Ministry of Soul / Pastoral / Spiritual / Congregational Care

A Brief Introduction

Rev. Bert Cloud For additional material, visit

bertcloud@vaumc.org [soulcare.substack.com](http://soulcare.substack.com)

703-579-7988‬

1. Daniel the Stylite and Where You Stand as a Pastor
2. The Primary Tasks for Caregivers
	1. Show Up – physically and spiritually
	2. Pay Attention - listen, pray, and reflect theologically
	3. Collaborate with God, including Faith, Hope, and Love.
	4. Release the outcome and connect care within the web of community.

Person or System

Pastoral

Clinical

Peer

1. And Now For Something Completely Different: You Are Not…
	1. Hero with a Cape
	2. The On-Demand Pastoral Machine (The imperative of pastoral availability is not the myth of “on-demand” comprehensive service, 24/7/365)
	3. The Failure, the Monster, the Incompetent Pastor
2. VAUMC Counseling Guidelines
3. “Pastoral Counseling” is different from Pastoral “Counseling.”
4. ‘Stay in Your Lane’ by offering listening ministry, brief ‘counseling’, and refer to other care providers as appropriate.
5. Set a personal policy limiting counseling relationships to three sessions of 60-90 minutes per concern.
6. Develop a referral network and continue to care when seeing other care providers.
7. Maintain confidentiality, except where legally mandated to report
8. Keep Boundaries