

Please join us for Western Plains District's

Leadership Training for pastors AND lay church leaders pre-district conference event!

July 27-28, 2017

McPherson Church of the Brethren, McPherson, KS

You are encouraged to arrive at district conference as early as Thursday at 4:00pm to take advantage of the opportunity for refreshing personal time in addition to stimulating fellowship and inspiring training.

As with the February training opportunity all costs to participate, including lodging and meals for Thursday supper – Friday lunch, are underwritten by district funds as a part of our transformation initiative. These events are planned for all pastors and all congregational and district leaders to provide transformational training as well as fellowship and other spiritual growth opportunities.

Focus for our time together

- Thursday evening we will gather for worship and fellowship.
- Friday morning we will continue the theme we also explored in February: Grounded in God. We will explore Spiritual Discernment through presentations, reflective exercises/worship, and sharing with colleagues. Topics will include defining discernment, principles of discernment, models for discernment, and obstacles to discernment. (CEUs available)
- Leadership will be provided by Connie Burkholder. Connie is a member of the Monitor Church of the Brethren Pastoral Team. She also has been serving as the staff accompanist for the McPherson College music department since the fall of 2016. She has a Music Education degree from Lebanon Valley College, a Master of Divinity from Bethany Theological Seminary, and a graduate level certificate in Spiritual Direction and Directed Retreats from Creighton University's Christian Spirituality Program. Her spiritual direction training was focused in Ignatian Spirituality which is known for providing foundations for spiritual discernment across many Christian traditions. In addition to serving as a Church of the Brethren pastor in Ohio, Kansas, and Virginia, she also served as District Executive in Northern Plains District. For several years she served with the Dominican Sisters of Peace and Heartland Center for Spirituality where she served as Liturgy Coordinator, taught in a spiritual formation program, and offered spiritual direction and retreats for individuals and groups.
- Child care will be available, as requested.
- See attached for details.

If you have any questions, please contact the District Office at 620-241-4240 or wpdcb@sbcglobal.net or Leslie Frye at leslie.a.b.frye@gmail.com.