

LMPC Books on Conflict Transformation Skills, Church Management, Family Systems Theory, Peacemaking Theology, Sexual Abuse and Misconduct, Prayer and Meditation

Conflict Transformation Skills:

Augsburger, David. ***Caring Enough to Confront: How to Understand and Express Your Deepest Feelings Toward Others.*** Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1973. Pp. 142. \$13.00.

Discusses trust, anger, prejudice, blame, guilt; describes a life-style for Christians who care enough to confront others when differences become important.

Augsburger, David. ***Conflict Mediation Across Cultures: Pathways and Patterns.*** Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1992. Pp. 310. \$29.95.

Focuses on the unique methods individual cultures use in resolving conflict, and on the frequent need to modify our own assumptions about right and wrong ways of dealing with conflict when in another culture.

Augsburger, David. ***Helping People Forgive.*** Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996. Pp. 180. \$24.95.

The complicated issues of Christian forgiveness and reconciliation and their real-world applications are explored.

Bartel, Barry C. ***Let's Talk: Communication Skills and Conflict Transformation.*** Newton, KS: Faith and Life Press, 1999. Pp. 80. \$9.00.

An excellent resource for senior high school and adult Christian education classes, this workbook's ten chapters outline basic communication and conflict transformation skills. Includes a guide for leaders.

De León-Hartshorn, Iris, Tobin Miller Shearer and Regina Shands Stoltzfus. ***Set Free.*** Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 2001. Pp. 167. \$15.00.

Using story, analysis, and scriptural reflection, Set Free offers language and insight to describe the names racism calls us. Bringing together the combined perspectives of an African-American woman, a Mexican-Amerindian woman and a white male, this resource is hopeful, consistently perceptive and always grounded in real-life struggles.

Fisher, Roger and William Ury. ***Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In.*** New York, NY: Penguin Books, 1983. Pp. 161. \$15.00.

A straightforward, universally applicable method for negotiating personal and professional disputes without getting taken – and without getting nasty. Outlines the theory of interest-based bargaining.

Halverstadt, Hugh F. ***Managing Church Conflict.*** Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1991. Pp. 223. \$19.95.

A resource helpful for pastors and lay leaders involved in church systems and other nonprofit organizations locked in conflict. Provides an intervention model for moving toward resolution.

Herr, Robert and Judy Zimmerman Herr, editors. ***Transforming Violence: Linking Local and Global Peacemaking.*** Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1998. Pp. 256. \$13.00.

Authors from four continents reflect on the theory and practice of building “just peace” on both the local and global levels. Jesus’ “third way” of nonviolence is contrasted with violent resistance and passive nonresistance.

Kraybill, Ronald S. with Robert A. Evans and Alice Frazer Evans. ***Peace Skills: Manual for Community Mediators***. San Francisco, CA: Josey-Bass Inc., 2001. Pp. 137. \$19.95

The book provides a foundation for a training workshop in conflict transformation, offers additional reading for participants of such workshops and is a beginning for readers who are starting to explore the world of conflict transformation. Beginning with the basics of conflict transformation, the core of the manual presents the various stages in the mediation process with clarity and some depth.

Leas, Speed. ***Discover Your Conflict Management Style***. Washington D.C.: Alban Institute, 1997. Pp.23. \$7.00.

A self-assessment instrument designed to help individuals become aware of their own preferred style of response to conflict and other styles typically employed.

Lederach, John Paul. ***The Journey Toward Reconciliation***. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1999. Pp.206. \$14.00.

The author shares insight from years of work in international mediation and deep spiritual reflection on the task of reconciliation. From personal experiences and the biblical story, he finds God seeking reconciliation throughout history.

Lederach, John Paul. ***The Little Book of Conflict Transformation***. Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2003. Pp. 74. \$4.95.

A clearly articulated statement that offers a hopeful and workable approach to conflict.

Lederach, John Paul. ***Preparing for Peace: Conflict Transformation Across Cultures***. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1995. Pp.134. \$19.95.

A comprehensive guide for training and working across cultures. Advocates training which is a two-way street, drawing not only upon a trainer's expertise, but also upon the rich resources of the culture of the trainees.

Mock, Ron, editor. Second Edition. ***The Roleplay Book: 41 Hypothetical Situations***. Akron, PA: Mennonite Conciliation Service, 1997. pp. 123. \$18.00.

The Roleplay Book is a resource for trainers in mediation and other forms of conflict transformation. "Please use this resource aggressively, and revel in the fun and personal growth that comes from a good roleplay."

