



*Integration and Expression: A Second Seasonal Retreat Series  
for Clergy and Congregational Leaders  
based on the work of Parker J. Palmer*

**2010• University of St Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL**

*The soul is generous: it takes in the needs of the world. The soul is wise: it suffers without shutting down. The soul is hopeful: it engages the world in ways that keep opening our hearts. The soul is creative: it finds its way between realities that might defeat us and fantasies that are mere escapes. All we need to do is to bring down the wall that separates us from our souls and deprives the world of the soul's regenerative powers.*

—Parker J. Palmer, *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life*

We invite you to participate in a series of four seasonal Courage to Lead retreats for clergy and congregational leaders at the University of St Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois.

Winter	February 2 - 4, 2010
Spring	May 25 - 27, 2010
Summer	July 13 - 15, 2010
Fall	September 21-23, 2010

This series is intended to build up on insights and discoveries participants experienced either at an Introductory Retreat or initial Seasonal Retreat series. This additional time and support will enable clergy to fully reflect on new discoveries, consider their ramifications and integrate this new awareness more fully into his/her life. Initial discoveries will be explored in more depth, guided by questions such as:

- ✦ How would my life be changed if I integrated the answers to the questions I have carried?
- ✦ What would it mean to act on this new awareness in my life and work?

**Why a Courage to Lead program for Clergy and Congregational Leaders?**

Since the fate of religious communities depends in part on the quality of their leadership—and since that quality depends as much on spiritual foundations as on academic knowledge and technical skill—our first priority is to contribute to the spiritual formation of congregational leaders in these complex and conflicted times.

Second, we want to offer congregational leaders an experience of spiritual formation in community, one that can address the isolation and loneliness many feel, one built on principles and practices participants can take back into their personal and professional lives.

Third, we believe that the broad mainstream—whose core values have always been threatened by cultural forces—is not dying but is in the messy and yet creative process of reconstituting itself. Some of this ferment is coming from people who have sought sustenance outside the religious institutions but who still belong “in their minds,” and who might well join in the effort to create spiritually revitalized congregations. Some of it is happening in the life-giving conversations that occur when people meet across lines of role, denomination, and faith tradition, discovering that they refract God’s light in different ways and can help illumine each other’s worlds. And some of this ferment is happening within vital congregations that exhibit coherence, authenticity, and transformational impact on members. We not only understand how critical these qualities are to renewal, but we believe that our program has something important to contribute toward increased vitality.

### **Retreat structure**

The Courage to Lead retreat program consists of a cohort of up to 24 clergy and congregational leaders who gather for four quarterly retreats of three-days each over a period of a year. By setting aside this time, space is created for authentic transformation of ourselves, as leaders, and of our hopes for congregational life. In large-group, small-group and solitary settings, we will share our inner journey via personal story-telling, poetry and teaching tales from various wisdom traditions. Participants will be invited to speak honestly about their lives and work and to listen and respond to each other—and to themselves—with encouragement and compassion.

Time is provided for rest and exploration in the surrounding natural environment. Our goal is to offer congregational leaders an experience of spiritual formation in community, one built on principles and practices that participants can take back into their personal and professional lives.

Each Courage to Lead retreat will support personal formation by:

- renewing heart, mind, and spirit by exploring the inner landscape of the leader’s life;
- reconnecting personal identity and professional integrity, honoring gifts and acknowledging the power of limits;
- creating a community of mutual respect and caring that welcomes the soul and honors diversity;
- developing trustworthy space for inner exploration within diverse religious communities; and

- exploring connections between the leader's inner life and the renewal of congregational life.

### **Who participates in Courage to Lead Retreats?**

Clergy and congregational leaders from the broad mainstream of American religious life are encouraged to participate in Courage to Lead retreats. Because the program involves a substantial investment of time, money, and energy, we look for people who are ready and willing to participate in all five seasonal retreats.

### **Retreat facilitators**

All three facilitators have been prepared by the Center for Courage and Renewal ([www.couragerenewal.org](http://www.couragerenewal.org)).

**The Rev. Winton Boyd** has been a member of the Wisconsin Conference UCC, and Senior Pastor at Orchard Ridge UCC church in Madison, WI since 1999. In this position and previous at First Congregational Church in Fresno, CA and Lyndale UCC in Minneapolis he has functioned as a retreat leader, conflict mediator, service learning experience coordinator, youth worker, spiritual guide, preacher, and political activist. Winton and his wife Tammy have three high school and college aged children.

