

**CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY TEAM (CVT)**  
The Reverend **Joel Matthew Phillips**, Moderator  
Report to the Presbytery  
July 26, 2026

Members: The Reverend Dr. **Garrett B. Bugg**, the Reverend Dr. **Christina M. B. Carrasco**, the Reverend Dr. **Melissa S. "Lissa" Long**, the Reverend **Joel Matthew Phillips**, the Reverend **Eric R. Peltz**, and the Reverend **Nelson Lee Steinert**.

**RECOMMENDATION to Presbytery:** The Congregational Vitality Team RECOMMENDS to the Presbytery the following:

1. **\*MOTION:** That the narrative report of the CVT be received by the Presbytery and printed in the minutes of this meeting.

**Motion Made \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_**

**ACTION ITEMS:** none

**NARRATIVE REPORT**

1. During this time of year, many congregations in our presbytery are ordaining and installing new elders and deacons. The CVT is available to provide resources for officer training. We are planning on offering additional opportunities throughout the year. Please contact the CVT if you are interested in receiving or offering officer training.
2. The CVT is excited to announce a \$500 scholarship for a cruise on Royal Caribbean's *Ovation of the Sea* to attend a clergy retreat from January 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. This opportunity is open to all PEVA pastors and Commissioned Ruling Elders. Deadline to register is September 13<sup>th</sup>. For more information, contact Rev. Dr. Chris Carrasco, Kings Grant Presbyterian Church- c.carrasco@kgpc.org
3. The CVT would like to remind PEVA that Clergy Coaches are available and ready to help pastors experience the joy of transformational leadership. Coaches offer one-on-one coaching, group coaching and sermon coaching. More information can be found under the CVT Toolbox on the PEVA Website.
4. The CVT is excited about the **Website Improvement Initiative**, or WII (pronounced "weeee!"), and the many church that are now improving or completely revamp their websites AND saving hundreds of dollars. So far, Great Bridge, Community Hampton, Stonehouse, Simonsdale, Kirkwood, Lafayette, First Hampton, Yorkminster, and Suffolk have all had their grants approved, and most are in process of working with our amazing consultant/creative contractor Christen Kinard of Digital Congregations. Does your website need a little tweaking or refreshing? Or does it need a complete overhaul and brand-new look? Go to the PEVA website to get a grant form and improve your church's front door.
5. The CVT helps provide resources and options for all churches in their efforts at stronger vitality. We are here for YOU! Please reach out to any CVT member, or directly to Rev. Joel Phillips, moderator, for help, with questions, or simply to workshop your vitality building ideas.

Check out our full toolkit at <https://www.pcusa-peva.org/congregational-vitality-team-cvt>

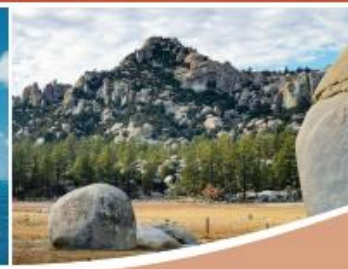
# Chrysalis Pastors Retreat at Sea

# *Ensenada Cruise*

with Rev. Dr. Kelly Brooks, LPCC

January 11-15, 2027

4-Night aboard Royal Caribbean's *Ovation of the Seas*



**EO**   
Educational Opportunities Tours

[www.EO.travel](http://www.EO.travel)







#### January 11- Los Angeles, CA, USA

Known as the City of Angels, Los Angeles could more accurately be dubbed the City of Endless Adventures. This West Coast capital has something for every kind of traveler — interesting history, a mind-blowing food scene, beautiful landscapes, and a unique mix of glitz, glamour, and metropolitan grit. You'll find it all here — sprawling mansions in star-studded neighborhoods like Beverly Hills, Bel-Air, and Calabasas, hanging red lanterns and sculpted dragons in Chinatown, traditional Mexican shopping stalls selling handmade crafts along Olvera Street — the list goes on and on. If you're a film buff, wander down Sunset Boulevard and keep your eyes on the ground — the sidewalk is covered in stars dedicated to famous actors, actresses, and celebrities. Head to the Santa Monica Pier for a sun-soaked beach day and a ride on the world's only solar-powered Ferris wheel. Even if you only have a single day to spare ahead of your cruise from Los Angeles, it's worth setting aside some time to get to know the best of LA.

