

What past participants have said about this and similar courses:

This course will take you forward, deepen any current knowledge, and leave you better equipped to serve Christ.

Rt Revd Andy John, Bishop of Bangor, Church in Wales

The quality of the participants, coupled with the opportunities to be out and reflect on new skills, makes this the best course I have ever taken during my ministry.

Revd Canon Dr Joanne Grenfell, Director of Ordinands, Residentiary Canon, Dean of Women's Ministry, Sheffield, South Yorkshire

It takes you on a journey of discovery about yourself and others.

Revd David Ellis, Regional Minister, Heart of England Baptist Association

Invaluable for leaders who are regularly confronted with conflict

Ven Timothy Stratford, C of E, Archdeacon of Leicester

A truly transforming experience, and most useful at an early stage of a new leadership role.

Revd Peter Barber, Methodist District Chair, Chester & Stoke District

An intense, but deeply rewarding opportunity to learn and develop new skills in a hugely important area of church life.

Major Neil Webb, Salvation Army Divisional Leader, Hampshire

Well worth attending – for personal learning and to help think about changing the culture of conflict in a diocese/team/department.

Ven Janet Henderson, Archdeacon of Richmond, Ripon, North Yorkshire

A huge benefit to those operating in complex leadership roles.

Rt Revd Colin Fletcher, Bishop of Dorchester, Yarnton, Oxfordshire

Senior leaders know that Christians' good intentions to love each other can end in hellish situations. This course is a richly resourced event which effectively equips participants to assist churches to pave the way to more loving places.

Revd Roy Lowes, URC Synod Moderator, West Midlands



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TRANSFORMING CHURCH CONFLICT

A Foundation Course for Senior Church Leaders

11–16 March 2018

Launde Abbey, Leicestershire

Led by the Bridge Builders team

Conflict is normal and inevitable – but Christian leaders often feel ill-prepared to handle conflict in the church. *Transforming Church Conflict: A Foundation Course for Senior Church Leaders* is a training course for those in positions of oversight in the church. The five-day course is focussed on conflict in church settings, and is run by the Bridge Builders team, whose training work has been acclaimed by many church leaders. As a senior leader, you will want to attend this training course if you are looking to:

- Develop new skills for handling and transforming conflict
- Assess conflict in churches and discern appropriate interventions
- Give time to personal growth as part of a learning community
- Be part of a movement that is changing the culture of the church
- Put the church's energy to more creative use, avoiding destructive conflict

Held residentially, the course builds on Bridge Builders' experience of leading similar training since 1996. The course aims to raise self-awareness, to deepen understanding of conflict and to teach methods for transforming conflict. Spaces are limited and early booking is recommended. Course participants will be invited to join our Bridge Builders' Network, of Christian leaders around the UK involved in transforming church conflict.

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11–16 March 2018, Launde Abbey, Leicestershire

Begins with dinner at 6:30pm on Sunday, ends 2:00pm Friday

The course includes teaching, group work and guided practice. Active and practical in focus, the sessions provide hands-on skills training and use various role-plays based on the kinds of conflicts encountered in the church. Each day includes times of prayer, worship and journalling. *The course is intensive and includes some evening sessions; we strongly recommend avoiding any other commitments during the week*, including scheduling any extended telephone consultations.

Presenters

Colin Moulds is Executive Director of Bridge Builders. He has been providing training, mediation and consultancy services in both the workplace and churches since 2009. Colin's experience in Leadership and Management is built from 23 years with the world's largest mobile telecommunications provider.

Jackie Searle is Archdeacon of Gloucester and a Canon at Gloucester Cathedral, and was previously a parish priest in Derby. She is a member of Bridge Builders' Network, and is an experienced theological educator.

Who is the course for?

The course is designed for senior church leaders, such as Bishops, Archdeacons and others in the senior staff team (Anglican and Roman Catholic), Regional Ministers (Baptist), District Chairs (Methodist), Divisional Commanders (Salvation Army), Moderators (URC), or equivalents in other denominations. If in doubt, then please contact Liz Griffiths on 020 8883 3033 to enquire.

Meals and Accommodation

The course is fully residential, with accommodation from Sunday night to Thursday night, and with meals provided each day from Sunday evening until Friday lunch time, of breakfast, lunch and evening meal, in single room accommodation at Launde Abbey, Launde Road, East Norton, Leicestershire LE7 9XB (see <http://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/>)

Cost, Application and Cancellation

The cost for the course is £1050. *A special "early bird" discount of £85 is available if booking by 31 July 2017, giving a reduced price of £965.* A training manual and a style profile are included in the fee. Spaces are limited to a maximum of 24, so do apply early, as our courses are regularly over-subscribed. To apply, please book online at <https://www.bbministries.org.uk/course/transforming-church-conflict-a-foundation-course-for-senior-church-leaders-2/> Your place remains provisional until a deposit of £100 is received. Once accepted, £100 deposit is a non-refundable. The balance of the fee is due ten weeks before the start of the course (i.e. by 2 January 2018). The full fee is owed if a place is cancelled within ten weeks of the course start date (i.e. from 2 January 2018 onwards).

Course Timings

Sunday 11 March: arrival from 5pm for dinner at 6:30pm

Monday 12 March & Thursday 14 March: 9am–6pm

Tuesday 13 March & Wednesday 14 March: 9am–1pm, 3:30–6pm, 7:30–9pm

Friday 16 March: 9am–2pm

Course Objectives

1. To **increase your self-awareness** as a leader facing conflict, so that you become clearer about how others experience you and what you have to offer;
2. To **transform your attitude** towards conflict and engaging with conflict, so that you are able to face conflict more constructively;
3. To **equip you with practical skills** for working with conflict, so that you can engage with conflict more confidently in future; and
4. To **equip you with conflict analysis skills**, so that you can better assess what type of interventions may be most appropriate in situations referred to you.

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course we expect that you will have:

- Developed greater awareness about your communication style and its impact on others
- Reflected on Biblical resources related to conflict
- Enhanced your skills for communicating effectively in times of conflict
- Experienced and practised skills for facilitating meetings
- Learnt ways of building consensus and working with resistance in groups
- Developed your ability to analyse conflict and to identify what intervention, such as mediation, may be most appropriate
- Considered ways to nurture a culture of creative engagement with conflict
- Reflected on the type of leadership needed in times of anxiety and tension
- Discovered ways that conflict can offer opportunities for growth