



The CEU News

Continuing Education Update

October 2022

A Publication of the Wesley Leadership Institute
Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church

Events - Coming Soon!

Check the Holston [online calendar](#) for a full listing of future events.

October:

Safer Sanctuaries: Nurturing Trust Within Faith Communities
October 6 - 27 Online 0.3 CEUs

Hosts Chris Wilterdink and Kelly Peterson will guide us through four sessions introducing the latest in the Safe Sanctuaries family of resources. Topics include: Moving from Fear to Flourishing; Foundational Elements of Safer Sanctuaries; Putting It All Together; Blessing and Sending. Click [here](#) for detailed topic descriptions

Convocation & Pastors' School
October 9-11 Duke University 1,5 CEUs

What does it mean to claim and practice faithful hope in the wake, or in the midst, of profound disturbance in the church, society, and our personal lives? During the 2022 Convocation & Pastors' School, Creativity & Courage: From Trauma to Tough Hope, our presenters—professional dancers, visual artists, musicians, and scholars—will guide us in facing brokenness and sin honestly, even as they offer insight, encouragement, challenge, and glimpses of "the beauty of holiness."

The Art of the Dangerous Sermon
October 12-14 United Theological Seminary 1.0 CEUs

We are living through a season of societal upheaval, suffering and high-stress ministry. Divisive politics harden congregations and intensify trauma for members and clergy. This preaching seminar seeks to unmask the cultural "gospels" that are limiting, the worldviews that may be unconsciously steering our understanding of gospel, and the "gods" who undercut our preaching. We do not serve a tribal god but Jesus the Christ. Preaching normed by the call of Jesus is not safe, but it can inspire wonder, connection, hope and deep transformation. This 3-day event will equip preachers with a range of tools to proclaim with integrity, boldness, intentionality and care.

Building with Strengths for Small Congregations
October 18 Online 0.1 CEUs

Small congregations are not miniaturized big congregations. They have different challenges. Fortunately, they also have different strengths—ones that are deeply forming, urgently needed, and generally unavailable in big settings. Learn how to build with these strengths and stop imitating models that never fit to begin with.

Garrett Management Seminar

October 22 Garrett School of Theology 0.5 CEUs

This seminar led by Rev. Dr. Reginald Blount, will teach congregational leaders how to:

- Understand key issues that arise during organizational transformation
- Develop tools for managing challenges, mitigating risk, and balancing priorities
- Learn new methods for motivating others, engaging teams, and leveraging resources and networks
- Think through a potential change initiative in your ministry setting and consider the necessary steps for successful implementation

Moving from People-Pleasing to Vision-Driven

October 25 Online 0.1 CEUs

Dan Pezet is a district superintendent and missional strategist for the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Since we all know that you can't please all of the people all of the time. Dan will help you learn to identify characteristics of a People Pleasing church and explore ways to move toward a more healthy, Vision Driven church.

Building a Leadership Network as a Pastor

October 27 Online 0.1 CEUs

Whether in the business world or local congregation, the ability to create network connections is of utmost importance to effective leaders. In this session, Dr. Rodney Smothers will discuss these ways that networks impact our ministries along with ways to develop effective networks:

November:

Preaching During Advent: Offering Hope

November 3 Online 0.1 CEUs

Using the new version of his book HOPE: An Advent Journey as a reference, Olu Brown will take participants through the Advent season, offering suggestions on making plans as you prepare for Advent and Christmas 2022.

Aging & Ministry in the 21st Century

November 7-20 Online 1.0 CEUs

Are you inspired to learn new ways of helping your congregation develop an intentional and comprehensive ministry that is by, with, and for Boomers, Gen X'ers, and others in their golden years? These are the older adults who often play leading roles in our congregations. This course explores innovative and practical ways of helping congregations develop outstanding ministry with members of our Baby Boomer Generation and beyond.

