

## **Congregational Care and Ethics**

In this course the student will explore ways to deepen their skills in active listening, visitation, assisting the pastor in crisis ministry and reviewing ethical issues and setting healthy boundaries.

Required reading:

**Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help and How to Reverse It** by Robert D. Lupton

**Boundaries: When to Say Yes, When to Say No, To Take Control of Your Life** by John Townsend and Henry Cloud

Recommended reading:

**Friedman's Fables** by Edwin Friedman

**Healthy Disclosure: Solving Communication Quandaries in Congregations** by Ruth & McClintock

**When Helping Hurts** by Corbett & Fikkert

**Compassion with Redemptive Power** by Lois Tupy

Pre-class assignment: Prepare a verbatim or case study of a recent situation or conversation that required you to use ethical discernment and/or set boundaries and be prepared to discuss it with the class.

### Key Topics Include:

Congregational Care

The fundamentals of active listening and effective communication

Understanding and navigating church conflict in a healthy and biblical way

Healthy Boundaries

Toxic Charity

Ministry Safe

If you have questions about the class and or syllabus, please contact Chad Lierman at [oskytrinitypastor@gmail.com](mailto:oskytrinitypastor@gmail.com)

Chad is currently serving a new Global Methodist Church in Oskaloosa, IA. He has been a pastor for 28 years and has served in rural and multi-staff churches throughout Iowa. He has four adult children and two grandchildren.