

About the Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

Schedule

The **Clergy Clinic** meets three times each year for three successive days each time for a total of nine days. Participants choose one of the two groups to attend:

Group A:
October 24-26, 2016
February 20-22, 2017
April 24-26, 2017

Group B:
November 7-9, 2016
March 6-8, 2017
May 1-3, 2017

Mondays: 10/24, 2/20, 4/24; or 11/7, 3/6, 5/1

1:00 p.m. – Faculty Input
5:30 p.m. – Supper (provided on site)
6:30 p.m. – Faculty Input
8:00 p.m. – Adjournment

Tuesdays: 10/25, 2/21, 4/25; or 11/8, 3/7, 5/2

9:00 a.m. – Input: Bowen Systems Theory
12:00 p.m. – Lunch (on your own)
1:30 p.m. – Family of Origin Groups
5:00 p.m. – Adjournment

Wednesdays: 10/26, 2/22, 4/26; or 11/9, 3/8, 5/3

9:00 a.m. – Input: Emotional Process and Congregational Systems
12:00 p.m. – Lunch (on your own)
1:15 p.m. – Congregational Case Study Groups
4:30 p.m. – Conclusion

Location

First Church of Lombard, UCC
220 South Main Street — Lombard, Illinois

Lombard is in the western suburbs of Chicago, approximately 30-45 minutes by car from both O'Hare and Midway airports. A map and hotel list will be sent with confirmation of registration.

Tuition

Tuition is \$975 for the entire series for registrations received prior to **September 19, 2016**. The fee is \$1,075 for registrations received after that date. Cancellations are subject to a non-refundable administration fee of \$100, if we receive notification prior to **October 1, 2016**, or half of the registration fee, if notified prior to **October 10, 2016**. Afterward there will be no refunds or credit for missed sessions, since family of origin group leaders will have already been hired. To register, return the form with full payment, or register online by going to, www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852

Faculty

Richard Blackburn is Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. He has broad experience as a trainer, mediator, and consultant with conflicted churches and their leaders. The congregational mediation model he developed represents a transformational approach, placed within the context of Bowen family systems theory. For several years, he attended Edwin Friedman's *Postgraduate Clergy Seminar in Family Emotional Process* in Bethesda, MD. Richard has also participated in the *Postgraduate Program in Bowen Family Systems Theory and Its Applications* at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family in Washington, D.C. He is an ordained Mennonite minister.

Bill Blank, LMPC Associate Director, is an ordained minister in the Mennonite Church and has served as a pastor and interim pastor for a number of years. He has participated in the *Postgraduate Program in Bowen Family Systems Theory and Its Applications* at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family. Prior to joining the LMPC staff, he was a regular participant in LMPC's training events, including: *Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process*, *Advanced Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process*, and our *Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders*. Benefitting from his years of pastoral experience and ministering to churches in transition, Bill also has experience in consulting with conflicted churches, facilitating LMPC's full-scale congregational mediation process and providing coaching for pastors from a family systems orientation since joining the staff.

Primary Reading

Participants in the **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process** are required to read *Extraordinary Relationships: A New Way of Thinking About Human Interactions* by Dr. Roberta Gilbert (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1992) and *One Family's Story: A Primer on Bowen Theory* by Michael E. Kerr (Georgetown Family Center, 2003). *Extraordinary Relationships* is an excellent and readable summary of the basics of Bowen family systems theory. *One Family's Story* gives an overview of the eight basic concepts of Bowen family systems theory. These books are available for purchase from LMPC.

Concepts To Be Studied

- Triangles
- Differentiation of Self
- Nuclear Family Emotional System and Family Projection Process
- Multigenerational Transmission Process
- Sibling Position
- Societal Regression
- Emotional Cutoff

The **Clergy Clinic** will help participants understand how each concept has implications for one's family system, as well as one's functioning as a leader within a congregational system.

