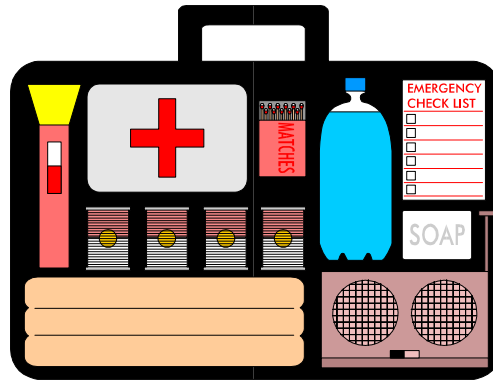


# Building Healthy Congregations

## A Series of Four Workshops for Teams from Congregations



**March 17, April 7, May 19, June 16, 2012**  
**9:30-4:30 pm**

**Workshops will be held at the:**

**Cedar Lane UU Church**  
**(March 17<sup>th</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>)**

**9601 Cedar Lane**  
**Bethesda, MD 20814**  
**301-493-8300**

**Directions at [www.cedarlane.org](http://www.cedarlane.org)**

**UU Church of Silver Spring**  
**(May 19<sup>th</sup>)**

**10309 New Hampshire Avenue**  
**Silver Spring, MD 20903**  
**301-434-4050**

**Directions at [www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org)**

**Paint Branch UU Church**  
**(June 16<sup>th</sup>)**

**3215 Powder Mill Road**  
**Adelphi, MD 20783**  
**301-937-3666**

**Directions at [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)**

### **Leaders:**

**Meredith Higgins, Director for Adjunct Staff Program**  
**Andrew Mertz, Director of Youth and Young Adult Programs**

These four workshops are designed precisely for a time of rapid changes in congregations. They are based in an understanding of the congregation functioning as an emotional system of interrelated parts. It is a new way of thinking about both the congregation and its leadership. You will view the congregation as a whole, as an organism, as a system. Instead of seeing separate parts, you will see interrelated parts and their interactions. No one part promotes health or illness in a system. Everything contributes for good or ill. The congregation is seen as a whole unit in need of care by the leadership. Therefore, these workshops center around the stewardship of the congregation: how leaders care for, respond to, and oversee the congregation's life together.

Congregational leaders are the chief stewards. They are in a position to promote the well-being of the congregation. They set a mood and tone for the congregation. They are accountable for setting a direction, taking stands, staying connected to others, encouraging participation, and attending to the ongoing interplay of many conditions and forces.

These workshops enable participants to:

- Gain a renewed sense of purpose and mission
- Cultivate strong leadership capacities to challenge the congregation
- Learn how to develop healthy patterns of living together in community
- Learn to focus on strength, resources, and options for the future
- Boost confidence in responding to challenges and opportunities
- Learn how to lead with calm and thoughtfulness
- Reflect theologically about relationships
- Move the congregation toward healthy functioning

Both professional and lay leaders can benefit from attending these workshops. For the information to become embedded in the system, a team approach is used. The team can build up the health in the system by relying upon one another. It doesn't matter what size the congregation is since the concept addresses the whole system and not individual parts.

**Teams of four or five people are required to attend. All team members are expected to be present for all sessions. An individual from a team may miss one session with a valid excuse. Your congregation's team will gain the most by learning together with each member attending all sessions. The materials build on the previous sessions. So, your understanding and ability to use the concepts for yourself and your congregation will be enhanced by full attendance. Cost is \$700 for a team of five which includes all workbooks, meals, and handouts. Additional team members can be accommodated for \$140 per additional member. A congregation under 100 members may send a team of four for \$560. Additional scholarships help may be available, check with the District Office. Registration deadline is Friday, March 9, 2012. For questions about this program, please contact Meredith Higgins at 301-537-0654.**



**Building Healthy Congregations**  
**Southern JPD (3/17, 4/7, 5/19, 6/16/2012)**

**Registration Form**

CONGREGATION: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM MEMBERS:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

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EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

LEAD CONTACT'S NAME & PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT PAID: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate any dietary restrictions for team members here: \_\_\_\_\_

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**REGISTRATION DEADLINE – Friday, March 9, 2012**

Please send completed registration form and payment to:

**Joseph Priestley District**  
**100 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1008, Wilmington, DE 19801**  
**800-351-6637 (Phone); 302-778-4590 (Fax); [jillian@jpduua.org](mailto:jillian@jpduua.org)**