



Northern Texas - Northern Louisiana Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Rethinking Call and Adjusting Leadership in Difficult Times

A Cohort Learning Group for Pastors

Background:

Change is upon us! It is not a change that we asked for or decided on. The pandemic along with other social and cultural happenings has brought us to the realization that a way of life we have known may no longer continue. The church and congregational life is not immune to this reality of change. Many congregations know that survival will depend on changing its way of being church. More vulnerable congregations know that they may not survive. The frank truth and reality is that we are finding our way into a future that is unknown. Within this new reality, many pastors and congregational leaders are asking soul-searching questions about how to provide leadership and care in this new reality. Some are wondering whether they can even continue in their call. These are honest and candid questions that cannot be left unattended and neither can they be addressed in solitude or isolation!

Purpose of the Cohort:

The purpose of this cohort is two-fold:

- Provide a community of peers with whom these questions and concerns can be asked with honesty and candor.
- Provide a community of peers with whom a pastor can imaginatively rethink their call so as to adjust their leadership to the demands of these difficult and uncertain times.

Cohort Process:

The cohort's process will consist of:

- 6-8 participants
- 8-10 one and a half hour, weekly sessions
- Selected readings - TBD
- Each participant preparing a case study presentation on his/her leadership in present ministry context
- Peer interaction, consultation, critique, and support

Group Facilitator:

Rev. Wayne Menking, STD

Retired ACPE Certified Educator

Author: *When All Else Fails: Rethinking our Pastoral Vocation in Times of Stuck*

Cost: \$200/pastor