Lifelong Learning Resources

Bethany Theological Seminary offers a variety of courses and programs that are available for continuing education. Clergy seeking CEUs may apply as auditing, occasional, certificate, or degree students. To determine which is best for you, visit https://bethanyseminary.edu/becoming-a-bethany-student/ and/or contact the Admissions office at contactus@bethanyseminary.edu or 800-287-8822.

The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership offers courses and programs throughout the year that are available for continuing education and personal enrichment. Visit https://bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/

McPherson College offers Ventures in Christian Discipleship, live online sessions, throughout the year. The programs are designed to empower lay people, especially in smaller congregations, but are equally meaningful to clergy. To learn more about this program, please visit www.mcpherson.edu/ventures

Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center offers programming in their five partner districts that are available to clergy for continuing education. For upcoming events, click below: https://www.etown.edu/programs/svmc/SVMC%20Events%202021.pdf

The Office of Ministry offers a variety of continuing education events and programs for clergy: https://www.brethren.org/ministryoffice/

Discipleship Ministries offers a variety of educational events for clergy and laity. These include offerings from Intercultural and Youth/Young Adult Ministries: https://www.brethren.org/discipleshipmin/

On Earth Peace offers events focused on peace and justice-making: https://www.onearthpeace.org/events

Recorded events may be viewed for continuing education. Sources include:

COB Web Archives https://www.brethren.org/webcasts/archive/

McPherson Ventures https://www.mcpherson.edu/ventures/archive-registration/

Youth/Young Adults https://www.brethren.org/yya/webcasts/

Some recorded events qualify for Continuing Education Units (CEUs).
Read the policy for viewing prerecorded material for CUES:

https://bethanyseminary.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/PolicyViewingPrerecordedMaterialForCEUs_v2.pdf
Identifying other continuing education opportunities:

➢ Contact your Church of the Brethren district office to learn what is being offered.
➢ If your district has an Academy Certified Training System (ACTS), find out if they offer courses for continuing education or personal enrichment.
➢ Check the websites of local colleges, universities, or seminaries to learn what is available for community members.
➢ Consult your local ministerium for events or programs in your area.
➢ Contact your local hospital and ask about educational events.
➢ Sabbaticals can afford clergy concentrated time to focus on renewal and continuing education.

Funding Sources

The 2002 Guidelines for Continuing Education encourage congregations to not only afford clergy time to pursue continuing education, but also to set aside funding to help with expenses. In addition, the guidelines encourage districts to, where possible, assist with financial support. Microsoft Word - 14-Continuing Education.doc (brethren.org)

The Office of Ministry also has some resources for grants and scholarships. Send inquiries to officeofministry@brethren.org

Sabbatical Grants

Lily Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs

Indiana Program: https://www.cts.edu/clergy-renewal/

National Program: https://www.cts.edu/clergy-renewal/applying/national-program/

This is not an exhaustive resource list. Please share additional resources with the Brethren Academy for future editions: academy@bethanyseminary.edu