CEU QUICKLINKS:

[PeoplePortal User Instructions](#)

(Includes directions for submitting CEU requests)

[Event Evaluation Form](#)



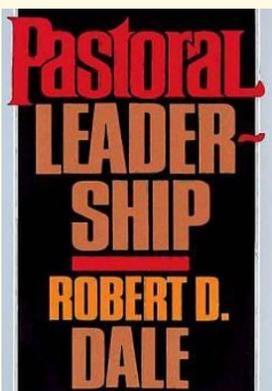
CLERGY NOTES:

The United Methodist Discipleship Ministries is offering an online, 6-week teaching series beginning October 10, 2022, entitled "It Takes a Church to Raise a Parent." The Holston Children's Ministry Team is hosting network groups to coincide with the teaching series to explore ways to apply the information to our own congregation. These network groups provide you an opportunity to discuss what we are learning and create a ministry action plan to enhance your ministry with families in your congregation.

2.0 CEUs will be awarded by Discipleship Ministries. Please contact Susan Groseclose with questions at susangroseclose@holston.org or call 615-417-1753.

Here is a link to all the details and registration information: [Teaching Series](#)

Book Review



Pastoral Leadership A Handbook of Resources for Effective Congregational Leadership - by Robert Dale

This comprehensive problem-solving reference for pastors provides theological foundations and experience-tested techniques for effective clergy leadership. Robert D. Dale offers insight into the dynamics of clergy management by placing leadership into a

congregational context and stressing servanthood as the primary biblical leadership image. Following a discussion of the three critical dimensions of organizational effectiveness, Dale explores and critiques the four basic leadership styles: catalyst, commander, encourager, and hermit. Out of this background exploration, Dale discloses decision-making guidelines that have proved effective in helping clergy: resolve conflicts; lead churches through change; define the congregation's dream; budget resources effectively; manage meetings; build teams; and, motivate oneself and others.

Pastoral Leadership concludes with a unique look at the effects of clergy leadership on the pastor as a person, offering valuable insight into clergy spirituality, burnout, family demands, and career development. Notes and review questions accompany each chapter.



The Interruptions Aren't Interruptions - by Greg Atkinson

It's 2pm on a Thursday, and you are knee-deep in your sermon preparation and coming down the homestretch. The energy, caffeine, and momentum are just right – you feel you'll finish before 6pm and make it home in time for supper.

Then it happens: You get that knock on your door and look up to see someone standing in your doorway saying, "Do you have a moment?" – They're not interrupting your work. They ARE your work.

Ministry is about people; it always has been and always will be.

One thing that bugs me is hanging out with pastors that say (not jokingly), "Ministry would be great if it weren't for the people." It pains my heart that pastors and Church leaders don't get this simple truth. We are the Body of Christ and every member is important and special. We are called to shepherd God's people and that involves getting our hands dirty and yes, being bothered and interrupted.

IMPORTANT: This isn't about being an introvert or extrovert. This is about being sensitive to the Holy Spirit, who is always at work around us.

As ministers, we should seek the opportunities to show and express Christ's love to those we lead and serve.

Speaking of seeking opportunities: You have to be intentional. What does your weekly schedule look like? How many breakfasts, coffees, and lunches do you schedule each week? I fill lots of my calendar with people meetings and have for 27 years.

If you go from administrative meeting to meeting and never schedule any time with your congregation members, volunteers and staff, and people in the community, you're missing a crucial part of leadership and the opportunity to be God in the flesh to someone in need.

Please note: It is very important to set boundaries. I used to do all sorts of late-night meetings. Now, I make people schedule a meeting during office hours. There is a rare exception/emergency, but that's to be expected in ministry.

My encouragement and exhortation to you are to leave some margin in your schedule for the unexpected. Have time set aside in your calendar that is empty, so when the interruptions come (and they will), you'll be able to get back on track.

So where do you go from here? Here's an action item:

When you notice someone down, frustrated, hurt or just not themselves, you should take the initiative to ask if they need someone to talk to or how you can pray for them. When you're in the midst of busy/office work and someone calls, texts, emails, IMs, or drops by your office, take the time to listen and serve.

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Be the hands and feet of Christ to those you come in contact with, it's what we're called to do and you'll be a better and more trusted, respected, and loved leader because of it.

So, confession time: Have you ever been in the midst of busy/office work and had someone drop by unannounced? How did you handle it? Do you have the presence of mind to be sensitive to the Spirit?

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