

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

Sponsored by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center



Dates and Location (choose one of two groups):

Group A:
October 28-30, 2019
February 17-19, 2020
April 27-29, 2020

Group B:
November 11-13, 2019
March 9-11, 2020
May 18-20, 2020

Sessions will be held in Lombard, Illinois, a western suburb of Chicago and approximately 30-45 minutes from both O'Hare and Midway airports. A map to the site and hotel information will be sent with confirmation of registration.

The **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process** meets three times during the year for three successive days each time, thus providing a total of nine days of training.

Core Concepts Studied

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

Who Will Benefit

- Pastors and Interim Pastors – Clergy Spouses – Church Lay Leaders
- Judicatory Officials – Bishops, Conference Ministers, Presbytery Executives, District Superintendents, Synod, Conference, or Diocesan Staff
- Church Consultants – Leaders of Other Religious Organizations

Tuition

Tuition for the series is \$975 for registrations received prior to September 16, 2019, and \$1,175 if received after that date. To register, return the form below with full payment. Cancellations are subject to a nonrefundable administration fee of \$100 if we receive notification prior to September 30, 2019, or half of the registration fee if notified prior to October 7, 2019. Afterward, there will be no refunds or credit for missed sessions. Such cancellation fees are necessary, since we are required to contract with family of origin group leaders several weeks prior to the first session. Cancellations can result in LMPC having to pay for family of origin group leaders who are no longer needed after the number of registrants is reduced by late cancellations.



Schedule for Each Session

Mondays

- 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 for the Day

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

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

**For further information,
call 630-627-0507**

**Email: admin@LMPeaceCenter.org
Website: www.LMPeaceCenter.org**

Registration Form

I am interested in LMPC's **Clergy Clinic** for the year 2019-2020. Enclosed is my payment for US \$975 for the series (\$1,175 after 9/16/19). Make checks payable to "LMPC." Clip and mail to: 101 West 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148.

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip Code _____

Church/Organization _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

____ Please register me for **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process**. _____ **Group A** _____ **Group B**

Please check if registering: _____ I have read and agree to the cancellation policy explained under "Tuition" above.

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

October, 2019 to May, 2020

Sponsored by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

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 settings.

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 that has implications for all aspects of life.

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 personal family, the parishioner family, and the congregation as family.

The first day each time will be largely didactic, focusing on presentations on the basic concepts of Bowen family systems theory. The morning of the second and third days will also be didactic, with presentations on family systems theory from the clinic faculty as well as videotape input from Murray Bowen, Edwin Friedman, and others.

The afternoons of the second and third days will be clinical in format. On Tuesday afternoon each time we divide into small groups providing participants an opportunity to explore their own family of origin issues 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 system, 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 learned simply by attending a 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 functional level of differentiation and, thereby, positively impact one's leadership capabilities in all areas of ministry.

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

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 is Associate Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. As an ordained minister in the Mennonite Church, he 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 in Washington, D.C. He has experience as a mediator, trainer, and church consultant, as well as providing coaching for pastors and church leaders from a Bowen family systems theory perspective.