

# Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

Sponsored by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center



## Dates and Location (choose one of two groups):

**Group A:**  
October 25-27, 2021  
February 14-16, 2022  
May 2-4, 2022

**Group B:**  
November 8-10, 2021  
March 7-9, 2022  
May 23-25, 2022

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. Like last year's series, *Clergy Clinic 2021-2022* will be held online via Zoom.

## 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 \$1,075 for registrations received prior to September 13, 2021 and \$1,275 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 27, 2021, or half of the registration fee if notified prior to October 4, 2021. 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

- 9:00 a.m. — Faculty Input
- 12:15 p.m. — Lunch Break
- 1:30 p.m. — Faculty Input
- 4:30 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:

630-627-0507

admin@LMPeaceCenter.org

www.LMPeaceCenter.org

## Registration Form

I am interested in LMPC's **Clergy Clinic** for the year 2021-2022. Enclosed is my payment for US \$1,075 (\$1,275 after 9/13/21). Make checks payable to "LMPC." Clip and mail to: LMPC, 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.

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# Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process

October, 2021 to May, 2022

Sponsored by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

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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.

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## 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)*

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## 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. 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.

**Rev. Jay Wittmeyer** is Executive Director for the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. He brings to the institute many years of practical experience of mediating conflict in churches and organizations, while also training others to be self-differentiated leaders in the midst of congregational anxieties. Before joining the LMPC staff, Jay served as the Executive Director of Global Mission and Service with the Church of the Brethren, which involved the supervision of staff members in Brethren Disaster Ministries and Material Resources, Brethren Volunteer Service, the Global Food Initiative, and the Office of Peacebuilding and Policy.

### Testimonial:

"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