



Clergy Development



Includes elders, deacons, provisional members, associate members, diaconal ministers, certified professionals, full and part-time local pastors.

Virginia Conference
The United Methodist Church
2013

Sponsored by the VA Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and the Cabinet.

Virginia Conference Clergy Development Program

For a complete application packet and form, go to www.vaumc.org
Click Center for Clergy Excellence > Clergy Continuing Education > Clergy Development

Purpose

Clergy Development is an effort to promote and support lifelong learning. Using Ministerial Education Funds, grants are awarded to cover the cost of registration, lodging, and meals for learning experiences selected by the Clergy Development Committee. The participant is responsible for travel costs.

Application Process

This brochure is designed to give an overview of the Clergy Development program. To apply, download an application from the above website. The application process can be initiated by a district superintendent or by an individual. Primary consideration will be given to applicants with special identified needs and applicants who are at critical points in ministry, including appointment changes, life changes, or potential for exemplary leadership.

Application deadlines for 2013

October 5, 2012 with notification by November 1.
February 1, 2013 with notification by March 1.
July 5, 2013 with notification by August 1.

Contact

Center for Clergy Excellence
P. O. Box 5606 • Glen Allen, VA 23058
(804) 521-1127, 1-800-768-6040, ext. 127
FAX: (804) 521-1176
BethDowns@vaumc.org

LEARNING EXPERIENCES 2013

Life-long learning is critical to continued effectiveness in ministry. Life-long learning includes both transformational learning and development of basic ministry skills. The Virginia Conference Characteristics of Effective Clergy outline the expectations for effectiveness in ministry. The Clergy Development Committee has selected the following learning experiences for this year that support growth and development in these areas:

The following Learning Experiences focus on transformational learning:

- 1. Extraordinary Leadership Seminar with Dr. Roberta Gilbert, M.D. and staff**
Contact: Center for the Study of Human Systems, P. O. Box 235, Front Royal, VA 22630, (540) 868-0866, rgoffice136@gmail.com or www.hsystems.org. Seminars are offered in Winchester, Richmond, and Falls Church, VA. *Extraordinary Leadership Seminars provide clergy and all leaders with an understanding of the emotional side of organizations and guidelines for managing themselves in the emotional chaos that is present. Extraordinary Leadership Seminars are based on Bowen family systems theory developed by Dr. Murray Bowen.*
- 2. Personal Coaching for More Effective Ministry with Dr. Maurice Graham**
Contact: Shepherd's Staff Ministry, Inc., 828 Buford Rd., Richmond, VA 23225, (804) 327-0707, grahamaurice@aol.com or www.shepherd-staff.org. *Call and Identity Coaching™ is the practical application of putting Pastoral Intelligence™ into your ministry to achieve your desired goals. Call and Identity Coaching empowers ministers to gain clarity in their calling (purpose), increase spiritual growth and self-awareness, as well as leadership skills. Call and Identity Coaching will help you develop a life and ministry plan that will enhance your effectiveness and satisfaction in ministry. This coaching can be done over the phone, as well as face to face.*
- 3. Leadership Journey for Those Who Serve and Lead: A Courage and Renewal Retreat Series**
Contact: www.couragerenewal.org, click "Programs for Clergy & Congregational Leaders". **A two-year program with five three-day retreats.** *The Leadership Journey for Those Who Serve and Lead is a program created by Parker J. Palmer and the Center for Courage & Renewal to help leaders sustain and renew their passion, enthusiasm, and commitment to keep who they are connected to what they do as they serve and lead.*
- 4. Options for Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Direction**
Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation
Contact: 3025 Fourth Street NE, Washington, DC 20017, (301) 897-7334, info@shalem.org or www.shalem.org.
 - ✔ **Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership: Going Deeper.** *This 16-month program offers a dedicated time for nurturing one's own soul and for deepening one's contemplative orientation as a congregational spiritual leader.*
 - ✔ **Personal Spiritual Deepening Program:** *Program components include the support of a praying community, regular contact with a mentor from Shalem to supplement or complement one's ongoing spiritual guidance, a selection of readings in the contemplative tradition, and on-location Shalem offerings.*
 - ✔ **Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups and Retreats:** *The program is designed to equip, encourage, and support those called and gifted to assist the Holy One in nourishing spiritual seekers.*

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✔ **Spiritual Guidance Program:** An ecumenical, experiential spiritual formation program to strengthen the ministry of one-to-one spiritual direction.

The Academy for Spiritual Formation, sponsored by the Upper Room,
Contact: P. O. Box 340004, Nashville, TN 37203-0004, (615) 340-7232, Toll Free: 1-877-899-2781, ext. 7233, www.upperroom.org/academy/ or academy@upperroom.org.

The Academy for Spiritual Formation is an experience of disciplined Christian community emphasizing holistic spirituality – nurturing body, mind, and spirit. The program is meant for all those who hunger for deep spiritual experiences, both lay and clergy persons. Each Academy fosters new spiritual rhythms – of study and prayer, rest and exercise, solitude and relationship. Includes eight five-day sessions over two years.

5. Clergy Career Renewal by the BrownMiller Group, Richmond, VA
Contact: Bonnie Miller, 312 Granite Ave., Richmond, Virginia 23226, (804)288-2157, www.brownmiller.com, or BonnieMiller@brownmiller.com.

Career counseling will assist clergy with career development and career renewal. Career counseling will be tailored to each individual's needs and is a supportive combination of assessment and personal strategic planning. The focus of career counseling could include personal work styles and how to build on strengths and manage challenges, exploring interaction skills, stress management techniques, life planning, and assessment of skills and vocational interests. Includes up to five sessions and career assessment instruments.

