



SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER
of Southeastern Michigan

Spring 2009

Neighbors

"And who is my neighbor?" Luke 10:29b

Samaritan Counseling Center's Response to Economic Crisis



The Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeastern Michigan offers the following services to provide hope and care for those in our congregations and community suffering from job loss and economic instability:

Help for leaders and individuals in **matching needs to services**.

Career and Vocational Counselors who work with individuals in possible future career paths. These counselors are available to lead Preliminary Career Assessment/Discernment Workshops.

Counseling for Individuals, Couples, and Families struggling with increased stress upon relationships. Fee-assistance provided for those who qualify for subsidy funding. Supervised Pastoral Counseling Residents and Advanced Residents are able to provide services for additionally reduced fees as appropriate.

Marriage Enrichment Classes and Workshops focus on maintaining healthy relationships during times of uncertainty and stress.

Training for Church Leaders, Stephen Minister and Lay Care-giving Groups in Stress Reduction Strategies and Small Group Support Leadership.

Support Groups provided by SCC staff for individuals and, separately, for clergy.

Financial Management workshop that addresses the spiritual and practical side of money, budgeting, and finances, especially during times of financial instability and crises.

Special Workshop called, "Pastoral Care and Leadership in the Wake of Traumatic Events."

Led by seasoned clinicians, this workshop explores the effects of trauma - such as the loss of jobs, businesses, homes, retirement savings, and relationships - upon the life and functioning of the congregational family and its leadership. Strategies will be suggested for pastoral care and leadership during reactive and anxious times.

To inquire about any of the above services that may be of interest, please call SCC and ask for Rev. Paul Melrose, Executive Director. We will be happy to discuss fees for counseling, costs of educational programs, and to work with you, your congregation, and any other interested churches or organizations with scheduling and locations for our programs.

Inside This Issue

Meet Our New Staff Member

Annual Clergy Day Program

Upcoming Events

2009 Golf Outing

News and Notes

Training Programs Receiving Applications

SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER of Southeast Michigan
29887 West Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336-1309
Tel: (248) 474-4701 Fax: (248) 474-1518

Spring 2009

Website: www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com

Upcoming SCC Events

Saturday, June 6, 2009
Preparation for Marriage
Workshop

Saturday, June 19
8th Annual Golf Outing

Sunday, September 20
Lay Caregivers
*Understanding Emotional
Eating*

Wednesday, Sept. 30
Certification as a Pre-
pare/Enrich Counselor

Sunday, October 18
Lay Caregivers
*Helping Families Cope
with Anxiety*

Wednesday, October 28
Core Competency

Sunday, November 15
Lay Caregivers
Men and Depression

Wednesday, November 18
Annual Clergy Day
Program

Annual Clergy Day Program

Plan to attend Samaritan Counseling Center's Annual Clergy Day for Clergy and Congregational Leaders Wednesday, November 18, 2009. We will host The Rev. Bob Williamson, Associate Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, offering "God's Own Peace: Systems Theory and Spirituality." Bob will interweave systems theory with theology and meditation to help participants, through the use of a workbook and lecture, to learn how their own spiritual practices can help in ministry during anxious times and with churches and congregations experiencing anxiety.

Bob is a graduate of Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago. He completed the Georgetown Family Center's "Special Post-graduate Program in Bowen Family Systems Theory and its Applications." In addition he has studied with Edwin Friedman and Peter Steinke. He follows the program on systems theory and its applications to leadership which Peter Steinke offered last fall at Samaritan Counseling Center.



Rev. Bob Williamson

News and Notes

Please consider making a contribution to Samaritan's fee adjustment fund. This fund helps clients receive counseling regardless of ability to pay. It's fast and easy when you use Paypal. Just visit our website www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com and click on the "Donate" icon. Thank you for helping all God's people seeking wholeness through emotional and spiritual growth to partner with us at SCC.



To continue staying current with SCC happenings, please send us your email address. We plan to distribute this newsletter and other important information through the Internet. Please stay in touch by sending your name and email address to mphelps@samaritancounselingmichigan.com.



Liz Brandon

SCC volunteer Elizabeth Brandon was recently honored at the City of Farmington Hills Senior Division Volunteer Recognition Reception. She received an Honorable Mention for the 2009 Diamond Award for extensive service to community, church, group or organization for an active volunteer over age 75. A 22-year volunteer at Samaritan Counseling Center, Liz has served in many roles including on the Board of Directors.

SCC Welcomes New Staff

We are pleased to welcome to Samaritan Counseling Center **Rhona Ahmad, M.D.**, our new psychiatric consultant. Rhona received undergraduate and graduate education both in the United States and in the Philippines. She did her post doctoral education in psychiatry at Wayne State University's Detroit Psychiatric Institute. Rhona is on the medical staff of Providence Hospital and consults at a number of the satellites of the Departments of Psychiatry and Family Medicine. She has a private practice in psychiatry and psychotherapy in Farmington Hills. Welcome, Rhona.

The Samaritan Counseling Center Team



Clinical Staff



Administrative Staff

SCC Golf Outing

Plan Now for our
8th Annual Charity
Golf Outing:

June 19, 2009

Please continue to support the fee subsidy programs of Samaritan Counseling Center through our annual Golf Outing.

The cost is \$130 for the day which includes free use of the driving range, 18-holes of golf, lunch, and dinner at an awards banquet. It's an afternoon of great fun, a chance to win terrific raffle prizes, and to see old friends. Support a great cause.

Download a registration form at our website:

www.samaritancounseling

michigan.com



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Samaritan Training Programs Now Receiving Applications for Fall 2009

Pastoral Care Specialist: This Certificate Program, providing 60 hours of continuing education, is offered to persons working in congregations. It meets on the third Wednesday of every month 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., starting September 16, 2009 running through June 16, 2010. The program provides for deepening of one's faith, some personal sharing, class reading and discussion on topics and skills of interest to and importance in working with congregations, and a time to share with the group and a trained facilitator some of the experiences encoun-

tered in one's work as an opportunity for growth and feedback. For more information follow this link: www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com/index_files/Page3880.htm. Here you will find a complete description of the program plus an application to download and complete.

Pastoral Psychotherapy Training: SCC offers a three year program to become trained as a pastoral counselor. It is designed for a person seeking licensure in the State of Michigan as a Licensed Professional Counselor. Applying to the Doctor of Ministry Program at Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit and completing that degree along with the Certificate from Samaritan gives one both preparation for state licensure as well as the necessary credentials to join the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. Spaces are available for next year's class. One must apply to both institutions. The information for the SCC program is available at our website:

www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com/index_files/Page3879.htm. The link at Ecumenical Theological Seminary is www.etseminary.edu/page_al_dmin.htm.



*2008-2009 Pastoral Care Specialist class and SCC staff/
faculty members Dr. Pat McCluskey and Rev. Dr. Paul Melrose.*