

Beyond Difficult People:

Telling the Difference between Merely Problematic or Pathological People

A Leadership
WORKSHOP

With Retreat Leaders: Norman Bendroth and Leslie Ann Chatfield

Wednesday, April 29, 2020
9:30am-3:30pm

Local churches can encounter

unresolved conflicts, stagnant church practices, grief and anxiety as well as a plethora of ghosts of hidden “secrets.” These “ghosts” may unexpectedly appear as we probe the system, hold up the mirror of self-reflection or ask difficult questions. Because they cause discomfort, church members can scapegoat others or “act out” in inappropriate behavior. Further, because churches are often welcoming places and conflict avoidant, difficult people or those with personality disorders can raise havoc in the congregation. This workshop explores ways to enter the emotional system while avoiding becoming a target of the anxiety. Through visual presentations, small group discussions, and case studies participants will learn skills to be a compassionate, non-anxious presence in tense situations and have a grid for understanding people with certain personality disorders that tend to be attracted to our churches.



Norman Bendroth is an intentional interim minister ordained in the United Church of Christ. He has served non-profit agencies, settled churches and eleven interim pastorates for thirty-one years in a variety of capacities. He is a Board Certified Coach, Professional Transitional Specialist, and church and clergy consultant. He has received further training in Appreciative Inquiry, Mediation Skills for Church Leaders. Norman is editor of *Transitional Ministry Today: Successful Strategies for Churches and Pastors* (Rowman and Littlefield, Dec. 2014) and author of *Interim Ministry in Action: A Handbook for Churches in Transition* also with Rowman and Littlefield. His website is at church-consultants.org.

Rolling Ridge

Retreat and Conference Center
660 Great Pond Road
North Andover, MA 01845
978-682-8815

Register on line at:

www.rollingridge.org
Registration: \$70 (Includes lunch)



Leslie Ann Chatfield

holds an M. Div. and is ordained in the United Church of Christ. She holds an MS in Special

Education and holds current state certifications and endorsements. She has completed all but her dissertation towards a PhD in Existential Psychology. In addition, she served for over a decade as a licensed social worker as part of a multi-systemic therapy team with families and adolescents who are identified to be ‘at risk.’ Leslie has been working in a variety of combinations of education and ministry for thirty years as a professional and as a consultant. Throughout her career the reflection on the existential meaning of one’s path and story has become central to her professional contributions.

We suggest an arrival time of 9am. Please let us know upon registration if you have dietary restrictions.