

Spiritual Direction Preparation Program

Since 1985, the staff at the Franciscan Spirituality Center has trained more than 500 people in the practice of spiritual direction. This innovative program provides a mix of workshops and real-life experiences to prepare 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 companion others regardless of their spirituality, this program teaches from the Judeo-Christian tradition.

HERE'S WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ...

"The SDPP has made me a better husband, a better father, a better neighbor and friend. I always thought I was good at listening to others, but I am so much better now. I also am better able to listen for God's voice in my life. This program has been a blessing."

"What a gift this program has been! I chose it for the one-on-one supervision, retreat practicum experience and wide breadth of topics. It has exceeded my expectations in every way and has been life-changing. I am much more mindful now of my own values and decisions, and I am more grateful for all of the love in my life. Thank you."

Our Mission

The Franciscan Spirituality Center is dedicated to anyone seeking God, meaning and 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.

2020-2023

Spiritual Direction

Preparation Program

Application deadline: June 1, 2020



**Franciscan
Spirituality Center**

Dedicated to anyone seeking God, meaning and wholeness.

Follow us on :  

The Franciscan Spirituality Center is a sponsored ministry
of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration.

920 Market Street | La Crosse, WI 54601
608-791-5295 | FSCenter@fspa.org | www.FSCenter.org

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WORKSHOPS CALENDAR

- YEAR 1**
 - Weekend 1: September 11-13, 2020
 - Weekend 2: October 30-November 1, 2020
 - Weekend 3: February 26-28, 2021
- YEAR 2**
 - Weekend 4: September 10-12, 2021
 - Weekend 5: November 5-7, 2021
 - Weekend 6: March 4-6, 2022
- YEAR 3**
 - Practicum: July 24-30, 2022
 - Weekend 8: January 13-15, 2023
 - Weekend 9: July 28-30, 2023



GENERAL INFORMATION

All workshops begin at 7 p.m. Friday and conclude at noon Sunday. The practicum is a six-day workshop that begins at noon Sunday and concludes at noon Saturday.

The program will begin in September 2020. Participants are expected to have a spiritual director by the

beginning of the program and make a six-day directed retreat by July 1, 2022. Participants who satisfactorily complete the three-year program will receive a certificate of completion.

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 typically scheduled in the months of October, January, April and June.

Annual Review

In order to integrate the learning and experiences, there is a 90-minute annual review at the end of each program year. Time and place for the Year 1 review is negotiated with the supervisor and program director. Reviews for Year 2 and 3 occur in La Crosse, immediately before the July workshop.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This program is designed for those who:

- Are older than 30 and are drawn to a deeper understanding of spiritual direction.
- Have not had formal training in spiritual direction.
- Are preparing for a ministry of spiritual or retreat direction and/or the practice of redemptive listening.
- Would like to deepen their spiritual and personal development.

Participants learn by:

- Attending required workshops.
- Practicing direction skills using monthly verbatims.
- Meeting quarterly with a supervisor who is an experienced spiritual director.
- Writing reflection papers on required books and articles.
- Participating in annual reviews.

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

The SDPP will be directed by:
Steve Spilde
608-791-5297 • sspilde@fspa.org



Application to the Program

Those seeking admission to the Spiritual Direction Preparation Program are asked to call 608-791-5295 or email fscenter@fspa.org for an application. Applications will be accepted until June 1, 2020, or until the program fills.

PROGRAM FEES

\$2,225 per Year 1 and 2
\$2,375 Year 3 (includes practicum week)

Fees include tuition for all weekend workshops, six-day practicum in Year 3, quarterly meetings, annual review with supervisor and all administrative fees, meals and snacks. Fees are payable in installments. Please speak to the program director about individual plans. Limited scholarships are available.

Additional Fees

Housing is available at the Franciscan Spirituality Center for all of the workshops for an additional fee. Other expenses include the cost of your books, fees for spiritual direction and the required six-day retreat.

Spiritual directors are compassionate, nonjudgmental listeners who accompany people on their spiritual journeys.

Spiritual directors come from all walks of life and do not offer counseling, advice or problem-solving but rather

serve as trusted guides to help others discover their inner wisdom.

