

Thank you, Chaplains!

Central

- Joe Lingenfelter
- Ricky Philips
- Amelia Price

Gettysburg

- Margaret Wise

Lancaster

- Dave Bushnell
- Ed Dickel
- Bill LaSalle
- Haan Phelps

Lebanon

- Steve Ericson
- John Fureman
- Dwight Hein

Mercersburg

- Donna Hale
- Mark Ruzicka

Northern

- Dave Downer
- Ann Graves
- Leigh Pick

York

- Laura Bair
- Peter Seiler
- Rick Stuemple
- Dennis Weidler

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Penn Central Conference United Church of Christ Chaplaincy Program



Penn Central Conference
*Equipping and Empowering
Congregations and Clergy for the
Declaration and Demonstration
of the Courageous Love of Christ.*



Scott Watts
MS, M.Div., LPC, NCC
Clergy Care Facilitator

- Support for clergy during periods of **transition**
- Counseling, referral and financial support for clergy families
- **Spiritual** resources
- On-going education and **training** for chaplains and active pastors
- **Consultation** and follow-up with chaplains around pastoral care visits

CARE TO CLERGY AND CLERGY FAMILIES

- The **PCC Self-Study Report and Spiritual (Missional) Plan** recommended the formation of a network of support and spiritual nurture to provide care for clergy and their families.
- As of 2019, the **Penn Central Chaplaincy is the only program of its kind** in the United Church of Christ. The need for a program of pastoral support emerges after years of research exploring the effects of stress on the physical, psychological and spiritual well-being of pastors and their families.
- An Association chaplain provides support for **pastoral colleagues** and families.
- During times of unusual stress, chaplains can assist in helping others to find **balance amidst the competing needs** of one's personal and professional life.
- Chaplains can help others to explore their options and find ways to **maintain hope, find wholeness, and peace through their faith** in the abiding presence of Christ, who is healer, guide and friend.

SO WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM A CHAPLAIN?

- A chaplain will **maintain confidentiality**. Stress reduction entails being free to share one's experience about a given situation, knowing that what you share is held in confidence.
- Chaplains listen and can assist in expressing your feelings, letting go, and finding **meaning**. This is a process that helps in coming to peace about the issues a pastor or family may encounter.
- Often chaplains are called upon during times of loss or grief. They may be able to give useful **information and support** as you weigh various options and make decisions.
- Chaplains do not make decisions for people they talk with, but can help them find comfort and the peace that passes human understanding that comes with knowing that **God is with you**.
- **Prayer, scripture and sacrament** are expressions of our religious tradition and are often shared by a chaplain. Our faith can help us to restore hope, peace and the rhythms of wholeness.