**The Rev. Greg Eaton** spends much of his time in the corporate sector as the co-owner of a meeting planning company, a corporate promotional specialties company, and a local destination management company in Hawaii. He also serves as the Executive Director for the Arbor Falls Foundation which provides scholarships for higher education. Greg is an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church and served in local congregations (urban and suburban) for nine years. He holds three Master's degrees: University Administration, Counseling Psychology, and Theology.

**Barbara Hummel** works with leaders and organizations from corporations as well as public and non-profit sectors to help them be more authentic and effective. She has also facilitated teacher, clergy, and cross-professional circles of trust over the past eight years. She has a master's in counseling, and brings the experience of being a "PK" to her strong interest and commitment to spirituality. Barbara is an active member of Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ in Madison, Wisconsin.

### **Location and cost**

The retreat will be held at the Conference Center of University of St Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, IL, home of the Mundelein Seminary ([www.usml.edu/conference](http://www.usml.edu/conference)).

Accommodations include single rooms with private baths. The grounds are spectacular, with a three-mile trail that circles the lake.

Being close to the major hub of O'Hare, there is limo service available to make travel arrangements easy and less expensive.

Space is limited to 24 participants. *To assure participation, please register early.* You will receive detailed information and directions once your application is accepted for the series.

The **participant fee is \$1700**, thanks in part to the Lilly Foundation which is supporting some of the program costs. The fee can be separated into several payments; we are glad to work that out with you. Travel expenses are not included. There are very limited funds available for scholarships.

*For further information contact any of the facilitators:*

*Winton Boyd*  
[winton@orucc.org](mailto:winton@orucc.org)  
(608) 271-7212

*Greg Eaton*  
[gregjeaton@yahoo.com](mailto:gregjeaton@yahoo.com)  
(847) 317-1280

*Barbara Hummel*  
[bhummel@chorus.net](mailto:bhummel@chorus.net)  
(608) 233-7400

Note: Final acceptance to the program requires a commitment to attend all four retreats.



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**APPLICATION FORM**

**Contact Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal statement:** On a separate page, please let us know why you are interested in attending this retreat program, and how you hope to benefit. Briefly describe the setting in which you do your work, and a vocational question you may be holding.

*Thank you for your interest in participating in the Courage to Lead for Clergy and Congregational Leaders. Your responses to the following questions will help us report to the Center for Courage & Renewal, the Lilly Foundation, and other funders. The contact information you provide will be added to the Center for Courage & Renewal database and used by the Center to inform you of upcoming opportunities. The demographic data you provide is confidential, but will be used in aggregated form.*

**Demographic Information**

**Faith Tradition**

\_\_\_\_ Buddhist  
\_\_\_\_ Christian (please specify denomination  
\_\_\_\_)  
\_\_\_\_ Hindu  
\_\_\_\_ Indigenous  
\_\_\_\_ Jewish

\_\_\_\_ Muslim  
\_\_\_\_ Spiritual Seeker  
\_\_\_\_ Sufi  
\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify  
\_\_\_\_\_)

Ordained Clergy: \_\_\_\_\_ Layperson: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

For clergy: Length of time in ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of years in current position \_\_\_\_\_

**Congregational/Religious Affiliation** \_\_\_\_\_

Average Weekly Worship Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

**Role in Congregation/Religious Community** (mark more than one if appropriate)

- |                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ Senior pastor/priest       | _____ Student                         |
| _____ Assoc/Assist pastor/priest | _____ Sunday School Teacher           |
| _____ Church Staff               | _____ Youth Leader                    |
| _____ Consultant                 | _____ Denominational Administrator    |
| _____ Coach                      | _____                                 |
| _____ Academic                   | _____ Other Ministry (please specify) |
| _____ Retreat Leader             | _____                                 |
| _____ Spiritual Director         | _____                                 |

**Age**

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| _____ 19 or younger | _____ 50 - 59     |
| _____ 20 - 29       | _____ 60 - 69     |
| _____ 30 - 39       | _____ 70 or older |
| _____ 40 - 49       |                   |

**Gender** \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female

**Ethnicity**

- \_\_\_\_\_ African American  
\_\_\_\_\_ Asian  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic/Latino/Latina  
\_\_\_\_\_ Native America  
\_\_\_\_\_ Northern European American  
\_\_\_\_\_ Pacific Islander  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

**Previous Experience in a Courage Program?** \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, when and where? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Checks should be made payable to Wisconsin Council of Churches. Please send the application form, personal statement, and a \$100 deposit to:**

Barbara Hummel  
4026 Cherokee Drive  
Madison, WI 53711

