

RESEARCH MEDICAL CENTER

Clinical Pastoral Education Program

What is CPE?

Clinical Pastoral Education brings theological students and ministers of all faiths (pastors, priests, rabbis, imams and others) into supervised encounters with persons in crisis. Out of an intense involvement with persons in need, and the feedback from peers and teachers, students develop new awareness of themselves as persons and the needs of those to whom they minister. From theological reflection on specific human situations, they gain a new understanding of ministry. Within the interdisciplinary team process of helping persons, they develop skills in interpersonal and inter-professional relationships.

This program incorporates mentoring and includes peer teaching and learning in a small, diverse and confidential community. It's clinical methods sharpen and strengthen pastoral identity, helps participants shape and customize an approach to pastoral care that is congruent with their personal uniqueness. CPE invites students to enter an on-going, dynamic, theological dialectic to make explicit the theology inherent in intra- and inter-personal experiences. It incorporates the behavioral sciences, theology, and other literature, to broaden understanding of those served. As a result, pastoral care proceeds to engage persons at a deeper, more profound level at the point of their perceived need.

CPE is guided by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. standards with respect to program outcomes. The program is also tailored to the specific interests and educational needs of each student. Participants provide pastoral care in the role of Chaplain as members of the Pastoral Care department and various treatment teams. Those encounters, coupled with peers and supervisors, provide primary curriculum material. CPE uses an action/reflection model of teaching and learning.

Program Sites

As 12 state-of-the art hospitals, HCA Midwest Health provides general acute care, rehabilitation and mental health services in Kansas City and the metropolitan area. The division employs more than 12,000 employees and is served by 3,000 physicians. The Midwest CPE program is an integrated resource offering unique, rich opportunities for ministry and pastoral education at three accredited primary sites.

Research Medical Center has served Kansas City and the surrounding area since 1886—and those years have allowed the 590-bed facility to put down meaningful roots in a community that depends on its acute and outpatient medical care services.

The hospital offers medical and health clinic services across three Kansas City locations, including the main campus on Meyer Boulevard, the Research Medical Center Brookside Campus on Rockhill Road and Research Psychiatric Center, a Campus of Research Medical Center on 63rd Street. Research Medical Center features a broad range of highly specialized, state-of-the-art services including a Level I Trauma Center; Cycle IV Chest Pain Center; Neuroscience Institute; Level 1 TCD-designated Stroke Center and the region's first Accredited Primary Stroke Center; TIA Clinic; Grossman Burn Center; Liver and Pancreas Institute of Kansas City; the Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute at Research Medical Center; Obstetrics; Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; Transplant Institute; and Orthopedics.

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Menorah Medical Center, located at 5721 West 119th Street Overland Park, Kansas, is a 158-bed acute care hospital. Menorah Medical Center began in Kansas City, MO, first opening its doors on Rockhill Road in 1931. In 1996, it moved to Overland Park. Menorah Medical Center has a beautiful campus including a doctors' building and outpatient clinics. Feature services include Emergency, Intensive Care, oncology, medical-surgical, labor and delivery, rehabilitation, and extensive outpatient care.

Overland Park Regional Medical Center, located at 10500 Quivira Road in Overland Park, KS, is a 244-bed, acute care hospital. It is distinguished by services offered including Emergency and Trauma Center, Women's Center offering comprehensive services including infertility, perinatology, obstetrics & gynecology, and Neonatal Intensive Care, Pediatric Unit, Diabetes Center, Heart Center, medical-surgical, geriatrics, and other acute care specialty services.

Programs Offered

Content for learning in all formats of CPE is shaped collaboratively between student and supervisor. Individualized goals and objectives take shape in a personal learning covenant. Various methods of teaching and learning traditional to CPE are used. These include, but not limited to, the following: theoretical presentations, case studies, IPR, peership, literature review, verbatims, integrative and reflective writing, and participation in supervision – individual and group and interdisciplinary engagement. Each student is given a serious charge to serve designated clinical area(s) as a chaplain. Duties broaden to include responsibility in the 24-7 rotation of on-call as Duty Chaplain. The supervisor responsible for this program is certified by the ACPE. Successful completion of CPE is among the requirements for board eligibility to be certified as a professional chaplain by The Association for Professional Chaplains, The National Association for Catholic Chaplains, and Neshama: Association of Jewish Chaplains.

