

Overview

For the past five decades, the Church in New England has experienced a long and steady spiritual decline. A recent Pew Research study in 2022 reports that the demographic shift away from Christianity is accelerating and appears inescapable. Churches have dwindled in size, cultural influence has waned, and the moral and spiritual fabric of society has frayed.

While <u>current trends</u> show the Church in the United States losing up to 42 million Generation Z (born between 2000-2020) by the year 2050, we believe that by turning to God in extraordinary prayer and prioritizing discipleship of this upcoming generation, these seeds of revival and renewal will reap a harvest of countless souls coming to faith in Jesus and safeguard young people who are raised in the faith from walking away.

Throughout the region of Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts there is a growing consensus among pastors and leaders acknowledging the importance for the Church at large to intentionally engage, train, and equip young believers. As the cultural landscape rapidly shifts and the church faces new challenges in a post-Christian world, there is a critical need for leaders who are not only deeply rooted in biblical truth but also adaptable, visionary, and equipped to navigate the complexities of our time.

The Gathering internship program seeks to identify, mentor, and train the next generation of leaders who will embrace the next era of the church, empowering them to lead with wisdom, confidence, and humility. The internship will leverage the relationships of the Together network to provide intentional discipleship, practical ministry experience, and spiritual formation from the pastors and leaders throughout the region. The program aims to prepare young leaders to foster a heart for servant leadership and a commitment to lifelong discipleship, with an orientation to engage with the world in innovative ways, upholding the core values of the gospel, and inspiring future generations to follow Christ faithfully in a rapidly changing world.

TG25 is built on three pillars of discipleship:

• In person teaching

from variety of Christian leaders throughout southern New England

• Shared life

regular shared meals, prayer & worship with the director's family and rotation of guests

• One to one paired mentorships

specifically customized to the interest and calling of each intern

Description

The Gathering 2025 Internship will be deeply rooted in:

- Rhode Island's spiritual heritage, tapping into the wells that have already been dug
- The mission of Jesus in John 17 for the unity of all God's people
- The believer's role as a royal priesthood, and ambassadors of reconciliation to the world
- A method of approach through Prayer, Care, and Share.
 - o Prayer lifestyle of ongoing prayer, and extraordinary for renewal and revival
 - *Care* practice hospitality toward God and people, hosting God's presence well and demonstrating compassion and sacrificial care for all people.
 - Share living out the culture of the Kingdom of God in contrast to the world, sharing the hope of Jesus Christ, readiness to give a reason for our hope

Program Overview

- Orientation and Launch will take place Monday February 3rd.
- Classroom training will be held on Monday evenings.
 - Biblical teachings, prayer workshops, and leadership seminars.
- Reflection and Practical application will take place on Thursday evenings.
 - o Partnership with local ministries, nonprofits, and Christian businesses.
- Hands on service in various ministries and outreaches throughout the program, including Gather25, Hope Day, Camp Clear, and others
- Spiritual Heritage Tour of Rhode Island

Intern Responsibilities & Learning Objectives

- Practice of Common Rule of Life involving rhythms of
 - Scripture reading and prayer
 - Sharing of meals
 - Curating media
 - Recreation
 - Fasting
 - Sabbath
- Assisting with Together initiatives where needed.
- Learning skills and tools for
 - Biblical worldview

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- Hearing God's voice
- Understanding Scripture
- Prayer and intercession
- Application of Kingdom principles in the context of the world we live in
- Hospitality towards God and fellow man
- Godly relationships
- Family values

Duration:

- Applications will be accepted through January 19, and applicants will receive a reply within 2 weeks of submission.
- The Gathering internship semester will kick off on Monday, February 3, 2025, and run through the end of June 27, 2025.

Target Interns:

- The first semester we will be aiming for up to 12 students, but may be open to adjusting this number depending on circumstances.
- Ideal intern candidates are between 17 and 25 years of age. (Exceptions may be considered on a case by case basis.)
- Cost of the full five month internship program is \$750. This fee may be paid in full at the beginning of the program, or in monthly payments of \$150 from February 1 to June 1. (Fundraising help available)

Application Procedure

- Applications may be found <u>here</u>, and must be completed in full by candidates, and signed by a parent/guardian for any candidate under 21.
- Completed applications may be submitted in person to the Gathering director, Sly Pichette, or emailed to: sly.thesendingplace@gmail.com
- Deadline for all application submissions is Sunday, January 19, 2025.
- Once candidates have been accepted into the internship program, the first payment will be due by February 1.

Thank you for your interest in The Gathering internship.

We look forward to having you experience this empowering opportunity to grow in your faith and embody the vibrancy and power of the Holy Spirit in your daily life!

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