

Format of Series and Sessions

The **Here I Stand** process is designed to be extended over at least a four-year period. Sessions are conducted by telephone about every eight weeks. Sessions are scheduled at the participants convenience.

Over this extended period, participants are given a series of questions which invite reflection on the changes in one's beliefs and principles and on the connection of those changes to shifts in important relationships. This individual reflection comes to focus on the participant's own **Beliefs Chart**.

Each telephone session will include some input and discussion on an aspect of family systems theory. However, theoretical input will not be the focus of the sessions.

The emphasis of each session will be the interviewing of participants regarding their reflections on the questions assigned for that day, and on observations they have made on their evolving **Beliefs Charts**. Over time, participants become more clear on which of their beliefs are a product of their own thought and choice, which may have been adopted in reaction to relationship pressures.

Faculty

Robert Williamson serves with LMPC in an Adjunct Faculty role. Bob is a graduate of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (M. Div., 1976) and has experience as a parish pastor. Since joining the LMPC staff in 1992, he has served as a trainer and consultant to pastors and other church leaders. Much of Bob's effort in recent years has gone into the development of the **Here I Stand** approach.

Bob has participated in the "Postgraduate Program in Family Systems Theory and its Applications" at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family (Georgetown Family Center) in Washington, D.C.

Costs

The cost for participation in the **Here I Stand Clinic** is \$60.00 per hour for time spent by LMPC staff in phone sessions with participants and in preparing participant **Belief Charts**.

Reading

The only required reading for participants is the booklet **Charting Self: The Beliefs Chart as a Tool for Change** (\$5.00 plus shipping) available from LMPC. Participants are also encouraged to read any of the following (also available from LMPC): Roberta Gilbert, **Extraordinary Relationships**; Michael Kerr and Murray Bowen, **Family Evaluation**; Murray Bowen, **Family Therapy in Clinical Practice**.

Before You Register...

To assure that participants understand the goals and design of the **Here I Stand Clinic**, those interested in registering are asked to talk with Bob Williamson.

To Contact LMPC

Write: Lombard Mennonite Peace Center
101 W. 22nd Street, Suite 206
Lombard IL 60148-4987

Call: 630-627-0507

Fax: 630-627-0519

E-mail: Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org

Web site: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

Case Study Coaching

In addition to **Here I Stand** coaching, LMPC staff are available to do telephone coaching which focuses on pastors' functioning as leaders within their congregations. Participants prepare case studies which serve as the basis for each phone session. Grounded in family systems theory, pastors may choose to engage in a long-term coaching relationship, or simply schedule one or two sessions to help think about a particularly challenging situation. Contact LMPC for more information.

Request For Further Information

I am interested in LMPC's **Here I Stand Clinic**. Please contact me with further information.
Clip and mail this form to: LMPC, 101 W. 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard IL 60148-4987.

Name _____ Church/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

____ Send me _____ more copies of this brochure for sharing with clergy colleagues.

____ Let me know of workshops on family systems theory and congregational systems that can be held in my church.

____ Keep me informed about other **Here I Stand** opportunities.

Family Emotional Process

Dr. Murray Bowen understood families as emotional systems impacted by both the level of anxiety within the family and their level of differentiation. Dr. Edwin Friedman and others have seen the relevance of Bowen's ideas for religious congregations and their leaders.

Today's rising levels of anxiety in society impact families and their churches. Heightened anxiety contributes to more automatic functioning by both pastors and members in the form of conflict, withdrawal, overfunctioning and underfunctioning, blaming, triangling, etc.

The ***Here I Stand Clinic*** invites participants to engage in several years of reflection on their own beliefs. This reflection takes into account the profound impact of relationship pressures on the formation and abandonment of beliefs. As participants become clear on a few beliefs and principles which are really their own, their life course can become steadier. Furthermore, they become a resource to their churches in anxious times with increased capacity to choose a principled course.

Who Will Benefit

Pastors and interim pastors; Judicatory officials; Leaders of other religious organizations; Anyone interested in personal growth.

The ***Here I Stand Clinic*** is especially appropriate for pastors who are facilitating the ***Here I Stand*** process in their own congregations (see below).

Here I Stand Training

Here I Stand: Leading Change Through Self-Differentiation trains pastors to facilitate the ***Here I Stand*** process with the members of their own congregations. Upcoming dates are:

- April 8-10, 2008 – Souderton, PA (Philly area)
- August 19-21, 2008 – Chicago area

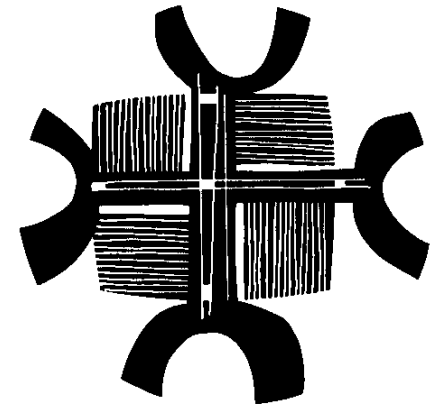
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Coaching by Telephone

Here I Stand Clinic for Church Leaders



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