



CLERGY SPIRITUAL LIFE AND LEADERSHIP: *GOING DEEPER*
Class of 2013
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

"I experienced community in a way I didn't know possible."—A Participant

PROGRAM OVERVIEW & BACKGROUND

A serious concern for spiritual life and leadership across all denominational boundaries is reforming our understanding of personal spiritual life, leadership, and the church. Indeed, we might say that this is an ecumenical movement of the Spirit. Many clergy living in the midst of this climate of change in their personal and church lives are being called to deeper spiritual grounding.

For some years Shalem has considered a program specifically designed for clergy, concerning personal spiritual life and leadership in the congregation. In 1997, Shalem received a grant to further consider the needs of congregational clergy for ongoing spiritual formation and deepening in the life of the Spirit.

One widespread need that surfaced was for a network of other clergy who would be a source of support and stimulus for those involved in contemplatively-inspired congregational spiritual leadership. In response to this need, we invited clergy who had participated in our programs and who shared a concern for deeper personal spiritual grounding and leadership in the local church to come together for the purpose of seeking mutual help and inspiration. A National Gathering of Contemplative Clergy was held in November 1999.

The Gathering gave the impetus for developing a new extension program for clergy in congregational settings. Although our other extension programs connect with certain dimensions of congregational spiritual leadership and many clergy participate in them, none give the context of the local church as the explicit and shared focus.

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. A contemplative attitude encourages immediate openness to God's grace in the shifting situations of daily life and, where called for, freedom to embrace both personal and collective risk-taking. In this sense, contemplative does not refer to a narrow, separate path but rather to an undergirding dimension of the way we live our lives, open-to-the-Spirit-in-the-moment in personal and congregational life. A contemplative orientation provides a steady spiritual foundation for authentic living, vision and action.

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Timeline

Application Deadline:	April 30, 2012
At-Home Preparation:	June-August, 2012
First Residency:	August 7-14, 2012 Bon Secours Spiritual Center, Marriottsville, MD
Continuing the Journey:	September 2012-July 2013 At-home activity
Second Residency:	July 9-16, 2013 Bon Secours Spiritual Center, Marriottsville, MD
At-Home Completion:	September 2013 Final integration or research paper due

Who Should Apply?

Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership: *Going Deeper* is for clergy of all denominations and geographic locations who serve on the staffs of local churches or whose ministry involves the local church and who:

- Desire a deeper grounding of their personal spiritual lives;
- Seek honest spiritual community as well as a network of mutual support and practical learning with other contemplatively oriented clergy;
- Value collaboration with laity in nurturing the spiritual heart and vision of the church, including a vision of the church as one of the most life-giving forces in our culture for the new century ahead;
- Are eager to learn within a broad ecumenical Christian framework (which has been a consistently positive dimension of other Shalem extension programs, especially for clergy).

Members of clergy support groups who are already meeting regularly are welcome to attend this program together.

Staff and Faculty

Some of the primary staff persons will be present for all or part of both residencies. Other faculty will offer seminars on special themes and will be present for only their presentation. Additional staff persons may be chosen, depending on the needs of the program.

Carole Crumley, Director of the Program, is an Episcopal priest with leadership experience in three congregations as well as at the Washington National Cathedral. She is also a widely respected leader of ecumenical retreats, groups, and conferences, and a seasoned pilgrimage guide to sacred sites throughout Europe and the Middle East.

Kendrick Curry serves as the senior pastor of The Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church in Southeast Washington, DC, and participates with several community-based organizations and institutions that address poverty, healthcare and education. He is a graduate of Shalem's Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership: *Going Deeper* and is passionate about being a contemplative presence in the Southeast Washington community.

Ann Dean is a minister in the nationally known ecumenical community of the Church of the Saviour, a long-time retreat and conference leader, and is the Director of Shalem's Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups & Retreats Program.

