

A PATHWAY TO HEALING

PASTOR'S RETREAT

If your spirit has been whispering that it needs rest, renewal, or simply a place to listen again, this may be the pause you long for to restore your soul. This time and space will weave together Prayer, Body Awareness, Healing Presence, and Grace

Gestalt Pastoral Care (GPC) is rooted in the healing ministry of Jesus. Believing that God desires healing and wholeness for us, we companion those who desire wholeness of Body, Mind, and Spirit



Darlene Meyers
GPC Minister/Trainer
Retreat Leader

DATE: OCTOBER 23-24, 2026

PLACE: SHEPHERD'S SPRING

TIME: FRIDAY 5:00PM - SATURDAY 4:00PM

DINNER: 5:00PM

CEU's AVAILABLE

Online Registration <https://forms.office.com/r/st1e8aP2Yd>

Mid-Atlantic District

PASTOR'S RETREAT

A Pathway to Healing

October 23 & 24, 2026

5 pm Friday – 4 pm Saturday

Shepherd's Spring

16869 Taylors Landing Rd., Sharpsburg, MD 21782

REGISTRATION: •\$200 (includes 1 night single occupancy and all meals)
•\$225 after July 15

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Congregation:

CEU Credit: Yes (Please add \$10 to total registration amount) No

Please list any dietary restrictions or special needs:

Registration forms must be received by August 13

Make checks payable to and mail to

Mid-Atlantic District

19 Bond St., Westminster, MD 21157

Questions? Call 443-960-3052 or email aamad@brethren.org

Online Registration <https://forms.office.com/r/st1e8aP2Yd>



The Part Time Pastor:Full Time Church program of the Church of the Brethren will be sponsoring Practicing the Way: The Scripture Practice for all Multi-Vocational Pastors this coming Fall.

What is the Scripture Practice:

In Practicing the Way, a book by John Mark Comer, we find 9 different Spiritual Practices (Sabbath, Solitude, Scripture, Prayer, Fasting, Generosity, Community, Service, and Witness) that can help followers of Jesus "Be with Jesus, Become like Jesus, Do as He Did." In this cohort we will explore and practice the spiritual practice of Scripture.

The library we call "the Bible" can connect us to God and change who we are, but distraction, hurry, and confusion can hinder our experience with these ancient texts. Rediscover how to engage Scripture as an apprentice to Jesus.

What to expect:

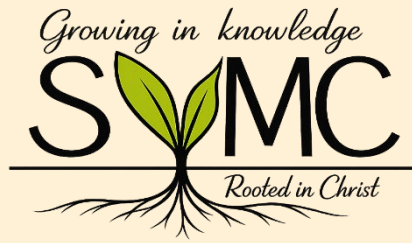
Each Practice comes with four session videos, weekly exercises and readings, and additional resources to help your group create life-changing daily rhythms as you apprentice under Jesus together.

The four sessions in the Scripture Practice are Read, Meditate, Study and Memorize. Each session will last approximately 1 hour to 1 hour and 30 minutes and includes videos, discussion, prayer and relational connection.

Sessions will take place on Tuesday nights September 15, 22, 29 and October 6 starting at 7 PM EST/4 PM PST.

Register by Wednesday September 9 by completing this form....<https://forms.gle/LQgfe8YSqf4uFH6g7>

For questions or more information, please contact Ryan Braught at rbraught@brethren.org



Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center offers Continuing Education and Lay Ministry Sessions

The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is offering several workshops designed to strengthen congregational ministry and support lay leadership. Brief descriptions are listed below; click on the "Click Here to Register" button for full details and to register for each workshop. Questions? Contact us at SVMC@SvmcCob.org or 717-361-1450. We look forward to learning and growing with you!

Congregational Ministry to Members Navigating Divorce Experiences

September 9, 2026 • 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM (Rescheduled from June 3) Zoom • Led by Dr. Julie Guistwite. An interactive session on strengthening divorce ministry through three research-informed approaches that nurture belonging, healing, hope, and spiritual meaning. Participants will practice applying these approaches through dialogue and scenario-based discussion.

[Click Here to Register for September 9](#)

Caring for Congregational Members with Chronic Health Conditions

October 6, 2026 • 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM Zoom • Led by Julie Guistwite. An interactive workshop on supporting congregants living with chronic illness. Learn evidence-informed strategies that foster meaning, purpose, connection, and spiritual well-being, with practical skill-building through discussion and vignette analysis.

[Click Here to Register for October 6](#)

Supporting Congregational Members with Chronic Health Conditions (*Specifically for lay leaders; no CEUs available*)

October 29, 2026 • 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Zoom • Led by Julie Guistwite. An interactive workshop on compassionate ministry with congregants living with chronic illness. Learn best practices from Idler's "doing" and "being" framework and build practical skills—through discussion and vignette analysis—for offering presence, nurturing connection, and supporting spiritual growth amid ongoing disruption.

[Click Here to Register for October 29](#)

Community Gifts – Discerning the Spirit Together

October 31, 2026 • 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren (No Zoom available, light lunch included). Led by Josh Brockway & Stan Dueck. The New Testament writers described the gifts of the Spirit as grace given to followers of Jesus for the ministry of the church. In this workshop, participants will explore scriptures outlining the gifts of the Spirit, practice discernment together, and engage a new denominational resource for gifts discernment. Light lunch will be provided.

[Click Here to Register for October 31](#)

Building and Empowering Lay Leadership (BELL) is a new program to strengthen lay leaders, offered by the Germantown Church of the Brethren. BELL is offering the following two sessions, both held at the Germantown Church of the Brethren from 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM. Registration includes a light lunch. Please note that SVMC is handling only the registration and CEUs; for information about BELL, contact Richard Kyerematen by texting 215-906-3128, or Jeff Bach by emailing bachja58@gmail.com.

- 1) **Introduction to Bible and Biblical Interpretation**, led Dr. Stephen Breck Reid on October 3, 2026
- 2) **Introduction to Theology**, led by Rev. Dr. Drew G. I. Hart on December 5, 2026

[Click Here to Register for October 3](#)

[Click Here to Register for December 5](#)

[Please review SVMC's Cancellation Policies](#)

The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is a Church of the Brethren ministry partnership that includes the districts of Atlantic Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Middle Pennsylvania, Southern Pennsylvania, and Western Pennsylvania, in addition to the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership and Bethany Theological Seminary. SVMC's mission is to equip leaders for ministry in a Christ-centered, and culturally relevant context, in ways that bear witness to the beliefs, heritages, and practices of the Church of the Brethren.

You may donate to SVMC online by scanning the QR code below!



Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center | www.ETOWN.EDU/svmc | 717-361-1450