

**CONGREGATION-BASED CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION
THE SAMARITAN PASTORAL 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 the Southern Tier and Northwestern PA
Summer and Fall 2010**

Congregation-Based Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) teaches pastoral care, pastoral leadership, and systems theory for clergy and lay ministers in the church. It is designed for experienced pastors, lay workers, and ministers and seminarians new to pastoral work. Clergy and lay ministers strengthen pastoral and leadership skills, creatively address tension and conflict in the church, and work on their own 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.

Applications are now being received for a CPE class to be held in the Jamestown, NY area from August to November 2010. The CPE group will meet generally two days every other week with some changes during August as determined by class needs.

Congregation-Based CPE includes four creative components:

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

Participants use their current experience in their own churches as the “clinical material” for learning in the small group process of six to eight students under the guidance of the CPE Supervisor. 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) presentations and discussions on systems theory, theology, and pastoral ministry, and (3) reflection time designed to strengthen ministry.

The Rev. Robert C. Spilman
363 Darwin Drive, Amherst, NY 14226
(Tel.) 716-839-4316; 716-479-7933 (cell); 716-743-9117
E-mail: rcspilman@roadrunner.com

Accredited as a Satellite of Sisters of Charity Hospital CPE Program, Buffalo, New York
Accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)
1549 Clairmont Road, Suite 103, Decatur, GA 30033