

List of Continuing Education Opportunities...

(**CC**=Cultural Competency Training; **AR**=Anti-Racism; **BT**=Boundary Training;

ABT=Advanced Boundary Training)

(**ALL Authorized Ministers, please note:** We will be identifying these kinds of continuing education opportunities – The policy was effective starting January 1, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact the Penn Northeast Conference Office at 610-826-3113. Thank You!)

Education Spotlight: Upcoming Webinars and Events

from LeadingAge PA

[Live Webinars and In-Person Events](#)

[For-credit On-demand Webinars](#)

2025

We know how vital it is for clergy and leaders to have access to high-quality training on **clergy boundaries** and **anti-racism practices**—resources that strengthen ministry and deepen community engagement.

In partnership with some of the best instructors in these fields, Convergence hosts excellent ONLINE courses in [Clergy Boundary Training](#) and [Anti-Racism Training](#) for Clergy and Congregations. They are asynchronous and meet the standards of Committee on Ministry requirements. We'd like to partner with you to make these trainings more accessible for your leaders—at no cost to you.

Warm regards, Cameron

Rev. Cameron Trimble, CEO, Convergence, convergenceus.org, convergencecolab.org

(BT) -- Penn Central Conference Boundary Training 2025

Online Ethics for Clergy Today

May 20, 2025, 10AM and 6PM **zoom only**

With social media, the rapid development of artificial intelligence, and the sheer amount of time most folks spend online, its time for a deeper discussion of what personal and professional boundaries clergy might want to have in place to create healthy habits around their online activities. Register [here](#).

Financial Integrity

September 19, 2025, 10AM and 6PM **zoom only**

Getting back to one of the original five basics of boundary discussions, this will be a deep dive into clergy ethics and church money. We will look at gifts, church credit cards, rewards programs, and more. Register [here](#).

Anti-Bias Training: Cultural Humility in Ministerial Practice

November 12, 2025, 10AM and 6PM **zoom only**

We serve a church that is 83% white that strives to be a justice seeking denomination, as well as one that is multicultural and multiracial. Your own congregation, perhaps even your community, may not be very racially diverse but is likely more culturally diverse that you would think on the surface. Join this discussion for deeper understanding of the ways in which we carry implicit and explicit biases in our daily lives and how those biases can impact ourselves, those around us, and the Church. Register [here](#).

Interim Ministry Network – Equipping and Supporting Transitional Leaders for Faith-Based Organizations –

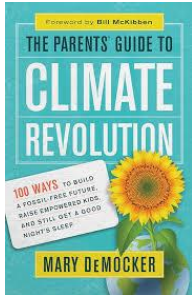
Fundamentals of Transitional Leadership (FTL) – new online core and advanced course of training – [Click Here to Read More...](#)

May 7, 14, 21, 28

The Parent's Guide to CLIMATE REVOLUTION by Mary DeMocker will be Crossroads and Connections May book study opportunity. DeMocker lays out a lively, empowering, and doable blueprint for engaging families in the urgent endeavor of climate revolution. One hundred great ideas in as many mini chapters, the book study will explore 3-4 ideas each session (4 sessions in

May). The book is engaging and creative, a vital resource for everyone who wants to act effectively – and empower children to do the same. Climate activist Bill McKibben’s cover comment about the book – “Trust me, this is going to be fun.” Fun but very serious. The book has a wealth of ideas. **Sessions: Wednesday evenings in May (7, 14, 21, 28) 7 pm - 8:30 pm**
Book study leaders: Dave Bushnell and climate activist from Lancaster, Pa. Dave is a retired UCC pastor who has organized the Hamilton Park neighborhood as a Climate Action Neighborhood. **Lauren Weaver** and her family (Kyle and two young daughters) are very concerned about practical steps to address climate change.

While we welcome anyone to join this study, we are especially hopeful that parents will find the time and the interest to attend.



Registration Link on Eventbrite –

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1310709991869?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Session Assignments:

May 21 Read pages 95-151 Focus on 46. Skip the Kid Shock Treatment; 53. Empower Kids to Solve Local Problems; 59. Permeate Kids’ Worlds with Solutions

May 28 Read pages 155-254 Focus on 60. Set the Bar Low for Allies; 80. Rescue Food; 90. Interrupt the Mars and Geoengineering Fantasies

May 17

A Training for you to consider... please see below.

Soul Shop™ For Leaders

Soul Shop for Leaders is a one-day, in-person workshop for faith community leaders to minister to those impacted by suicide. Participants will learn how to create worship resources, train congregation members in suicide awareness/basic conversation skills, and extend invitations to those who have experienced suicidal thoughts to share their stories. The workshop will engage participants in exploring how to cultivate a soul-safe community within their congregations.

