

**David B. Corbett, MSW, RSW, Ord. - CFCM**

**Pastoral Counselling (ordained affiliate of the Canadian Fellowship of Churches and Ministers)**

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The purpose of this letter is to introduce you to this service, particularly as a "counselee". It includes important information, please read it.

The work I do here is "Pastoral Counselling" and it includes what is commonly referred to as Prayer Ministry (I can explain this "process" further). I am also trained as a Clinical Social Worker with a Master's degree in Social Work (MSW), since 1987 and have over 15 years of professional experience working in community social services with mental health clients. This Pastoral Counselling service is from a distinctly Christian world-view and tends to be from more of a pastoral as opposed to clinical perspective. I am overseen in this ministry by the Overseer for my Ordination credentials and in the event of questions, concerns or disputes regarding my ministry in this capacity, this Overseer would be involved.

I have been doing Pastoral Counselling on a part-time basis since 1987 within the context of my local church fellowship and an intentional Christian community where we had lived from August 1986 – February 2007. I am licensed with the Canadian Fellowship of Churches and Ministers (CFCM) [www.cfc.org](http://www.cfc.org) as a minister since 1997. I am ordained with CFCM since March 2003. I have a wealth of training and experience in Christian counselling and ministry (see below). I tend to see people individually and do the same when working with married couples. I am not registered nor trained as a marriage therapist (ie./ AAMFT), however, I have a breadth of experience in counselling couples.

My Pastoral Counselling training has included a variety of sources (these are some important ones):

- Elijah House (John and Paula Sanford; Fletch and Betty Fletcher – trained for 3 weeks in Prayer Counselling School)
- Institute of Basic Life Principles (Basic and Advanced) and it's Advanced Training Institute and Medical Training Institute of America (Dr. Bill Gothard) – many years of the week-long 32 hr. Basic Seminar and two times through the Advanced, we also homeschooled with them for 8 yrs.,
- Dr. Tom Hawkins (Restoration in Christ Ministries, VA) – his seminar and in-person and by phone consultations with him
- C.A.R.E. Inc. (Michigan): Cheryl Knight and Jo Getzinger– training and phone consultations
- Drs. Jim Friesen and Jim Wilder (Shepherd's House Clinic and Life Model/Thrive, California) and Dr. Jerry Mungadze (Texas) – training and use of Mungadze's Clinic in Texas
- Steve and Mary Prokopchak (DCFI Resource Counsellor/Apostolic Council member – trained by him to deliver and train others in premarital counselling using their book: "Called Together")

Please consider these items if you come for pastoral counselling:

1. Sessions are usually 1 or 2 hours in length and are usually scheduled Tuesday – Friday at 10 – 12 noon; 1 – 3p and 3:30 – 5:30p. I do see people on Tuesday - Thursday nights from 7 – 9p as well. Appointments are made by phone. E-mail/texting is NOT an acceptable way to book or reschedule/cancel appointments with me. Please discuss fees and how much you will be giving in advance of your 1st session. A sliding fee schedule is available starting from \$95 per hour and is based on gross family income and/or total net worth.
2. Please provide the amount you are giving at the beginning of each session. Receipts are available at the session. However, I am NOT a charitable organization and do not provide tax-deductible charitable receipts. Requests for cumulative year-end receipts or duplicate receipts after the session will include an administrative fee of at least \$40.
3. Cheques made out to David Corbett and cash are received. Web-based Bank e-mail transfers can be done via my e-mail address (which I provide to clients). NSF cheques have a \$40 fee as well as the outstanding amount of the cheque immediately payable in cash. After having an NSF cheque, cash payment may be requested for subsequent sessions.
4. If you are contagious with an illness (including a cold or flu), please cancel/reschedule your session ASAP, phone/Skype appointments can be arranged instead of cancelling if this is acceptable. Same week rescheduled appointments may be another way to avoid paying for a missed appointment
5. Cancellation Policy: a minimum of 24 working hours notice (10 AM – 5:30 PM, Tu.. - Fr.) is required. Example: a 3:30p session on a Tuesday involves cancellation by the prior Friday, before 3p. If this is not abided by, I will ask you to pay the full fee for the session. Grace may be given in extenuating circumstances. A doctor's note may be requested. Weather conditions will be considered.
6. I reserve the right to make a digital recording of each session and telephone calls for integrity. All services are strictly confidential.
7. You must (learn to) take personal responsibility for your care and emotional well-being during, after and between sessions. I am unable to offer crisis services. Persons who are actively suicidal at referral will be directed to crisis services.
8. This ministry is not equipped to respond to crisis situations. Crisis hotlines and Crisis Centres in Hospitals exist in many localities and are to be accessed as needed. If you are at risk of self-harm, or have been significantly "at risk" in the past or been hospitalized for self-harm, it is your responsibility to inform me of this, immediately.
9. If you are presently under court order or another form of legal obligation to receive counselling or treatment, you must inform me. You will need to sign consent forms for me to communicate and report to your authorities.
10. If you are presently taking prescription medications for an emotional condition/disorder or are being seen by a physician or other professional for an emotional condition/disorder, you must inform me.
11. Honesty and willingness to participate with God and me in this ministry process are required to obtain good results.
12. You agree to observe the following guidelines during the sessions:
  - No inebriation, intoxication or appearing under the influence of drugs
  - No lewd, vulgar, or provocative dress or behaviour
  - No pagan, blasphemous, or occult activities
  - No mean, quarrelsome, bitter, antagonistic, slanderous speech
13. Not honouring the above guidelines may result in ministry being suspended until they can be abided by.
14. You will be asked to sign this letter stating that you are aware of and willing to follow the above items.