

# CPE Corner

Official Newsletter of the VUMC CPE Program  
Vol. 1 Issue 4 | September 2021

*"Another fall,  
another turned  
page..."*  
- Wallace Stegner

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## CPE Program News

As the seasons change, we say farewell to one season as it passes, and we welcome the next. With autumn's arrival, the CPE Department said goodbye to its first group of Chaplain Residents and welcomed four new Chaplain Interns and four new Chaplain Residents.

The inaugural group of Chaplain Residents graduated on September 3 after a year of dedication to the patients, families, and staff of VUMC. The residents, along with the support of Sr. Program Manager and ACPE Educator Rev. Young-ki Eun, Patient and Family Leadership, and Staff Chaplains, worked hard to build rapport with unit staff, increase visibility of chaplains on various floors, and expand the outreach of spiritual care throughout the hospital system. Through their efforts, they laid the groundwork for the CPE Program at VUMC and paved the way for future residents and interns to come.

Following graduation, all residents will continue their work in spiritual care for patients and families. Fr. Stephen Abaukaka will serve as a chaplain in a hospice care facility in Oregon, Chaplain Fred Brown will serve as a chaplain at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, Chaplain Mary Murphy will continue as a contract chaplain at VUH, and Rev. Kelli X will serve part-time as a chaplain at Alive Hospice and work as a contract chaplain for VUH.

We celebrate all they have done and wish them well as they continue their spiritual care journeys.



2020-2021 CPE Residency Group (left-right: Chaplain Fred Brown, Rev. Kelli X, Rev. Young-ki Eun, Chaplain Mary Murphy, and Fr. Stephen Abaukaka)

# New Chaplain Residents and Interns



Commissioning Service for 2021 Fall Extended Unit Interns and 2021-22 Chaplain Residents (front row left-right: Boris Becker, Angela Ríos Pagán, Angela Williams, Rev. Young-ki Eun, Rev. Erin Sears Lea, Rev. Beth Duke, Rev. Sherry Perry, Rev. Cordell Simpson; back row left-right: Rev. Peter Keese, Woodretta Allen, Gavin Warren, Rev. Bryce Harcey, Zach Helton, Andy Peterson; on-screen: Rev. Patricia Shropshire)

It was with much anticipation and joy that we welcomed our first class of CPE Chaplain Interns and our second class of CPE Chaplain Residents. The 2021 Fall Extended Unit Chaplain Interns began their orientation process on August 16 and started their clinical rotations on the week of August 30. The Chaplain Interns attend classes on Mondays and serve part-time at their clinical site placements at Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital (VUAH), Vanderbilt Children's Hospital (VCH), or Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital (VPH) throughout the week under the supervision of Rev. Young-ki Eun and their assigned Staff Chaplain mentors. Already, the chaplain interns are bringing their unique gifts and much-needed spiritual care to the patients, family, and staff of VUMC. The duration of their internship and clinical service to the hospital will run through December 31, with their Exit Interview and Graduation scheduled for Monday, December 27, 2021.

The 2021-2022 Chaplain Residents began their orientation process on September 7 and started their coursework and clinical site placements the week of September 14. The residents attend half-day classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week and serve full-time at various areas of the hospital while completing their initial clinical assignments at either VUAH, VCH, or VPH. In a few short weeks, the residents have already immersed themselves in their coursework and spent many hours providing spiritual care to patients, families, and staff. Their residency will run for one year and cover three units of CPE:

- **First Unit:** September 7, 2021 - January 7, 2022  
(Integrative Period: Dec. 13 - Jan. 7)
- **Second Unit:** January 10, 2022 - May 6, 2022  
(Integrative Period: Apr. 11 - May 6)
- **Third Unit:** May 9, 2022 - September 2, 2022  
(Integrative Period: Aug. 8 - Sept. 2)

Exit Interviews and Graduation for the residents are slated for Friday, September 2, 2022.