Sande, Ken. ***The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict***. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991. Pp.248. \$16.00.

Offers biblical principles for living with conflict in the home, workplace, church, and neighborhood. Includes numerous helpful illustrations.

Schrock-Shenk, Carolyn and Lawrence Ressler. ***Making Peace With Conflict Practical Skills for Conflict Transformation***. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1999. Pp.198. \$15.00.

A practical guide to understanding and transforming conflict based on biblical and Anabaptist principles. Over twenty noted authors shaped by many experiences and cultures tell of lessons taught by walking conflict's holy ground. Includes a chapter on "Conflict in Congregations" co-authored by Richard Blackburn, LMPC Executive Director.

Williamson, Robert. ***Charting Self: A Beliefs Chart Curriculum for Adults***. Woodridge, IL: BeliefsChart.org LLC, 2007. Pp. 54. \$13.95.

Designed to help participants of the eight-session adult religious education course think about beliefs in a new way and to consider whether any of their religious beliefs have been attractive primarily due to their "relationship function." Drawing upon the family systems theory of Dr. Murray Bowen, the manual includes class readings, lesson plans, worksheets, and ideas for continuing work with the BELIEFS CHART.

Church Management:

Hudson, Jill M. ***Evaluating Ministry: Principles and Processes for Clergy and Congregations***. Washington D.C.: Alban Institute, 1992. Pp. 74. \$14.00.

Describes successful evaluation models, focusing on the need for pastoral *and* congregational evaluations.

Mead, Loren B. ***A Change of Pastors***. Washington, D.C.: Alban Institute, 2005. Pp. 100. \$13.00.

A revised and updated edition of *Critical Moment in Ministry: A Change of Pastors*, which suggests that the time of transition from one pastoral leader to the next affords a unique opportunity for change of the congregation itself, not just of its pastor.

Oswald, Roy M. ***New Beginnings: A Pastorate Start Up Workbook***. Washington D.C.: Alban Institute, 1989. Pp. 82. \$14.00.

Focuses on issues for pastors in new settings: role clarity, getting along with people, taking care of self, etc.

White, Edward A. ***Saying Goodbye: A Time of Growth for Congregations and Pastors***. Washington, DC: Alban Institute, 1990. Pp.114. \$14.00.

Stories and learnings from pastors in every stage of separation from a congregation, whether caused by a new call, a change of vocation, retirement, conflict, or the death of a church.

Family Systems Theory

Boers, Arthur R. ***Never Call Them Jerks: Healthy Responses to Difficult Behavior***. Washington D.C.: Alban Institute, 1999. Pp. 147. \$14.95.

Presents an insightful and balanced view to the question of how to deal with difficult behavior in congregations.

Bowen, Murray. ***Family Therapy in Clinical Practice***. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson Inc., 1985. Pp.566. \$57.95.

Encompassing the breadth and depth of Dr. Murray Bowen's contributions to the field of family therapy, this book collects the developments of Dr. Bowen's thinking into one volume.

Friedman, Edwin H. ***A Failure of Nerve: Leadership in the Age of the Quick Fix***. New York: Seabury Books, 2007. Pp. 160. \$28.00.

A polished edition of the book Friedman left incomplete at his death in 1996. Edited by Margaret Treadwell and Edward Beal, it offers ideas Friedman developed after publication of this well-known *Generation to Generation*.

Friedman, Edwin H. ***Friedman's Fables***. New York: Guilford Press, 1990. Pp.213. \$26.95.

Analogies in story form which look at family systems concepts in an entertaining way.

Friedman, Edwin H. ***Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue***. New York: Guilford Press, 1985. Pp.319. \$45.00.

Provides an important family systems perspective on church dynamics. Sections focus on families within the congregation, the congregation as a system, and the clergy family.

Friedman, Edwin H. ***The Myth of the Shiksa and Other Essays***. New York: Seabury Books, 2008. Pp. 225. \$28.00.

A collection of Friedman's essays that had been previously published in various journals or presented at various conferences, rich in wisdom and humor.

Gilbert, Roberta M. ***Connecting with Our Children: Guiding Principles for Parents in a Troubled World***. New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1999. Pp.231. \$14.95.

Based on Bowen family systems theory, this book shows parents how to build healthy connections with children. Practical examples and stories illustrate familiar situations and concerns.

