

David Fleenor

Spiritual Care Leader, Educator, Researcher, Consultant

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PERSONAL PROFILE

Spiritual care leader, educator, and researcher with 10+ years leading spiritual health care teams, teaching Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), and researching spirituality and health. Supervised 100+ CPE students. Integrated mandatory, longitudinal spirituality training into the medical school curriculum across all four years. Published eight peer-reviewed articles on spiritual health education.

APPOINTMENTS/EMPLOYMENT

2022 – Present	Founding Manager, Clinical Pastoral Education Stony Brook University Hospital Stony Brook, NY
2020 – 2021	Assistant Professor, Medical Education Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai New York, NY
2015 – 2021	Director of Education Center for Spirituality and Health at Mount Sinai New York, NY
2006 – 2016	Associate Priest (part-time) Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration New York, NY
2014 – 2015	Senior Director, Chaplaincy Services and Clinical Pastoral Education HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc. New York, NY
2013 – 2014	Interim Director of Clinical Pastoral Education HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc. New York, NY
2010 – 2014	Manager and Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor Chaplaincy Services at NYU Langone Medical Center, an affiliate of HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc.

- 2009 – 2010 Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisory Resident/Associate Supervisor
NYU Langone Medical Center (1/2 time) and St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital (1/2 time), affiliates of HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc.
New York, NY
- 2007 – 2009 Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisory Resident
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, an affiliate of HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc.
New York, NY
- 2006 – 2007 Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisory Resident
Griffin Hospital, an affiliate of HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc.
Derby, CT
- 2005 – 2007 Assistant Campus Chaplain
Episcopal Church at New York University
New York, NY
- 2004 – 2006 Chaplain Endorsement Specialist
Office of the Episcopal Bishop for Chaplaincies
New York, NY
- 2000 – 2004 Hospital Chaplain (per diem)
Brookwood Medical Center
Birmingham, AL
- 2000 – 2004 Patient Advocate
University of Alabama at Birmingham Health System
Birmingham, AL

EDUCATION

- 2020 – Present Doctor of Philosophy, Health Sciences (in progress)
Rush University
Chicago, IL
- 2006 – 2010 Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisory Residency
Primary Mentors: Jo Clare Wilson, A. Meigs Ross, Nathan Goldberg, Martin Montonye, George Handzo
HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc.
New York, NY
- 2005 – 2006 Master of Sacred Theology (STM)
The General Theological Seminary
New York, NY
- 2004 – 2005 Diploma in Anglican Studies
The General Theological Seminary
New York, NY

1999 – 2000 Clinical Pastoral Education Residency
 Primary Mentor: Jonathan Waddell
 UAB Medical Center
 Birmingham, AL

1996 – 1999 Master of Divinity (M.Div.)
 Church of God Theological Seminary
 Cleveland, TN

1993 – 1996 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
 Messenger College
 Joplin, MO

1992 – 1993 Virginia Western Community College
 Roanoke, VA

CERTIFICATION

2010 – Present Board-Certified Clinical Pastoral Educator
 Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)

2011 – Present Board-Certified Chaplain
 Association of Professional Chaplains (APC)

HONORS/AWARDS

2012 Eastern Region ACPE Emerging Leaders Award
 1996 Messenger College Award for Leadership Excellence
 1995 Messenger College Award for Leadership Excellence

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ROLES

2019 – Present Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
 Member, Research Committee

2012 – 2014 Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
 Member, Board of Directors

2012 – 2013 Eastern Region of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
 Member, Regional Accreditation Committee

2009 – 2011 Eastern Region of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
 Chair, Annual Conference Planning Committee

2003 – 2004 National Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy
 Member, National Conference Planning Committee

2003 – 2004 Alabama Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy
 President

GRANTS

- 2016 – 2018 “CPE Curriculum Development Grant” from John Templeton Foundation’s Transforming Chaplaincy: Promoting Research Literacy for Improved Patient Outcomes
- 2018 – 2018 “Interprofessional Education Exchange Training Grant” from National Cancer Institute R25 CA203637

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Original Contributions

1. **Fleenor, D. W.**, Cummins, P., Hirschmann, J., Sharma, V. (2022). Ethics education in clinical pastoral education: Prevalence and types. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 29(2), 285-294. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2021.1916335>
2. Szilagyi, C., Tartaglia, A., Palmer, P.K., **Fleenor, D.W.**, Jackson-Jordan, E., Knoll Sweeney, S., & Slaven, J.E. (2022). COVID-19 and Clinical Pastoral Education: How ACPE educators pivoted amid the pandemic. *Journal of Pastoral Care & Counseling*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F15423050211073572>
3. **Fleenor, D. W.**, Atkinson, H. G., Karani, R., Lerner, S., Leisman, S., & Marin, D. (2021). An innovative approach for integrating mandatory, longitudinal spirituality training into the medical school curriculum. *Academic Medicine*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1097/acm.0000000000004494>
4. Hirschmann, J., **Fleenor, D. W.**, Van Thyn, R., & Sharma, V. (2021). CPE for leaders: Adapting Clinical Pastoral Education’s learning methodology for healthcare managers and directors. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2021.1929765>
5. **Fleenor, D. W.** (2021). Online clinical pastoral education needs more research. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2021.1894533>
6. **Fleenor, D.**, Terry, K., Sharma, V., & Marin, D. (2020). Prevalence of journal clubs: A survey of clinical pastoral education residencies in the United States. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 26(2), 72-86. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2019.1582210>
7. **Fleenor, D. W.**, Bush, J. C., Springer, M. B., & Hirshmann, J. (2020). To be nice or note to be nice?” That’s not the question: A case from clinical pastoral education supervision. *Reflective Practice: Formation and Supervision in Ministry*, 40. <https://journals.sfu.ca/rpfs/index.php/rpfs/article/view/729/687>
8. Atkinson, H. G., **Fleenor, D.**, Lerner, S. M., Poliandro, E., & Truglio, J. (2018). Teaching third-year medical students to address patients’ spiritual needs in the surgery/anesthesiology clerkship. *MedEdPORTAL*, 14. https://doi.org/10.15766/mep_2374-8265.10784

