# 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 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 with strategies for addressing interpersonal, small group, and congregational conflicts.

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 three times during the year for three days each time.

For information and dates: www.LMPeaceCenter.org

# 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.

"Have no anxiety about anything, but ... let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7)

# Leadership and Anxiety in the Church: A Family Systems Perspective



**September 22, 2017** 

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

West Salem Trinity
United Methodist Church

4212 Broadway Mount Vernon, IL 62864



Sponsored by
Kaskaskia & Mississippi River Districts
Illinois Great Rivers Conference

Led by staff of

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

#### Who Will Benefit:

The workshop is designed for:

- Pastors and other church staff, lay leaders, all congregation members.
- 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:

West Salem Trinity United Methodist Church 4212 Broadway Mount Vernon, IL 62864

#### Workshop Leader:

**Richard Blackburn** is Executive Director of Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC) in Lombard, IL. Richard is a trainer and mediator, with broad experience in serving as a consultant to conflicted churches. He has participated in Dr. Edwin Friedman's *Postgraduate Clergy Seminar in Family Emotional Process* and the *Postgraduate Program in Family Systems Theory and It's Applications* at the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family in Washington, D.C.

# Registration:

The registration fee is \$50 per person (includes manual and lunch), or \$75 for a couple (sharing one manual; two lunches). **The preregistration deadline is September 13, 2017**, after which the registration fee is \$75 per person or \$100 per couple.

Registration may be submitted by mailing the form to the Kaskaskia River District, 1603 Salem Rd., Mount Vernon, IL 62864-2628. *Make checks payable to Kaskaskia River District*.

#### Workshop Schedule:

#### Friday, September 22, 2017

8:30-9:00 Registration 9:00-10:15 *The Road t* 

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

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 (served on-site)

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
- Bowen and 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

**Mount Vernon, Illinois** Friday, September 22, 2017

To register, clip this form and return it to the District Office. You may also call in your registration to the district at 618-242-2817.

Mail registration form to: **Kaskaskia River District** 1603 Salem Rd. Mount Vernon, IL 62864-2628

Name (s)
Address
City
State Zip
Phone
Email
Yes! Please register me for the <i>Leadership</i> and <i>Anxiety in the Church</i> workshop.  I've enclosed \$50 for one person (manual and lunch).
Yes! Please register us for the <i>Leadership and Anxiety in the Church</i> workshop. As a couple, we will be sharing a manual. We've enclosed \$75 for two persons (one manual, two lunches).
Child care is needed.