Comments from Others

"This is some of the best time and money I've spent in continuing education. I am becoming a healthier pastor, daughter, sister, wife, mother. It has helped me look honestly at myself, from a place of caring and safety; and to work on myself." — Presbyterian Pastor

"I wish I had done this 20 years ago. I would have been far more confident in managing myself in congregational systems and avoided a lot of pain." — United Methodist Pastor

"It saved my ministry; I would not still be a pastor, if I hadn't attended *Clergy Clinic*." — Presbyterian Pastor

For Further Information

Write: *Lombard Mennonite Peace Center*
101 West 22nd Street, Suite 206
Lombard, IL 60148

E-mail: admin@LMPeaceCenter.org

Web Site: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

Call: (630) 627-0507

Fax: (630) 627-0519

Other Clergy Clinic Option

A third *Clergy Clinic* group will meet in San Diego, CA. The tuition is higher for the west coast group in order to cover travel expenses for LMPC faculty. Dates for the San Diego group are:

- December 5-7, 2016
- March 13-15, 2017
- May 22-24, 2017

For further information: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

Registration Form

Enclose payment of \$975 for the series (\$1,075 after 9/19/16). Make checks payable (in US funds) to "LMPC."
Clip and mail to: Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, 101 West 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148.

Name _____ Home Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Congregation/Organization _____ Work Phone _____
Preferred Email _____ Other Email _____
*** Confirmation of Registration is sent by email Please be sure to include at least one email address, printed clearly.**
_____ Register me for the 2016-2017 **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process**. _____ Group A _____ Group B
_____ Send me _____ more copies of this brochure for sharing with clergy colleagues.
_____ Send me information about workshops on family systems theory and church leadership that can be held in my church.
_____ Send me information about LMPC's **Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders**

Please check if registering: I have read and agree to the cancellation policy explained under "Tuition" in this brochure.

To register online please select the event you wish to register for at www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852

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**A Leadership
Training
Program**

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

**October 24-26, 2016
February 20-22, 2017
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or

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**Sponsored by
Lombard Mennonite Peace Center
Lombard, Illinois**

Family Emotional Process

Since the publication of *Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue*, by Dr. Edwin Friedman, pastors and other clergy have recognized the importance of understanding Bowen family systems theory as it relates to congregational systems.

Dr. Murray Bowen understood families as emotional systems impacted by two key factors: the level of anxiety within the system and the level of differentiation of family members. As a student of Bowen, Dr. Edwin Friedman saw the relevance of Bowen's ideas for religious congregations and their leaders.

With today's rising level of anxiety in society and its resulting impact on families, there is little doubt that such anxiety will impact the church with increasing intensity in the years ahead. The resulting elevation of pressures within congregations and the increasing demands which that places on clergy make it imperative that leaders step back occasionally from the fray to assess their own capacity for managing themselves in a calmer, more differentiated way.

The **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process** is designed to enhance the ability of participants to function as self-differentiated leaders within their own ministry setting. It will provide a safe forum for processing challenging situations in one's ministry, while also facilitating reflection on a way of thinking about the human condition which has implications for all aspects of life.

Session Format

The **Clergy Clinic** meets three times per year for three successive days each time, thus providing nine full days of reflection on the concepts of family emotional process. The format follows the basic themes articulated in Edwin Friedman's *Generation to Generation*, with reflection on the minister's three interlocking families: the minister's own family, the parishioner family, and the congregation as a family.

The first day will be didactic, focusing on the concepts of Bowen family systems theory, as they apply to both family and congregational systems. The other mornings will also be didactic, with presentations by faculty as well as videotape input from Murray Bowen, Edwin Friedman, and others. Didactic sessions will also include periodic reflection from a biblical perspective on the concepts being studied.

On Tuesday afternoon each time we divide into small groups providing participants an opportunity to explore their own family of origin under the guidance of an experienced family systems practitioner. The final afternoon each time will be given to the presentation of case studies by participants from their own congregational or other ministry setting, followed by opportunity for feedback, discussion, and consultation.

The program has been designed around several three-day visits, rather than a one-time intensive effort, because we have found that family systems thinking cannot be absorbed simply by attending a single workshop or reading a book. It is necessary to alternate the learning experience with personal efforts to integrate family systems thinking into one's own functioning. Given such an effort over an extended period of time, it is possible to raise one's level of differentiation and, thereby, positively impact one's leadership capabilities in all areas of ministry.

Who Will Benefit

- Pastors and Interim Pastors.
- Judicatory Officials: Bishops, District Superintendents, Presbytery Executives, etc.
- Church Consultants.
- Leaders of Religious Communities and Other Church-Related Organizations.
- Congregational lay leaders are welcome as well.

"...So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." (Romans 12:5)

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