOON – this content area will be divided into two course options: Leadership & Shepherding and/or Church Administration; more details shared soon!)**

- **Congregational Spiritual Formation & Pastoral Care**

- [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
- [The River Institute/Asbury](#) register by Aug. 26, 2024 (cohort begins Sept. 16, 2024)
- [Northeastern Seminary](#) at Roberts Wesleyan University, MIN 624 “Care and Counsel”
- [Aldersgate School of Ministry](#)
- [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH
- Dr. Denny Wayman, in-person (CA) or zoom; contact dwayman@fmcsb.org

- **Evangelism, Community Engagement & Justice**

- [Seattle Pacific Seminary](#) courses in Christian Studies for Free Methodists
- [Asbury Latino Center](#) SPANISH

- A specific course is being developed for Pathwright. If candidates have experiences that meet the essence of this requirement, with guidance from their mentor, please share a description of the course, experience, or opportunity. Their Conference MEG Board may request a reflection paper as well.
- **Cross Cultural Experience**
 - The FM Global Ministries and FM World Missions teams recommend training with *Perspectives: Mobilizing God's People for God's Global Purpose*. [Perspectives](https://perspectives.org/find-a-class/) offers an in-person, 15-week, certificate or for-credit course in multiple locations around the country in English and Spanish. Find out more at <https://perspectives.org/find-a-class/> Select class type (in-person, online, intensive) and language (English/Spanish). This is a valuable option for this content area.
 - OR If candidates have experiences that meet the essence of this requirement, with guidance from their mentor, please share a description of the course, experience, or opportunity. Their Conference MEG Board may request a reflection paper as well.
- **Theology of Worship** (elective for specialization or continuing education)
 - [FMC-USA](#), up to 8 months to complete, \$165 [Pathwright Theology of Worship Preview](#)
- **Introduction to Chaplaincy** (elective for specialization or continuing education)
 - [FMC-USA](#), six-week course begins , January 20, 2025 on Pathwright & zoom, \$110; see below in Special Opportunities for details
- **Ministerial Ethics**
 - [FMC-USA](#), eight-week course begins January 20, 2025 on Pathwright & zoom, \$165; see below in Special Opportunities for details
- **Grief & Bereavement**
 - **COMING SOON**, eight-week course begins March 17, 2025 on Pathwright & zoom, \$165; see below in Special Opportunities for details
- **Trauma-Informed Care**
 - **COMING SOON**, eight-week course begins May 12, 2025 on Pathwright & zoom, \$165; see below in Special Opportunities for details

INSTRUCTORS/INSTITUTIONS

(same info as above, placed in alphabetical order by instructor/institution)

[Aldersgate School of Ministry](#) (in English AND Spanish, click hyperlink for info/to register)

The Aldersgate School of Ministry is designed to provide high-quality ministry training shaped by the Wesleyan Holiness Tradition. Classes are held online, one night a week, and programs can be completed in as little as one year. Certificate in Lay Ministry (1yr), Certificate in Ministry Leadership (2yr), Certificate in Theology (2yr)

- Denominational History
- Wesleyan Holiness History
- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Scripture Exegesis, Investigation, Conversation, Context
- Servant Leadership
- Church Administration
- Preaching in Proximity
- Care of People

[Asbury Theological Seminary Latino Center](#) (SPANISH -- click hyperlink for more info or to register)

El certificado del Seminario Teológico de Asbury en formación ministerial (LLSP), le ayuda a profundizar su conocimiento en teología, estudios bíblicos y consejería mientras persigue su llamado al ministerio. Este programa, que está acreditado como un equivalente a bachillerato (licenciatura), tiene el propósito de ayudar a los latinos y latinas dentro de la Iglesia Latina a enseñar, predicar y vivir vidas transformadas.

Asbury Theological Seminary's certificate in ministry formation (LLSP) deepens your knowledge of theology, biblical studies and counseling as you pursue your call to ministry. This Program which is accredited as a bachelor equivalency degree has the purpose to help Latinos within the Latino Church to teach, preach and live transformed lives.