Tilden H. Edwards, Jr. founded Shalem Institute and served as Shalem's Executive Director for more than 27 years. A nationally respected author, speaker, and retreat leader, he has designed and led long-term spiritual leadership extension programs since 1979. He has worked with the spiritual life and leadership of clergy from many denominations throughout his ministry and was part of a congregational team ministry for many years.

Sid Fowler is interim pastor of Hope United Church of Christ, Alexandria, VA, a spiritual director, and editorial director for *Out In Scripture*, an on-line lectionary resource from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). Sid served on the national staff of both the United Methodist Church and United Church of Christ (UCC). With the UCC for 14 years, he was minister for worship, liturgy, and spiritual formation and of curriculum resource development.

Christine Jeffrey, Program Registrar, is also registrar of the Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups & Retreats Program and the Shalem Society for Contemplative Leadership.

Liz Ward is an Episcopal layperson and director of Shalem's Spiritual Guidance Program. She also serves as a spiritual director at Virginia Theological Seminary. She is an experienced spiritual guide and retreat leader and has assisted several local churches desiring corporate discernment.

Program Fees

Application fee (non-refundable)	\$ 45

Tuition and residency fees:	
Deposit, due upon acceptance (non-refundable)	\$ 500
Remaining fees, payable in installments:	
Room and Board, 14 overnights (2 residencies)*	\$ 1,680
Remaining Tuition	<u>\$ 3,220</u>
Total price of the 16-month program (includes start-up materials, program staff and administration and residency fees)	\$ 5,400

* Room and board fees are subject to change based upon rates charged by residency facilities.

The program fees shown above cover about 75-80% of the total costs. The balance is funded by gifts from donors, and as a result, their prayers as well as their financial support accompany you in this program.

Upon acceptance, you are asked to commit to the entire course of the program and all attendant fees and to submit a nonrefundable \$500 deposit.

For the balance of the program fees, we offer a variety of payment plans that stretch over the term of the program. Customized payment plans also can be designed as needed. Please contact the Finance Office for more information.

Tuition Assistance

In some cases of financial need, Shalem is able to offer limited tuition reduction depending on your need and the number of other requests. We ask that you prayerfully consider the amount you are able to pay and the amount you are requesting. We encourage applicants to look for sources of funding from their churches or religious affiliations. If you wish to be considered for reduced tuition, please submit a completed Tuition Assistance Form at the time of your application; the form is provided in this packet.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership: *Going Deeper* is comprised of at-home activities, spiritual practice, and peer and lay group support supplemented by two intensive seven-day residential retreats. A Certificate of Completion is awarded at the end of the program to all participants who have completed the requirements.

At-Home Activities

These components of the program include:

- A limited number of required and many optional readings focused on contemplative presence and spiritually-grounded leadership in a congregational context;
- A personal spiritual practice, including a daily discipline of prayer/meditation/presence for God supported, if possible, by a spiritual director (or spiritual direction group) and, where helpful, keeping a spiritual journal;
- Periodic reflections about your spiritual life and leadership with an ecumenical peer group of participants that meet periodically in person or by telephone conference call for mutual support, accountability, stimulus and encouragement related to carrying out a contemplatively grounded pastorate;

You will be given special guidelines for your reflection. Shalem staff will be available for consultation as any special questions and problems arise.
- A visit to an innovative, risk-taking church of your choosing to experience new possibilities, stretch your imagination and expand your vision;
- A “listening group of laity” prayerfully selected from the congregation, willing to gather as intercessors, envisioners, and co-discerners of the Spirit’s life in the congregation and to be a leaven with other groups in the congregation;

Shalem will provide flexible guidelines to form such a group or will help you introduce this focus into an existing group. The unique situation of each congregation will be respected in the organization, process, and content of this group.
- At least two days of solitary retreat time, which can be taken anytime during the program;
- A final integration paper that allows you to look back with God over your experience during the program and identify ways to continue to deepen and support the spiritual grounding of your life and leadership, including ways that Shalem might continue to be a resource for you. You may choose to do a research paper instead. Guidelines for the final paper are included in the information mailed at the beginning of the Program.

