

FAMILY SYSTEMS & CRITICAL THINKING

LEADERS FACING CHALLENGES & CHANGING THE FUTURE

After learning about Family Systems, you will be able to recognize and discuss:

- Emotional process and intellectual process, and how they relate to each other
- Forces for Togetherness and for Separateness in relationship systems, and what the interplay is between them
- The process of differentiating a self within a relationship system
- The role that Family of Origin plays in emotional process
- How to gain a “balcony view” of a relationship system so as to relate more effectively with it

After learning about Critical Thinking Theory, you will be able to:

- Discuss and recognize the difference between assertions and evidence
- Review the data to make decisions that influence how you think about things
- Recognize and confirm observable data
- Identify underlying assumptions.
- Develop an effective argument or point of view.



A DESERT SOJOURN RETREAT AT SPIRIT IN THE DESERT

The purpose of this retreat is to familiarize participants with basic concepts in Family Systems Theory and in Critical Thinking, and to explore how these can be resources in managing life more effectively. Through presentations, conversations, and self-reflection, participants will learn how to apply and integrate Family Systems Theory and Critical Thinking to real-life situations in family, church, community, work settings, etc.

SCRIPTURAL GROUNDING

The gifts [God] gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. (Eph. 4:11-16 NRS)

A LEADERS' RETREAT...

...to learn and apply the basic concepts in real-life family and work settings.

CEU CREDIT

Attendees receive 1.5 credits

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

See Spirit Program Calendar for details

www.SpiritInTheDesert.org

Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, located in a beautiful and peaceful Arizona desert setting, hosts programs and retreats for participants of all faiths and traditions to experience reconciliation, renewal, healing, and transformation.



WHEN

**Sunday - Wednesday,
April 24-27, 2022**

WHERE

**Spirit in the Desert
Retreat Center**

7415 E Elbow Bend Road,
Carefree AZ 85377

COST

Price per person:

1 person, private room : \$550 ea

2 people, 2 in a room : \$490 ea

3 people, 3 in a room : \$445 ea

Price includes: 4 days programming, 3 nights lodging & 9 meals (3 breakfast, 3 lunch, 3 dinner)

REGISTER

Call (480) 488-5218



Gordon Peterson, a retired ELCA pastor and Adjunct College Professor, teaches Critical Thinking and Non-Profit Management. Prior to retirement he served as Asst. to the Bishop, was Exec. Dir. of a nonprofit organization, a parish pastor, and a mission developer. **Michael Kerr** also is a retired pastor, having served 3 installed pastorates and 17 assignments as an intentional interim pastor. He has been working with Family Systems Theory for 30 years. He is a 25-year veteran of the ongoing seminar by the Center for Family Process in Bethesda, MD and a graduate of the 4-year ELCA Systems Academy training program.

