

## What is Mediation?

**Mediation** me·di·a·tion  
,mēdē' āSH(ə)n

Noun

1) intervention in a process or relationship; intercession.

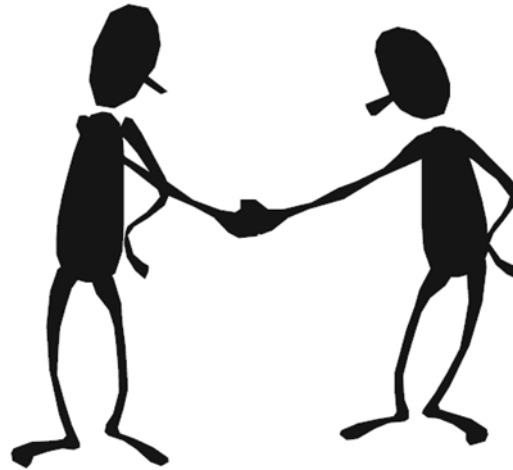
"They are offering sacrifice and mediation between God and human kind."

2) intervention in a dispute in order to resolve it.

Synonyms:

arbitration, conciliation, conciliation, intervention, intercession, good offices; negotiation, shuttle diplomacy "mediation between victims and offenders"

Our churches would acknowledge that "Jesus came to reconcile sinners". This suggests that even good church folks may find themselves in the midst of conflict, and in need of help in resolving it.



## Why seek Mediation?

Conflict arises in the best of relationships. It is normal. Resolving conflict can lead to reconciliation. Communication styles and speaking the truth in love can build and deepen relationships and foster trust.

The process of reconciliation through mediation can be helpful to individuals and to groups within congregations, as well as to entire congregations.

## Where can I get more information?

The Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley and the Synod of the Northeast have helped to fund Mediation Skills training for members of PSV through the Lombard-Mennonite Peacemaking Center led by Richard Blackburn.

Would you like to know more? In Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley contact:

Rev. Garrett Vittorio-Schindler –  
Pastor at Bovina UP Church

Rev. Marena Vittorio-Schindler,  
Pastor at Andes Presbyterian

Rev. Patricia Raube, Pastor at  
Union Presbyterian

Ruling Elder Judith A. Gage

At the Synod of the NorthEast  
contact: Nancy Talbot