Spiritual Direction Preparation Program

Since 1985 the staff at the Franciscan Spirituality Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin has trained over 250 people in the practice of Spiritual Direction. This innovative program provides a mix of workshops and real life experience and prepares individuals to move into their communities and jobs as trained spiritual directors.
The Spiritual Direction Preparation Program (SDPP) extends over three years, giving participants an opportunity to integrate theory and practice. While the SDPP prepares the participant to direct others regardless of their spirituality, the SDPP teaches from the Judeo-Christian tradition.

Here's what a past participant has to say . . .

I don't use terms like "life altering" or "profound effect" lightly but when I reflect on my experience with the Spiritual Direction Preparation Program, these are the words which best express my feelings.
Life is a series of relationships. We relate to our fellow humans and with the God that loves us so much. This is the primary emphasis of this program. And through it both these relationships have deepened.
People make any program a success. SDPP has a wonderful, caring staff that made us feel special and accepted. Living their example and utilizing the teachings, I am moving towards becoming the kind of director I always wanted to be.

-Superintendent of Schools

This program is designed for:

- Those who are over 35 years of age and drawn to a deeper understanding of spiritual direction.
- Those who have not had formal training in spiritual direction.
- Those preparing for a ministry of spiritual direction and or retreat ministry.

Participants learn by:

- Attending required workshops.
- Practicing direction skills using monthly verbatims.
- Meeting quarterly (four times a year) with a supervisor who is an experienced director.
- Reading required books and articles.
- Participating in annual reviews.

For further information feel free to contact:
Barb Kruse
(608)791-5612 or bkruse@fspa.org
Linda Kerrigan, FSPA AFFILIATE
(608)791-5276 or lkerrigan@fspa.org
or by mail 920 Market Street, La Crosse, WI 54601
www.franciscanspiritualitycenter.org

Franciscan Spirituality Center is a Gospel-driven, interfaith community founded and sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration.

Mission

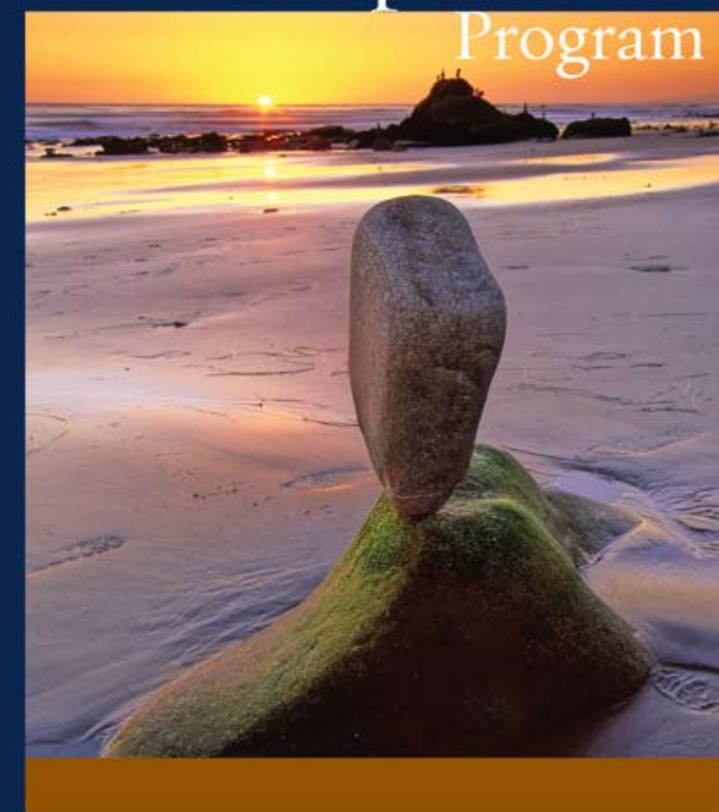
The Franciscan Spirituality Center is dedicated to anyone seeking wholeness.
We live this mission because we believe:

- In each of us lives the Sacred.
- We need each other to recognize and honor that part of ourselves.
- Responding to spiritual hunger is necessary for growth, healing and peace.
- As we grow in wholeness, we contribute to the healing of all creation.

The Franciscan Spirituality Center

2010 - 2013

Spiritual Direction Preparation Program



1985 - 2010

"This program is both transformative and extremely practical. The supervision aspect helped me integrate the teachings which have been especially helpful as I accompany others on their spiritual journeys."

- Hospital Chaplain and Therapist

Workshops

Year I

Date: September 10–12, 2010
Topics: God is in The Story
What is Spiritual Direction?

Date: November 12–14, 2010
Topics: Listening Skills and Verbatims

Date: March 25–27, 2011
Topic: Basics of Spirituality

❧ Annual Review: August 2011*

Year II

Date: September 9–11, 2011
Topics: Personal Growth and
Faith Development

Date: November 11–13, 2011
Topics Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius

Date: March 2–4 2012
Topic: Biblical Spirituality

❧ Annual Review: August 2012*

Year III

Date: August 5–11, 2012
Topic: Practicum:
The Directed Retreat

Date: March 8–10, 2013
Topics: Discernment and Spiritual Direction

Date: July 26–28, 2013
Topic: Issues in Spiritual Direction

Final Review: July 2013*

General Information

All workshops begin at 7:30 PM on Friday and conclude at noon on Sunday. The practicum is a six-day workshop, which begins at noon on Sunday and concludes noon on Saturday.
Participants are expected to have a spiritual director by the beginning of the program and to make a six-day directed retreat by July 1, 2012. The program will begin in September 2010. Participants who satisfactorily complete the three-year program receive a certificate of completion.

*Annual Review

In order to integrate the learnings and experiences, there is a ninety-minute annual review at the end of each program year. The review takes place at the Franciscan Spirituality Center.

Quarterly Meetings with Supervisor

Quarterly meetings are separate from the workshops and last approximately two hours. During the meeting, participants review the required readings and verbatims with their supervisor. In some cases, quarterly meetings can be scheduled off-site and closer to your place of residence. Quarterly meetings are often scheduled in the months of October, January , April, and July.

Application to the Program

Persons seeking admission to the Spiritual Direction Preparation Program are asked to return the "request for application" form by June 30, 2010.
Applicants will be informed of their acceptance into the program within 60 days of receiving the completed application.

Program Fees

❧ Tuition
$1,090.00 per year (Payable in installments)
❧ Weekend Workshops
$195.00 per workshop (Payable at the time of the workshop)
$345 for the practicum. (Payable at the time of the event)
❧ Room
$72.00 per workshop in 2010 and $195.00 for the practicum (Payable at the time of the event)
Meals and snacks are provided by the Franciscan Spirituality Center during workshops.

Other expenses include: the cost of your books, fees for spiritual direction, and your six-day directed retreat.

Limited scholarships are available.

Request for Application

I am interested in applying for the Spiritual Direction Preparation Program at the Franciscan Spirituality Center.
Please send an application form to the following address:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State_____ Zipcode _____

Day phone _____

Evening phone _____

E-mail _____

Please send request to:

Spiritual Direction Preparation Program
Franciscan Spirituality Center
920 Market Street
La Crosse, WI 54601-4782
Deadline: June 30, 2010