Gilbert, Roberta M. ***Extraordinary Relationships: A New Way of Thinking About Human Interaction***. New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1992. Pp.216. \$15.95.

Outlines how the principles of family systems theory can be used to enhance relationships in all arenas of life, starting with one's family of origin.

Herrington, R. Robert Creech, and Trisha Taylor. ***The Leader's Journey: Accepting the Call to Personal and Congregational Transformation***. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2003. Pp 188. \$23.95.

Examines the functioning of churches and their leaders in light of family systems theory and focuses on the challenges of *doing* – of taking principled action in the presence of relationship pressures.

Kerr, Michael E. and Murray Bowen. ***Family Evaluation: An Approach Based on Bowen Theory***. New York, NY: W. W. Norton and Company 1988. Pp.400. \$37.50.

The concepts of Murray Bowen, an originator of family systems theory, are brought together in an integrative fashion in this book in order to explain how the complex task of evaluating a clinical family can be successfully undertaken.

Kerr, Michael E. ***One Family's Story: A Primer on Bowen Theory***. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown Family Center, 2003. Pp. 43. \$10.

Gives an overview of the eight basic concepts of Bowen family systems theory.

Miller, Jeffrey A. ***The Anxious Organization: Why Smart Companies Do Dumb Things***. Tempe, AZ: Facts on Demand Press, 2002. Pp.219. \$17.95.

Provides an insight into workplace dynamics from a family systems perspective.

Richardson, Ronald W. ***Becoming a Healthier Pastor: Family Systems Theory and the Pastor's Own Family***. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2005. Pp.150. \$16.00.

Provides an overview of Bowen family systems theory, while challenging pastors to do their own family of origin work, if they are to function effectively as leaders in the congregation.

Richardson, Ronald W. ***Creating a Healthier Church: Family Systems Theory, Leadership, and Congregational Life***. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1996. Pp.184. \$18.00.

Offers an understanding of how congregations function emotionally, as well as practical leadership ideas.

Steinke, Peter L. ***Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What***. Washington, D.C.: Alban Institute, 2006. Pp.154. \$18.00.

Suggests ways for leaders to remain calm in the face of anxiety, to be effective in difficult times.

Steinke, Peter L. ***Healthy Congregations: A Systems Approach***. Washington, DC: Alban Institute, 1996. Pp.118. \$18.00.

Helpful suggestions gleaned from family systems theory for stewardship of church systems. A theologically grounded guide to optimal congregational health in the service of the church's life and mission.

Steinke, Peter L. ***How Your Church Family Works: Understanding Congregations as Emotional Systems***. Washington, DC: Alban Institute, 1993. Pp.196. \$18.00.

Examines the implications of family systems theory on congregational life and clergy-lay relationships.

Peacemaking Theology:

Friesen, Duane K. and Schlabach, Gerald W., editors. ***At Peace and Unafraid: Public Order, Security, and the Wisdom of the Cross***. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 2005. Pp. 450. \$20.00.

Explores principles and practices to guide Christians living out Jesus' way of nonviolent love in societies that often do not share their convictions.

Girard, René. ***I See Satan Fall Like Lightning***. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2001. Pp. 199. \$20.00.

A captivating presentation of the themes found in Girard's other works – mimetic rivalry and contagion, the single victim mechanism and scapegoating – made accessible to the general reader.

Grimrud, Ted and Loren L. Johns, editors. ***Peace and Justice Shall Embrace: Power and Theopolitics in the Bible***. Telford, PA: Pandora Press U.S., 1999. Pp. 251. \$22.95.

Millard Lind proposed that the Old Testament paradigm of the Exodus made the violence of war off-limits for humans. These essayists honor Lind by continuing his effort to understand the biblical texts and their political implications.

Kreider, Alan, Eleanor Kreider and Paulus Widjaja. ***A Culture of Peace: God's Vision for the Church***. Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2005. Pp. 205. \$10.00.

The authors suggest how to develop "peacemaking reflexes"; how churches "can learn to handle conflict well"; and how to cultivate vulnerability and humility, two essential "attitudes of peacemakers."

Roth, John D. ***Choosing Against War: A Christian View***. Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2002. Pp. 206. \$10.00.

A must-read for anyone concerned about the endless cycle of war and violence, the book presents the Christian pacifist position as a relevant and faithful response within the context of today's world.

Swartley, Willard M., editor. ***Violence Renounced: René Girard, Biblical Studies, and Peacemaking***. Telford, PA: Pandora Press U.S., 2000. Pp. 343. \$23.95.

