

We Inspire, Serve, and Support

The church and culture are changing so rapidly as interest in religion, Christianity, and church declines. Pastors and congregations are under more pressure today than in centuries. So many pastors feel alone and inadequate.

Caring for Clergy and Congregations is a multi-faceted program offered by Samaritan Counseling, Guidance, Consulting to empower pastors and congregations to thrive.

In providing our services, we comply with the governor's COVID-19 mitigation guidelines, and offer videos of our workshops.



Samaritan's Caring for Clergy and Congregations program is led by our executive director, The Rev. Dr. Graham Standish, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.Div., M.A. He was senior pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church in Zelienople, PA for 22 years, a church that almost tripled in size during his time there. He is an internationally known speaker and has written eight books on congregational and/or personal spiritual transformation. Dr. Standish has worked with clergy for over 20 years in transforming their ministries and congregations.



SAMARITAN
Counseling • Guidance • Consulting

Headquarters:
202 Beaver Street, 3rd Floor
Sewickley, PA 15143

Multiple locations throughout
Western Pennsylvania

412.741.7430
samaritancounseling.net



**Caring for Clergy
& Congregations**

A Samaritan Counseling,
Guidance, Consulting Program

Virtual and In-Person



Helping pastors and churches
thrive in an age of decline

Clergy Coaching, Spiritual Direction, Consultations

Pastors struggle with spiritual and practical aspects of leadership. These include overcoming congregational resistance, envisioning new directions, encouraging their congregations to follow, helping people experience God, and being an inspiring and healing minister. Often they struggle quietly with questions of where God is and how to find God's guidance amidst the pressures of modern ministry. Our integrative approach helps in all of these areas through monthly one-on-one meetings with our clergy coaches.

While providing encouragement and guidance, Samaritan's coaches address specific areas that pastors often need help with. These include personal struggles such as:

- Burnout
- Personal wounds in need of healing
- Feeling "stuck" in a certain ministry framework
- Diminished creativity
- Personal and professional balance
- Healthy Boundaries
- Wondering "Where do I go from here?"



Coaches help ministry leaders to articulate their goals and learn to identify and capitalize on their skills and unique gifts. They work with pastors to create actionable steps that will lead to success. Through coaching, clergy can regain their energy, develop more effective ways of responding to conflict, and improve the health and vitality of their churches and themselves.

Pastor Leadership Renewal Groups

Monthly groups for pastors that focus on developing stronger leadership

These small groups integrate and discuss insights from leading writers on leadership, whether from within the church or from other disciplines. They introduce pastors to innovative insights on creating healthier churches and other organizations.

Transformational Ministry Workshops

Workshops for clergy on how to develop better ministry skills

These workshops are rooted in research and actual experience from transforming churches. They focus on practical areas that seminaries often have not. Workshops have included topics such as:

- Dealing with Personality Disorders in the Church
- Understanding Congregational Group Dynamics
- Pastoral/Congregational Discernment
- Preaching to Those Walking Away
- Leading Churches through Transformation

Our workshops integrate insights from many disciplines—congregational, organizational, and spiritual—to help pastors adapt their leadership to contemporary challenges.



Left: Coaching via video; Right: Rev. Susan Rotherberg (R) receives feedback during an Unglued Church team meeting.

Healthier Pastoring

Online videos designed to guide and inspire pastors

These videos address topics such as "pragmatic pastoring" that explore ways to diminish conflict and nurture community. Videos are available on our YouTube channel or at www.congregationforclergy.org.

Creative Clergy Consults

Short-term consultations to overcome difficult issues

Sometimes pastors simply need someone to think through ministry and mission ideas. We help pastors do this and provide guidance on how to make their ideas a reality.

Preaching Consultations

We offer a strength-based approach to helping pastors improve their preaching in ways that help them adapt to a changing culture by learning how to communicate complex ideas in fresh, new ways.

Unglued Church

Freeing churches for a hopeful future

All of our churches face deep, adaptive challenges. Since 2014, Unglued Church has led congregations to examine themselves and their neighborhoods, renew their vision, and effect change for a hopeful future.

Please visit samaritancounseling.net or call 412.741.7430 to learn more.