*“Take the first step in faith. You don’t have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”*

- Martin Luther King Jr.

# Meet the Chaplain Residents



**Woodretta Allen, MDiv** serves in the Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital. Woodretta is an active member of Born Again Church (BAC) in Nashville and serves as an ordained elder and the year one coordinator for Ministers in Training. Learning and teaching about God are her passions. Woodretta is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. She graduated with her Master's and Bachelor's Degrees from Myers University. After working nearly thirty years in finance and as a district finance manager for UPS, she retired and pursued her Master of Divinity in Chaplaincy at Liberty University. Her favorite self-care is long walks and spending time with family and friends. Woodretta has been married to Moses for 18 years and has an amazing daughter named Tish.



**Boris Becker, MDiv** serves patients and staff at the Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital. Boris' hometown is in Virginia where he served twenty years in the Army National Guard and completed studies at VCU (BS&MS Business). He moved to Clarksville, TN in 2007 to serve Active Duty at Fort Campbell, KY, completed studies at Moody Bible Institute (GCBS 2014), Dallas Theological Seminary (MA Christian Education 2019) and also retired in 2019 with 32 years of military service. He moved to Franklin, TN in 2020 and completed studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School (MDiv 2021), which included a Chaplain Internship (CPE) through the Nashville Veterans Administration. He enjoys time with his family, playing chess and journeying through life with neighbors both local and abroad.



**Rev. Bryce Harcey, MDiv** serves in the Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital. Bryce was born and raised in Minnesota. Since 2005, he has pastored several non-denominational churches and ministries across the Midwest. Bryce completed the MDiv program at Bethel Theological Seminary in St Paul, MN. Prior to pastoring, Bryce spent ten years in the US Army, serving as an enlisted soldier and as a commissioned officer in the Chaplain Corps. Bryce has provided transformational leadership, spiritual care and support to the neighborhoods and communities in which he has lived. Bryce attended the University of Minnesota (BA, Political Science). He is married to his childhood sweetheart, Gina, and they have three children. Bryce and Gina provide spiritual mentoring and leadership coaching to individuals and teams.



**Rev. Erin Sears Lea, MDiv** serves in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital on the 6th Floor Hematology and Oncology Unit. Erin graduated from Emory University's Candler School of Theology with an MDiv in the spring of 2021. While in school, she served as a student chaplain for the Georgia Department of Corrections where she found her calling as a chaplain. She went on to complete her first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at Emory Healthcare's Winship Cancer Institute. Prior to attending Emory University, Erin received a BFA in Music from Marshall University. Erin is working towards ordination in the United Methodist Church. Erin is married to Rev. Luke Lea, a United Methodist pastor. When not working, Erin enjoys anything related to music or theater, practicing yoga, and cooking new recipes.



## Meet the Chaplain Interns



**Zachary Helton, MDiv** serves in the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. Zachary was ordained in a progressive Baptist tradition, and pastored for seven years in Waco, TX and Monroe, LA, before beginning Clinical Pastoral Education at Vanderbilt. He holds an MDiv from Baylor University, a BA in film from The University of Alabama, and is currently working towards an MA in Creative Writing from Belmont University. He and his wife, Claire (also an ordained pastor currently working on a Th.M. at Vanderbilt), are from Pensacola, FL, and have two sons, ages 3 and 5.



**Angela Rios Pagán, MTh, RN** serves at Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital. Angela graduated from Vanderbilt Divinity School with her Master of Theological Studies in 2021. She completed her first unit of CPE working with those recovering from addictions at Nashville Treatment Solutions. She achieved her Bachelor of Nursing from Belmont University and has been serving at Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institute cardiac procedural area since 2014. She enjoys leading her team as one of the department's Clinical Staff Leaders for the Electrophysiology Lab. Angela's knack for adventure brought her to Vanderbilt University Medical Center from Duke Hospital in Durham, NC where she also served as a nurse in one of the cardiac units. Angela has been caring for the heart for over 15 years and looks forward to continuing doing so in a new capacity.



