



Florida
FIVE-DAY ACADEMY
FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION

www.fl5dayacademy.org

FACULTY

Dr. Roberta Bondi
Dr. William Thiele

March 11 -16, 2012

Sponsored by
The Upper Room and
The Spiritual Formation Team
Florida Conference of
The United Methodist Church
Life Enrichment Center
Fruitland Park, Florida



Roberta C. Bondi graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1963 with a B.A. in English literature. She attended Perkins School of Theology, and then

went on to earn an M.A. in Semitic languages and a PhD in the theology of the Early Church at the University of Oxford. She taught for a number of years at the University of Notre Dame before she began teaching at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in 1978. Dr Bondi retired from Emory University in 2006. She now leads seminars, retreats and academies across the United States.

For a number of years she was active in Faith and Order both in the National and World Council of Churches. She is committed to the renewal of the spiritual life of the church. Her teaching and writing now are in the areas of the early church, spirituality and narrative. Among her books are Three Monophysite Christologies: *Severus of Antioch, Philoxenus of Mabbug, and Jacob of Sarugh; To Love as God Loves: Conversations with the Early Church; Memories of God: Theological Reflections on the Life; A Place to Pray: Reflections on the Lord's Prayer, and Night on the Flint River.*

Topic:
Conversations with the Early Church



William Thiele is the founding Spiritual Director of the Community of the School for Contemplative Living (www.thescl.net) in New Orleans.

Their mission is creating contemplative communities by listening in stillness (contemplation) and serving in joy (action). This ecumenical community was created by Parker and Rayne UMC with the support of individuals around New Orleans. For 25 years William served as a pastoral counselor. He shifted his focus after Hurricane Katrina to gathering people who seek to integrate contemplative practices in their servant lifestyle.

Dr. Thiele is a certified Spiritual Director and a Quaker serving Parker UMC. He shares his spiritual journey, "I grew up as a Southern Baptist. I completed my M.Div. and Ph.D. in counseling at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. I became a Quaker initially after reading Thomas Kelly's *A Testament of Devotion* during my dissertation year. In fact, a quote in Kelly's first paragraph got me going: 'Deep within us all there is an amazing inner sanctuary, a holy place, a Divine Center, a Speaking Voice to which we may continuously return.' I've been a Quaker ever since that initial journey in 1992."

Topic:
**Amazing Inner Sanctuary:
A Divine Center**

The Academy for
Spiritual Formation Is ...

- A time to fill the deep spiritual hunger that characterizes many lives;
- An opportunity for intentional spiritual growth in a disciplined, accepting community;
- A place where community silence enhances personal prayer and reflection;
- A time of spiritual renewal and discovery through academic presentations, personal reflections, and communal sharing;
- A sharing of spiritual growth in covenant groups;
- A time for healing to continue;
- For both clergy and laity.

Recommended Reading

To Love as God Loves, By Roberta Bondi
Saying of Desert Fathers, By Benedicta Ward
A Testament of Devotion, By Thomas Kelly



Leadership Team

The Leadership Team is composed of individuals from the Florida and Alabama Conference areas who have experienced the Two-Year Academy of Spiritual Formation. The team provides leadership using their spiritual gifts.

Retreat Leader:

Rev. Barbara W. Riddle

Faculty Liaison:

Rev. Barry Lane

Worship/Music:

Dan Miller

Covenant Groups:

Renee Bronson

Hospitality:

Kathy Houser

Humble Servant:

Frances Jennings

Daily Rhythm

Begins: Sunday March 11

Registration: 4:00-5:30 pm
Orientation and Dinner: 5:30 pm

Each day:

The rhythm of the day is embraced by morning and night prayer and enriched with daily Eucharist. Faculty presentations are given each morning and afternoon, followed by silence for individual reflection and then group response time. Covenant groups offer time for accountability. Free time offered for rest and renewal.

Concludes: Friday, March 16

Following the Eucharist at
12 noon, with lunch.

It is vital to the integrity of the experience that individuals participate in the entire Academy and stay at the Life Enrichment Center .

Registration

**Enrollment is limited.
Register now!**

Total cost is \$595 which includes tuition, meals, lodging in a single occupancy room with bath, all linens provided. There is a second option to have a roommate if you register together and your roommate is listed on your registration. The cost with a roommate is \$495. Tuition may be paid in full with registration or a non-refundable deposit of \$150.00 with registration and three payments of:

November 15	\$148
January 15	\$148
February 15	\$149 (Double \$49)

Please ask your church or District to help support you with a scholarship. Contact Sherri Lingle in the office of Connectional Ministries, 1-800-282-8011 Ext. 132 in Florida or (863) 688-5563 Ext. 132 for a Conference scholarship, an alternative payment schedule or further information.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS NOW ACCEPTED

You can now pay for the FL Five-Day Academy via credit card and online. Visit our Web site at www.fl5dayacademy.org and go to the Registration Page and follow the link there.

REGISTRATION FORM

The Florida Conference Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation • March 11-16, 2012

Name: _____ Phone: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Name on nametag: _____ E-mail: _____
 Male Female • First time attendee • Lay Clergy Church Staff • CEU units
Local Church Affiliation: _____
Special housing needs: First Floor Room Other _____
Dietary Needs: Vegetarian Other: _____
 Roommate's Name _____

Please return form with a \$150 non-refundable registration fee or payment in full
(Single-\$595)(Double-\$495).

Make checks payable to **Florida Conference Treasurer** and mail to:

Registration office, 450 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave , Lakeland, FL 33815