

In 2023, the EFCA TX-OK District facilitated multiple cohorts tailored for the worship leaders and worship pastors of our district's churches. We were honored to have 19 worship leaders from 7 district churches actively participate in one of the various worship leader cohorts provided. Our offerings included two distinct cohorts: the Pursuing Excellence Together Cohort and the Worship Leader Development & Training Cohort.

The Pursuing Excellence Together Cohort convened with worship leaders from seven EFCA churches over Zoom to foster mutual encouragement, fellowship, and collaborative learning. Meeting quarterly throughout the year, the group collectively defined pursuing excellence as the pursuit of becoming better than we once were. The discussions centered around common leadership challenges, with participants seeking insights and advice from one another based on their diverse ministry experiences. This cohort, characterized by its laid-back and free-flowing nature, proved both enriching and enjoyable.

Additionally, we also offered a more in-depth training cohort called the Worship Leader Development & Training Cohort, which focused on a carefully crafted curriculum designed with a holistic approach to the worship leader's Purpose, Heart, and Practice. This cohort served as a dynamic learning community, providing worship leaders with an opportunity to collectively seek the Lord, engage with the curriculum, discuss the content, and enhance their proficiency in leading others in musical worship. Open to both seasoned and aspiring worship leaders, this cohort attracted 14 participants from various locations within our district, including full-time, part-time staff and many dedicated volunteer worship leaders. The impact of our time together was noticeable, with the evident presence of the Lord in many of our meetings.

Looking ahead to 2024, we are pleased to announce the continuation of both the Pursuing Excellence Together Cohort and the Worship Leader Development & Training Cohort. To ensure widespread participation, we offer both daytime and evening options for the Worship Leader Development and Training Cohort.

I'd like to extend a warm invitation for your church's worship leaders to join us in one of our upcoming 2024 Worship Leader Cohorts where they can engage in a community of worship leaders striving to encourage, learn and support one another.

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