



TRANSFORM

Conflict Transformation Resource of the
HTCUMC Maximize Care and Healing Strategic Priority Team

What: TRANSFORM is a network of conflict transformation district point persons—gifted laity from each district who are trained to support churches during times of tension. These individuals serve as a non-anxious presence in churches during potentially volatile situations, ready to facilitate challenging conversations, de-escalate conflict, or provide third-party participation when needed.

Why: Conflict is a natural part of community life. With resource and guidance, congregations are discovering that conflict, when approached with proper support, can be TRANSFORMED into an opportunity for growth, creativity, and deeper community.

How:

- Facilitate listening sessions among lay people
- Facilitate difficult conversation between lay people or clergy and lay people
- Mediate differences between lay people
- Observe contentious church council meeting to assess needed resource
- Other involvement, as determined

When: Now! Conflicts or tension in churches should be addressed as soon as possible; the longer it takes to address the conflict, the harder it becomes to bridge differences. Contact Liz Greenwell (lizgreenwell@htcumc.org) for first steps to TRANSFORM conflict into community.

*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Romans 12:2*

Meet some of your TRANSFORM District Point Persons:



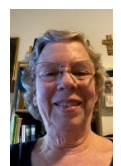
Bruce Bacon, retired Pre-Construction Manager, built and led highly functioning teams in the construction industry. He serves his church as an Adult Studies Facilitator and volunteers in the community helping Senior Citizen homeowners in need. He has served his church as Lay Leader and committee member and has led multiple Youth and College-aged Mission Trips.



Former North Texas Conference Lay Leader **Kim Brannon** is a conflict specialist, certified mediator, and certified leadership coach who is passionate about equipping and accompanying clergy, leaders, and laity as they transform conflict into robust and grace-filled relationships.



A retired Master Army Aviator, Veteran, and Airline Captain, **Kevin Buckrucker** served the Missouri Annual Conference as Associate Conference Lay Leader and Director of Lay Leadership Development. He has served the local church, District, Annual/General Conferences, and Global Board of Discipleship in leadership roles and assisted in Healthy Church Consultations. Kevin is a trained Clergy Coach and a Certified Lay Minister.



Chris Buse, Horizon Texas Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries, has served seventeen years equipping and empowering laity to respond to God's call to be God's visible presence in the world. Out of her love for those who suffer in silence or lack a voice to address their pain, she has walked beside children in the foster care system as a Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer, and she continues to give voice to the harm perpetuated by silence.



East District Lay Leader and certified Simplified Accountability Structure coach **Ted Haynes** is passionate about assisting pastors and church leaders with conflict resolution and adopting governance structures that focus church leaders on mission and vision rather than management.



Georgianne Hewett holds a Master of Science degree in learning and organizational change from Northwestern University. An experienced facilitator and change strategist, she is committed to equipping others to bring about sustainable change that aligns actions with individual goals and organizational mission.



Dallas native **Mae Frances Rowlett** considers it a privilege to share her gifts with her church community. This grateful Breast Cancer survivor enjoys teaching (Sunday school, Lay Servant, or Bible study courses), people-watching while traveling, delivering Meals on Wheels, and hunting for bargains.



Linda Smith is a retired telecommunications professional who spent her career managing large projects and ensuring the highest degree of customer satisfaction. During her career, Linda found a major component of conflict resolution to be fostering an environment where everyone has an opportunity to participate in defining the conflict and then collectively working toward a mutual resolution. Linda has served on various committees during 40 years of UMC membership and enjoys facilitating adult Sunday school classes and Bible studies.



A retired marketing professional who owned and operated the largest advertising agency in West Texas for over 30 years, **Craig Van Amburgh** has used his unique communication methods for numerous self-improvement programs and nonprofits throughout Texas. A lifelong United Methodist, he has served on numerous church committees including Finance, SPRC, and Ministry Action Planning.