

Travis A. Webster

Personal Information

Address: 4740 Nob Hill Dr., Murrysville, PA, 15668 USA

Phone: 803-873-1606

Email: khtawebster@gmail.com

Ecclesiastical Status: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament), ordained Sept. 25, 2005

Languages: English (native - US citizen), French (B1 - intermediate), German (A2 - elementary)

Professional Summary

Over fifteen 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.

Work Experience

Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, Murrysville, PA

March 2021- present

Associate Pastor

- Oversee adult education (recruiting and training teachers, developing/selecting/recommending curricula, and provided 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.)

Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC

Aug. 2013 - Aug. 2014

Parish Associate

- Administered the adult education programs (Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, and special

studies held throughout the week)

- Staffed the church's education ministry
- Other responsibilities included providing leadership to the church's Stephen Ministry, assisting in worship, and making hospital visits

Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC

Jan. 2009 - Aug. 2013

Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Mission

- Supervised and worked with the Director for Children and Family Ministries and the Director for Youth and Young Adults to plan and coordinate the church's education and fellowship programs for children and youth
 - This included developing and co-leading the confirmation curriculum
- Oversaw adult education (recruited and trained teachers, developed/selected/recommended curricula, and provided leadership for Sunday school, Wednesday night programming, the Disciple Bible Study, and other educational efforts)
 - Led or co-led 15+ classes
- Worked with the Ministry of Service and Benevolence to direct the church's various outreach and mission efforts
- Initiated and led the church's Stephen Ministry, provided pastoral care (home and hospital visitation and officiating weddings and funerals), developed and supported our young adult and senior congregant ministries, oversaw the planning and implementation of our annual Advent retreat, assisted in establishing and leading the church's Kids' Garden, provided worship leadership (preaching once a month), and acted as a resource for various ministries (Education, Evangelism and Communication, Fellowship, Service and Benevolence, and the Board of Deacons)

First Presbyterian Church, Meadville, PA

Aug. 2005 - Jan. 2009

Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

- Primary responsibilities included leading the Stephen Ministry program, supporting ChristCare small groups, providing hospital visitation and outreach to shut-ins, and short-term pastoral counseling
- Additional responsibilities included leading the adult Christian education program (arranging the schedule, teaching, and finding teachers from among the congregation), offering staff leadership to the Session, Board of Deacons, and committees (Christian Education, Mission, and Membership), officiating weddings and funerals, participating in the weekly traditional worship service (preaching every other month) as well as coordinating and participating in our alternative worship services (Taizé and contemporary worship, twice monthly)

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 (GA), March 2021 (renewed July 2022)
 - ACPE Spiritually Integrated Psychotherapy training, April - Oct. 2021
 - Health and Wellness Coach, Real Balance Global Wellness Services, Aug. 2015 (renewed Oct. 2021)
 - Clergy Clinic in Family Emotional Process, Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, Oct. 2012 - May 2013
 - Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders, Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, May 2012
 - Certificate in Spiritual Formation, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, May 2011
 - Prepare/Enrich Pre-Marital Facilitator certification, August 2011
 - Certified South Carolina Master Gardener, May 2010
 - Disciple Bible Study leader training, July 2007
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Presentations and Public Speaking (Selected)

- “Why Are Clergy So Unhealthy? Constructively Engaging Pastoral Wellness Challenges,” Oct. 2019
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education Regional Conference (Hendersonville, NC)
 - Workshop Presenter
- “You Feel What You Eat: The Role of Nutrition in Mental Health,” June 2019
Training and Counseling Center (Atlanta, GA)
 - Workshop Leader
- “Why Are Clergy So Unhealthy? Constructively Engaging Pastoral Wellness Challenges,” Feb. 2019
“The Cura Animarum: Care of Souls” National Conference (held by the C. G. Jung Institute of Seattle and the Washington Pastoral Counseling Association), Tacoma History Museum (Tacoma, WA)
 - Workshop Presenter
- “Forgiveness and Health,” Jan. 2019
Wednesday Night Adult Education, First Presbyterian Church (Spartanburg, SC)
 - Guest Presenter
- “Teaching Health and Wholeness in Seminaries,” March 2018
Southeast Symposium on Ecologically Informed Theological Education (part of the Seminary Environmental Leadership Initiative), Columbia Theological Seminary (Decatur, GA)
 - Workshop Presenter
- “Cultivating a Healthier Church Culture for a Healthier World,” Aug. 2017
STEPS Leadership Conference (Charleston Atlantic Presbytery, SC)
 - Featured Leader
- Cooking Demonstration and Interview on the show “Grow,” aired Oct. 1, 2017
Atlanta Interfaith Broadcast
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AfVsogdVNfs> (starting at 16:42)
- “Cultivating Healthier Seminaries for a Healthier World,” Oct. 2016
Seminary Stewardship Alliance National Conference (Portland, OR)
 - Plenary Speaker