Girard's theories point to a cycle of desire, rivalry, violence directed at a scapegoat, and a kind of "peace." The irresponsibility of this cycle is exposed in Christ's Passion. The essays explore the biblical support for his views.

Wink, Walter. ***The Powers That Be: Theology for a New Millennium***. New York, NY: Galilee Doubleday, 1998. Pp. 224. \$14.95.

A consolidated version of Wink's earlier trilogy on "the powers" of the New Testament as they exist in contemporary business, financial, political, and other institutions.

Wink, Walter. ***When the Powers Fall: Reconciliation in the Healing of Nations***. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Fortress, 1998. Pp. 88. \$14.00.

An effort to glean recent learnings regarding national reconciliation after eras of oppression and abuse, combined with biblical and theological analysis with case studies to discern how the church can serve most faithfully at such times.

Yoder, John Howard. ***When War is Unjust: Being Honest in Just-War Thinking***. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2001. Pp. 190. \$22.00.

A serious look at the just-war tradition. It is a readable look at the history, criteria and application of just-war teaching that challenges people to reflect on its relevance for today.

Yoder, John Howard. ***The Original Revolution: Essays on Christian Pacifism***. Scottdale, PA: Herald Press, 2003. Pp.192. \$19.00.

A collection of essays that discusses the topic of Christian pacifism of on many fronts. This book provides a vision of Yoder's view on pacifism, from its origin to its manifestation

Sexual Abuse and Misconduct:

Fortune, Marie M. ***Is Nothing Sacred?: When Sex Invades the Pastoral Relationship***. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, 1989. Pp.153. \$17.00.

Relates the story of a pastor and women whom he abused. Describes the effect of these actions on the congregation, and the initial response of the church to the allegations.

Gaede, Beth Ann, editor. ***When a Congregation is Betrayed: Responding to Clergy Misconduct***. Washington, DC: Alban Institute, 2006. Pp. 227. \$25.00.

Offers a compelling collection of essays from experts who have consulted, taught, or written about clergy misconduct. Written for the pastor who must follow in the wake of prior misconduct, the book is also helpful for denominational officials and lay leaders of congregations that have experienced the misconduct of a pastor.

Hopkins, Nancy Myer and Mark Laaser, Ed. ***Restoring the Soul of a Church: Healing Congregations Wounded by Clergy Sexual Misconduct***. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1995. Pp. 255. \$19.95.

Experts in a variety of fields describe the nature of the damage done by clergy sexual misconduct and assess what can be done about it. The book gives long-term healing strategies for damaged congregations that will help restore them to being healthy communities of faith.

Mennonite Central Committee US Women's Concerns, et al. ***Crossing the Boundary: Sexual Abuse by Professionals***. Akron, PA: Mennonite Central Committee, 1991. \$10.00.

This packet of materials explains patterns of sexual abuse by professionals, with an emphasis on clergy sexual misconduct. Suggests strategies for preventing and addressing such abuse.

Prayer and Meditation

Anonymous. ***The Cloud of Unknowing*** and ***The Book of Privy Counseling***. William Johnston, editor. New York: Doubleday Image Books, 1996. Pp. 195. \$9.95.

Originally written in Middle English by an unknown mystic of the fourteenth century, these works offer a practical guide to contemplation, and serve to ground contemporary practice in a rich Christian tradition.

Keating, Thomas. ***Intimacy with God***. New York: The Crossroad Publishing Company, 2003. Pp. 168. \$16.95.

An introduction to Centering Prayer by a leading proponent of contemplative prayer.

Lawson, Paul David. ***Old Wine in New Skins***. New York, NY: Lantern Books, 2001. Pp. 144. \$20.00.

Shows how centering prayer and understanding systems thinking can help pastors and churches deal with anxiety.

Main, John. ***Essential Writings***. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2003. Pp. 188. \$15.00.

Part of the Modern Spiritual Masters Series, this volume of John Main's writings was selected by Laurence Freeman OSB to capture the basic teachings of the founder of the World Community for Christian Meditation.

Pennington, Basil M. ***Lectio Divina: Renewing the Ancient Practice of Praying the Scriptures***. New York: The Crossroad Publishing Company, 1998. Pp. 164. \$16.95.

A practical guidebook describing a method of praying with the Scriptures, letting God speak to us through his Word. This approach has been practiced by monastics and other Christians for over a thousand years.

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