7. Wednesday, October 24
Death, Loss, and Grief: Confronting the Hard Realities of Life
Rev. Craig R. Schneider, M.Div., BCC
As Americans, we live in a culture that does its best to deny the finiteness of life and the reality of death. Furthermore, as individuals, even as Christians, tend to experience a great amount of uneasiness whenever we confront death. During our time together, we will get more in touch with our feelings regarding death and loss, gain a better understanding of the grief process that we all experience whenever we encounter a significant loss, and examine some practical steps that can promote grief recovery.
Craig Schneider is a United Methodist pastor and a Board-Certified Chaplain with over 17 years of ministry experience as a pastor, a hospital chaplain, and a spiritual educator. Currently Craig serves as the Spiritual Care Coordinator at Good Samaritan Hospital, where he develops learning opportunities for healthcare professionals and members of the community on spirituality, spiritual care, holistic self-care, grief and loss, stress management, and other topics.

8. Wednesday, October 31
Spiritual Care of the Dying
Rev. Craig R. Schneider, M.Div., BCC
Improving the physical, emotional, and spiritual care of dying persons is currently a major focus in our society and within healthcare. In this presentation, we will become acquainted with the spiritual needs of dying persons and will learn about the specific spiritual tasks and work required of dying persons. We will then examine practical ways to help dying persons get their spiritual needs met and accomplish the spiritual work that dying entails.

9. Wednesday, November 7
Learning from the Life Stories of Others
Information given by licensed or credentialed care providers is helpful in learning appropriate and beneficial ways to offer lay care ministry. But invaluable learning is also to be found through the stories of individuals journeying through life’s difficult seasons. A panel of individuals will share briefly their current life challenges and respond to questions posed by a moderator.
Congregational Health Ministry
Sharon Becker, RN
Health ministry in the local congregation intentionally focuses on both healing and health, combining the ancient traditions of the Christian community and the knowledge and tools of modern health care. In this presentation, we will gain an overview of how such a ministry works.
Sharon Becker is Coordinator of Good Samaritan Hospital’s Health Ministries Program, which she developed in 1994. She is a registered nurse with over 35 years’ experience including patient and public education, marketing, and program development. Sharon is a graduate of St. Elizabeth School of Nursing, has served on the board of directors of the national Health Ministries Association, and has served as a Health Ministry Development mentor to hospitals, health departments, seminaries, and universities in Ohio, Kentucky, and Nevada.

10. Wednesday, November 14
A Celebration of Friendship and Learning
Growth in knowledge and personal understanding gains deeper relevance when shared with others. On this evening, participants will reflect on the journey taken, particularly noting what has been helpful. The evening will close by giving thanks to God in worship.

Registration Form

Name ____________________________________
Address __________________________________
___________________________________
Phone ____________________________________
Email ____________________________________
Church _________________________________

The cost for this training is $25.
Please make checks payable to Southminster Presbyterian Church.

Care Ministry Training
Wednesday Evenings
September 12 to November 14, 2007
6:45 to 9 p.m.

Southminster Presbyterian Church
7001 Far Hills Avenue
Dayton, OH 45459
Phone: 937.433.1810
Website: www.sminster.com
Care Ministry Training is a ten-week program designed to help churches and clergy in identifying and developing a group of volunteers to assist in serving their congregation in the church's care ministry mission. This mission might include:

- Calling on newcomers, potential members, homedown members, and members in hospitals and nursing homes.
- Crisis calling on individuals and families during time of serious illness, accidental death, or other life-disruptive experiences.
- Periodic visitation of members.

For more information, please contact Sue Hamilton at 937.433.1810.