

# BUILDING SKILLS IN TRANSITIONAL MINISTRY

St. Joseph's Motherhouse, North Bay, ON  
Sponsored by Manitou Conference of The United Church of Canada

## Ministry in Transition

The work of ministry today takes place in the context of dramatic and continuous change, both in church and in society. We all need to improve our knowledge and skills, to help us face the challenges, and seize the opportunities of leading people on the journeys of transition to new forms of church life.

*Building Skills in Transitional Ministry* trains participants to work effectively in all kinds of transitional ministries, including Intentional Interim Ministry. Interim Ministry is used as an instructive model for planning and managing change.

*Building Skills in Transitional Ministry* meets The United Church of Canada's standards for training for Intentional Interim Ministry. However, completion of the program does not guarantee designation by the Church.

*Building Skills in Transitional Ministry* uses adult education principles to prepare participants for work in transitional ministries, including Interim Ministry. The educational model used in this program recognizes a diversity of learning styles and attempts to respond to the specific learning needs of individuals. Theological reflection and spiritual discernment are central to the process of learning, skill development, and integration.

## About You

### Who May Attend:

- ministry personnel interested in increasing their skills for transitional ministry
- ministry personnel interested in becoming Interim Ministers

The planning team will review the applications and select a maximum of twenty five participants. Those selected will be notified by July 1, 2011. Your confirmation of attendance will be mailed to you.

### What You Will Learn:

- theological and Biblical models of transitional ministry
- how to “read” a congregation (hermeneutics, analysis)
- common stages and recurrent themes in transitional ministry
- differences between interim ministry and transitional ministry in other contexts
- change and transition theory
- conflict management in transitional times
- preaching and pastoral care skills for transitional times
- strategic planning models
- peer supervision skills
- a repertoire of tools appropriate to the tasks
- where to find resources for your situation

## About the Course

<b>Phase One:</b> October 23-28, 2011 (in-residence program)	The Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse 2025 Main Street West, North Bay, ON P1B 2X6 705-474-3800 (350 km north of Toronto, 350 km west of Ottawa, 10 km from North Bay airport)
<b>Phase Two:</b> October, 2011 to March, 2012	Your own ministry site
<b>Phase Three:</b> April 22-27, 2012 (in-residence program)	Motherhouse, North Bay (as above)

### Costs:

Application fee (non-refundable):	\$ 50.00
Tuition:	\$1100.00
Accommodations:	\$ 850.00

\*Complete fees must be paid by October 1, 2011

\*Participants are expected to stay on-site. Special circumstances may be accommodated. In this case, participants are expected to eat all meals on site and remain at the program until it is completed in the evening.

\*To download a copy of the registration, please go to [www.bstm.org](http://www.bstm.org) or contact your Conference Personnel Minister for applications.

\*A letter of reference filled out by your Personnel Ministry must accompany your registration.

\*Your application must be returned, along with a non-refundable application fee of \$50.00 by June 1, 2011.

\*The reference letter from your Conference Personnel Minister must also be returned by that date.

## The three phases of the course

- Phase One:** a five day intensive residential event focusing on theories and techniques for understanding transitions in churches.
- Phase Two:** a five-month period in your ministry setting that includes:
  - working on self-generated learning goals
  - peer group learning and reflection
  - engagement with a member of the leadership team
  - a series of written assignments
- Phase Three:** a five day intensive residential event focusing on integration of theory and practice. Participants will be evaluated by themselves and peers concerning their knowledge and skills in transitional ministry and their suitability and readiness for Interim Ministry.

## To read before the course

Before the course begins, participants are required to read the following books:

- Who Is Our Church?, Janet Cawley
- Temporary Shepherds, ed. Roger Nicholson
- Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times, Peter Steinke
- Holy Conversations, Gil Rendle and Alice Mann
- Leading Change in Congregations-Spiritual and Organizational Tools for Leaders, G. Rendle

\*All are available from your local United Church Resource Centre, the Alban Institute, or from Amazon)

## The Training Team

Lynette Miller, Interim Minister, Manitoba  
Dale Irving, Interim Minister, Alberta  
Bill MacLeod, Interim Minister, PEI

Pamela Thomas, Personnel Minister, Saskatchewan Conference  
Catherine Somerville, Personnel Minister, Manitou Conference