

**Training For Facilitators  
Of  
Pastor Peer Learning and Support Groups  
Conducted by  
The Clergy Committee**

**The Basics:**

**What:** A training event for current or prospective facilitators of peer learning and support groups for pastors in any denomination.

**When:** Starting at 1 pm on Monday, January 25, 2010 and ending at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, January 27, 2010.

**Where:** San Diamiano Retreat Center, 710 Highland Drive, Danville, California 94526

**Cost:** Room and Meals for two nights and five meals ----- \$225.00

Tuition: \$500.00 per person (a few partial scholarships available)

**Who is this training for:**

1. Individuals who currently facilitate such groups, especially those who may have been originally funded by the Lilly Endowment Sustaining Pastoral Excellence grant program.
2. Representatives from middle judicatories who are considering establishing such groups.
3. Church consultants / Pastoral Counselors who are looking for new “models” for delivering such services to pastors.

**What are the objectives of this training:**

Our goal is that at the end of this training participants will be equipped with methods, tactics and tools that will help them:

1. Build community and trust among the members of the group
2. Facilitate learning of both knowledge and skills

3. **Process strategic issues that pastors are facing in such a way that they return to their churches with actions to take to address those issues.**
4. **Nourish the spiritual growth of pastors**
5. **Hold one another accountable in a supporting and encouraging way**
6. **Recruit, initiate and sustain a group of pastors**

**Who will conduct this event:** The training is being co-sponsored by:

**The Leadership Connection:** a Bay Area Organization that currently has ten groups of pastors led by trained facilitators operating in the Bay Area; see [www.tlcinc.org](http://www.tlcinc.org) website for more information

**The Renewal Project:** An organization committed to serving pastors and churches through a variety of programs, consulting and coaching; see [www.renewalproject.org](http://www.renewalproject.org)

**TMF Institute for Clergy and Congregational Excellence ( United Methodist; A Lilly Endowment Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Grant Recipient currently operating twelve groups for United Methodist pastors, district superintendents, and bishops. )**

**The Clergy Committee (TCC) (see [www.theclergycommittee.org](http://www.theclergycommittee.org))**

**The staff for the event will be:**

**Fredricka Brecht:** TCC Board Chair and chair / facilitator of three groups of CEO's and senior executives using a model that has evolved over the past 50 years for personal and professional development of leaders and executives. She also recruits and trains the facilitators of nine different Clericus groups for Episcopal priests in the Texas Diocese.

**Michael Murray:** Ordained Presbyterian pastor and a trainer and facilitator

for the past 35 years with churches, companies, government agencies and non-profits. Mike has spoken to more than 400 groups that use the model of personal and professional development of leaders and executives mentioned above and serves on the Board of The Clergy Committee.

### **Why is this training important:**

Lilly Endowment research on pastors who thrive in ministry indicates that there are three critical elements that need to be present in their lives and ministries:

- 1. Pastors need to participate regularly in the “means of grace”. That is, pastors need to have times when they are led in worship, rather than always having to lead. They need to have communion really served to them rather than just serving. They need to be led in Bible study and prayer, and to be prayed for, rather than being responsible for seeing that these things happen. Belonging to a group of peers that is well facilitated can help nourish their spiritual growth. (Also, see Roy Oswald’s book, written for the Alban Institute, “How To Build a Support System for Your Ministry”, especially pages 42-43 on “Oscillation”.)**
- 2. Pastors need to belong to a competently facilitated group of peers. Certainly it is possible for groups to lead themselves without someone designated and perhaps even compensated to be in that role. However, pastors have been known to succumb to the temptations to either spend a lot of time bragging or a lot of time complaining about their congregations. A competent facilitator can make sure the group stays focused on those things that will make the group experience educational, helpful and supportive.**
- 3. Pastors need to have the freedom and the courage to use their unique gifts for ministry in their current position or call. Competent facilitators of groups can help the group help individual pastors identify their unique gifts and find the courage to exercise those gifts.  
Without the support of a competently facilitated group both the**

**identification of the gifts and the courage to use them may be lacking.**

**(For more information and helpful resources for pastor peer learning and support groups, please call Mike Murray, Board Member of TCC, at 512 288-7945 or Neil Sullivan, Director of The Leadership Connection at 925-876-5856.)**

**NOTE: Upon receipt of your registration and deposit, you will receive a confirmation letter and additional information regarding the event itself and transportation arrangements to the San Diamiano Center in Danville, California.**

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**FOR**  
**PASTOR PEER LEARNING AND SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATOR TRAINING**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH AFFILIATION AND ROLE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I AM CURRENTLY LEADING ONE (OR MORE) PASTOR'S SUPPORT GROUPS: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

I EXPECT TO BE LEADING ONE SOON Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

TUITION OF \$500.00 (REGISTRATION OF \$100.00 SHOULD BE SENT AS A CHECK MADE OUT TO "THE CLERGY COMMITTEE" AND BE SENT WITH THIS FORM TO:

DAVID DELAPLANE  
% TCC  
61-H JACKSON STREET  
DENVER, CO 80206

\_\_\_\_\_ I CAN PAY THE BALANCE OF \$400.00 UPON ARRIVAL AT THE EVENT

\_\_\_\_\_ I NEED SCHOLARSHIP HELP OF AT LEAST \$\_\_\_\_\_ (NO MORE THAN \$150.00) AND WILL PAY THE BALANCE UPON ARRIVAL AT THE EVENT.

(NOTE: IN ADDITION TO THE TUITION THERE WILL BE A ROOM AND MEAL CHARGE OF \$225.00.)