9. **Fleenor, D.**, Sharma, V., Hirschmann, J., & Swarts, H. (2018). Do journal clubs work? The effectiveness of journal clubs in a clinical pastoral education residency program. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 24(2), 43-56. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2017.1383646>
10. Silton, N. R., Flannelly, K. J., Galek, K., & **Fleenor, D.** (2013). Pray tell: The who, what, why, and how of prayer across multiple faiths. *Pastoral Psychology*, 62(1), 41-52. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11089-012-0481-9>
11. Galek, K., Silton, N. R., Vanderwerker, L. C., Handzo, G. F., Porter, M., Montonye, M. G., & **Fleenor, D. W.** (2010). To pray or not to pray: Considering gender and religious concordance in praying with the ill. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 16(1-2), 42-52. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854720903529694>

Non-Peer Reviewed Publications

1. **Fleenor, D.** (2021). Spiritually mature and evidence-based chaplains: A commentary on Fitchett's CPE and Spiritual Growth. In S. Nolan & A. Damen (Eds.), *Transforming Chaplaincy*. Wipf & Stock.
2. **Fleenor, D. W.**, & Kelly, E. (2019). Educating and equipping chaplains to practise in new paradigms. In E. Kelly & J. Swinton (Eds.), *Chaplaincy and the Soul of Health and Social Care: Fostering Spiritual Wellbeing in Emerging Paradigms of Care* (pp. 305-320). Jessica Kingsley Publishers.
3. **Fleenor, D.** (2014, February 19). Eight things every new chaplaincy director needs to know. *PlainViews*. 11(3). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
4. Siegel, J. and **Fleenor, D.** (2013, December 18). Nelson Mandela and the African concept of ubuntu. *PlainViews*. 10(23). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
5. **Fleenor, D.** (2013, July 17). Three simple ways to stay abreast of chaplaincy related research. *PlainViews*. 10(12). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
6. **Fleenor, D.** (2012, June 20). A new app for interfaith care of the ill. *PlainViews*. 9(10). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
7. **Fleenor, D.** (2011, March 2). 10 questions for the first day of CPE. *PlainViews*. 8(3). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
8. **Fleenor, D.** (2011, February 16). Smartphone apps for chaplains. *PlainViews*. 8(2). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.

PRESENTATIONS

Teaching Experience

2015 – 2021

Clinical Pastoral Education

- Residency (online and in-person)
- Extended (online and in-person)

Undergraduate medical education class sessions in the following courses:

- Art and Science of Medicine 1 = How to Take a Spiritual History
- Art and Science of Medicine 2 = Spiritual Care as a Clinical Site: Observing a Chaplain and Taking a Spiritual History
- Surgery/Anesthesiology Clerkship = Spirituality in Medicine: The Integration of the Role of the Chaplain and Spirituality into the Surgery-Anesthesia Team
- Introduction to Internship = Meaning in Medicine
- Spiritual Health Elective

Graduate medical education class sessions for Primary Care residents

- Introduction to Spirituality and Medicine
- Integration of the Health Care Chaplain in Medical Care
- Orthodox Jews & Spirituality at End-of-Life
- Coping with Death & Dying as a Physician
- Managing Transference & Countertransference in Medical Care
- Moral Injury & Spiritual Struggle in the Physician

Invited Lectures

October 2021

Teaching Ethics in CPE
ACPE Central States Community of Practice
90-Minute Webinar co-presented with Paul Cummins, Ph.D.

May 2020

Spiritual Care at the Time of Death and Grief in the COVID-19 Pandemic
Chaplaincy Innovation Lab
60-Minute Webinar co-presented with Katie Pakos Rimer, Ed.D., Sean Doll O'Mahoney, BCC, and Joanna Wojtkowiak, Ph.D.

March 2019

Reflections on a Distance Learning CPE Unit
ACPE Distance Learning Community of Practice
60-Minute Workshop for Clinical Pastoral Educators co-presented with Rabbi Rachel Van Thyn, BCC

February 2019

Spiritual Care in Surgery: Can it be taught?
Icahn School of Medicine Institute for Medical Education
60-Minute Grand Rounds for Medical Educators co-presented with Susan M. Lerner, MD
New York, NY

April 2018

Spiritual Care in Surgery: Can it be taught?