**Rev. Gavin Warren, MDiv** serves at the Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital and the Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital. Gavin received his Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School in 2015. He currently works on youth programming and curriculum for Holy Trinity Community Church.



**Rev. Angela Williams, MDiv** serves at the Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital. Angela received her Master of Divinity from Oral Roberts University. She serves as a leader at Olive Tree Connections, and she recently completed two non-profit ministries: Wielding Word Ministries and Coverall Transitional Services. For many years, Angela has worked with children and families - changing lives in foster care. She has also worked in various community outreach and social service roles including Director of the Women's Prison Ministry. Angela helps people bring their passions to creation as a Formation Specialist in developing non-profits. She completed her BA in Criminal Justice at the University of Memphis and completed her Massage Therapy licensing in 2007. She also completed the NASM Certified Personal Training for she believes in Wholeness of body, soul and mind.

# Special Thanks

**Leadership Support:** Terrell Smith, Janet Cross, Andy Peterson

**HR Support:** Kalandrian Davis, Suzanne Guye, Jaimie Glatt, Novonda Lilly, Jacqueline Mendoza

**Didactic Speakers:** Imam Ossama Bahloul, Chaplain Rene Brandt, Rev. Ian Cullen, Chaplain Ben Danielson, Chaplain Duncan Gasson-Gardner, Rev. Beth Glover, Dr. Lori Anne Parker-Danley, Rev. Robert Petite, Rev. Dana Schroeder, Dr. William Thiele, Mr. Richard Thorne

**Exit Interview:** Rev. Kira Austin-Young, Lynne Leersnyder

**Graduation and Commissioning Service Speakers:** Janet Cross, Rev. Beth Duke, Rev. Raye Nell Dyer, Rev. Peter Keese, Rev. Sherry Perry, Andy Peterson, Rev. Patricia Shropshire, Rev. Cordell Simpson

**Orientation Presentations and Tours:** Katherine Bennet, Chaplain Meredith Cox, Janet Cross, Rev. Ian Cullen, Rev. Beth Duke, Rev. Raye Nell Dyer, Chaplain Duncan Gasson-Gardner, Rev. Lisa Hermann, Deacon Joe Holzmer, Rev. DéShun Kilgore, Lisa Kimball, Fr. Gervan Menezes, Rev. Sherry Perry, Andy Peterson, Rev. Patricia Shropshire, Rev. Cordell Simpson, Terrell Smith, Addie Vienneau, Philip D. Walker

## CPE Programs 2022-2023

The VUMC CPE program is now accepting applications for the following programs:

- **CPE Residency 2022-2023** (Sep 6, 2022 - Sep 1, 2023)
- **CPE Spring 2022 Extended Unit** (January 17, 2022 - June 3, 2022)

More information at <https://www.vumc.org/cpe>

## Virtual Ecumenical Christian Services

*For patients, families, and staff*

Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/92045193035>

Or use phone camera to scan the QR Code:



### Ecumenical Service Dates

#### September 2021

**9/1/21:**  
Rev. Ian Cullen  
**9/8/21:**  
Rev. Young-ki Eun  
**9/15/21:**  
Rev. Zach Helton  
**9/22/21:**  
Rev. Bryce Harcey  
**9/29/21:**  
Rev. Erin Sears Lea

#### October 2021

**10/6/21:**  
Rev. Woodretta Allen  
**10/13/21:**  
Rev. Boris Becker  
**10/20/21:**  
Rev. Beth Duke  
**10/27/21:**  
Chaplain Tamika Robertson

#### November 2021

**11/3/21:**  
Rev. Cordell Simpson  
**11/10/21:**  
Rev. Sherry Perry  
**11/17/21:**  
Chaplain Intern  
**11/24/21:**  
Chaplain Intern