

Press Release

**Trinity Lutheran Church
213 North Pennsylvania Avenue
Mason City, Iowa 50401
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RE: Soul Shop™ Suicide Prevention Training Coming to Mason City

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Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City will host two Soul Shop™ events; CAST Community Awareness Skills Training on Wednesday, April 26 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and a One Day Training on Thursday, April 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Soul Shop™ equips leaders of faith communities to minister to those impacted by suicidal desperation, whether they are currently considering suicide, anxious about a loved one, or have lost a loved one to suicide. You will learn tools to make a positive difference in the lives of many people, and you will be trained to lead Soul Shop™ for your congregation.

Soul Shop™ is equally relevant to the needs of mental health professionals. It will help you understand the spiritual dimensions of suicidal desperation to better serve clients, and you will be able to serve as a resource for faith community leaders.

Each session will be facilitated by author and creator of Soul Shop™, Fe Anam Avis. Fe is an experienced trainer in the area of suicide prevention. He speaks not only from professional expertise, but also from his own experience of walking through the dark night of suicidal desperation and coming out the other end alive.

Soul Shop™ CAST Community Awareness Skills Training is a free community event designed to help individuals explore the greatest myth regarding suicidal desperation and learn how to talk about suicide. This event is planned for Wednesday, April 26 from 6 to 7:30. Registration is not required to attend. It is free and open to the community.

Soul Shop™ for Leaders is a one-day training for pastors, staff members, lay pastoral workers, and faith based clinicians. It is planned for Thursday, April 27 from 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. The morning session focuses on saving life skills, taking a look at the incidence of suicide, self-injuries, suicidal thinking, the people impacted by the death of another, and a conversational approach to talking about suicide that can save lives. The afternoon will focus on learning concrete ways of integrating suicide prevention into pastoral care, teaching, and training. Cost is \$30, which includes lunch. Please note if registering as a group from a church, the first person cost \$30 with each additional person at \$15. Registration is required at Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center at dmpcc.org/soulshop. CEU's available for clergy.

For additional information or questions regarding these events please contact Beverly Butler at 641-420-4413 or bbutler@susumc.org. Additional information about Soul Shop™ may be found at their website www.soulshopmovement.org.

Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 213 North Pennsylvania Ave, Mason City.