Extended CPE Internships

We offer three, part-time, Extended Internship Formats: fall through spring (9 Month), fall intensive and spring intensive. Curriculum includes individual and group supervision, didactic instruction and peer teaching and learning. In addition to the practice of ministry as a Chaplain, students serve in the on-call rotation. Participants are seminarians, local clergy, and qualified laity. The program enhances pastoral skill, deepens personal and pastoral identity, and supports one's formation of personal style and practice in ministry.

Extended Internship: Fall through Spring (9 Months) Tuition:

\$400 per unit

Application Fee: \$35

This CPE unit occurs one day a week, usually a Monday. It begins early fall and continues through spring. The pace of this unit fosters incremental growth and integration in learning by the benefit of its length.

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Extended-Intensive Internships: Fall and Spring (1/2 Year)

Tuition: \$400 per unit

Application Fee: \$35

This unit meets two days a week, one designated for education and the other for clinical engagement. Fall sessions begin in late August and conclude in December. Spring sessions begin in January and conclude in May. These units are more intense. They tend to accelerate chances to develop skills and depth especially needed in crisis ministry.

Summer CPE Internship

Tuition: \$300 per unit

Application Fee: \$35

This is an intense, full-time unit for seminarians, clergy, and qualified laity. It involves a 40+ hour week. Office hours are kept Monday – Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm.

Residency

Dates: 9/1 – 8/31 (yearly cycle) Tuition: \$200 per unit Application Fee: \$35

Stipend: \$28,704 (subject to change)

This is a full-time twelve-month format designed for seminary graduates, ordained clergy, those in various religious vocations, and qualified laypersons. Currently, the program includes four sequential units of CPE.

Successful candidates have:

- Significant pastoral experience, usually not less than three years, and a firm sense of pastoral identity.
- Completed a minimum of one ACPE unit (though preferred, this may be waived if corresponding experience is determined).
- Convincing potential for pastoral care ministry.
- Proficiency at self-motivated learning, emotional maturity, and interpersonal strength.
- Ordination and/or ecclesiastical endorsement for CPE.
- Graduation from an accredited seminary, divinity or rabbinic school, or demonstrated equivalence or education commensurate with the norm in one's faith tradition.

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Team Approach

Residents and interns serve and learn as fully integrated members of the inter-disciplinary team. As chaplain, each offers pastoral care to patients, their family and visitors, and medical center staff. There is opportunity to conduct established spirituality groups offered by the department as both treatment and support. In addition, residents may be variously assigned to serve as the spiritual care representative on one of many medical specialty teams or to be the front-line point of contact for a department service like employee assistance.

Ministry

Residents and interns provide numerous pastoral services including formal worship, visiting the newly admitted, visiting pre-surgical patients, follow-up visits, pastoral counseling, grief support, and liaison with local and area clergy providing pastoral care to members of their congregation. Residents are full participants in the 24-7 rotation of the on-call as Duty Chaplain. This may also include disaster response, pastoral intervention at Code Red and Blue calls, deaths, and traumas.

Specialized Ministry

All our sites possess unique areas for specialization. Students are given segue to express their interest in service and education. Assignments are weighed and negotiated finally with one's supervisor. Areas for ministry specialization include pastoral care related to a specific condition or illness, e.g., trauma, geriatrics, chemical dependency, psychiatric, cardiac, rehabilitation, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, oncology and palliative care. Specialization may also focus on pastoral care in special circumstances, e.g., ministry to the depressed, angry, those in acute spiritual crises, grief, denial, etc.

Clinical Pastoral Orientation Program Supervision

On occasion, residents may have opportunity to administer, educate, and clinically supervise seminary students in our Clinical Pastoral Orientation program. A number find practicing supervision helps them make better personal use of the clinical methods of learning. Others report increased confidence when later managing a multi-member church or department of pastoral care. Some appreciate increased competence to offer lay training in pastoral care for deacons, elders, and lay pastoral care teams. Still others feel this is a good way to explore interest in supervisory CPE.

Peer Group Experience

We are sincerely committed to achieving student diversity in each training group. We recruit and admit students believing a diverse mix maximizes the quality and opportunity of educational interchange and engagement. This may include combining students from other programs, including, when possible, residents and interns from all component sites.

Supervisory Residency

Dates: Upon Availability

Tuition: Waived

Application Fee: \$50

Stipend: \$28,704

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Admission

Applicants must submit a complete set of materials accompanied by the associated fee. Materials undergo a paper review. Faculty members determine which viable candidates to invite for an on-site interview. A final decision is communicated thereafter in a timely manner. Applicants are responsible for costs related to interviewing.

