

CLERGY COLLEAGUE GROUP



Anyone in leadership right now knows that these are challenging times for leaders. Sometimes well-intentioned congregants through their behavior can undermine the health of a community. Sometimes governing boards can get angry and frustrated about attendance or finances and take it out on the pastor/priest. Sometimes you know the direction you need to lead in, but lack the courage and fortitude to push forward. If any of this resonates with you, this might be the group for you! This group will be a systems-oriented group meaning that we will be exploring things from a systems lens and not pathologizing.

Sponsored by [Bishop Anderson House](#) and led by The Rev. Thomas S. Rogers, III, Executive Director, there will be a total 9 sessions. The group will meet monthly via Zoom from 10a-12p (30 minutes discussion of systems theory, 90 minutes experiential group.) \$50 per session (discounted rate of \$400 if pay for all sessions by November 27 - the first meeting of the series). *Members are responsible for paying the fee for each session even if they are absent.* Dates for 2024-2025:

November 27	December 11	January 8	February 12	March 12
April 9	May 14	June 18	July 9	

Once the group begins, it will be a closed group meaning that no members will be added until the midpoint (March 12). Must have a minimum of four attendees for the group to start.

Criteria to join the group: Must be the senior leader of a faith community (i.e. senior pastor, priest-in-charge, rector, etc.). This group is not open to associate clergy. Must have a 30-minute zoom meeting with Tommy to determine if your personal goals align with the goals of the group.

The Rev. Thomas S. Rogers, III is an Association of Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. Certified Educator and Episcopal Priest. Tommy began as the Executive Director of Bishop Anderson House in June, 2015. [Click here to read his bio on our website:](#)

Please contact Tommy to set up your individual Zoom meeting to discuss goals for acceptance into the group or to ask any questions regarding the program:

Thomas_rogers@rush.edu or 312-563-4824



Scan the QR code to access this flyer online.

Please bear in mind, group sessions are safe places to talk, be heard, and be understood. Participants maintain this atmosphere by treating each other with respect, and accepting differences in opinions, attitudes, and beliefs. Participants always maintain confidentiality of group discussion. This means that what is said in the group stays in the group (Vegas Rule). Group members do not talk about specifics of group conversations outside the group. Please note that, by law, the group leader is obligated to report child abuse and elder abuse or neglect. The group leader must also take action and notify others if a participant is planning to harm themselves or another person.

Zoom Guidelines:

Please log on 10-15 minutes beforehand to download the necessary software or any new updates to Zoom. Download speeds can vary depending on your bandwidth. As you are aware, one of Bishop Anderson House's core values is to start and end groups on time so the group will begin promptly at the start time.

Some other pieces to keep in mind to join remotely:

- * Be in a stationary place where you can minimize background noise. No participation while walking around outside or while driving. This is not only for your safety, but so other members of the group don't get motion sickness if you aren't in a stable place.
- * Download/launch Zoom before the meeting if you haven't done so already. It will help you get on faster.
- * It is best to use a laptop or a desktop rather than a phone or tablet. On a phone or tablet you can't see the entire group and pick up on nonverbal cues.
- * Wear a headset that has a microphone to minimize background noise and so we can hear your voice clearly.
- * Be in a room with privacy and sit in a chair in which you can be comfortable without having to get up and down or shift your weight which can be distracting to participants.
- * Make sure you have no bright lighting behind you, such as a window, to keep your face from being in shadows.
- * Remember to turn off the sound on your cell phone or other devices.