

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

Sponsored by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center



Dates and Location:

March 11-13, 2019
June 3-5, 2019
September 9-11, 2019

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
1901 Archdale Drive
Charlotte, NC

This nine-day training event is being co-sponsored by the Leadership Development Team of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church. Although sponsored by the United Methodist Church, it is being opened to others as well.

Once the exact site has been confirmed, a full registration brochure will be sent to those who indicate their potential interest by returning the coupon found below,

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 \$1,400 for registrations received prior to January 21, 2019, and \$1,500 if received after that date. If received after February 1, 2019, the fee is \$1,600.

For Further Information

Return the coupon found below to the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center to indicate your interest in receiving a registration brochure when it's available. Scan the code to the right to learn more about the **Clergy Clinic** program – or visit <https://lmpeacecenter.org/events-page/clergy-clinic/>



Schedule for Each Session

Mondays

- 1:00 p.m. — Faculty Input and/or Case Studies
- 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

Website: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

Return Coupon

I am interested in the 2019 **Clergy Clinic** in Charlotte, NC. Send me the registration brochure when it is available. Please print clearly, clip, and mail this form to: Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, 101 West 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip Code _____

Church/Organization _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

March, 2019 to September, 2019

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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.

Faculty

Richard Blackburn is Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. He has led hundreds of workshops on conflict transformation and mediation skills; he has also had broad experience as a mediator and consultant, working primarily with conflicted churches and their leaders. The congregational mediation model he developed represents a transformational model of mediation, placed within the context of Bowen family systems theory. For several years Richard participated in Dr. Edwin Friedman's "Post Graduate Clergy Seminar in Family Emotional Process" in Bethesda, MD. He then attended in the Georgetown Family Center's "Special Postgraduate Program in Family Systems Theory and its Applications" in Washington, D.C. for four years. Richard is an ordained minister in the Mennonite Church.

Testimonials:

"It is through the *Clergy Clinic* that I was exposed to family systems theory, differentiated thinking, and with it tools that have impacted every facet of my life – my marriage, my parenting, more importantly my spiritual life as well as my leadership roles." ~ UMC Pastor

"I have found it immensely helpful in my own ministry, understanding how I lead and how better I can do leadership as an intentional interim minister." ~ Mennonite Pastor

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