In addition to the standard ACPE application, an applicant for Supervisory CPE will submit a statement of motivation for pursuing supervisory training, a proposed timetable, a statement of his/her theory of pastoral care, a statement of faith group status, and a completed Supervisory Abstract. Most applicants have completed two years of residency or a minimum of five units of ACPE-CPE.

Students are admitted irrespective of gender, age, race, ethnic, origin, religion, sexual identity, or disability. We are purposeful to seek diversity. Openness to learning and capacity for self-direction are crucial. Respect for authority, one's own and another's is vital. Propensity to self-interrupt, reflect, and remain open to experience are necessary. Applicants for Supervisory CPE must demonstrate the convincing proclivity to be a clinical pastoral educator.

Accredited by Association for Clinical Pastoral Education.

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Clinical Pastoral Education Program

Meet Our Staff

Supervising Faculty



Rev. James M. Harper, III, D.Min Director of Pastoral Care & CPE

The Midwest CPE Program

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Chaplain Harper serves as Division Director of Clinical Pastoral Education for The Midwest CPE Program. His academic background includes a B.S. degree in Psychology (1974) from the University of Georgia, a Master of Divinity degree (1978) from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky and a Doctor of Ministry degree (1992) from Midwestern Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri. He was ordained in 1978 as a Southern Baptist minister and has served in several pastoral positions including a period of five years as pastor of Apple Valley Baptist Church in Commerce, Georgia. He has served a year as interim pastor of the First Baptist Church in Commerce, Georgia and two years at Wedgewood Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Dr. Harper's clinical training in CPE involved diverse contexts including: Central State Hospital (Milledgeville, Georgia), Athens General Hospital/Northeast Georgia Community Mental Health Center and Pastoral Counseling Center (Athens, Georgia), The Georgia Association of Pastoral Care at Emory (Atlanta, Georgia) and The Georgian Clinic. Areas of specialization include: crisis ministry, care for cancer patients, ministry to the psychiatric patient, pastoral counseling and psychotherapy, and spiritual care for chemical abuse and addiction.

Dr. Harper was an originator of the ACPE program at The Carolinas Health Care System (Charlotte, North Carolina). He developed a System Wide CPE program in Health Midwest (Kansas City, Missouri) that was continued after purchase by HCA, Inc. Dr. Harper has done research in the field of clinical supervision and curriculum development for Supervisory CPE. His program of Supervisory CPE has among the highest certification success rates in the nation. Dr. Harper's Doctoral study focused on facilitation of critical purchase of literature necessary to pass theoretical position papers as a function of ACPE certification.

Clinical Pastoral Education Program



Rev. Charles Robertson, D.Min

The Midwest CPE Program

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Chaplain Robertson serves as Chaplain Supervisor at Research Medical Center. His academic background includes a B.S. degree in Business Administration (1983) from the State University of New York at Buffalo, a Master of Divinity degree (1986) from Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri and a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio (2001). He was ordained

and elder in 1987 in the Church of the Nazarene

and has served in several pastoral positions, including pastor of Mirabile Community Church (Kingston, Missouri), Elm Street Church of the Nazarene (Ironton, Ohio), and Fort Osage Church of the Nazarene (Independence, Missouri). He currently serves on the Chaplaincy Advisory Council for the Church of the Nazarene.

Dr. Robertson's CPE training included clinical contexts at Baptist Medical Center and Research Medical Center in Kansas City. He completed specialty units in Critical Care, Chemical Dependency, and Eating Disorders. He served as a supervisory resident (1989-1993) under the direct supervision of Dr. Harper and adjuncts within the Kansas City Area Training Group (Chuck Hall, Jerry Kolb, Paul Kapp, Sally Schwab, and Bill Baldrige).

Dr. Robertson was certified as Associate Supervisor in May of 1993. He then served as Chaplain Supervisor at Baptist Medical Center in Kansas City (1993-1999). Dr. Robertson was certified as ACPE Supervisor in November of 1994. He assisted in the development of the Midwest CPE Program as Applications Coordinator for CPE and as system finance officer. He was Board Certified in the Association of Professional Chaplains in 1999. He has served at Research Medical Center since March 1999.

Over his career, Dr. Robertson has served as a member of the ACPE South Central Region Accreditation Committee, Nominations Committee, and as chair of the Certification Committee. He has served as a regional representative on National Certification Commission and as national chair of ACPE's Representation and Nominations Committee (RANC). He served on ACPE's 2005 and 2010 manual writing task forces. Dr. Robertson's doctoral study focused on facilitation of clinical orientation as a function of Roman Catholic permanent deacons' formation process.