



Committee On Continuing Education/Formation

Board of Ordained Ministry | South Carolina Conference | The United Methodist Church

Continuing Education Covenant Group Guidelines and Application

TYPES OF COVENANT GROUPS: There are two types of Continuing Education Covenant Groups (CECG). Both groups are offered annually by the Board of Ordained Ministry, planned with the assistance of the Board Representative from each district and coordinated by the Director of Continuing Education Groups.

1. **Traditional Groups** meet monthly from September to May for six hours per session. Traditional groups must have a didactic session (learning time using audio visuals, print material, or outside resource) and a covenant session (time for emotional, spiritual and physical accountability--a time of sharing with one another and setting personal goals that you offer and receive support for). The schedule may be adapted but must contain six contact hours (may include lunch if your group has lunch together) to receive 3 CEUs. The covenant session may be modeled like a covenant discipleship group. The didactic session topics are determined by the group leaders and participants. Groups may be asked to include topics identified by the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Cabinet as areas that need educational growth in our annual conference in the didactic session. Selections should be creative and resourceful and use a variety of resources and formats to facilitate all learning styles.
2. **Focus Groups** meet for the timeframe outlined for the specific educational session. The topic for focus group sessions is chosen by the leader offering the session.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (CEUS) FOR COVENANT GROUPS:

- Traditional groups will be granted 3 CEUs for participants who attend 6 full sessions of the 9 sessions offered.
- Focus groups will be granted CEUs based on the number of contact hours for the study. The formula is ten contact hours for one CEU with a maximum of 3 CEUs per focus group.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Anyone appointed or assigned in the SC Annual Conference (LP, FE, FD, AM, CLM, DM, RM, OE, OF, OM) may participate. Provisional members should complete Residency prior to participating in a CECG. Anyone may participate in any group in any district but must remain with that group for the entire year.

ACCOUNTABILITY ASSESSMENT

At the completion of each Continuing Education Group participants will complete an assessment that evaluates their educational growth and the effectiveness of the CECG program.

CONFIDENTIALITY

In order to build and maintain trust, each leader and participant agrees to confidentiality for the CECG sessions. This is essential in order to meet the goal of CECGs to strengthen our connection by support and encouragement for each other.

LEADERS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION GROUPS

Group leaders are volunteers recruited annually by the CECG Director in consultation with the Board of Ordained Ministry and District Superintendents. Anyone interested in hosting a group should contact the CECG Chairperson, the Rev. Katherine Haselden Crimm (khaselden@umcsc.org).



Committee On Continuing Education/Formation

Board of Ordained Ministry | South Carolina Conference | The United Methodist Church

Continuing Education Covenant Group Application

CONTACT INFORMATION OF LEAD ORGANIZER:

First & Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

GROUP INFORMATION

Type of Group (see guidelines and check only 1): Traditional Group Focus Group

District of Meeting: _____ Meeting Dates: _____

Location of Meeting: _____

Meeting Start Time: _____ Meeting End Time: _____

Name(s) of Group Leader(s): _____

Describe your group and its main purpose.

Describe the Didactic time:

Describe the Covenant time:

List books or other resources you will use:
