



Keeping Our Sacred Trust

# Maintaining Boundaries in a Digital Age

## Online Training on Ethical Boundaries in Ministry

**The prevalence of electronic communication and social media raises new ethical challenges for church leaders today.**

***Maintaining Boundaries in a Digital Age*** explores issues of clergy ethics and responsibility in an era of instantaneous, electronic communication. It builds on the first course in the *Keeping Our Sacred Trust* series, *Understanding Clergy Sexual Ethics*, which is a primer on preventing clergy sexual misconduct.

***Maintaining Boundaries in a Digital Age*** considers new risks and concerns related to sexual ethics in the rapidly changing landscape of electronic media and social media, such as online pornography, internet relationships, and questionable behavior on social media. It also addresses the risks and the opportunities in using electronic communication as a ministry tool.

***Maintaining Boundaries in a Digital Age*** addresses real concerns and questions from the perspective of those in pastoral ministry:

- Why are boundaries important to effective ministry?
- How is self-care critical to maintaining appropriate boundaries?
- When is it appropriate to use different forms of social and electronic media?
- How can privacy be maintained?
- Why are clergy particularly at risk for pornography use?
- How can clergy escape the lure of pornography?

### Course details

- \$49 to enroll
- .5 CEU issued by the Lewis Center upon completion
- Certificate of successful completion issued
- Individual and group registration available
- Open to clergy of any denomination and non-denominational pastors
- Enroll and pay online at [lewisonlinelearning.org](http://lewisonlinelearning.org)

### Offered in a convenient online format

- Learn via written instruction, video presentations, and personal reflection exercises.
- Work at your own pace, taking the time necessary to process information and reflect.
- Engage in honest self-reflection with an online system that is completely confidential.
- Study when and where it fits your schedule.
- Avoid the time and expense of travel to workshops or seminars.

The online format ensures full engagement of the study material through built-in accountability mechanisms. And it is accessible to extension ministers, retired clergy, and those serving in remote areas.

### Built on credible expertise

Principal direction in developing this course was provided by Dr. Rob Vaughn, lead pastor of Community of Faith United Methodist Church in Herndon, Virginia. Rob earned a Ph.D. in sexuality education at University of Pennsylvania in a joint program in the School of Education, Marriage & Family Counseling, and the Medical School. He has taught widely throughout the church on ethics. Many other experts — from the Lewis Center, Wesley Theological Seminary, and beyond — have also contributed to this course.

### Also available in the *Keeping Our Sacred Trust* series

- ***Understanding Clergy Sexual Ethics***
- ***Boundary Issues for Church Staff Members*** (Coming soon)
- ***Handling Finances with Integrity*** (Coming soon)

Learn more and enroll at  
[lewisonlinelearning.org](http://lewisonlinelearning.org)



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