



Lombard  
Mennonite  
Peace  
Center

## Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches

Whether your church will experience conflict is likely a matter of *when*, not *if*. Conflict is a normal part of life, and the church is not exempt, so it is important to be prepared for when conflict inevitably arises. Participants in this workshop will gain the understanding and the skills needed to minimize or prevent destructive conflict. This workshop is designed for pastors, judicatory leaders, and lay leaders alike from all denominations. Join us and learn how church conflict can be transformed from a negative experience into an opportunity for positive growth, for reconciliation and healing, and for a renewed understanding of God's will for your church.

A typical outline for this workshop would be:	
9:00-10:30	<b>Introduction: The Nature and Role of Conflict</b>
	<b>Conflict in the New Testament: Finding Renewal in Conflict</b>
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	<b>Self-Assessment Exercise: Understanding and Improving Your Own Style of Response to Conflict</b>
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:30	<b>Interpersonal Peacemaking Skills: How to be Effective When People are Angry</b>
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-4:30	<b>Congregational Conflict: Understanding Conflict in Groups and How to Manage It</b>

The Lombard Mennonite Peace Center presents several sessions of *Conflict Transformation Skills* each year. If you prefer, your church or judicatory can sponsor this event and schedule it at a time that is most convenient for your own group. Contact us for details!

The facilitator for this workshop, Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, is the Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. Jay is an educator, organizational development consultant, and mediator with broad experience serving conflicted churches and organizations both in the United States and in international settings. Grounded in an Anabaptist peace-building tradition and working from a Bowen family systems perspective, LMPC works to transform conflict in a healthy manner.

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