

Clergy in the Gathering of Leaders' network are the front line for the pastoral response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is critical that we care for our own resiliency in this unprecedented time. It is easy for us to over-function as if we are in a sprint, but this could be a marathon.

As you know, GOL is an organization that provides a vessel for peer-learning and connection. GOL has been in consultation with Episcopal Relief and Development and the CREDO staff at the Church Pension Group to build the format for, and solicit staff for, twice weekly resiliency hours we are calling "Seeking Resilience: Loss – Hope - Faith."



These Seeking Resilience hours are designed to allow any GOL participant to join via Zoom to share your emotions, experiences, and realities of pastoring in quarantine while trained facilitators guide the conversation. As with our in-person Gatherings, these will be a place for mutual support, peer-insight, and trust.

These hour-long Zoom sessions will be available to any GOL participant who wishes to attend and connect, and they will be facilitated by Dr. Mario Conliffe, PhD, LCPC, NCC and Dr. Westina Matthews, PhD, and it is our hope that these Seeking Resilience hours provide a space for our clergy participants to wade through the confusing waters ahead alongside their peers and to nurture and support one another during this time. The facilitators' bios are on the registration link below.

Sessions begin this coming Tuesday, April 21 and will go on as long as there is a need during this time. One session will happen each Tuesday morning at 11:00 AM Eastern and a second each Friday at 4:00 PM Eastern. Feel free to come to one or come to all. These are there for when and if you need them. Each session will be a stand-alone session, so come when you need to. Each session will be capped at 20 participants so that the conversation can easily take place, and no one is required to speak if they don't want to.

The first 30 days of Zoom events are available on the GOL website here:

<https://www.thegatheringofleaders.org/covid-19-response/>. Please note that you must be logged into the GOL website in order to access this page. Your user name is your first name and last name with the space and capitals and if you need to do a password reset it will come to your email address associated with you in our database.

If you have any questions or have trouble registering, please contact me directly and I am happy to help.