

Why Should I Get Involved in SHAPE?

SHAPE will help you...

- Get a comprehensive look at your church, your family, and your ministry through professional assessment tools and evaluation.
- Develop a personal and professional growth plan that grows as you grow.
- Network with other pastors committed to excellence, sharing, encouragement, and collegial exchange.
- Take advantage of growth opportunities such as conferences, seminars, and training events that otherwise might have been unavailable or unaffordable.
- Experience the power and joy of being coached.
- Become intentional about being a healthy, effective pastor in the twenty-first century—as one mentored and as one who mentors.

"SHAPE has been such a blessing. It's given me a sounding board, camaraderie, and a challenge to grow to be all that God has called me to be. Also, SHAPE has given new direction to our church with the NCD process we are in now."

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

SHAPE Northwest Office

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LeAnn Brown, Administrative Assistant

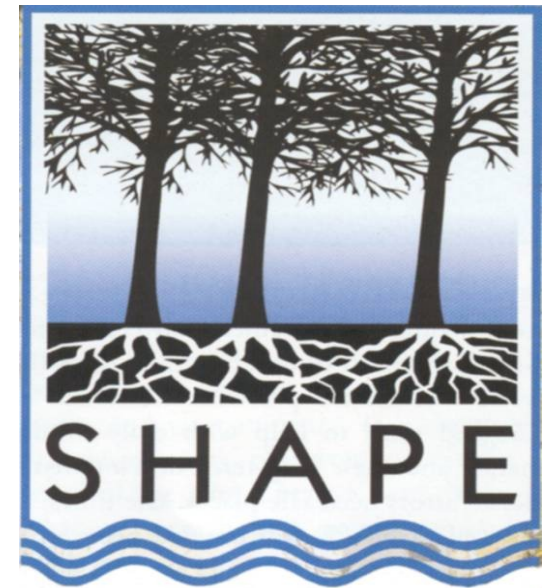
SHAPE California Office

3939 N. First Street, Fresno, CA 93726, Phone:
559-269-9126, FAX: 559-227-5082, Email:
SHAPECA@aol.com
Pastor Paula Wilson, Administrative Director

National SHAPE Office

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2420, Anderson, IN
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To read more about SHAPE, visit our national website at www.chog.org.



**Sustaining
Health
And
Pastoral
Excellence**

For Pastors and
Congregations
in SHAPE Regions

WHAT IS SHAPE?

SHAPE is designed to strengthen, sharpen, and network pastors and churches in regional areas.

SHAPE will help pastors stay healthy, fulfilled, and effective in ministry.

SHAPE will help keep minds sharp, spirits renewed, ministries productive, and hearts connected with God and one another. Pastors and their churches will be asked to enter into a three-year covenant agreement of self-discovery, collaboration with others, and a commitment to the components necessary for growth. We desire to alter the culture of ministry, specifically the way ministry is carried out in the Church of God: helping health and growth become intentional so that churches and pastors working in partnership is the norm, not the exception.

SHAPE has helped me recognize that we all encounter similar issues in our churches and we are not alone in the world. In our clusters, we can share openly in a supportive atmosphere, the positive & negative aspects of ministry and support one another through prayer."

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY

All credentialed pastoral staff ministers in SHAPE Regions are eligible and encouraged to apply:

- Senior Pastors
- Associate Pastors
- Worship Pastors
- Part-Time Pastors
- Youth Pastors
- Children's Pastors
- Specialized Pastors
- Full-Time Pastors

"The work of examining ourselves and how we got into ministry, and what we expect from it, has been invaluable in centering me in my calling."

WHAT WILL IT COST?

SHAPE is intended to be a partnership effort, both in time and finances. The expenses are expected to be shared by state, participant, and congregational funds. *(Participant Fees may vary in different regions.)*

Annual Participant Fee: \$125

Annual Congregation Fee:

Under 100 members	\$100.00
101 – 200 members	\$175.00
201 – 400 members	\$250.00
400+ members	\$325.00

HOW MUCH TIME IS EXPECTED FROM THE PARTICIPANTS?

Realizing that pastors have many time expectations already, SHAPE strives to make this three-year commitment worthwhile and beneficial for the pastor and his/her ministry. Time expectations are:

- Orientation Retreat
- One full day per month for cluster meetings
- Occasional special events (seminars, marriage retreats)
- Some reading assignments/occasional homework

"I can without exaggeration, report that SHAPE has probably kept me in ministry. Our cluster has supported each other through real crises that could have taken each of us out."

HOW WILL SHAPE BENEFIT MY CONGREGATION?

SHAPE will help my church:

- Broaden and deepen the scope of connectivity and engagement between congregation and pastor.
- Invest in the personal health, professional growth, and meaningful partnerships of your pastor.
- Become stronger; as the pastor becomes healthier and more effective, so will the congregation—corporately and individually.

"SHAPE has helped me in untold ways—support, counsel, fellowship, accountability, kinship, humor, break in routine . . . but most of all, it has served to do for me and other pastors what we need most—dismantle our feelings of isolation."

SHAPE CAN HELP CHANGE THE CURRENT CHURCH CULTURE

- More than 1,300 pastors each month are forcibly terminated without just cause.
- Each month more than 1,200 pastors leave the ministry due to stress, church-related issues, family issues, or burnout.
- Clergy divorce has risen 65 percent in the last 20 years.
- Seventy percent of pastors say they don't have someone they consider to be a close personal friend.
- The burnout rate is at an all-time high with only 50 percent of pastors completing their working years as a pastor.

(Taken from Leading Turnaround Churches by Gene Wood)