



Greetings from the office of Equipping Vital Congregations!

July/August 2021

Equipping Vital Congregations

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Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Psalm 96:11-12

First Tuesday Webinars in July and August

Tuesday, July 6th

“Joint Church Ministry Partnerships”

Hosted by Anna Layman Knox & Jason Schwartzman

Webinar Description: We have all heard the phrase “Better together” but here is a chance to see how the nuts and bolts of a partnership help everyone involved and hopefully, transform a community. Join Anna Layman Knox and Jason Schwartzman as they tell the story of two vibrant churches joining together to share the love of Jesus with a wider footprint than ever before. Best of all, the story is still being written so there is plenty of room to learn and grow! They are excited to share what they have learned, the obstacles that they ran into and the beautiful stories of lives being changed by a compelling vision from the Holy Spirit.

Link to register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E4CAEA72AA1F58-joint>

CEU's are available

Tuesday, August 3rd

“Managing Loss & Change for Such A Time as This”

Hosted by Gary Shockley

Webinar Description: Because of the pandemic our church communities have experienced multiple layers of loss this past year. Even without a pandemic life can be hard and losses of any kind can make life even more difficult. With loss comes a multitude of emotions and behaviors. When we fail to see the connections between these and the losses we have experienced, in ourselves and in the church, we can respond in unhelpful ways. How do we help ourselves and our people navigate the challenges of loss and transition? Rev. Gary Alan Shockley, our conference Director of Equipping Vital Congregations and Certified Grief Counselor and Spiritual Director, invites you to attend this important webinar that will identify the many challenges that come with loss and the transitions that follow in our personal lives AND in the corporate life of the church. Gary will give leaders guidance in understanding and exercising their unique role in helping congregants, and the church, navigate change to embrace the new beginnings just on the horizon.

Link to register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E4CAEA72AA1F58-first1>

CEU's are available

Resource Recordings

If you were unable to attend previous webinars sponsored by Equipping Vital Congregations, be sure to check them out under the Resources tab on Susquehanna Conference website at susumc.org. Click on “Resources” then “Videos”.

Previous Webinars include:

“Witness Your Why, Evangelism for Every Church” with author Jeremy Scott

View recording here: <https://youtu.be/0cihtwVCNbg>

“Can You Hear Me Now? Successful Livestreaming & Hybrid Worship “ with Lan Wilson

View recording here: <https://youtu.be/FbWDRsq17O4>

“Tempered Resilience” with author Tod Bolsinger

View recoding here: <https://youtu.be/JrCrL54UDQM>

Equipping Vital Congregations Website:



The purpose of our Office is equipping vital congregations and creating new places for new people to find Jesus Christ in the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Office of Equipping Vital Congregations equips and resources local congregations to fulfill their mission of making new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Whether your church needs new kindling, a little spark, or help to fully ignite, we are here to assist you.

To visit the website use the following link or go to susumc.org and click on the equip icon
<https://www.susumc.org/equipping-vital-congregations-2/>