Residential Retreats

The residential retreats offer a spacious, prayer-filled, collegial atmosphere where you will have an opportunity to deepen your appreciation of the many ways God's Spirit is seeking to be alive in you and your congregational life and leadership. Drawing from each participant's wealth of experience, staff will be probing with you the nature and practice of spiritual life and leadership in the local church. **Emphasis will be on an open, immediate presence to the Spirit, through all your explorations in the program and in your congregational leadership.**

Residential elements include:

- **The fellowship and stimulus of other contemplatively-minded clergy** who seek to gain a deeper perspective on life in the Spirit and leadership in the congregation;
- An opportunity for rest, renewal and guided silent retreat time;
- **Short lectures, dialogue, and individual and small group reflection**, focused on concrete concerns for spiritually grounded life and leadership in the congregation;

Themes will include: nurturing Spirit-led leadership in yourself and in the congregation; appreciating personal and congregational ways for discernment; tending the many dimensions of congregational life in ways that nourish spiritual grounding; listening for the Spirit's shaping of the future church; collegiality with spiritually motivated congregants and other clergy; touching the Holy across faith lines; presence to God in worship and preaching; discernment and decision-making; following the leadership of Christ's spirit as revealed in Scripture, tradition and experience; spiritual leadership in the social arena.

- **Inspiration drawn from the lives of significant spiritual leaders**, past and present;
- An atmosphere of honest spiritual community and the beginnings of a network of mutual support and mutual practical learning with other contemplatively oriented clergy.

Post-graduate support for contemplative living and leadership is offered through the Shalem Society for Contemplative Leadership. The Society is a dedicated community of Shalem extension program graduates committed to a contemplative way of living and its promise for individuals, groups, religious communities and society. An annual gathering of Society members is held each fall and ongoing support is provided throughout the year.

Residency Accommodations

The Bon Secours Spiritual Center is a lovely facility set on a hilltop amidst spacious grounds in the Maryland countryside, about an hour from Baltimore and close to BWI Airport. All rooms are singles; linens are provided.



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GOING DEEPER

Class of 2013

APPLICATION FORM - Page 1

Please provide 2 copies of the complete application, including the essay and a \$45 non-refundable application fee, payable to Shalem.

Application Deadline: April 30, 2012

NAME _____ DATE _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

ADDRESS _____

Home

City, State

Zip

Work

City, State

Zip

PHONES _____

Home

Work

e-mail

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION _____

(Denomination & Community/Congregation)

CURRENT POSITION _____

LENGTH OF TIME IN THIS POSITION _____ NUMBER OF YEARS ORDAINED _____

SHALEM PARTICIPATION, IF ANY: (Events attended, Shalem authors read or heard) _____

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS PROGRAM? (e.g., personal referral? ad in a periodical? web site?)
PLEASE BE SPECIFIC.

ARE YOU APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE? NO _____ YES _____

IF YES, PLEASE ENCLOSE THE SCHOLARSHIP FORM WITH THIS APPLICATION.



Application Essay

Please provide **two copies** of a short essay (no more than two single-spaced or three double-spaced pages) that includes answers to the following questions:

- What is going on between God and you that makes you feel that the Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership Program might be right for you at this time?
- What kinds of learning and development would you hope for in this program related to your spiritual life and leadership?
- If you have participated in any continuing education programs for clergy before, what would you hope would be the same or different in this one?
- If you have participated in any spiritual support programs/groups before, what would you hope would be the same or different in this one?
- What is already in place in terms of spiritual support (spiritual director, support groups, prayer/meditation practice, etc.)?
- What is your sense of acceptance and support from those with whom you live and pray (family, religious community, church, etc.) for your participation in the program?
- What other non-Shalem programs, if any, are you considering along with this one? If accepted, why would you choose this program versus some other one?

