Travis A. Webster

Personal Information

Address: 4600 Old William Hwy, Murrysville, PA, 15668
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Ecclesiastical Status: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament), ordained Sept. 25, 2005

Professional Summary

Twenty years of pastoral service, including parish ministry, hospital/hospice chaplaincy, and pastoral counseling. Pastoral counseling training includes extensive education in and hands-on experience with clients from a variety of cultural, ethnic, religious, linguistic, and socio-economic backgrounds. Have overseen ministry areas such as pastoral care, mission, fellowship, discipleship, and education programs in three congregations, with regular preaching and teaching responsibilities.

Recent Work Experience

Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, PA March 2021- present

Associate Pastor

- Oversee adult education (recruiting and training teachers, developing/selecting/recommending curricula, and providing leadership for Sunday school, the Disciple Bible Study, and other educational efforts)
- Offer leadership to the church's Stephen Ministry, provide pastoral care (home and hospital visitation and officiating weddings and funerals), provide worship leadership (preaching once a month), and act as a resource for various ministries (Equipping, Care of Members, and the Board of Deacons)
- Supervise and work with the Director for Children and Family Ministries and the Director for Youth Ministries to plan and coordinate the church's education and fellowship programs for children and youth
    - This includes co-leading the confirmation curriculum

Training and Counseling Center at St. Luke's (TACC), Atlanta, GA July 2016 - present

Pastoral Counselor, LMFT

- Counseling with clients presenting with a variety of concerns; have worked frequently with clergy and seminarians preparing for pastoral ministry; I am currently TACC's clergy specialist

Columbia Presbyterian Church, Decatur, GA Feb. 2015 - Feb. 2022

Office Manager

- Part-time (9 hours weekly)
- Tasked with facilitating the church's daily administrative operations
    - Responsibilities included monitoring voicemail and email, maintaining the church calendar, communicating with vendors, ordering office supplies, and coordinating with groups that used church space
    - In addition, at the pastor's request, I regularly led worship and preached

Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA Jan. 2017 - May 2017

Teaching Assistant

PC 501: Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling, taught by Dr. Gregory Ellison II

- PC501 serves as the pre-requisite for other pastoral care courses, focusing on theological and psychosocial analysis of personal, family, and congregational needs and the caring principles and methods to respond to them
- Responsibilities included attending all class sessions, reading the materials, participating in discussions, grading papers, preparing and delivering lectures at Dr. Ellison's request, and serving as a resource for the students

Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA Jan. 2016 - May 2016

Teaching Assistant

PC502: Pastoral Care in Congregation and Community, taught by Dr. Karen Scheib

- This course is designed to help those called to parish ministry understand the literature, theories, and practices that inform pastoral care within the congregational context
- Responsibilities included attending all class sessions, reading the materials, participating in discussions, grading papers, preparing and delivering lectures at Dr. Scheib's request, and serving as a resource for the students

Care and Counseling Center of Georgia, Decatur, GA Sept. 2014 - May 2016

Basic Counseling Resident

- 8-10 clinical hours a week with clients from a variety of backgrounds
- Clinical education portion of the Th.D. program that ran concurrently with academic coursework
- Responsibilities included providing pastoral counseling services to individuals and couples
    - Process involved making initial contact with potential clients, scheduling appointments, maintaining files, participating in regular supervision, and implementing appropriate classroom and supervision learning in these relationships

Palmetto Health, Columbia, SC Aug. 2013 - Aug. 2014

Chaplain in Clinical Pastoral Education Residency Program

- Served Palmetto Health Hospice; visited hospice patients in their homes, offering them and their loved ones pastoral support and coordinating with other members of the hospice team (nurses, social workers, aides, etc.) to make sure we gave the best possible patient care
- Staffed two of Palmetto Health's senior daycare centers, led worship on a weekly basis, was part of the on-call schedule for two hospitals (including a Level 1 trauma center), and was involved in all of the normal educational components of CPE (group meetings, verbatims, IPR time, individual supervision, didactics, etc.)

Formal Education

Th.D. in Pastoral Counseling, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA, May 2022
Dissertation: "Does It *Have* To Make You Sick? Preparing Seminarians For Greater Vocational Health."

Exchange student, Eberhard-Karls Universität, Tübingen, Germany, studying theology, German language, and German culture, Oct. 2004 - July 2005

M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, May 2004

B.A., French Language and Literature and History, University of South Carolina Honors College, Columbia, SC, December 1998 (includes one year as an exchange student at the Université de Haut-Alsace, Sept. 1996 - June 1997)

Additional Training, Skills, and Certifications (Selected)

- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist: Georgia, March 2021 (renewed Aug. 2024); Pennsylvania, Nov. 2022 (renewed Jan. 2025)
- Spiritual First Aid certificate, Nov. 2024
- Plant-Based Nutrition Certificate, T. Colin Campbell Center for Nutrition Studies and eCornell, Jan. 2024
- ACPE Spiritually Integrated Psychotherapy training, April - Oct. 2021
- Wellness and Health Coach, Real Balance Global Wellness Services, Aug. 2015 (renewed Dec. 2024)
- Certificate in Spiritual Formation, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, May 2011

