

Ministry Motivator

e-newsletter from the BeFriender Ministry National Office

March 2009

Foundations for BeFriender Ministry

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

2009

Apr. 17-18 and May 1-2
Golden Valley, MN

April 27-30
Ripon, WI

July 13-16
Golden Valley, MN

Sept. 21-24
Golden Valley, MN

October 26-29
Independence, MO

November 16-19
Louisville, KY

More information:

Details including fees and deadlines

Who attends Foundations?

New programs: A team of leaders (2 to 5) attends the workshop. Discounts are available for multiple registrants.

Existing programs: Additional program leaders are trained as a program grows or when there is turnover in the leadership team. Discounts may apply for active programs.

Quick links

Workshop schedule
Register for Foundations
Order materials
Earn credit for referrals
Volunteer opportunities
Clusters of churches

Dear Joanne,

In recent conversations we have heard the significant impact of today's challenges in the lives of individuals. We have listened to staff and volunteers share the reality of budget cuts in their church, schools, hospitals, and other healthcare and long-term care facilities.

Given the great demand for pastoral care and the reality of budget cuts, we have stepped out in faith and temporarily reduced our workshop fees. We want to ensure that BeFriender Ministry can continue to grow wherever the need exists. Whether you want to start a new BeFriender Ministry program or add new program leaders to an existing program, we are doing what we can to make that possible.

We have heard countless stories of how BeFriender Ministry has touched lives. There are many more lives waiting to be touched.

Barb Schwery barb@befrienderministry.org

Joanne Hansen joanne@befrienderministry.org

This month in the Motivator

[Workshop fees lowered temporarily](#)

[Workshops in your area: Ripon, Golden Valley](#)

[Health center's BeFriender Ministry receives award](#)

[Barb's Q&A](#)

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Workshop fees lowered temporarily Reduction in place through 2009 due to recession

Many churches are experiencing significant budget cutbacks, as are hospitals and other healthcare and long-term care facilities. While resources are scarcer, the need for pastoral care is greater than ever as individuals and families deal with the impact of the recession in addition to other concerns and transitions.

We understand the dilemma for organizations facing the reality of fewer resources, including the loss of staff. To support organization that want to maintain or implement BeFriender Ministry at this critical time, we have temporarily reduced the fees for the "Foundations for BeFriender Ministry" workshop.



Fee reduction

Anyone who registers for a "Foundations" workshop for the remainder of

1-866-468-8708 (toll free)
952-767-0244



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. CST

Friday - Sunday
Closed



2009 will receive \$100 off of the posted fees. This reduction is in addition to the \$50 savings if full payment is received by the early registration deadline for the workshop.

Installment payments also available

In addition, organizations also will have the option to pay the workshop fees in monthly payments over 3 or 6 months. To utilize this option, payments must be by credit card, and a processing fee of \$5 per payment will be charged.

Current program leaders

Program leaders who have previously attended "Foundations" can re-take the workshop at any time for \$300 off the regular fee. With the recession reduction, re-taking the workshop will save \$400 (or \$450 if payment is received by the early registration deadline).

More information

To print information about the temporary fee reductions, connect to this PDF file: [Workshop Fee Reduction](#).

Workshops in your area

Ripon, WI Golden Valley, MN

The "Foundations" workshop is ecumenical. Churches and other organizations from a variety of faith traditions host the workshop in cities throughout the U.S. and beyond.

Early registration savings

Pay in full by the early registration deadline for the "Foundations" workshop to **save \$50** per registrant. Early registration deadlines for upcoming workshops are listed below and on www.befrienderministry.org. *Please note that some early registration deadlines have recently been adjusted. Deadlines for early registration for all workshops are now 4 weeks prior to the first day of the workshop.*



Be an early bird

Golden Valley, MN

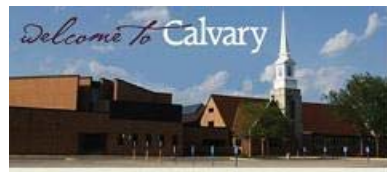
April 17-18 and May 1-2, 2009

Only Twin Cities offering of workshop in split format this year

Early registration deadline: March 30

July 13-16, 2009

Early registration deadline: June 1



Calvary Lutheran Church in Golden Valley, MN, has been providing facilities for the "Foundations" workshops in the Twin Cities for the past 2 years. Parish nurse Annette Langdon is the program supervisor for Calvary's thriving BeFriender

Ministry program. They have been very generous with their hospitality and support for the national office.

