

# CPE Corner

Official Newsletter of the VUMC CPE Program  
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## CPE Program News



As we enjoy a season of holiday celebrations, CPE has much to celebrate as well. After 20 weeks of classwork and clinical hours that began in August, CPE's inaugural Chaplain Interns celebrated their graduation from the Fall Extended Unit on December 29. We thank them for the hours and hard work they committed to the care of VUMC's patients, family, and staff as well as to their own personal and spiritual growth. They have accomplished so much in a short span of time.

We wish them well in their endeavors as they continue their spiritual care journey after graduation.

In addition, we congratulate our Chaplain Residents on nearing the completion of their first of three units in the Residency Program. As we enter the holiday season, the residents begin their first period of integration. During this 4-week period, they will function primarily as staff chaplains, immersing themselves in their chaplain roles and applying what they have learned thus far. Their second unit will resume on January 10, 2022.

Furthermore, thanks to the tireless advocacy of Terrell Smith, Director of Patient and Family Engagement at VUMC and Dr. Paul Sternberg, Chief Medical Officer at VUMC, CPE is excited to announce the addition of a spacious suite in VUMC's Oxford House. The new Clinical Pastoral Education Center contains conference space, additional workstations for charting, a breakroom, overnight space, and a library. Thank you to Terrell, Dr. Sternberg, and all who supported the efforts to acquire this new space. We are grateful for everyone who has contributed to the growth and success of the CPE Program thus far and look forward to what the coming year brings!



Fall 2021 CPE Chaplain Intern Graduation (left-right: Suzanne DeVos, Terrell Smith, Rev. Peter Keese, Angela Rios, Gavin Warren, Angela Williams, Zach Helton, Claire Helton, Rev. Cordell Simpson, Rev. Patricia Shropshire, Fred Brown, Mary Murphy, Rev. Sherry Perry, Erin Sears Lea, Rev. Young-ki Eun, Woodretta Allen, Andy Peterson, Boris Becker) Photo by Boris Becker.

*"...And the end of  
all our exploring  
will be to arrive  
where we started  
And know the place  
for the first time."*

- T.S. Eliot

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# New CPE Center at Oxford House!



(Main Conference Room of CPE Center at Oxford House)

The new CPE Center at Oxford House is located at OH 1001 just down the hall from the main office of Spiritual and Pastoral Care. The CPE Center will have a main conference space (shown above) for classes and small gatherings. This space will eventually feature a conference table and chairs as well as a big screen monitor for presentations and virtual meetings.

The Center also houses shelf storage for the CPE Library as seen in the picture above. Chaplain Residents and Interns as well as Staff Chaplains will have access to borrow these books for two weeks and may renew once for an additional two weeks. Also, included at the Center are a breakroom with sink and microwave. This space will eventually hold a water cooler as well as refreshment items. The inner office will house two additional administrative workstations and also contain space for a folding bed for overnight stays.

CPE will continue to retain office space in MCN D-2111 as well.

See below for more pictures of the new CPE Center!



(Kitchen/Breakroom)



(Inner Office Workstations)



(Overnight Space)

# Chaplain Intern and Resident Reflections



## **Rev. Angela Williams, MDiv**

Clinical Pastoral Education has been bittersweet and has put many things in order; emotionally, socially, spiritually, intellectually, and relationally. My experience was with a group of individuals I grew to know and to trust as I revealed some of my deepest pain. We were a group of four, giving us an intimate environment of closeness with safety in a non-judgmental environment. I grew leaps and bounds and am looking forward to completing all necessary units ahead. The Johari window model helped me to see what others see. It was life changing and certainly a blessing for and to my life.



## **Woodretta Allen, MDiv**

During my first unit of CPE at Vanderbilt I learned the strength of self-awareness and how awesome it is to identify my emotions. I am growing in the ability to demonstrate empathy and to sit in darkness with others and meet them where they are in their situation and not tell them how they should feel. I have been empowered by the staff chaplains because they show that they care in the form of actions and not just words. My peers have demonstrated that I am heard and valued, and my supervisor enlightened me on the beauty that lives in my heart. I am so excited about this CPE program and cannot wait to experience unit two.

Thanks to all,  
Chaplain Resident Woodretta Allen



## **Rev. Bryce Harcey, MDiv**

I am grateful and astonished at what has been accomplished in just one unit of CPE. The CPE program at VUMC has provided me an incredible opportunity to grow personally and professionally. The clinical experience has been challenging in its intensity but rewarding in serving so many heroic patients, supporting loving families, and showing compassion to such a diversity of human beings. I have been blessed to partner with some amazing care providers and have been encouraged to bring my own pastoral self, experience, gifting, and spirituality to patient care. Our didactics have been facilitated by some of the best spiritual care providers from across the country. I look forward to the second unit.

