

Dear -----,

Thank you for your interest in *PrairieFire* – an offering of Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center. Based on the experience of participants in our first *PrairieFire* class which began in 2008, we are very excited about this program and the promise it holds for contributing to the spiritual growth and renewal of many persons.

Enclosed is an application packet which provides a description of the program. There you will find an outline of schedules, tuition, topics for Years I & II, a foundational bibliography for the program, and application materials. Please also notice the description of an additional Spiritual Direction Practicum year leading to a certificate in spiritual direction for those who may discern a call to serve as spiritual directors. This opportunity is offered in conjunction with the Sophia Center, a well-established ecumenical program for spiritual formation offered by the Benedictine Sisters in Atchison, Kansas.

Should you choose to apply, and we hope you will, please complete and return the application to my attention, and forward the three reference forms to those persons noted in your application. Upon receipt of all your application materials, we will contact you to schedule a personal interview. Please note that all materials are due no later than July 1, 2010, for admission to the Fall 2010 program. Enrollment is limited and we encourage interested persons to apply early.

Thank you again for your interest. If you should have any questions about the program not addressed in the enclosed materials, please contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Very sincerely,

J. Jeffrey Means, M.Div., Ph.D.. Director  
Institute for the Practice of Ministry  
[jmeans@dmpcc.org](mailto:jmeans@dmpcc.org)

Enclosure: Application Packet