#### January 12- At Sea

9:00am-3:00pm Join us for a transformative Day of Learning created especially for clergy and ministry leaders. Together, we will set sail on a journey of renewal and reflection, guided by experienced facilitators who understand the unique rhythms and demands of ministry life. Through intentional

practices and meaningful conversation, you will learn practical techniques to create space to breathe deeply, rest fully, and navigate the shifting tides of life and leadership with clarity and resilience. Come ready to pause, be restored, and rediscover steady ground for the journey ahead.

#### January 13 - Catalina Island

Spend your day on Catalina Island experiencing natural beauty. Spot bison grazing on the sides of hiking trails or hop in an open-air truck for an off-road adventure that will be sure to get your adrenaline pumping. Zipline through a canyon for a breathtaking view of the island's natural wonders from above.

#### January 14 - Ensenada

Dip your toes into Ensenada's sparkling seas at San Miguel Beach or work up a sweat hiking along the six-mile Cañón de Doña Petra trail. Witness the majesty of nature when you watch La Bufadora geyser shoot more than 100 feet into the air or admire (and buy) the colorful work of local artists in the shops on Calle 1.

#### January 15 - Los Angeles, CA, USA

Arrive in Los Angeles and disembark the ship with memories to last a lifetime!

*Your ship departs promptly at 4:00 PM, so plan to arrive at least 2-3 hours early to account for checking in and boarding protocols. During this time, many of the ship's amenities are open and operating, so feel free to start your vacation early.*







## ABOARD **OVATION OF THE SEAS**



### CRUISE PRICING\*

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| 4U - Interior Stateroom   | \$498* |
| 2N - Ocean View Stateroom | \$598* |
| 4D - Balcony Stateroom    | \$748* |

A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.

\*Rates are per person, based on double occupancy

\*Does not include airfare, excursions, transfers to/from the port, and onboard gratuities.

# PROGRAM CONDITIONS

## INCLUDED IN PRICE:

- Cruise Accommodations • Breakfast, lunch & dinner daily, on board the ship • Port charges \$115
- Cruise Taxes \$142 (Increases in cruise tax and fees are subject to change)

## NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

- Optional Travel Protection Program (see premium schedule) • Onboard gratuities
- Airfare to Los Angeles and Transfers to and from the ship for guests • Optional activities and excursions
- Miscellaneous fees such as passports, laundry, meals & beverages off of the ship and baggage fees
- Alternative restaurants with additional fees • \$100 Document fee for Non-US/Canadian residents
- Additional fuel surcharges which may be imposed by the cruise line or other suppliers
- Required Vaccinations • Required medical testing before, during, and/or after travel

## ACCOMMODATIONS:

Price is based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms/cabins are often smaller than doubles. While EOT will try to match roommates, EOT cannot guarantee one will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 35 days prior to departure and, if one is not available or if you request a single, the following single room/cabin charges apply: (4U) - \$498; (2N) - \$598; (4D) - \$748. Single staterooms are extremely limited and subject to confirmation.

## PAYMENT INFORMATION:

A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

| Payment                  | Amount                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Due Date                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Initial Deposit          | \$100                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Due upon registration. Includes a minimum \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee. See CANCELLATION FEES for details. |
| Second Deposit           | \$100                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2nd Deposit due 05/16/26                                                                                            |
| Final Payment            | \$913/26                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | If paid after the due date, a late payment fee of \$100 will be assessed.                                           |
| Travel Protection Amount | The Travel Protection Plan premium will be due no later than 09/12/26 to be in full effect. Travel protection premiums must be paid in addition to your deposits and in advance of the final payment for coverage to be in effect. |                                                                                                                     |
| Cabin Availability       | After 05/16/26 or once we have sold out of our allotment of cabins we can no longer guarantee cabin pricing. Cabins purchased after this date will be subject to availability and may require a supplemental charge.               |                                                                                                                     |

## REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED AFTER SEPTEMBER 13, 2026:

We welcome registrations after 09/13/26. Registrations received between 09/14/26 - 10/13/26 will incur a fee starting at \$100 per person. Registrations received between 10/14/26 - 10/28/26 will incur a fee starting at \$200 per person. Registrations received between 10/29/26 - 11/12/26 will incur a fee starting at \$400 per person. Registrations received on 11/13/26 or later will be subject to cabin availability and may require a supplemental cabin charge as well as the air fees above. Additional fees will be advised upon registration.

## CANCELLATION FEES:

100% of Cancellation Fees are covered by the optional Travel Protection Program, provided the premium has been paid and the reason for cancellation is covered. Those who do not take travel protection should be aware of the following per-person cancellation penalties: From the day of registration to 240 days prior to departure, you will be charged a \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee plus any airline, land, and cruise fees. Additionally, thereafter, you will be charged any airline penalties, land penalties, cruise penalties, and a single room supplement if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single plus the following per-person charges: 235-121 days = \$150; 120-91 days = 50% of total cost; 90-61 days = 75% of total cost; 60-day of departure = 100% of total cost. Submit cancellation in writing. On or after day of departure, there will be no refund for any services not used.

## STATEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

EOT does not accept responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air schedules, hotel overbookings, other hotel related problems or causes, and/or travel supplier cancellations or postponements. Travel suppliers include all tour operators, cruise lines, airlines, hotels, bus companies, entertainment venues, and any other travel supplier used to operate the tour. All such losses or expenses will be the responsibility of the passenger. EOT reserves the right to make adjustments to the itinerary as deemed desirable by EOT, and EOT reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. If a tour is canceled beyond the control of EOT, EOT will provide a refund or a future travel credit to be used two years from the date of assistance for the value of all funds paid by the passenger less non-refundable travel supplier prepaid deposits, travel supplier change fees, non-refundable travel protection premiums, and a \$150 administration fee.

## FIT TO TRAVEL STATEMENT:

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged and space limitations on tour buses, wheelchairs and scooters cannot be accommodated. Those needing oxygen or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting in their experiences. Persons using C-pap machines requiring distilled water will need to inform us ahead of time, so we can work with local operators to prepare as it is not always available. EOT reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of EOT, incapable of group travel without causing undue demands upon the staff or other tour participants. Accessible rooms/cabins are limited and subject to confirmation after receiving the passenger's written request. If you have questions, please see [so.travel@fit-to-travel-statement](mailto:so.travel@fit-to-travel-statement) or contact Educational Opportunities Tours Inc. for more details.

## PASSPORT INFORMATION & CHECK IN PROCESS:

Passport information must be submitted to our office no later than 09/12/26. Failure to provide your passport information to our office by this date may result in change fees or denial of travel. Discrepancies in information

may result in change fees, delays in receiving travel documents for your trip, or denial of travel. Any fees incurred due to discrepancies are the responsibility of the passenger. You will also be required to check in with the cruise line prior to travel and according to the cruise line's requirements and instructions provided in your final documents.

## PRICE INCREASES:

All prices quoted in this brochure are subject to change prior to payment in full due to currency fluctuations, fuel surcharge increases, government taxes and fees increases or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, you may be subject to a price increase after payment in full has been received due to potential government imposed taxes and fees.

## AIRLINE ROUTES AND TICKETS:

In order to keep prices low, EOT does not guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. Once issued, airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded thereafter. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class on IATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more flying together on entire itinerary. If you choose to depart from a different city than your group or traveling companion, or deviate your flight and/or trip plans, and/or you are taking a pre or post tour, you may fly on a different scheduled flight(s) than the rest of your group. If you make your own air arrangements, you are responsible for booking all needed flights for your travel unless specified otherwise. Contact guest services for further details.

