



The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is offering a series of relevant and engaging continuing education events for both clergy and interested laity. While credentialed clergy can earn continuing education units, these topics will also benefit lay participants. We encourage you to share these events with others, as everyone is welcome to register. To register, either: Click on the event title and follow the registration link, Scan the QR code, Email KarenHodges@SVMCcob.org, or Call 717-361-1450.



The Shape of Ministry in a High-Tech World

Monday, September 15, 2025 • 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM • Elizabethtown College & Zoom

Leader: Dan Poole

Fee for In Person: \$65.00 for .5 CEUs; \$55.00 for no CEUs.

Fee for Zoom: \$45.00 for .5 CEUs; \$35.00 for no CEUs

From the barrage of social media platforms to website presence to electronic communications enabled by computers and smartphones to a 24/7 cultural expectation of availability, the shape and landscape of ministerial leadership have needed to shift to thoughtfully incorporate these tools into one's ministry practices. In this daylong workshop, we will address several key concepts and questions related to the use of tech tools in one's ministry.



Caring for Congregational Members at the End-of-Life – for Pastoral Leadership

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 • 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM • Zoom Only

Leader: Julie Guistwite

Fee: \$35.00 for .3 CEUs or \$25.00 for no CEUs

Nearing death is as much a part of life as living. Drawing on a trifold model of terminally-ill ministry, this interactive workshop explores strategies for empowering adult congregational members at the end-of-life. This session is designed for pastors; laypersons are encouraged to attend a similar session on October 28. See below.



Supporting Terminally-Ill Congregation Members – for Laypeople

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 • 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM • Zoom Only

Leader: Julie Guistwite

Fee: \$20.00 per person for groups of 3 or more who are joining together as a group -- with one Zoom link, or \$25.00 per person if participating individually (not in a group)

Persons seek peace, hope, and meaningful personal/spiritual moments until death. Dedicated caregivers' supportive presence and ease in relating to congregational members at the end-of-life shapes the biopsychosocial-spiritual journey. Drawing on a trifold model of terminally-ill ministry and best practice methods in communication, this interactive workshop explores strategies for supporting and empowering adult members of the church community. This session is designed for laypeople. Pastors are encouraged to attend a similar session on October 7. See above.



Weakness Transformed in the Gospel of Matthew

Saturday, November 1, 2025 • 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM • Stone Church of the Brethren & Zoom

Leader: Dan Ulrich

Fee for In Person: \$65.00 for .5 CEUs; \$55.00 for no CEUs

Fee for Zoom: \$45.00 for .5 CEUs; \$35.00 for no CEUs

Paul was the apostle who heard Christ say, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9); Paul was not alone, however, in teaching that God works through human weakness in powerful ways. In this continuing-education workshop, we will find inspiration from the Gospel of Matthew to minister faithfully in situations where we or our congregations feel weak. Visual and performative arts will help us engage imaginatively with selected scriptures to deepen and strengthen discipleship. Since the Revised Common Lectionary features Matthew in 2025-26, preachers may encounter ideas they can develop into sermons for the coming year.