The split format (2 days in each of 2 weeks) is offered only once a year in the Twin Cities and is scheduled this year for April and May. The split format often is easier for volunteers to schedule.

More information about the workshop is available on the [website](#), or you can go directly to the [online registration form](#).

Ripon, WI

April 27-30, 2009

Early registration deadline: March 30

The "Foundations" workshop in Ripon will be held at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church on April 27-30. The church's evangelism committee is serving as host.

We are grateful to Pastor Maurice Schaus for arranging to host the workshop. More information about the "Foundations" workshop in Ripon is available on the [website](#), or you can go directly to the [online registration form](#).



PHOTO: The beautiful sanctuary of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ripon.

Health care system's BeFriender Ministry receives award

Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System (SCLHS) in Kansas City, MO, recently announced the 2009 winners of their annual Core Value Awards.

The team awards are based on the SCLHS five published core values: response to need, respect, excellence, wholeness, and stewardship. Winners were selected for each of two SCLHS facilities in Kansas City: Providence Medical Center and St. John Hospital. The BeFriender Ministry teams at both facilities were recipients of the award based on respect.

Congratulations to Chaplain Joseppi (Josie) Sandoval, the BeFriender Ministry program supervisor, and to the teams of BeFrienders, who clearly are demonstrating mutuality and serving as examples of respectfulness at Providence Medical Center and St. John Hospital!



Photo: Chaplain Joseppi Sandoval with a patient.

MUTUALITY

A **respectful** give-and-take between and among two or more persons. Each person in the relationship is worthy of dignity and **respect**.

The definition of mutuality used in BeFriender Ministry

Barb's Q&A

Barb asks & you answer



In each issue of the "Ministry Motivator," Executive Co-Director Barb Schwery invites your responses to a question about your BeFriender Ministry program. A sampling of the responses appears in the following issue along with Barb's own insights.

Previous question

How have you encouraged men to be part of BeFriender Ministry as a BeFriender or member of the leadership team?

Sampling of responses

- We invited men to serve on the BeFriender Ministry leadership team.
- Our second group of BeFrienders had two men. Men have continued to be involved over the years.
- We invited married couples to participate in BeFriender Ministry. When the men were commissioned in front of the parish, the message was loud and clear. We have more couples and other men in the group now.
- [We] personally invited men to consider BeFriender Ministry.
- One of our male BeFriender ministers spoke at all the weekend services about BeFriender Ministry. During hospitality after all the services, he and other BeFrienders were available to talk with anyone who might be interested. We did have men participate in the next BeFriender candidate training.
- We were proactive and spoke with men about being BeFrienders.

Barb adds

As you can see from the responses, what consistently works is inviting men to be involved with the ministry. Tell them the reasons you are asking them to consider BeFriender Ministry. Share the attitudes, skills, and behaviors they have that are compatible with being a BeFriender. Publicize the need for male BeFrienders.

Do you currently have men and women on your leadership team? What is your balance of men and women BeFrienders? You may want to consider some of the ideas that have been mentioned as you expand your ministry.

New question

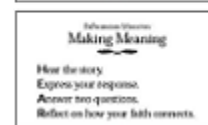
Please share a current strength of your BeFriender Ministry program -- something that is working really well. What helped this area become a strength for your ministry?

Send your responses by sending an e-mail message to barb@befrienderministry.org.

Clearance on discontinued products

Three products are on clearance to make way for new products.

Reminder cards (shown at right) are now **\$2.50** for a pack of 10 (regularly \$5). They are business-card size and have the "Foundation Principles" on one side and the "Making Meaning" process on the other. The reminder cards are being redesigned.



