CPE Re-Accreditation Commissioners Visit Penn Foundation

By: Rev. Carl Yusavitz, Director of Pastoral Services

According to The Association of Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) Standards, every Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program in the United States requires a thorough self-study and “paper review” every five years and an actual site team visit by national commissioners every 10 years. Penn Foundation’s 10-year review took place July 26th and 27th and, from what we could gather during the Exit Interview, we did very well!

This was an important review for both ACPE and Penn Foundation since we are only one of a handful of CPE centers nationally focusing on behavioral healthcare. We are grateful for the 18 months of preparation work by many people that went into this review. With eight different clinical placements/preceptors and an oversight board of twelve pastors/chaplains/clinicians, there were plenty of helping hands to make this review so successful. We are also grateful that over 30 alumni/ae of our CPE program returned for a meeting with the commissioners to discuss how their internship with us helped prepare them for their future ministry.
Basic Pastoral Skills Course 2015

Once again, Penn Foundation will offer a Basic Pastoral Skills Course to members of your church who are non-ordained pastoral caregivers. These include deacons, elders, and Eucharistic ministers. In the past, this exploration has been a new and refreshing experience for many of the participants to explore the dynamics of their pastoral care.

Tuition for the entire 6-week (2-hour) evening course is $50 per student to cover the cost of preparation, facilitation, light refreshments, handouts, etc. This fee may be paid by the individual participant or your church. As in the past, the course will be taught by Carl Yusavitz, Director of Pastoral Services and CPE Supervisor at Penn Foundation. This year, class will be held October 7th - November 11th from 3:30 – 5:00 pm.

The syllabus includes:

- “The Nuts and Bolts of a Pastoral Conversation”
- “The Importance of Presence and Listening”
- “The Do’s and Don’ts of a Hospital Visit”
- “The Spirituality of Aging and Retirement Home Visitation”
- “The Impact of Grief and Loss on Spiritual Growth”
- “The Use of Prayer and Scripture during a Pastoral Visit”

Registration is necessary, and we need at least six participants to form a class. For more information or to register, contact Donna Massey at dmassey@pennfoundation.org or 267.404.5080.
Things I’ve Learned Over the Years

I’ve learned that you can’t hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk. - Age 6 🥦

I’ve learned that when you wave to people, they stop what they are doing and wave back. - Age 9 🖐️

I’ve learned that just when I get my room the way I like it, Mom makes me clean it up. - Age 12

I’ve learned that if you want to cheer yourself up, you should try cheering someone else up. - Age 13 😊

I’ve learned that silent company is more healing than words of advice. - Age 24

I’ve learned that brushing my child’s hair is one of life’s great pleasures. - Age 25 🧼

I’ve learned that that there are people who live you dearly but just don’t know how to show it. - Age 41 🙌

I’ve learned that the greater a person’s sense of guilt, the greater his need to cast blame on others. - Age 45

I’ve learned that singing “Amazing Grace” can life my spirits for hours. - Age 49 🎶

I’ve learned that making a living is not the same thing as making a life. - Age 58

I’ve learned that if you want to do something positive for your children, try to improve your marriage. - Age 61 🤵️❤️️ 💁

I’ve learned that you shouldn’t go through life with a catcher’s mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back. - Age 64 🦋

I’ve learned that whenever I decide to do something with kindness, I usually make the right decision. - Age 66

I’ve learned that everyone can use a little prayer. - Age 72 🙏

I’ve learned that just because I have pains, I don’t have to be one. - Age 82

I’ve learned that I still have a lot to learn. - Age 92

- Source Unknown
Dear God,

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life. Remove the have nots, the can nots and the do nots that I have in my mind. Erase the will nots, may nots, and might nots that find home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots, would nots, and should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all, dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart and my life all of the am nots that I have allowed to hold me back, especially the thought that I am not good enough in your eyes.