



## Clergy and Ministerial Ethics

Clergy members and other ministry leaders are often expected to not only make all of the right decisions, but also have all of the answers. They are faced with ethical determinations in their personal lives every day, as we all are as humans. The decisions made in those ordinary moments can have long-term positive or negative consequences.

As a person charged with leading a church, a clergy member makes decisions at a far-reaching level. Ethical leaders can propel a congregation forward to do its best work. Unethical behavior, on the other hand, can erode the fabric of an entire congregation.

As clergy members are tested every day with situations that may challenge their own ethics and values, they must draw from a code of behavior. They must be ready to face life's everyday predicaments, grounded in the mission given to them by their congregation and the community they serve.

This course can be used as a comprehensive introduction to ethics or as an annual refresher course. Modules include scenarios for deeper reflection. A certificate of completion is presented upon successful passing of the final exam.

### Course Details:

- \$22 per user
- 6 modules, 2-hour online course

### Module Topics:

**Introduction:** Explore the definition of ethics and the importance of a code of conduct.

#### **The Top Ethical Issues Faced by Church Leaders**

**Today:** Technology; Sexual Abuse and Misconduct; Dual Relationships; Behaviors Around Children and Youth; Drug, Alcohol, and Other Addictions; Secrecy vs. Confidentiality; Narcissism and Abuse of Power; Plagiarism; Embezzlement; Accountability and Supervision; and the Importance of Personal Study and Faith Growth.

**The Consequences of Unethical Behavior and Looking Forward:** Questions to guide behavior and the importance of self-care.