



New Hampshire

# Tending the Fire

*Wise, resilient leadership for a changing world*

## **Human systems are complicated, and churches are no exception.**

At their best, they draw out excellence in their people. At their worst, they become stuck -- undermining and sabotaging even the most well-designed plans for change. *Tending the Fire* helps clergy “think systems” in their congregations and their personal lives, so they can lead change that lasts. They can:

- Understand anxiety’s effects on churches and individuals
- Be a healthy, non-anxious leader
- Manage complicated emotional relationships
- Avoid overwork and “underwork”
- Recognize and handle sabotage
- Discover the “next right steps” for their churches and themselves.

## **Tending the Fire 2020 Concord, New Hampshire**

### **Opening Intensive:**

January 21-23, 2020

### **Deepening Retreat:**

March 24-25, 2020

### **Sending Retreat:**

May 12-14, 2020

**Wesley United Meth. Church  
79 Clinton St., Concord NH**

*“Tending the Fire’s spirit-filled retreats are personally and professionally transformative: coaching for effective leadership and invitation to self-discovery all rolled into one. Don’t miss this!”*

- Rev. Alison Patton  
Saugatuck Congr. Church, Westport CT

*“Have you ever found yourself wondering ‘What happened? What went wrong? What’s really going on?’ then Tending the Fire will give you new tools for understanding yourself and your church.”*

- Rev. Keith Beasley-Topliffe,  
Susquehanna Conference, UMC

*“I can see more clearly what I need to do and be, and I feel better equipped to live in the messy life of the church.”*

- Rev. Katrina Wuensch, South Acton UCC, MA

**Tending the Fire gives you tools to manage the ongoing chaos of life and leadership.**



# Tending the Fire

## Director / Retreat Leader

Rev. Barbara Lemmel is an ordained elder in the New England Conference of the UMC. She has served congregations in Vermont and upstate New York, facilitated conference re-structuring, and offers programming and spiritual guidance to churches and pastors. Barbara studied Family Systems Theory with the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center in Chicago and the Center for Pastoral Effectiveness in New Orleans. In 2003, she and Rev. Alan Delamater established *Tending the Fire*; Barbara continues to offer *Tending the Fire* for clergy, laity and judicatory leadership in multiple denominations. She also offers leadership coaching and coordinates the Parish Consultants of the New England Conference UMC. For more information, visit [www.tending-the-fire.com](http://www.tending-the-fire.com) or email [barblemmel@mac.com](mailto:barblemmel@mac.com).

**Retreat schedule: 1:00-8:00 Tuesday, 9:00-6:00 Wednesday, 9:00-4:00 Thursday.**

**Participation at all retreats is required.**

## “How can I become the leader my church needs?”

No one has to tell you that this is a hard time to lead the church: congregations are worried; money is tight; leaders are stretched thin. The old ways don't work, and the best new practices aren't clear.

Yet even in these times of deep change, when you lead by staying true to core principles and also stay flexible in your approach, it makes all the difference.

*Tending the Fire* draws on the wisdom of family systems theory as developed by Murray Bowen and Edwin Friedman, combined with the adaptive leadership insights of Ron Heifetz and the powerful research of Brené Brown.

**Clergy who attend Tending the Fire become better leaders: less worried, more engaged, renewed in their call and ministry.**

*“The concepts, perspective and self-knowledge gained from Tending the Fire are as valuable as any I’ve come across in my 25 years of active pastoral ministry. I wish I had experienced Tending the Fire years earlier.”*

- Rev. Henry Frueh, Upper New York Conference UMC

## Registration Form

### Deadline to register: January 7, 2020

Cost for all three retreats is \$800 & includes tuition, facility, materials and meals (dinner Wednesday, lunch Thursday and Friday). Participants earn 9 CEU's.

Make checks payable to “Tending the Fire” and mail to: Barbara Lemmel, 11 Woodlawn Dr., Essex Junction VT 05452. Or register online:

[www.tending-the-fire.com/register](http://www.tending-the-fire.com/register)

Sponsored by Preachers Aid Society. For more information, contact Barbara Lemmel at [barblemmel@mac.com](mailto:barblemmel@mac.com) or 802.881.3267.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_