

Renewal, Strength, Whimsy and Grace: The Effects of Clergy Peer Learning

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According to John Wimmer, Program Officer at Lilly Endowment, Inc., the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence (SPE) program has involved 1300 clergy peer learning groups at 63 institutions involving 13,000 pastors nation wide. In addition, there are several other projects involving clergy peer learning that are not related to the SPE grants. During the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Project Report at the Annual Conference, leaders will draw on this rich experience in discussing particular approaches to clergy peer groups, questions that are raised by particular projects, and what is being learned from the different emphases.

The seminar will include a preliminary report from Janet Maykus who directs the grant for a comparative study of the SPE clergy peer learning grants. The leaders include Janet Maykus of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Texas, Larry Dill of Institute for Clergy Excellence in Alabama, Tim Dolan of the Institute for Clergy and Lay Leadership Development at Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington, and Bruce Roberts former Director of the Indiana Clergy Peer Group Study Program at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis. The conversation will be moderated by Robert Reber who has been involved with several peer learning projects as consultant, trainer, and evaluator. Participants may expect to be engaged in the conversation.

This seminar reporting on the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Project will be on Saturday morning, February 16, at the 8:30 am session.

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