Pastoral Leadership in Congregational Systems 201

Two Sessions of Learning to Improve Pastoral Leadership

Who: Authorized Ministers divided in cohorts of 10-12 who have completed basic training in Congregational Systems.

What: Two Days of Experiential Learning about Congregational Systems

When: November 13, 2019 and March 4, 2020. 9:00 am – 5:00 pm with a break for lunch
These sessions will primarily focus on the Congregational Work System.

Where: Faith United Church of Christ, 5992 Route 378, Center Valley, PA Cost: $220 including lunch and breaks each day

(deposit of $100 due with registration payable to PNEC; full payment by November 1)

Description: These two days will be both theory and clinical. Theory on November 13 will focus on the role, influence, vision, and presence of the leader in a Congregational Work System. Theory on March 4 will focus on getting past impediments to systemic growth in clergy and lay leaders. On both days the clinical portion will include case studies from Congregational Work Systems.

From a congregational systems perspective, pastoral leadership emphasizes the self- differentiation, presence, and position of the leader as much as pastoral expertise. While pastors attend different seminaries, the course of study is similar. Why it then that some pastors seem better equipped for ministry in the church than others do? The answer can be found in self-differentiation; the ability to know where one stops and another begins. Well-differentiated pastors are able to lead more effectively in personal and congregational systems because they are less likely to get stuck by whatever appears to be the "crisis of the day." They understand what issues and responsibilities belong to them and which ones belong to others. They are able to function in such ways that they remain connected to people and systems while not becoming fused with them. This frees them to think differently: to think outside of the box, dream big, discover new visions, and invite others to share in the adventures of ministry.

Focus will be placed on the three systems in which pastors are called to be present; the entire congregation as a system, individual families within the entire church, and the pastor's own family of origin.

Presenter: The leader of this program is the Rev. Dr. Bruce Stevenson, Lead Pastor at Faith United Church of Christ in Center Valley. Rev. Stevenson participated in Dr. Ed Friedman's Post Graduate Seminar in Family Emotional Process for four years and received is Doctor of Ministry from Palmer Theological Seminary in Renewal of the Church for Mission. The title of his doctoral thesis is *Transformational Leadership – Keeping Peace in the Midst of Change*. For additional information, contact Bruce Stevenson at 610.282.3939.

Registration:

Name_____
Email_____
Cell Phone_____
Church Name/Location_____
Dietary Restrictions_____

By October 28, 2019, send registration and deposit ($100) to PNEC, 431 Delaware Avenue, Palmerton, PA 18071 or email the information to BarbaraJ@pnec.org.