Publications

- Donley, B., Harmon, B.E., Hege, A., Nelson, J., West, N.T., Webb, B., Webster, K., Webster, T., Case, T., Leach, C. (2025). Examining demographic differences among clergy based on Caring Factor-Survey-Caring for Self, Clergy (CFS-CSC) scores. Appalachian State University Department of Nutrition and Health Care Management's Nutrition Summit, poster presentation.
- Webster, Karen and Travis Webster, "Seeing Through the Muck." @ this point, Winter 2024. Retrieved from: https://www.ctsnet.edu/at-this-point/seeing-through-the-muck-by-rev-dr-karen-h-webster-and-rev-travis-a-webster-th-d/
- Harmon, BE, Nelson, J, West, NT, Webb, B, Webster, K, Webster, T, Case, T, Leach, C. "Establishing the Reliability and Validity of the Caring Factor Survey-Caring for Self among Protestant Clergy." *Pastoral Psychology (2024).* doi:10.1007/s11089-023-01121-8
- West, N.T., Case, T., Huey, M., Webb, B.L., Nelson, J., Webster, K., Webster, T., Leach, C., Harmon, B.E. (2023). A Scoping Review of Self-care within the context of obesity-related outcomes among faith leaders. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, round table presentation.
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2023). Strengthening the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Tomorrow's Faith Leaders in Theological Educational Settings [White paper]. https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/partnership-center-strengthening-the-mental-hand-wellbeing-of-tomorrows-faith-leaders.pdf.
- Harmon, B.E., Nelson, J., Webb, B., Webster, K., Webster, T., West, N., Case, T., Leach, C. (2023). Psychometric Testing of a Caring for Self Survey for use with Clergy, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, poster presentation.
- West NT, Harmon BE, Case T, Huey M, Webb BL, Nelson J, Webster KH, Webster TA, Leach CH. "A Scoping Review of Self-Care within the Context of Obesity-Related Outcomes Among Faith Leaders." *American Journal of Health Promotion* 2023;0(0). doi:10.1177/08901171231204669
- Webster, Karen and Travis Webster. "Health as Shalom: A Theological Understanding of Wholeness." Presbyterian Women's *Horizons* Magazine, Summer 2023.

- Harmon, B.E., Nelson, J., Webb, B., Webster, K., Webster, T., West, N., Case, T. (2022). Validating the Caring Factor Survey – Caring for Self with clergy, International Association for Human Caring Annual Conference, online poster presentation.

Presentations and Public Speaking Engagements (Selected)

- "Clergy Mental Health" Mar. 2025
  Common Table Collaborative: For Clergy and Congregational Well-Being, Online Webinar
  - Co-Presenter
- Common Table Collaborative Global Gathering (Los Angeles, CA) Jan. 2025
  - Co-Facilitator, Design Lab on Clergy Mental Health
- "Being a Healthier Pastor in a Challenging World" Oct. 2024
  United Lutheran Seminary Pastoral Cohort Gathering (Camp Lutherlyn, PA)
  - Presenter
- "Building Greater Health Together Among Seminarians and Clergy" May 2024
  Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Annual Gathering (Pittsburgh, PA)
  - Workshop Presenter
- "Taste and See: Discovering and Developing a Deeper Church Culture Through Biblical Foods," Association of Partners in Christian Education, Eastern Region's Spring Event (Chambersburg, PA) Apr. 2024
  - Workshop Presenter
- "Clergy Self-Care: How Do We Measure It? How Does It Relate to Overall Health?" Mar. 2024
  Common Table Collaborative: For Clergy and Congregational Well-Being, Online Webinar
  - Conversation Facilitator
- "Caring-For-Self: Unique Challenges & Opportunities for Those in Ministry" Feb. 2024
  Claremont School of Theology (Claremont, CA)
  - Online Workshop Presenter
- "Moving Towards Greater Health for Seminarians and Clergy" Oct. 2023
  Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Fall Gathering of Spiritually Integrated Practitioners (Atlanta, GA)
  - Workshop Presenter
- *Policy Priorities Meeting: Best Practices and Learning Collaborative for Theological Seminaries and Educational Institutions that Prepare Future Faith Leaders*, held by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships (Partnership Center) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA) in Washington, D.C. Aug. 2023
  - Speaker
- "Cooking Up Shalom in Our Kitchens" Mar. 2023
  Just Creation: Shalom for Our Common Home National Conference (held by Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA)
  - Workshop Presenter
- "Taste and See: Discovering and Developing a Deeper Church Culture Through Biblical Foods," Pastors and Leaders Annual Conference (held by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN) Feb. 2023
  - Workshop Presenter
- "Rooted and Whole" 2-Part Series Jan. 2023
  Contextual Education Class, Claremont School of Theology (Claremont, CA)
  - Guest Lecturer