

Pastoral Leadership in Congregational Systems

Three Sessions of Learning to Improve Pastoral Leadership

Who: Authorized Ministers divided in cohorts of 10-12

What: 3 days of Experiential Learning about Congregational Systems

When: October 10, 2018; February 27, 2019; May 1, 2019

9:00 am – 5 pm with a break for lunch

Where: Faith United Church of Christ, 5992 Route 378, Center Valley, PA

Cost: \$350 including lunch and breaks each day

(deposit of \$100 due with registration; full payment by October 1)

Description: 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 is 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.

This three-part workshop will focus 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. Mornings will be lecture and theory while afternoons will be clinical discussion and case study.

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 his 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 and Location _____
Dietary Restrictions _____

By September 17, 2018, send registration and deposit to PNEC, 431 Delaware Avenue, Palmerton, PA 18071 or email the information to BarbaraJ@pnec.org.