# CONNECT: Faith, Health & Medicine

a 12-credit graduate certificate for health professionals, chaplains, students, and *everyone* interested in integrating faith and health.

## New Cohort Starting Fall 2026

CONNECT is a year-long program of graduate study that integrates faith traditions and medical practices into a holistic understanding of healthy persons, congregations, communities, and institutions. Participants may earn a 12-credit Graduate Certificate or 100 hours of Continuing Education.

Classes meet Fridays 6-9pm and Saturdays 8:30-4:30 once/month from August to May.

1. **Text and Tradition: Health, Healing, and Human Flourishing in the Biblical Narrative**
   *–September 4-5, September 25-26, and October 16-17, 2026*
2. **Science Looks at Faith: The "Faith & Health" Movement** – *November 13-14, 2026*
3. **I and Thou – The Imperative of Relationships** – *December 4-5, 2026*
4. **Medicine and Morality: The Shape of Curing and Caring in The Christian Tradition**
   *–January 22-23, February 19-20, and March 19-20, 2027*
5. **What People Believe Matters – World Religions' Views on Health and Illness**
   *–April 15 (Thurs) and April 17 (Sat); May 20 (Thurs) and May 22 (Sat) 2027*
6. **Practicum – Faith & Health in Action** (required only for Certificate students)

*Students may do the practicum concurrently or during the summer following the program.*

**Now available wherever you are – in the room, or synchronously by Zoom**

**More information: Contact 410.864.4203 /** ei@stmarys.edu

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute

CONNECT: Faith, Health & Medicine – Faculty Leaders

**Pat Fosarelli**, MD, DMin, MAT, teaches in the areas of spirituality, practical theology, and faith and health at St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute. Since 1983, she has also served on both the full-time and part-time faculty at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (Department of Pediatrics). Dr. Fosarelli is the author of 12 books, including *The Family Ministry Desk Reference*; *Prayers and Rituals at a Time of Illness and Dying: The Practices of Five World Religions*, and *Whatever You Do for the Least of These: Ministering to Ill and Dying Children and Their Families*.

**Joel Shuman**, PhD, PT, is Professor of Theology at King's College, where he was a long-serving chair of the Department of Theology. After practicing physical therapy for several years, he pursued theology, studying New Testament with Richard Hays and Christian Ethics with Stanley Hauerwas. A noted medical ethicist, he has written *The Body of Compassion: Ethics, Medicine and the Church*, *Heal Thyself: Spirituality, Medicine and the Distortion of Christianity* (with Keith Meador, M.D.), *Reclaiming the Body: Christians and the Faithful Use of Modern Medicine* (with Brian Volck, M.D.), and *To Live is to Worship: Bioethics and the Body of Christ* (2007). He co-edited (with L. Roger Owens) and contributed to the volume of essays, *Wendell Berry and Religion: Heaven's Earthly Home*.

**Brian Volck**, MD, MFA, MAT, is a pediatrician with extensive intercultural experience in Central America and on the Navajo Nation. A theologian, essayist and poet, he is the author of *Attending Others: A Doctor's Education in Bodies and Words*, *Flesh Becomes Word: Poems*, and coauthor of *Reclaiming the Body: Christians and the Faithful Use of Modern Medicine.* While serving as Assistant Professor at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, he was a founding instructor in the Global Child Health Boot Camp, the Initiative on Poverty, Justice and Health, and an elective on literature and medicine. In 2014 he was Faculty Teacher of the Year. He is a long-serving board member of the Ekklesia Project, and a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Moral Theology*.