

REGISTRATION FORM

Yes! Please register me for "Holy Conversations". Enclosed is my payment (make cheques payable to Conciliation Services Canada). **Clip and mail to:** Conciliation Services Canada, 74 Duchess Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 2K3.

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Postal Code _____ Email _____

Church/Organization _____

_____ Please register me for the May 25 – 27, 2010, Institute.

_____ Accommodation: I would like a single room _____ (double room _____) for _____ nights, starting May _____.

_____ Breakfast: I would like breakfast (\$8.00) on the morning/s of May _____, _____, _____.

_____ Supper: I would like to have a buffet supper at Providence (\$13.00) on the evening/s of May _____, _____, _____.

_____ As well as my registration fee, my payment for accommodation, breakfast and supper is also enclosed, payable to Conciliation Services Canada. (Not applicable _____)

Overview

May 25 - 27, 2010

Planning is important in church life. A primary responsibility of church leaders is to help the congregation understand where it is going, why such a direction is important, and how to get there. Leaders need to help people find worthy goals, and they need to build agreement in the congregation so that people are willing to move together toward those goals. Planning is needed to structure the work and maximize the resources of the congregation.

But too often congregations themselves are not engaged in this process; they expect their leaders to come up with a perfect plan that will meet all needs, or to discover a perfect solution for the congregation's future.

Popular church leadership consultant and author, **Gil Rendle, casts planning, instead, as a holy conversation, a congregation-wide spiritual discernment process** about three critical questions: Who are we? What has God called us to do or be? Who is our neighbour?

Drawing on the book of the same title by Gil Rendle and Alice Mann, this seminar is designed to equip congregational leaders with a broad and creative range of ideas, pathways, processes, and tools for planning from which they can choose the resources that best suit their needs and context.

Few congregations need an extended and exhaustive planning process, but **all congregations need structured ways to talk about their identity, purpose and future as a community of faith, and they need a path to develop consensus and a commitment to act.**

This seminar will not only provide you with a full array of tools to meet these needs, but also with strategies to help you discern which conversations your people need to have now, which parts of the planning process are most important and appropriate for them at this time, how to best structure open and positive involvement, and what tools or information the congregation needs.

During this seminar we will explore various methods of discerning God's will in Christian community, accessing the rich resources of our faith as we plan for our future together. We will also consider insights from the field of organizational development. Together we will learn how to design planning strategies that draw on the best of both.

Facilitator Gil Rendle

Before joining the staff of the Alban Institute, an interfaith resource for congregational vitality, Dr. Gil Rendle served as senior pastor of two urban congregations in Pennsylvania for sixteen years and as a denominational consultant for the United Methodist Church for nine years. Gil has an extensive background in organizational development, group and systems theory, and leadership development. He recently retired from full-time work as a Senior Consultant at Alban and is now writing and working half time with the Clergy Leadership Initiative of the Methodist church. Gil is the author of several books including *Leading Change in the Congregation: Spiritual and Organizational Tools for Leaders* (1998), *Behavioral Covenants in Congregations: a Handbook for Honoring Differences* (1999), *The Multigenerational Congregation: Meeting the Leadership Challenge* (2002), and, *Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations* (2003).

Location

Providence Renewal Centre
3005 - 119 Street NW
Edmonton, AB T6J 5R5
(780) 701-1858 www.providencerenewal.ca

Providence Renewal Centre is located in south Edmonton at 30th Avenue and 119 Street.

Directions from the Edmonton International Airport: Take Highway 2 northbound to 23rd Avenue. Go left on 23rd and drive west to 119 Street. At this intersection, turn right, driving north, until you reach 30th Avenue. Look for the "Providence Centre" sign at 30th Avenue and turn right at the sign. Follow that driveway, eastbound, until it naturally turns to the left. This is the renewal centre parking lot. Park in the "customer parking" areas and walk to the building, past the oval "Providence Renewal Centre" sign. When you enter the sliding glass doors, turn to the right. We will be meeting in the auditorium.

Schedule **May 25 - 27, 2010**

Registration opens at 8:30 Tuesday morning. The institute will run daily from 9:00 to 5:00. Lunch is included every day.

Tuition

The tuition fee is \$450 for registration by April 26, '10, after which the fee is \$480. Lunches, study materials, refreshments, parking and taxes are all included. To register, return the form with a current cheque for full payment, or secure your spot with a current \$60.00 deposit cheque, and an additional cheque for the balance, post-dated to April 26, 2010. Cancellations are subject to a \$60 non-refundable administration fee until May 17, after which no

refunds will be offered. However, substitutions will be allowed. Please make cheques payable to Conciliation Services Canada. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept credit or debit card payment at this time.

Meals and Accommodations

Lunch will be provided on site to all participants. Twenty single rooms with private sinks and shared, gender segregated, bathrooms, are available at the Providence Renewal Centre at \$35.00 per night without breakfast. Sixteen double rooms (with one double & one twin bed) with private bathroom are available at \$55.00 per night (\$70.00 double occupancy) without breakfast. Breakfast is \$8.00 per person. These room and breakfast rates were current as of Dec. '09. 2010 rates may increase room costs by \$5.00 per night. A buffet supper is available on site for \$13.00. These prices are all inclusive of taxes.

To book meals and/or accommodation, please indicate your requests on your registration form and pay Conciliation Services Canada - not the Renewal Centre. All fees for accommodation, breakfasts and suppers should accompany your registration form, but are fully refundable until May 4. For now, we'll go with the 2009 rates. If I receive confirmation of a \$5.00 increase for 2010, I'll let you know. You could then "top up" your accommodation payment at the event. Thanks for your patience. Space is limited; please reserve early.

For Further Information Contact:

Nan Cressman, Conciliation Services Canada,
74 Duchess Ave., Kitchener, ON
N2M 2K3 Email: nancressman@sympatico.ca
or cressman@soonet.ca Phone: 519-742-2280

Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations

With the Rev. Dr. GIL RENDLE,

Senior Consultant and Alban Institute Author

Edmonton, Alberta ; **May 25 – 27, 2010**
The Third Annual Western Canada Summer Training Institute for Church Leaders
of Conciliation Services Canada