## FLIGHT TIMES AND SEATING

All flights are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. EOT is not responsible for such changes or delays and does not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If you are making your own flight arrangements to the departure city, we recommend you purchase a ticket that can be exchanged without large penalties. There is no advance seat selection for groups on most airlines. Early check-in is necessary to secure seats with travel companions and those with special needs. Due to security measures taken at airports, it is advisable to arrive at the airport three hours prior to departure time. Seating is solely under the control of the airlines.

## ADDITIONAL AIRLINE FEES:

You will likely incur additional airline checked baggage fees that are not included in the price of the tour. These fees vary by airline and are at the airline's discretion on each segment of the flight itinerary. Additionally, you may incur optional fees (food, excess baggage, overweight baggage, items of personal nature, etc.) as well. For more information, visit [so.travel/travel-info/airline-fees](http://so.travel/travel-info/airline-fees).

## ON OWN DEVIATIONS:

On Own Deviations from the standard tour program must be submitted in writing and are subject to additional airline fees, if applicable. Transfers for passengers who deviate are not included.

## ITINERARY CHANGES:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. While EOT will make every effort to ensure you will see all sites listed in this brochure, the availability of sites, the order of sites and/or days and number of days may be altered to accommodate changes in cruise line, airline, hotel schedules, and local conditions. No changes to the itinerary are effective unless approved in writing and signed by an authorized officer of the tour operator. Except as stated herein, no other person is authorized to cancel, modify or vary the tour arrangements or to make any representation of warranty concerning the tour. The cruise line has the ultimate control over your voyage and may, without notice, alter the length of the cruise and the order of and/or inclusion of ports. EOT is in no way responsible for these changes and does not make reimbursement for such changes.

## PREGNANCY/INFANT REGULATIONS

As to pregnancy, a woman cannot have begun her 24th week of pregnancy at any time before or during the cruise. If you are pregnant, please provide a medical note upon arrival at the pier for check-in from your physician stating your expected due date and medical fitness to travel. If you are in the 24th week or have completed it you will not be allowed to board. Due to the limited medical facilities, infants must be at least one year old on the first day of the cruise.

## VALIDITY DATE:

This brochure is valid until 04/27/26. If validity date has passed, current brochures may be found at [www.eot.travel](http://www.eot.travel). Registrations will still be accepted after the validity date.

## RELEASE INFORMATION

Payment of deposit indicates permission for EOT or its agents to record the registrant's participation and appearance on video tape, audio tape, film, photograph, or any other medium and to use the registrant's name, likeness, voice, comments, submitted documentation, written papers, and/or biographical material without restrictions or limitation for any advertising, marketing, publicity, educational or promotional purpose which EOT or its agents deem appropriate, unless the registrant or guardian otherwise notifies EOT in writing prior to departure.

Enrollment in, payment of deposit and/or acceptance of final documents, vouchers, or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the Passenger Agreement and Program Conditions of the brochure. Prices are based on tariffs in effect as of January 1 of the previous year and are subject to adjustment without notice in the event of any change or currency fluctuation.

Except where otherwise stated, EOT acts only as agent for the relevant supplier in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall EOT be liable for failure by any such supplier to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. The passenger agrees that EOT assumes no liability for injury, death, damage, loss, theft, accident, delay, any loss or damaged luggage, or irregularity which may occur by reason of any negligent or willful act or omission of any suppliers of service.

EOT does not own or operate any of the suppliers of services to your tour. Without limiting the foregoing, the passenger agrees to release EOT and to hold EOT harmless for any liability, loss or expense arising from any defect in any vehicle, plane, boat, bus, car, van, or other vehicle, act of war or insurrection, terrorist activity, revolt or other civil uprising, military action, pandemic, strikes, or labor unrest or any Act of God or for any other act of any third party. Florida law will be applicable to any dispute which arises out of or concerns this brochure or your tour. Any and all litigation must be brought only in courts in Polk County, Florida to the exclusion of litigation anywhere else in the world. Educational Opportunities Tours is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST24130. CST2027682-00.

