

Arizona Five-Day Academy for Spiritual Formation

**January 31 - February 5,
2010**

**Redemptorist Renewal Center
at Picture Rocks
7101 West Picture Rocks Road**

**PO Box 569
Tucson, Arizona 85652**

The Academy for Spiritual Formation is:

- A time for intentional spiritual growth by lay and clergy persons, in a disciplined community of prayer, study, worship and fellowship.
- An opportunity for celebrating holistic spirituality - renewing body, mind and spirit.
- A place where community silence enhances personal prayer and reflection.
- A time to experience the rhythm for the week through morning, evening and night prayers and daily Eucharist.
- An experience valued by persons of all denominations.

Five Days

- 5 Days to dwell with friends, lay and clergy, at a place far away.
- 5 Days to nourish your thirst for authentic prayer, gentle silence, enlivening worship, fresh perspective and rich conversation.

- 5 Days to walk in the beauty of the Tucson mountains surrounded by stately saguaros.

Each Day:

- Morning prayer, evening communion, healing service and night prayer.
- Faculty presentations in morning and afternoon.
- Small covenant groups for reflection and sharing.
- Time for rest and recreation.



The 5-day Academy begins with registration at 4 p.m. and an orientation at 5 p.m. on Sunday, January 31, 2010, and ends with lunch on Friday, February 5, 2010. Full participation is essential to make this event a success for yourself and others.

Total cost for a double room, board and tuition: \$485. (Limited private rooms available, \$100 additional). Registration deadline (to include \$75 deposit): December 8, 2009. The balance is due by January 11, 2010.

Faculty

Dr. M. Thomas Thangaraj

Dr. M. Thomas Thangaraj is from Tamil Nadu, India, and an ordained pastor in the Church of South India. After completing his Master of Divinity there, he came to the U.S. where he studied at Harvard and received his doctorate. He taught in the Tamilnadu Theological Seminary in Madurai, India for a time and then came to Candler School of Theology as professor of World Christianity. He taught at Candler for 20 years before his retirement in 2008. In his retirement, he and his wife Cecilia have re-located back to India; however, he is teaching at Oklahoma City University in Oklahoma for the spring semesters of 2009 and 2010.



Thomas has taught at about a half dozen Academies (two year and 5 day) and he loves it. He is a musician as well as a theologian so he brings the music of India as well as a perspective from outside the US to discussions of world Christianity, missions and interfaith dialogue. Thomas is the author of several books including "The Crucified Guru" and "Relating to People of Other Faiths: What Every Christian Should Know," both published by Abingdon. While Thomas himself is a fifth generation Christian and a fourth generation clergyman, his work has focused recently on understanding how we as Christians may relate to people of other faiths in a dialogical manner.

Linda R. Douty



Linda is a teacher, retreat leader, speaker and writer on topics related to spiritual formation and personal growth. Trained at the

Shalem Institute for Spiritual Guidance, she serves on the leadership team of the Academy for Spiritual Formation and is the author of "How Can I Let Go if I Don't Know I'm Holding On? - Setting Our Souls Free," and "How Can I See the Light When It's So Dark? - Journey to a Thankful Heart."

More personally, Linda has made peace with several challenges in life and views the journey ahead of her with excitement. She commits herself to guiding people on their own paths to growth and, though she does not claim to have all the answers, she helps others find authentic ways to live out their commitment to Christ in the world. A mother of two sons and a joyful grandmother of five, Linda lives in Memphis, TN.

Mr. Wes Howl

Music Leader

Mr. Wes Howl is both a familiar and popular presence at the Academies. He has been staff accompanist for 10 five-day academies, and 5 two-year academies. He combines his knowledge of worship and music to assist in providing meaningful and joyful worship. In August of 2006, Wes played for one of the worship services at the Upper Room launch of the new Worship Book. He presented a class on accompanying and repertoire for retreats and academies.

Wes has retired after serving 47 years as a church organist in Oklahoma. He earned his B.M.E and M.S. degrees at Oklahoma State University with additional study in organ at SMU with Dr. Robert Anderson. His professional groups include the American Guild of Organists and Hymn Society of America.

Wes and his wife Ginger will serve as worship leaders at the 2009 session of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference.

The Leadership Team

Retreat Leader:

Rev. Thomas E. Kiracofe

Registrar / Covenant Groups:

Rev. Shirley L. Wells

Worship Leader:

Rev. Cynthia Langston Kirk

Support Team:

Dr. Les Kirk

Music Leader:

Mr. Wes Howl

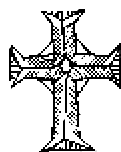
Executive Director:

Rev. Jerry Haas

The Academy for Spiritual Formation will be held at the Redemptorist Renewal Center, 7101 W. Picture Rocks Road, Tucson, Arizona. Because the Academy seeks to offer an experience of community as well as individual devotion, all participants will be expected to be residents at the Retreat Center. No commuter enrollment.

The Academy is sponsored by:

The Board of Discipleship,
The Board of Ordained Ministry of
the Desert Southwest Conference
and
The Upper Room



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Cost: \$485 / Private Room: \$585

Registration Deadline: December 8, 2009

Final payment due on or before January 11, 2010

NAME _____

Male Female Lay Clergy

1st time to attend an Academy

I have attended _____ Academies

Address _____ City, State & Zip _____

Contact Phone _____ email _____

Church _____ Denomination _____

Preferred Roommate: _____

Please assign me a roommate

Indicate special housing or dietary needs: _____

I have enclosed the \$75 non-refundable pre-registration fee. Make checks out to: Desert Southwest Conference (indicate for Academy) Send registration (before Dec. 8, 2009) with check to: Rev. Shirley L. Wells, 2645 E. Southern Ave., # A-688, Tempe, AZ 85282.

CEU's: For an additional \$15, participants may receive 3 CEU's. Forms available at the Academy & payment can be made at that time.