

**Upper Midwest Area Conference
Certified Lay Ministry Program
Conflict Resolution**

Course Description

This course includes a study of the principles of effective conflict resolution for the church leader. For this course we will use the following book by Thomas W. Porter titled, *JustPeace*. You can find information on the book below.

We will approach conflict resolution from the standpoint of a mediator, working with an individual or individuals to find not just a “middle-ground”, but peace and unity within the body of Christ.

Course Goals

At the end of this course, the goal is that you will:

- Better understand the meaning of the term “conflict transformation.”
- Differentiate between conflict management and conflict resolution.
- Refine your listening skills.
- Develop new ways of approaching conflict.
- Understand how to implement Matthew 18:19-20 in our daily lives.

Required Reading

Porter, Thomas. *The Spirit and Art of Conflict Transformation: Creating a Culture of Justpeace*. (Nashville, Upper Room Books, 2010). ISBN # 978-0835810265

Videos to Preview

90 Second Leadership – Conflict Resolution

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7osFXFuwtWM>

Conflict Management for Church Leaders

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmJSy7i-52k>

Assignments

Having the reading complete and the videos viewed before our meeting date is vital to getting the most out of this course. Conflict and church leadership is inevitable, whether

you are serving in the role as a Lay Leader, a pastor, or just part of the administrative council. So please have these done prior to the meeting and have notes on your thoughts and ideas, especially from the book, before we meet.

To get credit for this course, your attendance is required.