

Leadership and Anxiety in the Church: A Family Systems Perspective



Who Will Benefit:

- Pastors, Church Council / Vestry / Session members, Pastor-Parish Committees, Personnel Committees and judicatory leaders of all denominations.
- The workshop would be especially helpful if a team made up of clergy, staff, and lay leadership from a congregation would attend the event together.

Workshop Location:

Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ
1501 Gilbert Road
Madison, WI

(Map to the workshop site and hotel information will be sent with confirmation of registration.)

Workshop Leader:

Richard Blackburn is Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC) in Lombard, IL. Richard leads a variety of workshops yearly on conflict transformation in congregational systems, and serves as a consultant to conflicted churches. He participated in Dr. Edwin Friedman's *Post Graduate Clergy Seminar in Family Emotional Process* and the Georgetown Family Center's *Post Graduate Program in Bowen Family Systems Theory and Its Applications*.

Registration Fee:

The preregistration fee is **\$89.00**. If received after **September 14, 2016**, the fee is **\$99.00**. For those who register after **September 21, 2016**, or at the door, the fee is **\$109.00**. Fee includes training manual, lunch, and refreshment breaks. Cancellations are subject to a nonrefundable administration fee of \$25.00, if LMPC receives notice of cancellation by **September 21, 2016**, otherwise no refund will be issued. For individual registrations, you can register online at www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852, or return the registration form found below with payment.

Church group discounts are available. A registration discount of \$10.00 is available for the fourth and each subsequent registrant from the same congregation. To qualify for the discount, please mail all registration forms with the discount coupon together with one single check, so LMPC receives it no later than the **September 14, 2016**, preregistration deadline. You can download a coupon at: <http://lmpeacecenter.org/events/lac/lac-brochure.html>

For More Information:

Call LMPC at (630) 627-0507. You can also visit our web site at www.LMPeaceCenter.org

Workshop Schedule

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

- 9:00-10:15 ***The Road to Damascus: The Church and Change in an Age of Anxiety***
- *Anxiety in Action: A Congregational Case Study*
 - *Linear Cause-Effect Thinking vs. Systems Thinking*
 - *Distinguishing Between Acute Anxiety and Chronic Anxiety*
 - *Understanding the Roots of Anxiety*
 - *Societal Anxiety: Its Impact on the Church*
- 10:15-10:30 Break
- 10:30-12:00 ***"They Know Not What They Do": The Scapegoat Mechanism and Church Conflict***
- *The Scapegoating Process in Church Systems: Case Studies*
 - *The Family Projection Process in Bowen Theory*
 - *The Scapegoat Mechanism in the Work of René Girard*
 - *Reflections on Christ's Passion in Art: Exposing the Scapegoat Mechanism to the Light*
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch (on-site – included in registration)
- 1:00-2:30 ***The Importance of Not Being Earnest: Reversals, Playfulness, and Paradox***
- *Understanding Triangles and the Importance of Maintaining a Non-Anxious Presence*
 - *Murray Bowen and Edwin Friedman on Reversals, Playfulness, and Paradox: Video Clips of the Masters at Work*
- 2:30-2:45 Break
- 2:45-4:00 ***The Road to Damascus: Lessons for Leadership in Anxious Times***
- *The Conversion of Paul in Art: Learning from Paul's Experience with Radical Change*
 - *Self-Differentiated Leadership: A Key to Overcoming the Impact of Anxiety*

Registration Form

Leadership and Anxiety in the Church — Madison, Wisconsin — September 28, 2016

To register, clip this form, make your check payable to "LMPC," and mail to:
Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, 101 W. 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard, Illinois 60148

Name _____ Home Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Congregation/Organization _____ Work Phone _____
Personal Email _____ Other Email _____

*** Registration confirmations will be sent by email; please be sure to include at least one email address, clearly printed.**

_____ Yes! Please register me/us for **Leadership and Anxiety in the Church**. I've enclosed \$89.00 per person. (Fee is \$99.00 after **September 14, 2016**; after **September 21, 2016**, the fee is \$109.00.)

_____ I have a group of four or more from the same church and I'm registering before **9/14/16** (no group rate available after **9/14/16**). I'm enclosing \$267 for the first three and \$79 for the fourth and each subsequent registrant for a total of \$ _____. I understand that to receive the group rate, I must send all individual registration forms with one check — with the "Group Discount Coupon" — so LMPC receives it no later than **9/14/16**.

_____ Please send me information about LMPC's **Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders**.

_____ Please send me information about LMPC's **Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process**.



Individuals can also register online at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/720852> or by scanning the above QR code.



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Leadership and Anxiety in the Church: A Family Systems Perspective

September 28, 2016

Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ

1501 Gilbert Road
Madison, WI

Sponsor: **Lombard Mennonite Peace Center**



About the Workshop:

Since the publication of Dr. Edwin Friedman's *Generation to Generation*, many pastors and other church leaders have become aware of Bowen family systems theory as a way of understanding congregational dynamics. Family systems theory identifies differentiation of self and anxiety as two key variables impacting human functioning. The seminar on *Leadership and Anxiety in the Church* looks at the challenge presented by the rising levels of anxiety being experienced in churches today, as well as the role that self-differentiated leadership can play in calming such anxiety.

The seminar is comprised of a series of PowerPoint presentations originally conceived for LMPC's *Advanced Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process*. Works of art illustrating Biblical themes from the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque eras are integrated at various points to facilitate theological reflection on the themes being presented.

The seminar on *Leadership and Anxiety in the Church* is being offered by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center as part of its ongoing mission to help Christ's church grow in health and wholeness, into all that God wants it to be.

This workshop will help you . . .

- Distinguish Between Acute Anxiety and Chronic Anxiety
- Examine the Roots of Anxiety
- Compare the Family Projection Process as Understood in Bowen Family Systems Theory, with René Girard's Understanding of Scapegoating
- Gain Insight into How the Scapegoating Process Impacts Church Conflict
- Understand Emotional Triangles and the Importance of Maintaining Non-Anxious Presence
- Recognize the Role of Playfulness in Defusing Anxiety
- See Self-Differentiated Leadership as a Key to Overcoming the Impact of Anxiety
- Enhance your role as a leader in the church.



Other LMPC Programs:

The *Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders* equips leaders to address interpersonal, small group, and congregational conflicts. Dates and locations of upcoming institute are:

- August 1-5, 2016 — Glen Ellyn (Chicago area)
- October 3-7, 2016 — Ferguson, MO (St. Louis area)
- March 20-24, 2017 — Atlanta, GA area

Special Announcement:

Mediation Skills Training Institute in Wisconsin:

- **November 14-18, 2016 — Madison, WI**

Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process is designed to enhance the ability of participants to function as self-differentiated leaders in their ministry setting. The clinic meets 3 times each program year, 3 days each.

Dates for 2016-17 in Lombard, IL are:

- | Group A | Group B |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| • Oct. 24-26, 2016 | • Nov. 7-9, 2016 |
| • Feb. 20-22, 2017 | • March 6-8, 2017 |
| • April 24-26, 2017 | • May 1-3, 2017 |

A *Clergy Clinic* group will also meet in San Diego, CA; see LMPC website for dates. For further information and brochures with registration forms: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

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