

EVEN IN A CONNECTIONAL SYSTEM,
CLERGY ARE NOT ALWAYS CONNECTED.

CLERGY IN ACCOUNTABLE PEER
RELATIONSHIPS REPORT EXPERIENCING

FEWER SYMPTOMS OF ISOLATION, FATIGUE,
ANXIETY AND BURNOUT

AND GREATER SATISFACTION IN MINISTRY,
WITH FEWER COMPLAINTS OF
CONGREGATIONAL DISSATISFACTION.

ALL CONFERENCE CLERGY—
PERSONS UNDER EPISCOPAL APPOINTMENT—
ARE EXPECTED TO BE PART OF A PEER GROUP

OR IN A ONE-TO-ONE
ACCOUNTABLE RELATIONSHIP.

*All clergy entering Conference peer relationships
will be committing to participate for one year—
from June to June. Each year in early spring, the
Center will contact facilitators and participants
to request feedback and to give each clergyperson
the option to commit for another year or to choose
another type of peer relationship.*

CLERGY PEER GROUPS

FIVE OPTIONS TO GET CONNECTED

For more information, contact:

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Texas Annual Conference**

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CLERGY PEER GROUPS

GET CONNECTED





CLERGY PEER GROUPS

FIVE OPTIONS TO GET CONNECTED

1. COVENANT CLERGY GROUPS

2. PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINES GROUPS

3. EXISTING OR OTHER GROUPS

4. “COLLEAGUE” ONE-TO-ONE ENCOURAGERS

5. OTHER COUNSELORS, COACHES, MENTORS OR SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

① COVENANT CLERGY GROUPS

Utilizing David Lowes Watson’s Covenant Discipleship Group model, these clergy peer groups will meet in confidential environments to hold one another accountable for performing actions of compassion, justice, devotion and worship, and/or for spiritual, personal, professional and theological development.. Each group will have a designated, volunteer clergy facilitator and will choose mutually agreeable times and places to meet regularly. Clergy interested in participating may contact a trained facilitator through our Web site, www.txcumc.org.

② PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINES GROUPS

These demographically-specific groups will meet regularly at mutually agreeable times and places in a confidential environment to share continuing education; reflect on their personal and professional lives; share issues and concerns; and hold one another accountable for spiritual, personal and professional disciplines. Clergy interested in participating in these groups must be willing to contribute \$500 each year from personal or continuing education funds. A list of trained facilitators, demographic groups and participant applications are available online at www.txcumc.org.

③ EXISTING OR OTHER GROUPS

In addition to the Covenant Clergy and Professional Disciplines Groups created by the Center, clergy may choose to be in other existing or new peer groups. However, all groups must:

1. Meet regularly to hold one another accountable.
2. Recognize a facilitator and membership list.
3. Share a written covenant of confidentiality.

④ “COLLEAGUE” ONE-TO-ONE ENCOURAGERS

For clergy who prefer to be in a one-to-one relationship instead of a group, the Center is training and supporting Conference “Colleagues”—clergy volunteers willing to enter into intentional covenant relationships with their sisters and brothers in ministry. Colleagues will meet with, listen to and pray for individual clergy and encourage them to remain accountable to healthy spiritual, personal and professional disciplines—in person, via phone or by e-mail. Interested clergy may contact a Colleague from the list of trained volunteers on our Web site at www.txcumc.org.

⑤ OTHER COUNSELORS, COACHES, MENTORS OR SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

Instead of choosing a “Colleague” trained by the Center, Conference clergy may choose to be in a one-to-one, accountable relationship with another counselor, coach, mentor or spiritual director. Counselors, coaches, mentors and spiritual directors will not need to be approved individually by the Center. However, both persons must sign a covenant of understanding and confidentiality and meet regularly.