Center for Spirituality and Health at Mount Sinai
 60-Minute Grand Rounds for Health Care Professionals co-presented with
 Susan M. Lerner, MD and Edward Poliandro, Ph.D.
 New York, NY

- November 2015 Guest Panelist
 9th Annual from Pulpit to Bedside Seminar: Reflections on End-of-Life
 Care
- October 2015 Spiritual Care Together
 Harlem Hospital's Spiritual Care Week Symposium
 Harlem Hospital
 New York, NY
- July 2013 Chaplaincy and Social Media
 HealthCare Chaplaincy's Clinical Pastoral Education
 Symposium Workshop
 HealthCare Chaplaincy
 New York, NY
- March 2013 Applying Robert Kegan's Theory to CPE
 Eastern Region ACPE Seminar on Supervision
 Stony Point, NY
- July 2011 Spirituality, Spiritual Assessment, and Spiritual Struggle
 HealthCare Chaplaincy's 2011 Summer CPE Didactic Series
 HealthCare Chaplaincy
 New York, NY
- October 2010 Screening for Spiritual Struggle
 NYU Rusk Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine's Grand Rounds
 NYU Rusk Institute for Rehabilitation Medicine
 New York, NY
- October 2009 Visiting Hospitalized Patients
 3rd Annual from Pulpit to Bedside Seminar: Reflections on End-of- Life
 Care
 Visiting Nurse Services of New York
 New York, NY

Voluntary Lectures

- May 2022 Teaching Ethics in CPE
 ACPE/APC Joint National Conference
 4-Hour Professional Development Intensive
- April 2021 Integrating Spiritual Differences across System Boundaries
 System-Centered Training Annual Conference
 90-Minute Online Workshop co-presented with
 A. Meigs Ross, M.Div., LCSW

- June 2017
Increasing Research Literacy through Journal Clubs
Association of Professional Chaplains Annual Conference
4-Hour Workshop for Chaplains
Houston, TX
- March 2017
What Does Multidisciplinary Compassionate Care Look Like?
HealthCare Chaplaincy Network Annual Conference
90-Minute Plenary Session for Health Care Professionals co-presented
with Deborah Marin, MD, Vansh Sharma, MD, Fran Cartwright, Ph.D.,
Zorina Costello, D.Min., Maggie Keogh, M.Ed.
Chicago, IL
- April 2016
Reforming Chaplaincy Training
HealthCare Chaplaincy Network Annual Conference
90-Minute Workshop for Health Care Professionals co-presented with
Vansh Sharma, MD
San Diego, CA
- April 2015
TeleChaplaincy: The Online Practice of Professional Chaplaincy
HealthCare Chaplaincy Network Annual Conference
90-Minute Workshop for Health Care Professionals
Orlando, FL
- April 2015
TeleChaplaincy: The Online Practice of Professional
Chaplaincy
HealthCare Chaplaincy Network Annual Conference
Poster Presentation
Orlando, FL
- June 2014
Change or Die: How to Lead Personal or Organizational Change
Association of Professional Chaplains Annual Conference
90-Minute Workshop for Chaplains, CPE Supervisors, and Pastoral
Counselors
Anaheim, CA
- May 2014
The Wired Supervisor: Becoming a Tech-Savvy Supervisor
for the 21st Century
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education Annual Conference
90-Minute Workshop for CPE Supervisors and Chaplains
Austin, TX
- June 2013
Mind the Gap: Bridging the ACPE Learning Outcomes, APC
Association of Professional Chaplains Annual Conference
Standards of Practice and the Common Standards in Chaplaincy Training
90-Minute Workshop for Chaplains, CPE Supervisors, and Pastoral
Counselors
Orlando, FL

- May 2013 Mind the Gap: Bridging the ACPE Learning Outcomes, APC Standards of Practice and the Common Standards in Chaplaincy Training Association for Clinical Pastoral Education Annual Conference 90-Minute Workshop for CPE Supervisors and Chaplains Indianapolis, IN
- June 2012 Providing Culturally Competent Care to Visually Impaired Patients Association of Professional Chaplains Annual Conference 90-Minute Workshop for Chaplains, CPE Supervisors, and Pastoral Counselors Schaumburg, IL

MEDIA RESOURCE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

- 2021 Documentary Film on CPE Residency at Mount Sinai Hospital (Title is TBD as project is in editing) Hedgehog Films Role: Featured as CPE educator Intended audience: general public
- 2020 Chaplaincy Innovation Lab Online Learning Module Affirming the Sacredness of Life - Case Study in Effective Chaplaincy Role: Content expert for module development Intended audience: theological and CPE students
- 2015 PBS Documentary Chaplains by Journey Films Role: Interviewed as subject matter expert on professional health care chaplaincy Intended audience: general public
- 2015 HCCN-TV Role: Interviewed and featured as subject matter expert in 10 programs on spiritual care topics Intended audience: inpatients and outpatients at hospitals across the U.S.