6. Life Coaching for Clergy with Dr. Jim Robey, Attentional Growth Inc.
Contact: Dr. Jim Robey, (205) 960-3157, or Jim@AttentionalGrowth.org, or www.AttentionalGrowth.org.

Being a minister is a richly rewarding calling AND a painful, troubling and difficult job! Coaching is a proven way to make a difference in the lives of ministers and how they lead their ministry and live their

lives. Jim brings 39 years of pastoral experience to his coaching ministers across the USA and Canada. Dr. Jim Robey, an elder in the North Alabama Conference, is the first UM clergy to be officially endorsed by the UMC for the Ministry of Life Coaching. Coaching clergy that develops your skills for ministry and living your life, Dr. Robey provides clergy with individual and/or group coaching by phone.

7. Executive Coaching with Wilkes Consulting, LLC.
Contact: 2200 Albion Rd., Midlothian, VA 23113, (804) 405-3771, info@susanwilkes.com or www.susanwilkes.com.

Executive Coaching offers an individualized process to leverage strengths and realize full leadership potential. Coaching is a collaborative process of self-discovery, goal setting, and action taking, all designed to help you become more effective in accomplishing your goals and more fulfilled in doing so. Coaching helps you move forward in your leadership. Coaching starts with the present, focusing on your strengths, aspirations, and challenges. Clarifying your vision for the future and identifying concrete steps for positive change are the next part of the process. Susan Wilkes is skilled in using and interpreting Emotional and Social Competency Inventories. Wilkes Consulting is owned by Susan Brock Wilkes, Ph.D., an organizational psychologist with more than 25 years of experience.

8. Coaching for Clergy Leaders with Dr. Jan Nicholson of Passion in Partnership
Contact: Jan Nicholson, 1221 Campbell Ave SW, Roanoke, VA 24016-3705, (540) 344-0206, jnicholson@nccumc.org or www.Passioninpartnership.net.

Every clergy and congregational leader will face critical stages of transition within their life and ministry. These changes need not be feared. One-on-one Appreciative Inquiry based coaching provides pastors and church leaders opportunities to proactively and positively engage in a deeper self-awareness of personal gifts, talents, shortcomings, and growing edges. Experience and be enabled to adopt life-giving habits for ministry. Develop techniques and tools for successful change management integrated into your ministry. Learn how to successfully navigate and

move toward God's vision for you and your ministry through life-giving instead of life-draining practices. Jan is an ordained elder in the NC Conference, a certified Passion in Partnership Coach and endorsed by The UMC as a Transition Interim Ministry Specialist.

9. GBHEM Clergy Peer Groups
Contact: GBHEM, P. O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN 37203, (615) 340-7409, continued@gbhem.org or www.gbhem.org.

A pilot project to expand clergy continuing education through peer groups, sponsored by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The vision for this program is to develop a usable format for an ongoing continuing education program aimed at clergy who have been working five years or more. The model is group-based continuing education with a focus on providing the space and resources for regular theological reflection, enhanced practical ministerial skills and renewed spiritual vitality, informed about the current issues of the day, accountability for physical health and self-care, and support for innovative leadership.

The following Learning Experiences focus on the development of basic ministry skills:

10. Festival of Homiletics for Transformational Preaching, sponsored by Day 1 (formerly The Protestant Hour)
Contact: 1-800-866-8631 or www.goodpreacher.com.

Held annually in May. With its compelling seminars and opportunities for peer interaction, the Festival of Homiletics is the premier conference for improving your preaching effectiveness today. Any religious communicator would do well to spend time in the presence of the outstanding preachers who are included on the program, who not only communicate skillfully but also with a heart of compassion for those who hear them.

11. School for Congregational Development
Contact: General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003, 1-877-899-2780 (toll-free), www.gbod.org or www.gbgm.org.

Sponsored by the General Boards of Discipleship and Global Ministries, held annually in August. Starting new churches and revitalizing existing congregations are high priorities for the Virginia Conference.

12. Coaching for Effective Ministry with Four Seasons Ministry
Contact: Dr. Franklin Gillis, (804) 272-3313; email: fgillisjr@fourseasonsministry.org.

Coaches include the Rev. Dr. R. Franklin Gillis, Jr., the Rev. D. Glen Langston, and the Rev. Michael T. Shirley. For more information on coaching philosophy and services, visit www.fourseasonsministry.org and click on "Coaching". Coaching is designed to address individual needs for improving ministry skills in such areas as administration, leadership style, change/conflict management, and time management.

13. Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders
Contact: 101 W. 22nd Street, Suite 206, Lombard, IL 60148, (630) 627-0507, Admin@LM-PeaceCenter.org or www.Impeacecenter.org.

Sponsored by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. The institute is a five-day event offered three times per year in different locations across the country. This program is recognized nationally as a premier event for equipping church leaders in valuable tools for addressing conflict in churches. The institute is designed to equip church leaders with the skills necessary to deal effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. It also includes a component on congregational intervention and consultation, placed within the context of family systems theory.

14. Intentional Growth Center at Lake Junaluska, NC
Contact: PO Box 546, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745, 1-800-482-1442, www.lakejunaluska.com/igc.

Serves as a continuing education and renewal center for both clergy and laity. IGC designs and offers courses and growth experiences in a variety of areas for church leaders. IGC offers a variety of training events that include interim ministry training, leading the mid-size church, executive coaching, Bible studies, and opportunities for personal renewal.