

PRACTICING SPIRITUAL DIRECTION IN A TIME OF DEEPENING SHADOW

WHEN & WHERE

8 all-group meetings of 3 hours each plus 6 small group sessions of 1 ½ hours with a reflective practice focus to personalize the work. All sessions are via Zoom on Wednesdays. Times are Pacific:

- September 22, 2021, 3-6 PM
 - October 13, 3-4:30 PM
- October 27, 3-6 PM
 - November 17, 3-4:30 PM
- December 1, 3-6 PM
 - December 15, 3-4:30 PM
- January 19, 2022, 3-6 PM
 - February 9, 3-4:30 PM
- February 23, 3-6 PM
 - March 9, 3-4:30 PM
- March 23, 3-6 PM
 - April 13, 3-4:30 PM
- April 27, 3-6 PM
- May 25, 3-6 PM Closure & Integration

COST

\$1400 for the series plus the cost of books. Upon acceptance a non-refundable deposit of \$500 will secure your place.

PREREQUISITE

Complete your application on line (www.breadoflife.org). The program is designed for experienced spiritual directors “beyond the beginnings” who are working with a range of directees.

THE FACULTY

Don Bisson, FMS is a widely respected spiritual director and specialist in the training, formation and supervision of spiritual directors. He serves in leadership in his Marist Brothers community and has graduate degrees in liturgy, spirituality, and transpersonal psychology. His D. Min. from Pacific School of Religion focused on Spiritual Direction and Jungian Psychology.

Sandra Lommasson has been forming and supervising spiritual directors since 1996 through Bread of Life and other formation programs. She has written a number of articles for spiritual directors and has wide experience in working with trauma, healing and spirituality.

Don and Sandra have been colleagues for over 25 years.

For Experienced Directors

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SEPTEMBER 2021-
MAY 2022

BRO. DON BISSON
&
SANDRA LOMMASSON



THE NEED AND OUR APPROACH



THE NEED

We live in a time of extraordinary invitation and genuine danger. The veneers on our carefully constructed understandings of ourselves and our institutions are cracking and revealing what lies beneath.

Shadow, the hidden and disowned parts of ourselves tucked away from conscious awareness individually and collectively, is visible. Our collective dirty laundry is fully exposed. There's gold in the shadow, and there's also the presence of evil. Claiming the needed renewal the shadow offers, means encountering the adversary too.

We are seeing this in what directees bring and the dilemmas and subtle discernments we encounter in accompanying them.

And, it impacts us as directors! We who tend souls when darkest shadow is being revealed need to prayerfully consider these loosed energies as they manifest in our directees, *with* others engaging like work.

Essential practices for creating a container sufficient to process and encounter the presence of evil are spiritual surrender and community committed to a depth experience of unity that holds diversity.

Our hope is that this program will serve as a pilot for opening together what this time asks of us, and for growing our collective awareness of how to participate in faithful, life-enhancing ways.

Core Activities & Processes

- *Framing* topics for mutual consideration on the encounter with darkest shadow
- *Reflecting* on our own experience
- *Offering* my own & receiving other's experience
- *Reading assigned works related to topics at hand*
- *Integrating* content with life experience in oneself & in accompanying directees
- *Participating* in small group work engaging case work, consultation and supervisory considerations

APPLICATION PROCESS

This program is designed for experienced directors seeking a group of like commitment to explore deeper dimensions of the work together.

Complete the application on line under "Programs" at www.breadoflife.org

www.breadoflife.org

THEMES FOR EXPLORATION

Personal, Collective, Archetypal Shadow / Healing the personal shadow and response to the collective

Evil and Projections: Racism, Islamophobia, Homophobia/ Introjections & withdrawing projection of evil on another

Evil in Collective Movements: Politics and Religion/ Healing & the new ethic

Evil in Addictions/ Healing in recovery, psychology and spirituality

Evil Experienced in Trauma/ Transpersonal healing in trauma

Distinguishing the Darkness of Evil and the Darkness of God in the Dark Night/ Contemplative prayer and lifelong conversion

Engaging Evil in Dreams, Presences and Inner Voices/ Discernment and protection from malevolence

Implication for Spiritual Direction Ministry of the Reality of Evil/ Need for supervision, prayer support and further education