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## LMPC Calendar of Online Events for 2020 (July through December)

Spurred on by the success of *Social Distancing, Not Social Isolation: A Family Systems Perspective*, our first venture in Zoom video conferencing, we are now offering a wide range of online events over the next few months. We remain committed to helping the body of Christ achieve health and wholeness as best we can during the current pandemic. Some of the titles below are old favorites that “friends of LMPC” will quickly recognize; other titles are new and are particularly relevant in the contemporary context. Please join us for one or more of the events listed below. Register at: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852>.

### **Webinars – 90 Minutes in Duration – Presented via Zoom**

#### ***Breaking Free: Finding Resilience in an Era of Collective Trauma***

This webinar will explore the issue of trauma in the current context of both the COVID-19 crisis and the public killing of George Floyd. Grounded in family systems theory, *Breaking Free* will help participants identify the impact of trauma on themselves and others, discuss strategies to break free from trauma, and find resilience. It will be offered on July 16 and July 30 – presented by Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, LMPC Executive Director.

#### ***Grief in the Time of COVID-19: A Family Systems Approach to Pastoral Care***

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted our experience of grief, from the ability for families to grieve the loss of a loved one, to the more ambiguous grief of the loss of our pre-pandemic ways of life. COVID-19 presents a unique challenge to faith leaders, and while we don't yet know the long-term impact of COVID-19 on grief, we must find a way to provide adequate pastoral care, even in an era of social distancing. It will be offered on August 13 and August 27 – presented by Sarah Howell, LMPC Assistant Director.

#### ***Casting the First Stone: Mimetic Contagion and Church Conflict***

The webinar explores unhealthy togetherness forces and the herding instinct from a family systems perspective, along with an overview of René Girard's thinking on the way mimetic contagion impacts a group and can lead to scapegoating. Images of *Jesus and the Woman Taken in Adultery* are integrated into the presentation, tracing how the theme developed in Christian iconography, with the ultimate purpose being to reflect on Jesus' model of how to stop the potential violence of mimetic contagion. It will be offered on September 16, September 29, and October 29 – presented by Rev. Richard Blackburn, LMPC Director Emeritus and Senior Consultant.

#### ***From Sports Fanaticism to Spiritual Revival: Discerning the Thoughts and Intentions of the Heart: We are sorry, but this webinar has been cancelled.***

#### ***The Language We Use: Agreeing and Disagreeing in Love***

This webinar will explore both the theological implications of and the practical tools to address the seemingly ever-growing division our society continues to experience. Grounded in our call to "love our neighbor as we love ourselves," we will explore how to effectively communicate with those with whom we disagree, while staying true to our core beliefs. It will be offered on October 10, December 2, and December 16 – presented by Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, LMPC Executive Director.

## **Workshops – One-Day Events – Presented via Zoom**

Group discounts are available for *Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches, Healthy Congregations, and Leadership and Anxiety in the Church*. Members of a group can save \$40-\$50 per person, compared to the late registration individual rate! To learn more see the “Group Coupon” links at <https://lmpeacecenter.org/brochures/> – or to register online, go to <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852>.

### ***Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches***

Whether or not your congregation experiences conflict is a matter of when, not if. Be proactive and learn how to prevent or minimize the potentially destructive impact of conflict. Even better, learn to use conflict as an opportunity for healing and growth! This 7-hour workshop will be offered on July 18, August 22, October 23, November 7, November 21, and December 5 – presented by Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, LMPC Executive Director. [https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CTS.2020.Zoom\\_Brochure.RGB\\_.pdf](https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CTS.2020.Zoom_Brochure.RGB_.pdf)

### ***Healthy Congregations***

Learn how you as a leader can influence the health of your congregation. Don't let negative forces set the agenda; instead, learn how to put limits on invasive behavior, manage reactivity, and overcome sabotage. The seven-hour workshop will be offered on August 11, September 9, September 22, October 30, November 13, and December 8 – presented by Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, LMPC Executive Director. [https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/HC.2020.Zoom\\_Brochure.RGB\\_.pdf](https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/HC.2020.Zoom_Brochure.RGB_.pdf)

### ***Leadership and Anxiety in the Church: A Family Systems Perspective***

The seminar looks at the challenge presented by the rising levels of anxiety being experienced in churches today, as well as the role that self-differentiated leadership can play in calming such anxiety. Works of art illustrating biblical themes from the Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, and Modern eras are integrated at various points to facilitate theological reflection on the themes being presented. The six-hour workshop will be offered on August 19, September 24, and December 3 – presented by Rev. Richard Blackburn, LMPC Director Emeritus and Senior Consultant. [https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/LAC.2020.Zoom\\_Brochure.RGB\\_.pdf](https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/LAC.2020.Zoom_Brochure.RGB_.pdf)

## **Major Training Events – Presented via Zoom**

### ***Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders***

The five-day training event equips clergy and other church leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to deal more effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. The five-day institute will be offered four times in 2020: August 3-7; August 31-September 4; October 5-9; and November 16-20 – presented by Rev. Richard Blackburn, LMPC Director Emeritus and Senior Consultant, with the assistance of Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, LMPC Executive Director. [https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/MSTI.Brochure.2020.RGB\\_.pdf](https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/MSTI.Brochure.2020.RGB_.pdf)

### ***Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process***

This nine-day training event, which is divided into three sessions of three days each, is designed to enhance the ability of participants to function as self-differentiated leaders within their own ministry setting. It will provide a safe forum for processing challenging situations in one's ministry, while also facilitating reflection on a way of thinking about the human condition which has implications for all aspects of life.

- Group A will meet October 26-28, 2020; February 8-10, 2021; and April 26- 28, 2021.
- Group B will meet November 9-11, 2020; February 22-24, 2021; and May 17-19, 2021.

*Please note:* The two groups are identical in content. Registrants are expected to attend all nine days of one group or the other. Input sessions will be led by Rev. Richard Blackburn, LMPC Director Emeritus and Senior Consultant. [https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/CC.2020-2021.Broch\\_.rev\\_.pdf](https://lmpeacecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/CC.2020-2021.Broch_.rev_.pdf)

Registration information for all events is at: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852>