



Lombard
Mennonite
Peace
Center

Facilitating Healthy Pastor–Congregation Relations

Date: Tuesday, October 5, 2021
Time: 8:30am to 4:30pm Central Time
Format: remotely via Zoom

Purpose: This workshop is designed for pastors and other church leaders who want to learn strategies that will allow their church to function in more healthy ways. Attention is given to structural changes as well as to emotional processes and the ways that leaders function. More specifically, this workshop will help participants to...

- Understand some basic concepts of family systems theory and apply them to congregational life
- Manage pastoral transitions more effectively
- Improve support systems for pastors
- Institutionalize healthy conflict procedures
- Understand “leadership through self-differentiation”
- Refocus their congregation’s mission and purpose, rather than having energy being drained by contentious issues

Facilitator: Richard Blackburn is Director Emeritus and Senior Consultant of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center in Lombard, IL. Richard leads a variety of workshops yearly on conflict transformation in congregational systems, and serves as a consultant to conflicted churches. He participated in Dr. Edwin Friedman’s *Post Graduate Clergy Seminar in Family Emotional Process* and the Georgetown Family Center’s *Post Graduate Program in Bowen Family Systems Theory and Its Applications*.

Fee: The fee for this all-day event is \$99, which includes a hard copy of the training manual. This workshop is especially beneficial when attended jointly by teams of clergy and lay leaders; thus, groups of four or more who register together with a single payment receive a discount of \$15 per person. Online registration is available via TicketSpice on the LMPC website at <https://lmpeacecenter.org/all-events/>. Alternatively, individuals can mail the registration form on the flip side of this flyer to the LMPC office. Groups may wish to use the registration form available on our website to record the names and contact information for each participant.

Contact: For more information, please call the LMPC office at 630-627-0507, email us at admin@LMPeaceCenter.org, or visit our website at <https://lmpeacecenter.org/>.

Facilitating Healthy Pastor–Congregation Relations Workshop Schedule

- 8:00-8:30** **Sign-In to Zoom**
- 8:30-10:15** **Introduction: The Crisis in the Pastorate System**
- Symptoms of the Crisis
 - Causes of the Crisis
- The Congregation as a Family System**
- An Overview of Family Systems Theory
 - Understanding How Churches Can Be Like Dysfunctional Families
- 10:15-10:30** Break
- 10:30-12:00** **Managing Healthy Pastoral Transitions**
- Saying Goodbye: Bringing Closure to the Pastoral Relationship
 - Churches Searching for Leaders
 - Pastors Searching for Healthy Churches
 - The Pastor’s Entry
- 12:00-1:00** Lunch Break
- 1:00-2:45** **Strengthening Support Systems for Pastors**
- Negotiating Expectations
 - Sharing the Task of Ministry
 - Pastor-Congregation Relations Committees
 - Healthy Pastoral Evaluation Procedures
 - Fair Termination Procedures
- Systems for Managing Conflict Constructively**
- Educating for Conflict Transformation
 - Establishing Healthy Conflict Norms, Procedures, Structures
 - Congregational Mediation Teams
 - An Intervention Model for Outside Consultants
- 2:45-3:00** Break
- 3:00-4:30** **Promoting Healthy Church Systems**
- Understanding the Impact of Anxiety on the Church
 - Understanding Poorly Differentiated Church Members and Pastors
 - Leaders Overcoming Sabotage
 - Leadership Through Self-Differentiation

Please register me for *Facilitating Healthy Pastor–Congregation Relations* on Tues, October 5, 2021. My check of \$99, made payable to LMPC, is enclosed.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Church: _____

Email for Zoom link: _____

Mail your registration to: LMPC, 101 W 22nd St, Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148