- Examine religious references to mental health and suicide.
- Describe inclusivity around suicide as well as barriers in the faith-based community to open the discussion around mental health.
- Learn how to combat the six S’s of suicide.
- Demonstrate how to listen for safety and about suicide clearly, confidently and compassionately.
- Assist and empower the faith community to assist others who are struggling with suicidal desperation.

May 17, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.; Program starts at 9 a.m.

Blue Mountain Resort, 1660 Blue Mountain Drive, Palmerton, PA 18071

Cost: Free

[Get tickets](#)

May 19 & June 2



Two-Part Course: May 19 & June 2 | 6:30–8:30 PM | Virtual

We need leaders ready to confront injustice head-on with nonviolence. This course will provide you with the tools to engage in effective, nonviolent action in order to build people power across all lines of division, and force concessions from the ruling class.

Learn to:

- Understand and prepare for NVDA and arrest scenarios
- Build spiritual and mental readiness
- Shape messaging and narrative
- Take up leadership in nonviolent direct action
- **Both sessions will be recorded—RSVP to get Zoom info! [REGISTER NOW](#)**

May 19-22

[For Such a Time as This](#), a preaching and worship online summit offered by Convergence – We will be talking with some of the best preachers, worship leaders, and digital ministers as we learn from decades of ministry and leadership and the ways we put in the reps again and again through preaching, liturgy, and online church. We will explore their understanding of preaching and the good news we need for today as well as sit down together and watch one of their sermons, pausing along the way as they comment on specific portions and movements, helping us understand how and why this sermon was crafted and delivered. Join us for this free online event on May 19-22. [Click here](#) to learn more and register now

May 20 **(BT)**

Online Ethics for Clergy Today - 10AM and 6PM zoom only - With social media, the rapid development of artificial intelligence, and the sheer amount of time most folks spend online, its time for a deeper discussion of what personal and professional boundaries clergy might want to have in place to create healthy habits around their online activities. Register [here](#).

May 29

Cultural & Religious Considerations When Addressing Depression & Suicidality -- 10 am – Noon - This course offers insights for clinicians and faith-based leaders into the cultural and religious dimensions of depression and suicide risk. An interfaith, multicultural panel will share diverse perspectives on how religious beliefs, cultural identity, and community values shape mental health experiences and influence pathways to support. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how to navigate sensitive issues with respect, empathy, and effectiveness—especially in communities where stigma may hinder access to care. 2 hour Zoom course, \$35.00. Register [here](#). See full flyer [here](#).

June 4

Life Post Doom – 7PM (ET) – a live webinar with Matthew Fox and Brian McClarin - In an age of climate crisis, political unraveling, and social collapse, many are asking: What now? What's worth doing when the systems around us are failing? How do we find meaning beyond hope as we've known it? [Register Now](#) - \$35

June 4

Peaceful, Productive Pastor Parish Partnerships – via zoom – from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center – click to register - [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)

