

COS #124 – Transformative Leadership
West Virginia Extension at Spring Heights Education Center
Fall 2020
Online syllabus

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Rationale for the Course Outline

All of us are acutely aware of the COVID-19 pandemic challenges. The adjustment of moving courses from being “in person” to being an online course has been a huge adjustment for faculty and students. As we move through this unique journey, I hope you will be patient and gracious with all of us related to the WV Extension of the Course of Study including me as your instructor and with your fellow students.

I have divided the class into 5 modules representing the times we will gather for our Zoom meeting. To make the Zoom easier, while at the same time meeting the guidelines of GBHEM, for each two-hour session, we will meet for 50 minutes, take a short break and reconvene for another 50 minutes. The module assignments need to be completed prior to the Zoom meeting. The work will provide the foundation for our time. The Zoom meeting will include some presentations, conversations and application of what has been part of the module. At this time, I am attempting to outline the steps of this process clearly in the syllabus. Some of the materials, especially videos, are taking time to develop. As soon as they are complete and posted, I will share that information and location with you. If after reviewing the syllabus, you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Goals for the course:

This course assists the student to create an identity as pastoral leader and change agent in congregations, the community, the United Methodist Church and the world. In order to accomplish this goal, the student will need to engage in not only completing course work but reflection on their local setting.

Objectives for the Course:

- Identify and understand the biblical and theological attributes of good leaders,
- Evaluate and strengthen your own identity and skills as pastoral leaders
- Explain and reflect on the nature of change in the local congregation and wider society
- Implement visioning, strategizing and planning process in their local congregation

Required texts:

Ducking Spears, Dancing Madly: Lewis A. Parks and Bruce C. Birch, Abingdon Press, Nashville, 2004. ISBN 0-687-09285 – X (paper) ISBN 13:978-0-687-09285-7

Leadership and Self-Deception, The Arbinger Institute, San Francisco, 2002.

ISBN-10: i-57675-174-0; ISBN-13: 978-I-57675-174-9

The Power of Positive Leadership: Jon Gordon, John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ. 2017.

ISBN – 9781119351702

The Strategically Small Church, Brandon J. O'Brien, Baker Publishing Group, Grand Rapids, MI, 2010. ISBN 978-0-7642-0783-9

Finding Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Change: Goleman, Larry, Alban Institute, 2010;

9781566993760.

Zoom Meeting Schedule:

Module #1 – Biblical and Theological Foundation – **Friday, Oct. 2nd 7pm – 9pm**

Module #2 – Visioning – **Saturday, Oct. 17th 9am – 11am**

Module #3 – Select the story & setting the scorecard – **Saturday, Nov. 7th 9am – 11am**

Module #4 – Conflict – **Saturday, Nov. 7th 1pm – 3pm**

Module #5 – Leadership in Small Congregations – **Saturday, Nov. 21 9am – 11am**

Outline for work to be completed prior to each Module

For Module #1:

1. View the video “Biblical Leaders” – access to be shared once established
2. Read all of Ducking Spears, Dancing Madly. Read 1st and 2nd Samuel in conjunction with the book. Reading the Biblical text is crucial to understanding the book.
3. Write a 3-4 page paper outlining a solid theology of leadership. Be certain to include aspects of call, equipping, purpose and accountability as part of the theology.
4. **Email or mail this paper to Mike no later than September 20, 2020**

For Module #2:

1. Read The Power of Positive Leadership
2. Create a definition of a “committed disciple of Jesus Christ”. The definition must follow these perimeters:
 - a. No more than 4 lines
 - b. Each line is less than 10 words
 - c. An example is:
 - i. Recognizes own brokenness and seeks healing & restoration in Jesus
 - ii. Participates with the spiritual disciplines

- iii. Engages in ministry and mission
 - iv. Seeks peace and justice
- 3. You will be assigned a group of no more than 4 to hold a Facebook chat on your definition and work to clarify it
- 4. Go to: www.lifeconnectonline.org
 - a. Click on Resources
 - b. Download Keirseey Temperament Sorter
 - c. Complete test and score
 - d. When you receive the 4 letters of personality, ex. ENTJ, search for explanation of the personality type. There are several locations for review of each personality type.
 - e. Have a conversation with a person you trust to discuss the strengths and limitations of your personality
 - f. **Submit a 1-2 page summary listing your personality type and what you learned. This is due to Mike by Oct. 15**
- 5. View the following Ted Talks:
 - a. Why Good Leaders Make You Feel Safe – Simon Sinek
 - b. How to Start a Movement – Derek Sivers
 - c. Got a meeting? Take a walk! – Nilofer Merchant
 - d. The 3 C's to Getting Your Team on the Bus – Jon Gordon (not on Ted Talks)

For Module #3

1. Read Finding Our Story: Narrative Leadership and Congregational Change
2. If serving a multi-point charge, select one congregation for this exercise
 - a. Talk with members of the congregation asking the question; “What is the story of our congregation?”
 - b. Talk with at least 3 people
 - c. Recognizing there may be variations on the story, select what you believe is the primary story of the congregation
 - d. Write the story (2-3 pages)
 - e. Write a summary of the story: what type of story, impact on congregation, how embodied by congregation and leadership (2-3 pages)
3. **Mail or email these two papers to Mike no later than October 26, 2020**

For Module #4:

1. Read all of Leadership and Self-Deception.
2. After reading the book take the quiz ***that will be provided to you via email*** following the conclusion of Module #3. Take the quiz, then scan and email or mail it to me using the address that is on the top of the test. Just to be sure, put your name on top of test.

3. View the following Ted Talks:
 - a. Resolving the Heart of Conflict – Jim Ferrell
 - b. Restorative Practices to Resolve Conflict and Build Relationships – Katy Hutchinson
 - c. Nelson Mandela; Negotiating and Conflict Management – David Venter

For Module #5:

1. Keep a two-week log of activities including but not limited to:
 - a. Worship including preparation
 - b. Visitation including travel time
 - c. Teaching
 - d. Leadership development
 - e. Community engagement
 - f. Family and personal time
 - g. Regular job
 - h. Meetings
2. Read The Strategically Small Church
3. View video “Pastoral Style”. Link will be provided at a later date.
4. After completing all of the material above, write a 3-4-page paper on insights you have gained from the process.
5. **Mail or email this to Mike no later than November 15, 2020**

If you have not written an academic paper in a while or have other concerns about the written work; The WV Course of Study offers the services of a writing coach. If you are uncertain of how to footnote, how to formulate a paper or want some guidance in writing I would encourage you to take advantage of the assistance offered. It is free to all of the students and Mark is an excellent resource. There is additional information on the webpage.