



Save the Date
Next North American L.E.A.D. Retreat
May 8-10, 2026
Church of the Trinity MCC
Sarasota, FL, USA

L.E.A.D., Laity Empowered for Active Discipleship, is the UFMCC lay leader certificate program. Since its inception in 2011, there have been 14 North American L.E.A.D. cohort groups, as well as L.E.A.D. cohort groups in the UK, the Philippines, the European Network and Australia. The purpose of the certificate program is to offer lay leaders of UFMCC an opportunity to deepen their spiritual growth, develop their existing skills, and furnish them with additional leadership tools so that they may be effective leaders in their local church, the denomination, and the world.

The next L.E.A.D. cohort group, North American L.E.A.D.15, is now being planned and will be having its retreat, which is the first step in the L.E.A.D. program, May 8-10, 2026, at the Church of the Trinity MCC, Sarasota, Florida, USA.

The retreat will begin at 9:00 am Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, May 8, and will conclude on Sunday, May 10, at 6:00 pm. The retreat will run from the morning through the evening on Friday and Saturday and will meet all day Sunday, with a break for worship services at 10:00 am. The Church of the Trinity will provide housing for participants with its church congregants and provide several meals during the retreat.

Applications will be processed on a “first come, first served” basis until March 15, 2026, or until 18 applicants have been accepted to attend the retreat.

The L.E.A.D. Retreat applications are available here [Application for North American LEAD 2025](#)

The retreat registration fee for applicants who have been accepted into the program is \$400 USD, with generous scholarships available for qualifying scholarship applicants. Individuals whose applications have been accepted can request a scholarship application.

If you are interested in applying for North American L.E.A.D.15, please fill out the application (the application is linked above) and send to Elder Nancy Maxwell at nancymaxwell@MCCchurch.net