- June 16-20 **Mediation Skills Training Institute** - (Online – 5PM CT) - \$850 - Presented by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC) is designed to equip church leaders with the skills necessary to deal effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. The five-day institute also includes a component on congregational mediation and consultation, placed within the context of family systems theory. [Register Here](#)
- June 23-Aug. 17 **Mission of the Church in the World** – (Center for Ministry and Lay Training – Phillips Theological Seminary) – **Registration Deadline is June 9** - Instructor: Rev. David Avery - This course is an introduction to the content of the Bible and the methods of study that scholars use to understand it. Students will learn about the history of the periods in which various biblical books were written, and about how the individual writings came together into a single book. They will attempt to discover what the biblical writers were seeking to accomplish through their writings. This search will present students with understandings of the world and the place of humanity that can help illuminate alternative ways humans have experienced the world and attempted to make sense of it. Online course - the price of the course is \$100. [Click here to register.](#)
- June 23-Aug. 17 **Stewardship** - (Center for Ministry and Lay Training – Phillips Theological Seminary) – **Registration Deadline is June 9** - Instructor: Rev. Dr. Bruce Barkhauer - This is an introduction and exploration of the basic concerns and issues involved in ethical reflection, the Biblical and theological foundations of Christian ethics, and the response of the Christian to perennial and contemporary social and moral issues, with a view to equipping the student for ethical reflection in preaching, teaching, and pastoral leadership. Online course - price of the course is \$100. [Click here to register.](#)
- June 23-Aug. 17 **Education & Leader Development** - (Center for Ministry and Lay Training – Phillips Theological Seminary) – **Registration Deadline is June 9** - Instructor: Rev. Dr. Kris Tenny-Brittian - This is an introduction to, and exploration of, the foundations and principles of leader development. Students completing this course will have been exposed to basic approaches to Christian Education and leadership development and been given the skills to facilitate those working in a congregation's Christian Education ministry - online course - the price of the course is \$100. [Click here to register.](#)
- June 23-Aug. 17 **Disciples History and Polity** - (Center for Ministry and Lay Training – Phillips Theological Seminary) – **Registration Deadline is June 9** - Instructor: Rev. Jeff Gill - This course will present an overview of the history and practices of the Stone-Campbell movement as foundational to its current forms of Disciples worship, missions, and ministry: denominationally, ecumenically, and culturally. ***Please note this course week runs from Sunday-Thursday. The start date for class will be Sunday, June 22.***- online course - the price of the course is \$100. [Click here to register.](#)
- June 23-Aug. 17 **UCC History, Polity & Identity** - (Center for Ministry and Lay Training – Phillips Theological Seminary) – **Registration Deadline is June 9** – Instructor: Margot Pickett - Although men hold most of the leadership positions in Christian communities today, women comprise the vast majority of the members. This course highlights the role of women in the development of Christianity from the New Testament to the present day. Women's contributions to the formation of Christian theology and practice have tended to become obscured in that history so often has been written by men. In this course, students will have the chance to learn about women's impact on Christian history through historical documents either penned by women or, alternatively, in which women's voices can be discerned by readings through the lines. The course will highlight the work of women pastors, mystics, theologians, activists, and others whose names might be lost to us, but whose witness nevertheless shaped the expressions of Christianity with which they identified. Online course - the price of the course is \$100. [Click here to register.](#)

- July 23 **Conflict Resolution Skills** – via zoom - click here to register - - [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)
- August 11 & 12 **(BT)** Please see the following links – please note all trainings are offered 9AM to 12 Noon each day and the time zone is Pacific – you must complete both days to receive a certificate for six hours of training. - \$65 - questions? Email mdweible@enkei-resolutions.com [Information](#) [Register](#)
- August 20 **Peaceful, Productive Pastor Parish Partnerships** – via zoom – from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center – click to register - [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)
- September 9 & 10 **(AR)** **Racial Justice Training** - (Enkei Resolutions) – 9AM to 12 Noon (Pacific Time) via zoom – you must complete both days to receive a certificate for six hours of training. \$65 – questions? Email mdweible@enkei-resolutions.com [Information](#) [Register](#)
- September 11 **Conflict Transformation Skills** – via zoom – 9AM -4PM - click here to register – [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)
- September 16 **Strengthening the Body of Christ** – via zoom –9AM-4PM - register here – [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)
- September 17 **Restorative Conversations** – via zoom – 9AM to 4PM - register here – [Lombard Mennonite Peace Center](#)
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- November 3 & 10 **(BT)** Please see the following links – please note all trainings are offered 9AM to 12 Noon each day and the time zone is Pacific – you must complete both days to receive a certificate for six hours of training. - \$65 - questions? Email mdweible@enkei-resolutions.com [Information](#) [Register](#)
- November 12 **(BT-CC)** **Anti-Bias Training: Cultural Humility in Ministerial Practice** - 10AM and 6PM **zoom only**
We serve a church that is 83% white that strives to be a justice seeking denomination, as well as one that is multicultural and multiracial. Your own congregation, perhaps even your community, may not be very racially diverse but is likely more culturally diverse that you would think on the surface. Join this discussion for deeper understanding of the ways in which we carry implicit and explicit biases in our daily lives and how those biases can impact ourselves, those around us, and the Church. Register [here](#).
- December 2 **Fractured Lives, Fractured Churches** - [Learn More](#) - Online via Zoom - 9:00 AM - [Register](#)

Others...

- Communities of Practice** – participation qualifies for ½ of the continuing education requirements
 - Crossroads Lay Leadership Program at Moravian Sem.** – <https://www.moravianseminary.edu/academics/crossroads>
 - Moravian Seminary** – 610-861-1512 - - <http://moravianseminary.edu/academics/continuing-education>
- This site gets a person directly to continuing education programs. The calendar is on the same page.
- Center for Family Process** – www.centerforfamilyprocess.com
 - Lehigh Conference of Churches** – <https://lehighchurches.org>
 - Institute for Islamic Christian Jewish Studies** – <https://icjs.org/> - usually (CC) qualified

