

**CONGREGATION-BASED CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION
THE SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER
322 Old Falls Blvd., North Tonawanda, NY 14120
The Rev. Robert C. Spilman, CPE Supervisor, ACPE
Web Site: www.congregationbasedclinicalpastoraleducationwny.org**

**CONGREGATION-BASED CPE CLASS IN WESTERN NEW YORK
FEBRUARY TO JUNE 2016**

Congregation-Based Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) teaches pastoral leadership and pastoral care for clergy and lay ministers in the church from a Bowen Family Systems Theory perspective. It is designed for experienced pastors, lay workers, and ministers and seminarians new to pastoral work. Ministers strengthen their pastoral and leadership skills, address tension and conflict in the church, and work on their personal growth in ministry. The program focuses on in depth systemic change and leadership development that reduces congregational anxiety and addresses long-term issues in the church.

CPE in Greater Buffalo/Rochester NY Area – February-June 2016: one day/week
The application form can be found on the CPE web site listed above.

Congregation-Based CPE includes three creative components:

- Emphasis on pastoral and leadership issues and use of self in ministry.
- Consultation on ministry and theological reflection using the case study CPE format.
- Application of Bowen Family Systems Theory to congregational life.

Participants use their experience in their own churches and other settings as the “clinical material” for learning in the small group process of five to eight students under supervision. The program explores the dynamics of the congregation using the systems theory developed by Dr. Murray Bowen and applied to church leadership by Dr. Edwin Friedman. Participants explore how their position in their family of origin impacts their use of self in ministry, and they work to manage anxiety and maximize strengths.

The CPE program curriculum includes (1) case material from congregational ministry, (2) family of origin work, (3) presentations and discussions on systems theory, theology, and pastoral ministry, and (4) consultation with the supervisor and group reflection time designed to strengthen ministry. Contact Rev. Robert Spilman for further information.

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Accredited as a Satellite of the Sisters of Charity Hospital CPE Program, Buffalo, New York
Accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)
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