



Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center

Rooted and Growing

"...so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God." Colossians 1:10

*"Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning."
Proverbs 9:9*

Dear Congregational Leaders,

Summer 2018

2018 is a milestone year for SVMC as we celebrate 25 years of ministry. We celebrate by rejoicing in our firm foundation, celebrating the present, and envisioning the future. Our anniversary theme is ***Rooted and Growing***, based on the above scriptures. Originally known as the Susquehanna Valley Satellite (SVS), our name changed to the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center in 2004. Rooted in the original mission from 1993 designed by the founding districts Atlantic Northeast and Southern PA, along with Bethany Theological Seminary, and expanding the partnership to include the districts of Mid-Atlantic, Middle PA, Western PA, and the Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, SVMC has grown to offer certificate -level training in ACTS and TRIM, host Bethany graduate courses, and offer excellent continuing education events.

Graduate and certificate-level courses are offered locally—all grounded in the principles and practices of the Brethren tradition. Most who complete their training apply for ordination and minister within our geographic area. Between 25-50% of the clergy in our partner districts received some or all their ministry training through SVMC. SVMC also serves pastors by hosting continuing education events. In addition, pastors can earn CEUs by auditing any of the classes we host, including Bethany Theological Seminary courses.

The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is funded approximately 75% by districts, congregations, and individuals while 25% is provided by tuition and registration fees. SVMC is seeking your congregation's direct support to this vital ministry to continue our firm financial foundation and to provide additional ministry training events. Please help us to continue this important ministry by including SVMC in your congregational budget for 2019 or by holding a special offering in 2018. A bulletin insert is attached for your use, and is also found at www.etown.edu/svmc.

Atlantic Northeast District is represented on the SVMC Governing Board by Pete Kontra, District Executive; Ray Flagg, treasurer; Donna Lefever-Hoover and William Spence. SVMC is grateful for the partnership with Atlantic Northeast District including students, instructors, Governing Board, host congregations, and donors.

SVMC is our shared ministry; thank you for your important contribution to this work. Together, we are ***Rooted and Growing*** as we provide ministry training and enrich leaders for the church.

Rooted and Growing,

Pete Kontra
Atlantic Northeast District Executive

Linda S. Titzell
SVMC Governing Board Chair

Donna M. Rhodes
SVMC Executive Director

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SVMC is a Church of the Brethren ministry education partner with Bethany Theological Seminary, Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership, and the Atlantic Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Middle Pennsylvania, Southern Pennsylvania, and Western Pennsylvania Districts.