

TO: Churches in North Central Iowa Presbytery/Lay Academy
Students/Deacons/Caregivers

RE: The Lay Academy

A special opportunity awaits you on July 22/23. The Lay Academy will offer an elective class "Ministry During Times of Loss."

It is open to all – lay and clergy

This course will explore how individuals, families and communities experience various forms of loss. Central to ministry is the discernment of the meaning (s) of these various loss experiences. We will look to bring imagination to our time together. Trans-generational family systems theory will be utilized to help us understand the complexity of the human dynamics and to understand some healthy, effective ways to intervene and minister. We will look to help prepare persons for experiences of loss so that they can grow through those losses.

The course is lead by Rev. Mark Pell and Rev. Phil Somsen. Both bring much education and experience and expertise to the class.

The class will begin on Friday evening at 6:00 PM with a meal and class time until about 9:00 PM. On Saturday, we will begin at 8:30 AM and be finished by 4:00 PM. We will meet at First Presbyterian Church in Fort Dodge. Please contact Marcia Rich with your registration so that we can make adequate preparations for you. There will be a \$85.00 fee for the class – which includes a single room at a local motel and meals on Friday night and Saturday noon. (If you share a room – you can save part of the cost.)

July 22/23 – Ministry During Times of Loss – Fort Dodge First Presbyterian Church. Please contact Marcia Rich to register 515-576-2091 or email marciarich@frontiernet.net

Hope you can join us for this unique opportunity. (See Syllabus)