Please return completed application form to:

SHALEM INSTITUTE, 3025 Fourth Street, NE, Suite 22, Washington, DC 20017

Shalem Long-Term Programs in the Contemplative Tradition

TUITION ASSISTANCE FORM

Shalem is able to offer reduced tuition for a limited number of participants. Reductions are limited to a portion of tuition and are not available for room and board for residencies. Please consider carefully and prayerfully your expenses and income as you apply for assistance. Information you provide relative to this request will be kept confidential.

Program to which you are applying:

- Spiritual Guidance
- Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups & Retreats
- Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Faith Tradition _____

Are You: Lay Clergy Religious

If you are able to volunteer in the Shalem office, please add any days/times available here and add any particular skills you have to offer:

Cost of Shalem program tuition _____

Your contribution _____

Amount of reduced tuition you request for this program _____

Estimated family income for the program's duration _____

Estimated essential expenses, total _____

Have you explored a potential contribution from other sources? Please explain:

If they are positive, how much might they contribute? _____

Any other comments that would assist us in evaluating your request for tuition assistance:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR PROGRAM APPLICATION AND/OR REGISTRATION TO:
SHALEM INSTITUTE FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION, INC.
 3025 Fourth Street, NE, Suite 22
 Washington, DC 20017



OVERVIEW OF SHALEM LONG-TERM PROGRAMS IN THE CONTEMPLATIVE TRADITION

INTRODUCTION

At the heart of Shalem's programmatic life are our four in-depth extension programs. As with all Shalem offerings, these programs share a common, central grounding in the contemplative tradition that encourages an awareness of God's immediate presence, humility in understanding God's ways, and a radical trust in God at work in our own lives and the lives of others. Throughout our history, our programs also have been enriched by the contemplative wisdom of other faith traditions.

Participants come from many different denominations, faith traditions, and walks of life—all seeking connection, nurture and support. Over the years, thousands of men and women, nationally and internationally, have immersed themselves in our long-term extension programs.

Shalem programs are uniquely experiential in approach and are grounded in our understanding of classic contemplative wisdom. All offer a rich variety of practices, teachings and leadership styles, and all seek to create a sense of sacred space that fosters authentic spiritual community and spiritual growth.

THE PROGRAMS

Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups & Retreats: *Transforming Community*

- Do you find yourself leading or being called to lead contemplative groups and retreats for spiritual formation, meditation, prayer, support and spiritual community?
- Have you participated in a contemplative prayer group or retreat yourself?
- Do you feel the need for personal spiritual support and development in this ministry?

This program provides resources and support for leadership of short- and long-term contemplative spiritual formation groups and retreats where the focus is on deepening attentiveness and receptivity to God. The program emphasizes the use of a variety of practices to encourage people in a more contemplative orientation in all of life and the development of leadership that invites direct openness to God.

Spiritual Guidance: *Nurturing the Call*

- Do you companion others on their spiritual journeys?
- Do others see your spiritual commitment and your gift of spiritual companionship?
- Do you desire support and enrichment for this ministry?

This program is designed to provide resources and support for the ministry of one-to-one spiritual guidance and to assist in clarifying a calling to this ministry. At its heart is the radical conviction that spiritual companionship is a form of prayer and that contemplative listening comes not so much from a set of skills but from grounding in one's relationship with God. This program nurtures an increasing openness to the many ways God's Spirit is seeking to be alive in both our participants and in those whom they companion.

Clergy Spiritual Life and Leadership: *Going Deeper*

- Do you wish to deepen your spiritual life and open yourself more fully to God?
- Do you yearn to lead from your spiritual heart and a revitalized sense of call?
- Are you searching for an inspiring faith community of peers?

This program provides a dedicated time for congregational clergy to nurture their own souls and to deepen their contemplative orientation as spiritual leaders. It offers a spiritual foundation for authentic vision and action, encouraging openness to God's grace, freedom to embrace both personal and collective risk-taking where called for, and appreciation of the many ways God's Spirit is alive in participants and their congregational life and leadership.

Discerning Which Program is Right for You

While all of our programs have the intent of supporting contemplative living in our world, each program has a particular focus as described above. Shalem staff are happy to assist your discernment process. If you have any questions, please contact the Shalem office.