

Transitional Ministry Training

Leading in Ministry During Times of Transition

2022 Training Dates: **October 3-5 (in person) at Amigo Centre**

Transitional ministry has a unique place in the mission of the church. While “interim pastors” have provided preaching and pastoral care between pastors for many years, “transitional ministry” involves training to lead congregations through major transitions with a process of preparation for entering a new chapter of leadership with a goal of sustained organizational health and vitality.

Transitional Ministry Training is a joint venture of the trainers and Amigo Centre, in consultation with Mennonite Church USA, Mennonite Church Canada and the four Great Lakes area conferences.

Registration requires a letter of recommendation for training from a conference minister, and the completion of a readiness assessment prior to the training event. The intended outcome is greater self-understanding regarding the nature and demands of transitional ministry. Assessment results help to establish learning goals for the event, and future professional development. **Transitional ministry skills and methodology will increasingly be recognized as required for 21st Century pastoral leadership in all congregations.**

Participants are encouraged to prepare by reading one book: *Re-Imaging the CHURCH: Implications of being a people in the world*, by Robert J Suderman, Wipf & Stock 2016.

In-depth instruction in the developmental and process tasks of transitional ministry is integrated with critical incident case studies. Extensive resources for future transitional ministry are provided.

Curriculum includes:

- Unique dynamics of Transitional Ministry
- Assessing fit for Transitional Ministry
- Transitional Minister Tasks:
 - Enter the System
 - Analyze congregation as an emotional system
 - Focus and Assume responsibility
 - Stay connected with judicatory
 - Exit and Evaluate
- Congregational Tasks:
 - Review Heritage
 - Clarify Identity, establish vision
 - Evaluate leadership structure in light of vision
 - Clarify external connections
 - Prepare for new leadership

Registration is \$600 in person; and includes:

- the pre-training interview and written response
- 18 hours of training
- three hours of post-training coaching, to be used at the participant’s discretion
- begins at 9 am on Monday and concludes by 4pm on Wednesday (in person)
- **Conference Staff** may audit the training for \$400 in person.
- **Registration Deadline: 30 days prior**

Nancy Kauffmann, Retired Denominational Minister, Mennonite Church USA: *“I was impressed with the level of the training offered to prepare a transitional pastor to lead a healthy process that will resource, encourage and empower a congregation to move forward with God’s call on the congregation’s life. It also prepares the way for a new long term pastor.”*



Effective Transitional Ministry intertwines the work of the Transitional Pastor (blue), Congregation (green), and The Holy Spirit (red).

TRAINERS

Gary Martin has 30+ years of experience in transitional parish ministry in a variety of contexts in five states. He received his Masters of Divinity at AMBS. Gary resides in Goshen, Indiana, and in addition to his work with transitional parish ministry he helped form Transitional Ministry Training and is a consultant in congregational health and structure.

Paula Killough was born in Maine, raised in Florida, and came to the Mennonite Church in Denver as an adult. “As one grafted in, I have always felt as though I have found my spiritual home.” After a career in retail Paula felt a call to seminary. She graduated 2008 with a MDiv from AMBS in pastoral leadership and ordained in 2011. Retired from Mennonite Mission Network as Senior Executive for Advancement, she continues to serve the church in transitional ministry in congregations and church wide organizations. She lives in community on Main Street in Elkhart, Indiana.

Transitional Ministry Training Registration

- October 3-5 (in person) at Amigo Centre

Name _____

Congregation _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Register online at: TMT.amigocentre.org

Email: program@amigocentre.org

Phone: 269-651-2811

Mail: 26455 Banker Rd, Sturgis, MI 49091