

About Our Programs

Using pastoral psychology, spiritual direction, cultural research and other means of discernment, the Centre seeks to coordinate efforts to support the well-being of ministry professionals at key points in their journey - beginning, continuing and retiring well.

Through supportive community, spiritual exercises and reflection, a variety of issues for those in ministry are explored, such as identity and call, self care, family and ministry, support models and the church in Canada.

Our events are open to all who are engaged in and qualified for professional ministry, including ordained clergy, diaconal ministers and designated lay ministers. We are ecumenical and welcome all those willing to come and dialogue in respectful and safe space with others from different denominations.

Our events are gradually being offered in multiple locations across Canada. Look on our website for details of upcoming dates and locations.

For More Information Contact Us

The Centre for Clergy Care and Congregational Health

59 St. George St., Toronto, ON, M5S 2E6

Director: Rev. Andrew Irvine, PhD

Administrative Assistant: Anne Miller
Phone: 416-978-7799

Fax: 416-971-2758

E-mail: clergy.care@utoronto.ca

Website: www.caringforclergy.ca

OUR MISSION

The Centre exists to support the well-being of clergy and congregations and to enhance the overall ministry of the church in Canada.



Programs Throughout the Life Cycle of Ministry

Programs Throughout the Life Cycle of Ministry

Starting Well

Specifically for those who have been ordained or commissioned within the last three years, this program seeks to address issues common to those transitioning into ministry from studies. Safe space is created for reflecting on the practice of ministry.

The four or five day program rotates through 3 years of topics, including:

Year A:
Your Role as Leader

Year B:
Finding Balance in Ministry

Year C:
Reading the Context for Ministry

Participants may choose to attend all or any of the years offered. Learning takes place through small and large groups, seminars and participant case studies.

beginning well...



Take Care

The middle years of ministry can open up new challenges and a need for rejuvenation, reversioning and reflection.

Take Care events focus on concerns which can arise, including:

Issues of Mid-Life

Care of Family

Self-Care

Reaffirming Call

Transitions - leaving and beginning again

continuing well...



These residential events are open to those in ministry who are feeling the need to explore these issues.



retiring well...

Making the Most of Retirement

This three day event seeks to address the emotional, psychological and spiritual work needed to transition into retirement from 'active ministry'.

This retreat makes mention of but does not focus on financial aspects of retirement.

Ministry professionals approaching retirement in ten years or having retired within five years are welcome. Spouses are also encouraged to attend. Feedback has shown that this has been a very important opportunity to discuss these issues together.

We greatly appreciate the generous initial support of Knox Presbyterian Church, Red Deer, Alberta and ongoing sponsorship by Knox and Emmanuel Colleges of the Toronto School of Theology as well as the Beatty Ryckman Trust.