



1—Project Name: The Pastor's Common

2—If this grant is being requested on behalf of an external organization, what is that organization's name and connection with Texas Baptists? N/A

3—Please request the minimum amount needed—with a maximum of \$20,000 possible—in order to accomplish the project's goals.

\$20,000.00 (*budget attached*)

4—Overview: Give a one paragraph description of the project.

The Pastor's Common is starting a six-month spiritual formation cohort for millennial and Gen Z pastors across Texas, ending with a statewide conference. This project helps pastors grow not just in their personal and spiritual health but also in practical leadership skills like how to scale their churches and lead well through complex challenges. The statewide conference will highlight what the cohorts have learned and bring more church leaders from around Texas into the conversation. The goal is to strengthen Texas Baptist churches by investing in leaders who are prepared and resilient. We want this to be a project that keeps growing, supported by stories and media that connect with other Texas Baptists church leaders.

5—STRATEGIC: How will this project make Texas Baptists stronger?

This project will make Texas Baptists stronger by equipping the next generation of pastors with the practical skills and support they need to lead effectively in today's challenging ministry environment. By focusing on real world training that addresses the everyday issues church leaders wrestle with such as scaling ministries, managing staff, and engaging their communities, pastors will be better prepared to grow healthy, resilient churches. The statewide conference will also foster connection and shared learning across churches and regions, building greater unity and collaboration among Texas Baptist leaders. Investing in these leaders strengthens the entire Texas Baptist community for the future.

6—SIGNIFICANT: What is the anticipated long-term impact of this project?

The long-term impact of this project will be a stronger network of gospel-centered, healthy churches across Texas led by pastors who are better equipped to apply practical leadership skills in ways that fit their unique contexts. By helping pastors learn how to contextualize what they learn in the cohorts and statewide conference, this project will empower them to lead churches that are both rooted in the gospel and effective in reaching their communities. Over time, this will lead to greater collaboration and unity among Texas Baptist churches, creating a culture of shared learning and mutual support. It will also help this generation of pastors develop a reputation of vibrancy for Texas Baptists, which is something currently lacking.

7—SUSTAINABLE: How will the grant help this project become self-supporting?

This grant will give us the margin and momentum to launch this next phase of The Pastor's Common with the quality and intentionality it deserves. By covering the initial costs for leadership, retreats, materials, and a statewide conference, the grant allows us to build a clear model that can be repeated and funded through future participant contributions, partner churches, and regional sponsors. It will also allow us to refine our systems and structure so we can scale across more cities and regions in Texas. Once this foundation is laid, we believe churches and leaders who experience the value will be willing to invest in it going forward.

8—INNOVATIVE: How will this project break new ground?

This project breaks new ground by combining deep spiritual formation with hands-on leadership development in a way that is regional, repeatable, and rooted in real world pastoral challenges. Rather than offering generic training or isolated events, we are building a relational pipeline with cohorts of pastors meeting regularly in their own cities, culminating in a statewide conference that amplifies what they are learning together. It is also one of the few efforts focused specifically on millennial and Gen Z pastors within Texas Baptists, addressing their unique pressures and opportunities. By bridging theological depth with practical leadership insight, this project offers something both fresh and urgently needed in today's church landscape. Moreover, the participants in the cohort will each write 2-3 articles that will be useful for church leaders in Texas Baptist Churches and beyond. Finally, this is something that has been lacking in Texas Baptist life and we can't miss out on the current generation.

9—INVOLVING: How will the churches served by Texas Baptists be included in this project?

Churches across Texas will be directly involved through the pastors they send into these regional cohorts. Each participating church benefits as their pastor grows in practical leadership, ministry clarity, and contextual skill. These pastors will take what they are learning back into their congregations, helping to shape healthier, more gospel-centered churches. In addition, the statewide conference will be open to pastors, staff, and lay leaders from churches of all sizes and backgrounds, offering shared learning and fresh vision. Over time, this creates a ripple effect of healthier leadership, stronger churches, and greater connection among the churches Texas Baptists serve.

How many churches will be involved? We anticipate that 30 to 40 churches will be directly involved in the first year through the pastors participating in regional cohorts. Each cohort will represent a different city or region in Texas, and each participating pastor brings the experience and growth back to their home church. In addition, we expect over 100 churches to be represented at the statewide conference, which will be open to pastors, staff, and lay leaders from across the state. As the model grows, even more churches will be invited into the process through future cohorts and events.

10—INTERESTING: How will this project produce helpful stories and encourage donor engagement for future ministry support?

Throughout the cohort and conference journey, we will intentionally capture the voices and experiences of participating pastors. From video interviews to written reflections, we will highlight real stories of growth, breakthrough, and impact within local churches. These stories will not only inspire other leaders but also give donors a clear picture of how their support is making a difference. In addition to storytelling, each cohort will help create ministry manuals that reflect the practical leadership topics they've worked through. These manuals will be made available on The Pastor's Common website, alongside video teachings from cohort leaders and conference speakers. Together, these resources will extend the impact of the project, provide lasting value to other pastors, and build ongoing momentum for future ministry support.

11—Has this project received previous TBMF grants? If YES, list years and amounts.

N/A

12—Is this request for an ongoing project with a new name? If YES, what was the former name of the project?

N/A

The Pastor's Common: Project Timeline & Budget Spending Plan

Timeframe	Activity / Milestone	Budget Category	Approximate Cost
January 2026	Cohort Launch Retreat (Kickoff event)	Two In-Person Retreats	\$2,500
	Cohort Leadership Honoraria (start)	Cohort Leadership Honoraria	\$1,000
	Materials Distributed	Cohort Materials & Curriculum	\$500
	Initial Travel Assistance (for out-of-city participants)	Travel Assistance	\$500
	Project Coordination & Admin Begins	Admin & Coordination	\$500
February – July 2026	Monthly In-Person Cohort Meetings in City Region	Cohort Leadership Honoraria	\$2,000
	Ongoing Admin & Scheduling	Admin & Coordination	\$500
	Media Planning & Storytelling Prep	Media + Storytelling	\$500
	Additional Travel Assistance (for occasional travel to retreats)	Travel Assistance	\$500
June 2026	Midpoint Retreat	Two In-Person Retreats	\$2,000
	Continued Leadership Honoraria	Cohort Leadership Honoraria	\$1,000
	Materials for Retreat	Cohort Materials & Curriculum	\$500
	Travel Assistance (for retreat)	Travel Assistance	\$500
	Media Capture of Retreat	Media + Storytelling	\$1,000

July 2026	Cohort Wrap-Up & Final Coaching	Cohort Leadership Honoraria	\$1,000
	Final Admin & Coordination	Admin & Coordination	\$500
	Media Production (Video Edit, Stories)	Media + Storytelling	\$500
August 2026	Mini-Conference Planning & Marketing	Mini-Conference Launch Event	\$1,500
	Speaker Honoraria & Travel	Mini-Conference Launch Event	\$2,000
	Venue Rental & Food	Mini-Conference Launch Event	\$2,000
	Admin & Coordination	Admin & Coordination	\$500
September 2026	Mini-Conference Event	Mini-Conference Launch Event	\$2,000
	Final Media Capture & Donor Storytelling	Media + Storytelling	\$500
TOTAL: \$20,000			