Sample of courses that connect to credentialing content areas:

- **Teología Cristiana** (i.e., Intro to Christian Doctrine)
- **Teología de John Wesley** (i.e., Wesleyan Theology)
- **Introducción al Nuevo Testamento** (i.e., NT Survey)
- **Introducción al Antiguo Testamento** (i.e., OT Survey)
- **Introducción a la Hermenéutica** (i.e., Ind. Bible Study)
- **Formación Espiritual** (i.e., Spiritual Formation)
- **El Arte de la Predicación** (i.e., Homiletics/Preaching)
- **Consejería Pastoral** (i.e., Pastoral Care)
- **Religiones del Mundo y Evangelismo**
- **Más/More...**

Central Christian College of Kansas (click hyperlink for more info or to register)

- **History & Polity of FMC** \$150, register by January 1, 2025 (course begins online January 9, 2025- 6 weeks)
- **Introduction to Wesleyan Thought** \$150, register by January 1, 2025 (course begins online January 9, 2025- 6 weeks)
- **NOTE: Fully accredited; earn college credit through Central Christian College of Kansas**

The Ministry Training Center of Metro NY/NJ (click hyperlink for more info or to register)

- **Inductive Bible Study, Hermeneutics and Discovery Bible Study – 2/1; 3/8; (English)**
Offered at Ministry Training Center of Metro NY/NJ, 195 Piaget Avenue, Clifton NJ.
2 Saturday sessions beginning at 10 am. Units: 2; Cost \$100
Registration Deadline: 1/10/2025 In person and remote on Zoom
Trainers: William Kirchhofer, D. Min and Clark Faulkner
- **Estudio Bíblico Inductivo, Hermenéutico y Estudio Bíblico de Descubrimiento- 2/8; 3/15; (Español)**
Ofrecido en Centro de Capacitación Ministerial de Metro NY/NJ, 195 Piaget Avenue, Clifton NJ.
Unidades: 2 Costo \$100; 2 sesiones de sábado comenzando a las 10 am
Plazo de inscripción: 1/17/2025; En persona y remoto en Zoom
Entrenadores: William Kirchhofer, D.Min y Pastor Ricardo Obeso
- **Homiletics: Preaching Effectively – 4/5; 5/10; 6/7 (English)**
Offered at Ministry Training Center of Metro NY/NJ, 195 Piaget Avenue, Clifton NJ
3 Saturday sessions beginning at 10 am Units: 3 Cost \$150
Registration Deadline: 3/20/2025 In person and remote on Zoom
Trainers: William Kirchhofer, D. Min and Clark Faulkner
- **Understanding God's Word: Old Testament Survey (English)**
Offered online only – Learn at your own pace with an assigned training mentor
Units: 3 Cost \$150

To register for a course: Register online at [The Ministry Training Center](#)
Or respond by email to ministrytraining1224@gmail.com or call (973) 772-1660.

Northeastern Seminary at Roberts Wesleyan University (click hyperlink for more info or to register); example: CMC students in Genesis Conference – Certificate in Theology, Ministry, & Scripture

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| • Wesleyan Theology | • Old Testament |
| • History & Polity of FMC | • New Testament |
| • Being in the Story | • Intro to Biblical Exegesis for Preaching and Teaching |
| • Being in the Word | |

Plus, several Master of Arts programs, Master of Divinity, and advanced certificates.

Online Pastoral Education Center, Self-paced, \$150

(click hyperlink for more info or to register)

- **Intro to Christian Theology** \$150 online
- **Wesleyan Theology** \$150 online
- **History & Polity of FMC** \$150 online
- **Leadership in the 21st Century** \$150 online
- **Old Testament Survey** \$150 online
- **New Testament Survey** \$150 online
- **OT Inductive Bible Study – Zechariah** \$150 online
- **NT Inductive Bible Study - Acts** \$150 online
- **Homiletics** \$150 online

The River Institute/Asbury (click hyperlink for more info or to register)

The program offered in an online format spanning 10 months. Each institute contains five modules, and Asbury Seminary will grant a non-degree certificate for completion. \$1000 for five modules covering seven credentialing content areas. Fall 2024 cohort began September (new cohort will begin Fall 2025)

- **History & Polity of FMC**
- **Wesleyan Theology**
- **Church Administration***
- **Homiletics and Hermeneutics***
- **Pastoral Counseling and Self-Care***

Seattle Pacific Seminary (click hyperlink for more info or to register); Seattle Pacific Seminary is offering a 50% discount for their Free Methodist Graduate Certificate in Christian Studies. Many of the courses can be done online. One important benefit of this certificate is that it will transfer to be part of a Masters degree.