The clearance price for **travel candles** is **\$3.00** (regularly \$6). The candle is in a silver tin with the BeFriender Ministry logo on the top in burgundy. It can be refilled with mini tealights.

The distributor is no longer offering the "**Overview of Pastoral Care**" video in VHS format. It is available for **\$10.00** (regularly \$25). The Trainer Guide for candidate training, session 3, describes how to use the optional video in training. The DVD version will be available soon.

There is a limited supply of all of the items being discontinued. To order any of the materials, go to the online [order form](#). Allow at least 2 weeks for delivery of your order.

Bulletin Blurb

The importance of publicity

Timing is everything. While you may have publicized BeFriender Ministry many times, people don't always really hear the message until they need it. It's important to provide regular reminders in your bulletin and newsletter and on your website.

New Bulletin Blurb

A new Bulletin Blurb has been added to the website. It is on the topic of [chronic fatigue syndrome and fibromyalgia](#). You can use the Bulletin Blurb as it is or edit it as needed. Use it in a bulletin, newsletter, and/or on your own website.

A variety of helpful resources are available to learn more about the two diseases: www.mayoclinic.com, www.webmd.com, www.prohealth.com. On www.ncfsfa.com, you will find a useful article about [emotions](#) associated with the diseases.

Inspirations

On faith

"Faith is taking the first step when you can't see the whole staircase."

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Baptist pastor and civil rights leader*

"Faith is an oasis in the heart that can never be reached by the caravan of thinking."

*Kahlil Gibran
Essayist, novelist, and poet*

Volunteer help needed at national office

If you are interested in helping with office tasks at the BeFriender Ministry National Office, please sign up as a volunteer. Some can even be conducted from your home computer, wherever you are located.

Volunteer opportunities include help with assembling materials, mailings, and Web research.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please call Joanne at 952-767-0245 (toll free 1-866-468-8708) or send an e-mail to joanne@befrienderministry.org.



Important notices for program leaders

Sales tax exemption certificate needed from Minnesota program leaders

Effective immediately, we will charge state sales tax and applicable county sales tax on orders shipped to a Minnesota address or picked up at our office in Bloomington (or any other location in Minnesota) unless we have documentation on file indicating that your church or organization is tax exempt. If your church or organization has a **state sales tax exemption certificate**, please fax it to us now so that your next order is not delayed. The fax number is 952-767-0247. Individuals who personally pay for materials will be charged sales tax.

Order at least 2 weeks ahead

Be sure to plan ahead for your orders. We ask that you allow at least two weeks for delivery. If you are located near our office and plan to pick up your order, we also ask that you order at least two weeks ahead. We will contact you when the order is ready.

We regret that we can no longer make exceptions. We have a very small staff and, in order to be efficient, we process orders once a week. As you plan your schedule leading up to candidate training (information sessions, recruitment, interviews, and discernment), build in at least two weeks for ordering and receiving your materials. Orders can be placed [online](#). We appreciate your cooperation!

**Allow 2 weeks
for delivery or
pick-up of orders**

**Office hours
Monday–Thursday
9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Central)**

In gratitude

Around the world of workshops

We are grateful to **Olivet Lutheran Church** for serving as volunteer host for the February "Foundations" workshop in Fargo, ND. Thank you to **Pastor Tiffany Sundeen**, the **Olivet BeFriender Ministry leadership team**, and **BeFriender ministers** for the hospitality that was extended. This is the second time Olivet Lutheran has served as volunteer host.

During the workshop, a reporter from the Fargo Forum newspaper interviewed Barb Schwery and the workshop participants. An article entitled "An opportunity to care: BeFriender Ministry promotes active listening" appeared in the Saturday, February 14, issue of the Forum. Thank you to **Julie Johnson**, program leader from First Lutheran Church in Fargo, for arranging this valuable opportunity to share the mission of BeFriender Ministry.

Combine forces for training

Training Network

We have launched a Web-based networking service for program leaders who are interested in conducting BeFriender candidate training jointly with another church. You can complete and submit the [online form](#) to have your contact information listed. For more information and to complete the form go to the Training Network.



CONTACT US

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