**PSCE Sponsored Cohort Groups for**

**Commissioned Ruling Elders**

Commissioned Ruling Elders (CRE) in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are invited to participate in one of five cohorts whose goals are collegial support, sharing new ideas, and learning best practices for ministry. The cohorts are designed to fulfill the church's need for such support and to strengthen the ministry of CREs.

These cohorts will meet monthly for the 2023 calendar year. Groups will consist of up to eight participants and a facilitator. The cohorts will meet for two hours once each month on Zoom. Participants will receive a stipend of $500 for the year.

Each participant must have a current commission in effect, serving as solo pastor in a congregation. Topics for engagement by participants will include spiritual disciplines and practices, seasonal needs in the church's program year (i.e., Advent, church school, Session meetings, educational opportunities), and the sharing of the needs and concerns of each participant. Preparation for meetings may include short reading assignments.

This program is sponsored by Union Presbyterian Seminary's PSCE program (Presbyterians Supporting Christian Education) which provides support for those in ministry in the PC(USA). The CRE cohorts were beta-tested in 2022, with very positive results based on participant feedback. A set of cohorts is currently under way for Christian Educators. This new initiative expands the meaning of Christian Education to include the broader work of the church. Check out this program at <https://www.upsem.edu/psce/>.

Deadline for applications is November 30, 2022. The cohorts will run from January to December, 2023. For further information, contact: Marilyn Johns at marilynjohns2@gmail.com.