

About the Advanced Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

Schedule

The **Advanced Clergy Clinic** meets three times each year for three successive days each time:

- **October 19-21, 2020**
- **February 1-3, 2021**
- **April 19-21, 2021**

Mondays: 10/19; 2/1; 4/19

9:00 a.m. – *Introductory Input and Guest Presenter*
12:00 p.m. – *Lunch Break*
1:00 p.m. – *Guest Presenter*
4:00 p.m. – *Adjournment*

Tuesdays: 10/20; 2/2; 4/20

9:00 a.m. – *Input: Bowen Family Systems Theory*
12:00 p.m. – *Lunch Break*
1:00 p.m. – *Family of Origin Groups*
4:30 p.m. – *Adjournment*

Wednesdays: 10/21; 2/3; 4/21

9:00 a.m. – *Input: Emotional Process and Congregational Systems*
12:00 p.m. – *Lunch Break*
1:15 p.m. – *Congregational Case Study Groups*
4:30 p.m. – *Conclusion*

Covid-19 Travel Concerns

Given information available at the time of planning for the *Advanced Clergy Clinic* and anticipating a potential “second wave,” LMPC has decided to hold the event online, rather than ask participants to travel to the Chicago area to participate in person, as has been the norm in the past.

Zoom Format

The *Advanced Clergy Clinic* will be held online through Zoom video conferencing. Zoom offers opportunity for participant interaction in small and large groups, including family of origin groups. LMPC utilized Zoom for the 2020 Spring session of *Advanced Clergy Clinic* and feedback from participants indicated that they were very pleased with both the content and how smoothly the format went. Participants will be expected to have a basic proficiency in Zoom and a device with both a camera and a microphone to log into Zoom.

Faculty

Rev. Richard Blackburn is Director Emeritus and Senior Consultant for the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. He has broad experience as a trainer, mediator, and consultant with 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 *Post Graduate Clergy Seminar in Family Emotional Process* in Bethesda, MD. Richard 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.

Tuition

Tuition for the series is \$1,100 for registrations received prior to **September 18, 2020**, and \$1,300 if received after that date, but prior to **October 2, 2020**. After that date the fee is \$1,500. To register, return the registration form with full payment. Cancellations are subject to a non-refundable administration fee of \$100, if we receive notification prior to **September 25, 2020**, or half of the registration fee, if notified prior to **October 2, 2020**. Afterward there will be no refunds or credit for missed sessions, since family of origin group leaders will have already been hired.

Prerequisites

Participants in the *Advanced Clergy Clinic* will have completed LMPC’s *Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process*, attended the *Advanced Clergy Clinic* in a previous year, or been accepted into the program on the basis of documented background in Bowen family systems theory.

Those who have not previously attended either LMPC’s *Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process* or the *Advanced Clergy Clinic* may complete and submit an application form to LMPC; it will provide a vehicle for documenting one’s background in Bowen family systems theory. Contact LMPC for an application form.

Guest Presenters

October 19, 2020 — Tim Schrag **“Bowen Family Systems Theory: Possibilities and Pitfalls for Clergy”**

Tim Schrag, M.Div., served 34 years in pastoral ministry, serving most recently for 23 years as the lead pastor at the Mennonite Church of Normal, IL. For the last 20 years he has participated in Bowen family systems training offered by the Leadership in Ministry Workshops. He is a graduate of the Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

February 1, 2021 — Kathleen Smith **“Staying Curious in an Anxious Church”**

Kathleen Smith, Ph.D., LPC, is a therapist and mental health writer with multiple publications, including in *Counseling Today*. Her doctorate is from George Washington University. She is an adjunct professor at Trinity Washington University and George Washington University. She is an associate faculty member at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family, Washington, D.C.

April 19, 2021 — Daniel Papero **“The Quest to Find Emotional Objectivity and Emotional Neutrality: Bowen’s Contribution to Understanding Human Behavior”**

Daniel Papero, Ph.D., MSSW, has been on the faculty at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family, Washington, D.C., since 1982. He is the author of *Bowen Family Systems Theory*, a basic introduction to family systems. In recent years he has consulted increasingly with organizations about the impact of relationships on functioning and about the emotional process of organizations.

For Further Information

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

Call: (630) 627-0507

Fax: (630) 627-0519

Email: *Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org*

Website: *www.LMPeaceCenter.org*

Registration Form

Yes! Register me for the 2020-2021 *Advanced Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process*. Enclosed is my payment.
(Checks payable in U.S. funds to LMPC.) Clip and mail to: LMPC, 101 W. 22nd St., Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148-4987.

Name _____ Home Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Congregation/Organization _____ Work Phone _____
Personal Email _____ Other Email _____
Current role: _____ Pastor _____ Judicatory Leader _____ Other (specify) _____
Register me for **Advanced Clergy Clinic**; I have previously participated in LMPC’s **Clergy Clinic** or **Advanced Clergy Clinic**. Enclosed is my payment of \$1,100 (\$1,300 after 9/18/20) (\$1,500 after 10/2/20).
I have a background in Bowen family systems theory; please send me an application for the **Advanced Clergy Clinic**.
Please send the registration brochure for the **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process**.
Please send the registration brochure for LMPC’s **Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders**.

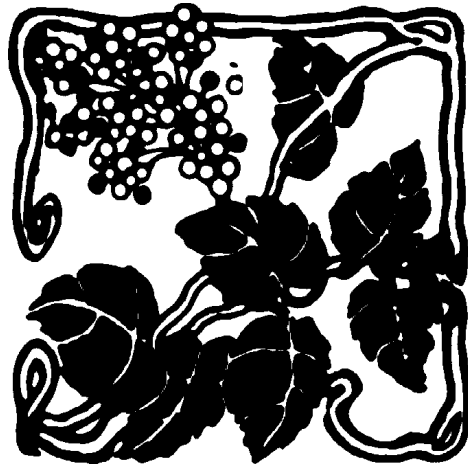
Please check if registering: I have read and agree to the refund policy explained under “Tuition” in this brochure.



A Leadership Training Program

Advanced Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

October 19-21, 2020
February 1-3, 2021
April 19-21, 2021



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 ***Advanced 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 ***Advanced Clergy Clinic*** meets three times per year for three successive days each session, 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 a family.

The first day of each session will be largely didactic, including input from a guest presenter who is a significant leader in the field of Bowen theory and related areas. The morning of the second and third days will also be didactic, with presentations 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 of each session participants will divide into small groups to explore their own family of origin issues under the guidance of an experienced family systems practitioner. The final afternoon of each session will be given to the presentation of case studies by participants from their own ministry 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.

Who Will Benefit

- Pastors and Interim Pastors
- Judicatory Officials: Bishops, District Superintendents, Presbytery Executives, etc.
- Church Consultants; Leaders of Religious Communities and Other Organizations
- Lay Leaders; Others Interested in Family Systems Thinking

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

