



**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 when conflict inevitably arises. Participants in this workshop will gain the understanding and the skills needed to 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	Introduction: The Nature and Role of Conflict
	Conflict in the New Testament: Finding Renewal in Conflict
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	Self-Assessment Exercise: Understanding and Improving Your Own Style of Response to Conflict
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:30	Interpersonal Peacemaking Skills: How to be Effective When People are Angry
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-4:30	Congregational Conflict: Understanding Conflict in Groups and How to Manage It

The facilitators for this workshop are Rev. Jay Wittmeyer, LMPC Executive Director, or Dr. Devon Miller, LMPC Assistant Director. Rev. Wittmeyer and Dr. Miller are educators, organizational development consultants, and mediators 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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