



Presbytery of Denver
Church Development and Diversity Initiatives

Consulting Services

The Rev. Amy Mendez (Pastor for Church Development and Multiracial Ministries) has been commissioned by the Presbytery of Denver to assist congregations in embracing diversity and multiracial ministry, mission, and life, and to offer practical advice and resources for congregations. This list provides a summary of consulting services regularly made available by them to congregations, under the guidance of and with approval of the Presbytery's Renewal Team, but Rev. Mendez also can tailor her consultation to meet the needs of a particular congregation.

The goal of this work is to raise awareness of how our patterns of behavior may unintentionally prevent us from fully welcoming and embracing people who come from diverse cultural, racial, age, gender, socio-economic, and other backgrounds. Through education and training, we hope to engage all of our brothers and sisters in Christ in our worship and community life, for the greater glory of God.

Website/Promotional Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candid feedback on the church's website photos and content• Guidance on how to target diverse communities• Insight into Presbytery's multiracial activities and partnerships for use by congregations• Reactions to whether promotional materials are consistent with the congregation's culture and membership	Physical Space <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment of accessibility• An outsider's perspective of signage• Information about diverse cultural expectations for the use and appearance of sacred spaces• Feedback on how to welcome diverse visitors• Mentoring on sharing sacred spaces with other congregations of diverse backgrounds, such as processes for clear communication, expectations, and sharing in a common life in Christ
Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training for new and existing church leaders on cultural proficiencies, motivation for diversity initiatives, and how to be effective mentors to diverse church members• Resource for published and audio-visual materials relevant to the needs of the church's leaders• Direction on how to select leaders from diverse backgrounds and how the community can be served• Participation in session meetings to discuss issues faced by the church	Outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assistance in identifying trends in neighborhood demographics and immigration trends• Instruction on developing programs needed by the changing community• Guidance on engaging local agencies and organizations in a community needs assessment• Perspective on how to reach out to diverse communities or visitors to draw these people into the body of Christ

<h3>Children</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas for Vacation Bible School programs for diverse congregations or neighborhoods • Suggestions for teaching children about other cultures and peoples • Coordinating children's activities and programs across diverse communities • Resource for bilingual education materials and programs 	<h3>Education</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops on cultural behaviors • Training in cultural proficiencies • Current events study on topics of diversity, such as immigration • Teaching on "radical hospitality" • Identification of motivational speakers on diversity topics • Assistance with designing home-based or in-church Bible studies
<h3>Worship</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with preaching, including periodic pulpit supply to provide different perspectives and styles of preaching • Reflective feedback on how different cultures will perceive the message and language of weekly sermons • Analysis of different approaches to prayer and how different peoples respond to each type, so that all feel their prayers have been heard and respected • Guidance on the selection of readings and choice of interpretations • Perspectives on communion to make the Lord's Table welcoming for all • Insight on different styles of worship behaviors, so that actions and voices are recognized as offerings to God • Mentoring on how to define the expectations of the church and its diverse worshippers, allowing everyone to contribute meaningfully to worship • Resource for incorporating bilingual or multilingual elements to worship 	<h3>Music</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help in understanding the different styles of music that can be used to make a joyful noise unto the Lord • Resource for instrumental and vocal music and performers to make this offering more diverse <h3>Fellowship</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perspectives on how different cultures and diverse groups interact socially • Help in designing events and meals that overcome barriers and bring people together • Assistance with designing home-based fellowship programs • Suggestions for sing "random acts of kindness" to foster community
<h3>Special Worship Services</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance on including diverse elements to special worship services, such as Good Friday, Pentecost, and World Communion Sunday • Creation of special worship services for different cultural groups, such as services for Juneteenth, and Kwanzaa. This can be tailored to the interests of the particular congregation. 	<h3>Retreats</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of curricula or activities during retreats for women, men, church leaders, or other groups interested in issues of diversity. This can be tailored to the interests of the particular congregation. • Leadership for Encuentro Latino workshops

For more information about available consulting services, or designing something particular to your needs, please contact:

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