- **Denominational Polity**
- **Wesleyan/Methodist Doctrine**
- **Ministerial Leadership**
- **Homiletics & Hermeneutics**
- **Pastoral Care & Counseling**
- **Church Administration**
- **Christian Social Entrepreneurship & Church Planting**
- **New Testament**
- **More...**

FMCUSA (offered on Pathwright self-paced in English or by zoom in Spanish)

- **FM Way** (Free SPECIAL MODULE in English on the LMC Path and Transfer Candidate Path)
- **El Estilo Metodista Libre** (curso intensivo en español) \$110
- **Introduction to Christian Doctrine** (Pathwright) \$110
- **Introducción a la teología cristiana** (curso intensivo en español) \$110
- **La Formación Espiritual** (curso intensivo con Pathwright en español) \$110
- **Wesleyan Theology** (Pathwright) \$165
- **La Teología Wesleyana** (curso intensivo con Pathwright en español) \$110
- **History & Polity of the Free Methodist Church** (Pathwright) \$110
- **Historia y Gobierno Metodista Libre** (curso intensivo en español) \$110
- **Homiletics** (Pathwright) \$165
- **Homilética** (curso intensivo en español) \$110
- **Systematic Theology** (Pathwright) \$165
- **Old Testament Survey** (Pathwright) \$165

- **New Testament Survey** (Pathwright) \$165
- **Inductive Bible Study/Hermeneutics** (Pathwright) \$165 (BASIC and ADVANCED options)
- **OT Genesis Ind. Bible Study** (Pathwright) \$165
- **OT Minor Prophets Ind. Bible Study** (Pathwright) \$165
- **NT Hebrews Ind. Bible Study** (Pathwright) \$165
- **Leadership, Shepherding, & Church Administration** (Pathwright) \$165
- ***Theology of Worship** (Pathwright, \$165)

SPECIAL ELECTIVE OPPORTUNITIES

These are special courses & resources available to candidates &

[LEADERSHIP CENTER](#) (click hyperlink for more info or to register)

Some conferences are using the resources and courses offered through Leadership Center, working with Trisha Welstad et al.

The [Live Your Purpose](#) course and [Vocational Next Steps](#) courses have supported several pastors in discernment and strategic planning for ministry.

If your conference would like to connect with Trisha and Leadership Center, admin@leadershipcenter.co or (213) 222-8594.



conferences. Contact at links provided.



restor(y)

The Center for Church Restoration

[ReStor\(y\)](#) (click hyperlink for more info or to register)

Our workshops cover topics such as:

- Understanding the implications of congregational trauma on the process of hiring a new pastor
- Best congregational care practices following the removal of a pastor
- Shepherding those who have experienced spiritual abuse or religious trauma

"Becoming a Trauma Informed Church: 101"

New courses in Chaplaincy:

- Intro to Chaplaincy, new cohort begins Jan. 6, 2025 on Pathwright [FMCUSA](#)
- Pastoral Crisis Counseling, first cohort recently concluded; new dates TBD
- Ministerial Ethics, new cohort begins Jan. 20, 2025 on Pathwright [FMCUSA](#)
- Grief & Bereavement COMING SOON
- Trauma-Informed Care COMING SOON

Free Methodist Chaplaincy is a specific calling to represent the Free Methodist Church – USA in specialized ministry settings as an extension of the denomination and the chaplain's ordaining conference.

"Introduction to Chaplaincy" is an online course developed by the FM Chaplains Association and offered by The Center for Pastoral Formation FMCUSA to help students:

1. Review the various domains of chaplaincy.
2. Identify the education requirements & certifications required to serve in various chaplain domains.
3. Define key concepts in chaplaincy.
4. Comprehend the differences between the role of a chaplain & the role of a church pastor.
5. Understand how to minister to all people while maintaining the integrity of one's own ordination & endorsement requirements.

For more information and to enroll, visit fmcusa.org/chaplains

SCAN ME



**Dr. Tim and
Rev. Patricia Porter**

Co-Directors of Chaplain Ministries
Endorsing Agent: Dr. Tim Porter
(Ch, Lt Col, USAF, Ret)

timothy.porter@myfmconnect.org
patricia.porter@myfmconnect.org



Chaplains Association
of the Free Methodist Church
Connecting Christ to Community

6-week course begins Jan. 6, 2025