

## 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.

We provide our services virtually or in-person at multiple locations in Western Pennsylvania. Contact us by calling 888.200.9746, and learn more by visiting us online at [samaritancounseling.net](http://samaritancounseling.net)



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 10 books on congregational and/or personal spiritual transformation. The Rev. Dr. Standish has worked with clergy for over 27 years in transforming their ministries and congregations.



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## Caring for Clergy & Congregations

A Samaritan Counseling,  
Guidance, Consulting Program



Helping pastors and churches  
thrive in an age of decline

## Clergy Coaching, Spiritual Direction

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 and more through one-on-one coaching and spiritual direction.



Rev. Ralph Lowe, board member, delivers a message.

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 action-

R: The Rev. Dr. Standish presents a workshop to pastors.

able steps that will lead them 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

### Groups that focus on developing stronger leadership

These monthly, 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 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.



The Rev. Dr. Standish offers one-on-one clergy coaching and spiritual direction,

## Creative Clergy Consults

### Short-term consultations to overcome difficult issues

Sometimes pastors just 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.

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