

# David Fleenor

## Spiritual Care Leader, Educator, Researcher

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### PERSONAL PROFILE

Spiritual care leader, educator, and researcher with 14+ 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 13 peer-reviewed articles on spirituality and health.

### APPOINTMENTS/EMPLOYMENT

2022 – Present	Founding Manager, Clinical Pastoral Education, Stony Brook University Hospital Clinical Instructor, Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University Hospital Stony Brook, NY
2022 – Present	Associate Priest (part-time) Episcopal Church of the Ascension Brooklyn, 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 (Ph.D.), Health Sciences (in progress)  
Rush University School of Health Sciences  
Chicago, IL
- 2006 – 2010      Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisory Residency  
HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc.  
New York, NY
- 2005 – 2006      Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.)  
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 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.**, Muehlhausen, B. L., Desjardins, C. M., & Fitchett, G. (2024). Essential competencies for healthcare chaplains: Insights from hiring managers and implications for chaplaincy education. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2024.2399464>
2. **Fleenor, D. W.** (2022). Online clinical pastoral education needs more research. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 28(3), 342-349. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2021.1894533>
3. **Fleenor, D. W.**, Atkinson, H. G., Karani, R., Lerner, S., Leisman, S., & Marin, D. (2022). An innovative approach for integrating mandatory, longitudinal spirituality training into the medical school curriculum. *Academic Medicine*, 97(2), 215-221. <https://doi.org/10.1097/acm.0000000000004494>
4. **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>
5. Hirschmann, J., **Fleenor, D. W.**, Van Thyn, R., & Sharma, V. (2022). CPE for leaders: Adapting Clinical Pastoral Education’s learning methodology for healthcare managers and directors. *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, 28(4), 510-525. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08854726.2021.1929765>
6. 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*, 76(1), 37-47. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F15423050211073572>
7. Szilagyi, C., Tartaglia, A., Palmer, P. K., **Fleenor, D. W.**, Jackson-Jordan, E., Knoll Sweeney, S., & Slaven, J. E. (2022). Delivering Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) remotely: Educators’ views and perspectives during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. *Journal of Pastoral Care & Counseling*, 76(3), 189-209. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F15423050221094492>

8. **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>
9. **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>
10. 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](https://doi.org/10.15766/mep_2374-8265.10784)
11. **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>
12. 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>
13. 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. Marin, D.B., Sharma, V., Powers, R. & **Fleenor, D.** Spiritual care and physicians: Understanding spirituality in medical practice. HealthCare Chaplaincy Network. [https://members.spiritualcareassociation.org/Files/docs/hccn\\_whitepaper\\_spirituality\\_and\\_physicians.pdf](https://members.spiritualcareassociation.org/Files/docs/hccn_whitepaper_spirituality_and_physicians.pdf)
3. **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.
4. **Fleenor, D.** (2014, February 19). Eight things every new chaplaincy director needs to know. *PlainViews*. 11(3). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
5. Siegel, J. and **Fleenor, D.** (2013, December 18). Nelson Mandela and the African concept of ubuntu. *PlainViews*. 10(23). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
6. **Fleenor, D.** (2013, July 17). Three simple ways to stay abreast of chaplaincy related research. *PlainViews*. 10(12). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.

7. **Fleenor, D.** (2012, June 20). A new app for interfaith care of the ill. *PlainViews*. 9(10). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
8. **Fleenor, D.** (2011, March 2). 10 questions for the first day of CPE. *PlainViews*. 8(3). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.
9. **Fleenor, D.** (2011, February 16). Smartphone apps for chaplains. *PlainViews*. 8(2). <http://plainviews.healthcarechaplaincy.org>.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Teaching Experience

2015 – Present

Clinical Pastoral Education

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

Undergraduate medical education class sessions in the following courses:

- Medicine in Contemporary Society
- 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  
9<sup>th</sup> 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  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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  
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education/Association of Professional Chaplains Joint National Online 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 Professional Development Intensive  
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 21<sup>st</sup> 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	Award Winning Documentary Film <i>A Still Small Voice</i> 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 Film <i>Chaplains</i> 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.