

2008

**Re: Chautauqua Institution's New Clergy Program Providing
Holden-Dansy Family Foundation and the Robertson Foundation Participants**

Greetings:

Enclosed you will find the application for Chautauqua Institution's two New Clergy Conferences for 2008. Each of the conferences will be largely identical. They will be held at the Institution during Week One (Saturday, June 21 – Saturday, June 28, 2008) and Week Seven (Saturday, August 2-Saturday, August 9, 2008).

Eligible participants are those clergy persons who represent the Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), serve in a congregational setting, and have been ordained less than seven years. Candidates must fulfill all three requirements.

Chautauqua Institution offers a unique ecumenical and interfaith campus setting. Approximately 9,000 persons gather throughout a nine week summer season to explore the relationships among the contemporary worlds of religion, the arts, and education. A campus-wide theme sets the focus each week for the nation's top scholars, leaders, and performers engage the community in addressing the week's theme. Located in western New York, the Chautauqua experience is unparalleled. To learn more about the 2007 season and the religion platform, please visit www.ciweb.org

Each New Clergy Conference will focus upon "the role of clergy as local community leaders." A strong faculty with nationally recognized experience is annually assembled as a resource for the conference. Fellows enjoy unprecedented access to many of each week's religion lecturers, key religion department staff, the conference leaders, and alumni.

Collegiality remains one of the prime characteristics of the conference. In both structured and unstructured settings throughout the week, fellows are encouraged to engage one another regarding shared community, diverse religious heritages, and the dynamic role of clergy life. The ecumenical and interfaith relationships forged in this environment are among the hallmarks of the week's experience.

Once at Chautauqua, the fellowship award includes conference fees, curriculum, gate passes, meals, lodging, and a variety of entertainment. The Holden-Dansy Family Foundation and the Robertson Foundation coupled with additional resources to underwrite a week at Chautauqua for the fellows (and their partner/spouse and young children). Transportation arrangements and expenses are the responsibility of the participant.

2008 New Clergy Conference applications are now being accepted. The application deadline is March 21, 2008. All applications will be acknowledged; a select number of fellowships will be offered by March 31, 2008. Applications can be downloaded at religion.ciweb.org or can be requested through Chautauqua Institution's Department of Religion at 716.357.6274. Additional information regarding the Holden-Dansy Family Foundation and the Robertson Foundation is available by contacting Jackie Witherspoon, New Clergy Program Administrative Assistant in the Department of Religion.



Department of Religion New Clergy Program 2008 Application

Please complete information in the space provided below. Type or print only.

Last Name _____ First _____ Title _____

Name of Guest (Spouse/Partner/Friend) _____

Name of Children and date of birth _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Congregation _____ Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Religious Body _____ Seminary _____ Graduation Date _____

Conference Week: *Circle the one that best applies to your ability to attend*

Preferred: Week One or Week Seven **Either:** Week One or Week Seven **Only:** Week One or Week Seven

Please answer the following questions.

If you require additional space, feel free to add additional information for any questions.

How did you hear about the New Clergy Conference (advertisement, personal recommendation, etc), and what interested you about it?

Please review the pastoral, preaching and administrative responsibilities of your present position.

What are your strengths in ministry recognized by seminary advisors or congregational and institutional leaders in your religious community?

In such a context, what were the areas identified as needing improvement? How have you addressed these needs?

Explain in detail any incident in your job that caused conflict with another person. What did you do to smooth things out?

In seminary, what courses did you prefer? What courses have best prepared you for your present position?

Describe your role as an ecumenical, interfaith, and/or community leader.

What are the most challenging and satisfying work-related tasks you have undertaken?

In what respect do you feel you have grown and improved in ministry in the last few years?

What actions have you taken in your present position that has strengthened your religious community and its program?

Describe a situation in which you had to make a difficult decision. How did you go about doing it?

In what respect have you improved your decision making?

What do you hope to gain from the New Clergy Conference?

Submit completed application no later than February 29, 2008 to: jwitherspoon@ciweb.org, or mail to

**Jackie Witherspoon
Department of Religion
PO Box 74
Chautauqua, NY 14722-0074**