



Women in Ministry Cohort (Chicago)

The purpose of Lead Bold Women in Ministry Cohort is to provide intentional, focused space for female ministry leaders to engage with, encourage and learn from one another.

This cohort is designed for women in ministry, whether full-time or part-time, who are leading in significant roles within churches, parachurch organizations, nonprofits, or for-profit ministries. Women leading in a volunteer capacity are eligible for this cohort.

Rotating Themes -

The cohort will have 4 rotating themes. We will cycle through each theme 3 times in total by the end of the 8-month cohort.

Soul Care - Me & God

ASKS: What's going on between God and me?

All Things Leadership - Challenges, Opportunities, Growth Areas, Dilemmas

ASKS: What's going on in my leadership?

Self Care & Relationships - Personal/Interpersonal Dynamics & Realities

ASKS: What's going on with self-care or my relationships with friends, colleagues, family?

Energy Management - Specific Focus, Practice or Perspective.

Kelli Gotthardt ([Deep Well Sustainable Leadership](#)) will facilitate 3 meetings building on the theme of Energy Management for the spiritual leader.

Meeting Flow -

1. **Connection & Revealing** - This opening portion of the cohort allows each woman to share and reveal what she is coming to the meeting with, based on that week's focus. (Note - Pastors always have the freedom to share "off topic" if a different area/situation needs the group's attention.) All women listen without interruption or advice-giving.

NOTE - Meetings facilitated by Deep Well will include a short teaching time during this portion of the meeting.

2. **Attending to What's Deeper** - During this portion of the group, women go into zoom rooms with 1 or 2 others for a deeper discussion about what each woman brought up in the opening time. Each woman will have the opportunity to tell her room what she needs or how the others can best come alongside her (i.e. listen and pray, give advice, give feedback, ask questions, etc.)
3. **Reflection & Intention** - During this portion of the time, each woman shares her conclusions/reflections from our time surrounding whatever she shared during the opening time. She also might decide on an intention for herself, identifying how she hopes to apply what she took away from the day.

Logistics -

- Meets for 8 months, Thursdays, 1:00-2:15 PM (CT) via Zoom
- Online meeting dates: 3/27, 4/10, 5/1, 5/22, 6/12, 7/10, 8/7, 8/28, 9/11, 10/2, 10/16, and 10/30
NOTE: Meeting dates are calendared in a way to allow for breaks during busier seasons (like Easter) and summer.
- Opening and closing half-day retreats in person in **Chicago Area, IL.**
 - 3/20 and 11/20, 10AM-3PM (CT)
- Participants will be women in ministry leadership roles, whether within the church or another faith-based organization/ministry.
- Space is limited. Cohort includes 8-10 leaders.
- Applications found at www.leadbold.org. Application deadline is 1/31/25.
- Diversity is a priority (race, age, ministry category, church "type").
- We ask each cohort member to commit to be present for all meetings.
- Fee is \$750, including opening and closing mini-retreats. Costs associated with travel to Chicago for opening and closing retreats will be the responsibility of the participant.