# Travel Protection Plan - Premium Rates - For a full description of the plan, go to: [www.tripmate.com/wpF427X](http://www.tripmate.com/wpF427X)

| Trip Cost     | Cost* | Trip Cost     | Cost* | Trip Cost       | Cost*  |
|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| \$0 - \$1000  | \$109 | \$3501-\$4000 | \$429 | \$6501-\$7000   | \$759  |
| \$1001-\$1500 | \$159 | \$4001-\$4500 | \$489 | \$7001-\$8000   | \$869  |
| \$1501-\$2000 | \$219 | \$4501-\$5000 | \$539 | \$8001-\$9000   | \$979  |
| \$2001-\$2500 | \$269 | \$5001-\$5500 | \$599 | \$9001-\$10,000 | \$1089 |
| \$2501-\$3000 | \$319 | \$5501-\$6000 | \$649 |                 |        |
| \$3001-\$3500 | \$379 | \$6001-\$6500 | \$709 |                 |        |

See our website for more pricing options

| Schedule of Benefits                               | Maximum Benefit                            |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Trip Cancellation .....                            | Up to 100% of the non-refundable Trip Cost |
| Trip Interruption .....                            | Up to 100% of the non-refundable Trip Cost |
| Mixed Connection .....                             | \$500                                      |
| Trip Delay .....                                   | Up to \$150 Per Day, to Maximum of \$1,500 |
| Medical Expense / Emergency Evacuation             |                                            |
| Accident & Sickness Medical Expense .....          | \$25,000                                   |
| Medical Evacuation & Repatriation of Remains ..... | \$50,000                                   |
| 24 Hour Accidental Death & Dismemberment .....     | \$25,000                                   |
| Baggage & Personal Effects .....                   | \$1,000                                    |
| Baggage Delay .....                                | Up to \$200                                |

Tour: MX27 Date: 011127 Code: C ID: 62209

# THIS IS A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ASK FOR THE TRAVEL PROTECTION COVERAGE SUMMARY WHICH FULLY DETAILS THE COVERAGES, PROVISIONS, LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS OF THE PLAN OFFERED AND IS AVAILABLE TO YOU, UPON REQUEST, AT ANY TIME.

The plan cost includes the plan premium and a fee for non-insurance assistance services. You may obtain information on the plan fees by emailing [assistance@tripmate.com](mailto:assistance@tripmate.com).

## Conditions and Limitations

The Travel Protection Plan is only available for citizens or residents of the United States of America. This advertisement contains highlights of the plans developed by Trip Mate, a General Global Assistance & Insurance Services brand, which include travel insurance coverages underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company, Principal Office located in Morristown, New Jersey, under form series TW000 et al, T210 et al and TP-401 et al, and non-insurance Travel Assistance Services provided by General Global Assistance and FootprintID. The terms of insurance coverages in the plans may vary by jurisdiction and not all insurance coverages are available in all jurisdictions. Insurance coverages in these plans are subject to terms, conditions and exclusions including an exclusion for pre-existing medical conditions. In most states, your travel retailer is not a licensed insurance producer/agent, and is not qualified or authorized to answer technical questions about the terms, benefits, exclusions and conditions of the insurance offered or to evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. Your travel retailer may be compensated for the purchase of a plan and may provide general information about the plans offered, including a description of the coverage and price. The purchase of travel insurance is not required in order to purchase any other product or service from your travel retailer. CA DOI toll free number is 800-927-4357. The cost of your plan is for the entire plan, which consists of both insurance and non-insurance components. Individuals looking to obtain additional information regarding the features and pricing of each travel plan component, please contact Trip Mate, a General Global Assistance & Insurance Services brand, P.O. Box 527, Hazelwood, MO 63042; 1-833-297-2255; [assistance@tripmate.com](mailto:assistance@tripmate.com). We are licensed in all states. While Trip Mate markets the travel insurance in these plans on behalf of USF, non-insurance components of the plans were added to the plans by Trip Mate, and Trip Mate does not receive compensation from USF for providing the non-insurance components of the plans.

V. 004 02/27/26