

The 10 Commandments of a Supervisory Session

1. You shall set aside regular meeting times to sit down with the student, for an hour every two weeks (weekly is ideal.)
2. Remember you too were once a student yourself, therefore briefly share personal experiences, check in with how the student is feeling, what are his/her concerns . . .
3. You shall worship your God together; pray, read scripture, silence.
4. Develop trust and nurture a relationship of encouragement and accountability. You will be teaching the student how to do this as well.
5. You shall work together on the Learning Covenant from the early stages of your meetings and continue to call upon these goals because they will be your guide.
6. In order to oversee the entire learning experience of the student you should accumulate records of the student's sermons, presentations, written observation of the student, comments from the lay committee or other people working with the student.
7. You shall keep in sight the learning goals of the student and relate emerging issues to these goals. Constantly examine where the student is on track.
8. You shall keep the practice of theological reflection in front of you, asking necessary questions about their faith journey, using theological concepts to deal with issues, identifying and discussing theological dimensions of incidents occurring on the site.
9. Formation in ministry occurs in many ways and many settings. Assist the student in seeing themselves as one doing ministry and in their identity as a minister.
10. Do not forget to bring proper closure to each session summarizing what you learned together, highlight new concepts and new understandings, and always pray for each other.
 - ✦ Remember in receiving a Lancaster Theological Seminary student we become a three-way partnership: seminary, supervisor and the site all are contributing in creative ways to help our students in ministerial formation. We hope you will feel free to contact the coordinator of field education as a resource in this important journey.