*“Winter passes and  
one remembers  
one’s  
perseverance.”*

- Yoko Ono



# Announcements

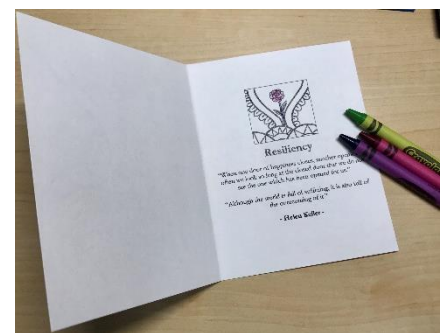
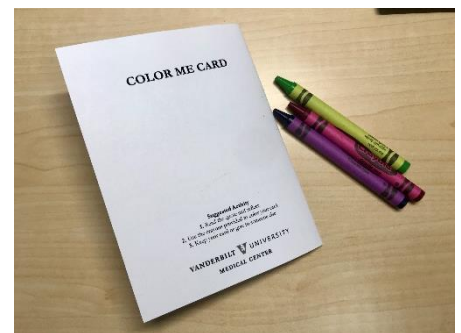
## Prayer Shawls

Grace United Methodist Church in Mt. Juliet has graciously donated several knitted and crocheted prayer shawls for CPE and Spiritual Care staff to use in their care of patients, family, and staff at VUMC. The prayer shawls may be given to patients in the Medical Center who are experiencing a difficult time, loneliness, and are in great need of comfort and healing. The shawls are available for pick-up in the Rhea Chapel at MCN and the CPE Center at OH 1001.



## Color Me Cards

In addition to the Oasis of Spirituality baskets, CPE will also offer “Color Me Cards” and bookmarks for Chaplain Interns and Residents to provide as part of their care. The cards include quotes inspired by theological themes covered in Pruyser’s Guidelines for Pastoral Diagnosis as well as other uplifting messages. Packets of crayons will be available for those who wish to color their cards. The cards may be kept or given to someone else as a gift.



# Special Thanks

**Leadership Support:** Janet Cross, Rev. Peter Keese, Andy Peterson, Terrell Smith, Dr. Paul Sternberg

**Exit Interview:** Aly Benítez, Kelly Ernst, Cristin Roark

**Didactic Speakers:** Fr. Anthony De Conciliis, Rev. Beth Glover, Rev. Mary Stewart Hall, Rev. Joseph Yao Kotay, Chaplain Jan McCabe, Chaplain Ida-Regina Oliver, Rev. Dana C.J. Schroeder, Ms. Brittany Davis, Chaplain Israel Mutema, Rev. Lisa Hermann, Rev. Ian Cullen, Chaplain Duncan Gasson-Gardner, Mr. James Kendall

**Mentorship:** Rev. Cordell Simpson, Rev. Patricia Shropshire, Rev. Beth Duke, Rev. Lisa Hermann, Chaplain Fred Brown, Chaplain Duncan Gasson-Gardner, Rev. Ian Cullen, Rev. Sherry Perry

**Graduation and Commissioning Service Speakers:** Terrell Smith, Rev. Patricia Shropshire, Chaplain Duncan Gasson-Gardner, Rev. Sherry Perry, Janet Cross, Andy Peterson, Rev. Cordell Simpson, Rev. Peter Keese

**Administrative Support:** Lisa Cunningham, Suzanne DeVos, Cynthia Warner

**HR Support:** Kalandrian Davis, Sandy Few, Jaimie Glatt, Novonda Lilly

## 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

#### December 2021

**12/1/21:**  
Chaplain Angela Williams  
**12/8/21:**  
Chaplain Aly Benítez  
**12/15/21:**  
Rev. Young-ki Eun  
**12/22/21:**  
Chaplain Mary Murphy  
**12/29/21:**  
Rev. Patricia Shropshire

#### January 2022

**1/5/22:**  
Rev. Rusty McCown  
**1/12/22:**  
Rev. Ian Cullen  
**1/19/22:**  
Rev. Bryce Harcey  
**1/26/22:**  
Rev. Erin Sears Lea

#### February 2022

**2/2/22:**  
Rev. Woodretta Allen  
**2/9/22:**  
Rev. Boris Becker  
**2/16/22:**  
Rev. Beth Duke  
**2/23/22:**  
Chaplain Tamika Robertson