

Reverend Mary Elizabeth Toler, Th.D, LMFT

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Education

Advanced Certificate in Clinical Supervision; Smith College School of Social Work, August 2016
Doctor of Theology in Pastoral Counseling and Theology; Emory University, Candler School of Theology, August 2010
Clinical Pastoral Education; University of North Carolina Hospitals, June 1997
Master of Divinity; Duke University Divinity School, May 1996, Magna cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts in Christianity; Mercer University, May 1993

Professional Experience

- August 2018-Present **Associate Professor, Clinical Counseling**; Moravian Theological Seminary, Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA
Design and lead courses in the master's program for clinical counseling. Lead clinical supervision courses for students in internship programs. Serve as CPE coordinator for the department.
- January 2015-Present **Counselor**; Middleton Center for Pastoral Counseling, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr, PA.
Provide therapy for individuals, couples, and families. Co-facilitate monthly clergy support groups for the Episcopal Diocese of Philadelphia.
- January 2008- Present **Adjunct Professor for Pastoral Care and Counseling**; McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, Atlanta, GA
Design and lead courses and lectures for master's level courses entitled, "Introduction to Pastoral Care" (in class and on-line), "The Theory and Practice of Pastoral Counseling," "Pastoral Theological Integration in Pastoral Care and Counseling," "Pastoral Care of Senior Adults," and "Pastoral Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality"
- August 2013-August 2018 **Assistant Professor, Pastoral and Theological Studies**; Neumann University, Aston, PA
Design and lead courses in the CACREP master's program for clinical mental health counseling. Lead clinical supervision courses for students in internship programs. Serve as clinical coordinator for the department. Oversee dissertation projects.
- January 2014-May 2015 **Counselor**; Counseling Center for Wellness, Neumann University, Aston, PA
Provided therapy one day a week for undergraduate students. Participated in weekly team meetings and clinical consultations.
- August 2011-August 2014 **Adjunct Professor for Clinical Mental Health Counseling**; College of Continuing and Professional Studies, Mercer University, Atlanta, GA
Design and lead courses and lectures for CACREP master's level courses entitled, "Counseling Theories," "Integrating Spirituality in Counseling," and "Practicum Supervision."
- August 2006-July 2013 **Private Therapy Practice**; Atlanta, GA
Provided therapy for individuals, couples, and families.
- March 2011-November 2011 **On-Line Adjunct Professor for Pastoral Care**; Yankton-Eden Lay Theology Program, Yankton, SD with Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO
Designed and led on-line course entitled, "Introduction to Pastoral Care." This course is directed towards members of the South Dakota and Northern Plains Conference of the UCC who are seeking licensing for pastoral ministry.

July 2004 – November 2009

Pastoral Counselor/Chaplain; Skyland Trail Psychiatric Facility, Atlanta, GA
Initiated and developed full time pastoral counseling program. Led spirituality groups, women's group, grief group, recovery from trauma group; engaged in individual pastoral counseling; provided chaplain presence; led worship services, and offered consultation to staff. Developed and supervised a pastoral internship program in collaboration with the Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

September 2002 – August 2006

Pastoral Counseling Resident; Care and Counseling Center of Georgia, Atlanta, GA
Counseled individuals, families, and couples for psychotherapy. Participated in weekly supervision, clinical didactics and clinical case conferences.

Publications:

- (forthcoming: under contract as of May 2019) Toler, M. (2020) Friend or Foe?: Queer Women as Liminal Space in the Classroom. In Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner and Theresa Snorton (Eds.), *Women with 2020 Vision: Theologians on the Vote (1920), Voice, and Vision of Women*.
- (forthcoming: under contract as of October 2, 2017 submitted April 1, 2018) Toler, M. (2020) CRU. In Gary S. Smith (E d.), *American Religious History: Belief and Society through Time*. CA: ABC-CLIO, Inc.
- (forthcoming: under contract as of October 2, 2017 submitted April 1, 2018) Toler, M. (2020) Inter Varsity. In Gary S. Smith (E d.), *American Religious History: Belief and Society through Time*. CA: ABC-CLIO, Inc.
- In publication process: Toler, M. (2020). A Model for Psychological Healing: Angela of Foligno and Contemporary Clinical Models of Religious and Spiritual Integration? In Lezlie Knox (Ed.), *Franciscan Women: Medieval and Modern*. St. Bonaventure: Franciscan Institute Publications.
- Toler, M. (2019). [Review of Assessing and Communicating the Spiritual Needs of Children in Hospital: A New Guide for Healthcare Professionals and Chaplains by Alister Bull]. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017 in *The Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling*, 73(1).
- Toler, M. (2016). Teaching LGBTQ Pastoral Care and Counseling: A Formational Pastoral Pedagogical Approach. *Sacred Spaces*, 8.
- Toler, M. (2015). [Review of Primer on posttraumatic growth; An introduction and guide by M.B. Werdel & R.J. Wicks]. Hoboken: Wiley, 2012 in *Pastoral Psychology*, 64 (4).
- Blevins, J. and Mary Toler (2011). Something to Prove?: Pastoral Theology and Practice in the Context of Evidence-Based Outcomes. *Practical Matters: A Transdisciplinary Multimedia Journal of Religious Practices and Practical Theology*, 4.

Panels, Papers, Presentations and Workshops:

June 2019

Workshop Leader; Annual Meeting for the Society for Pastoral Theology, Denver, CO.
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "It's All Personal: Engaging, Enduring, and Transforming the Experience of Micro- Aggressions in the Classroom."

May 2019

Workshop Leader; Annual National Meeting for Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Phoenix, AZ
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "It's All Personal: Engaging, Enduring, and Transforming the Experience of Micro- Aggressions in the Pastoral Supervision."

October 2018

Workshop Leader; Southeastern Region Annual Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Kanuga Conference Center, Brevard, NC.
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "Supervision as Improv."

April 2018

Workshop Co-Leader; Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association, Pittsburgh, PA.
Planned and co-facilitated a workshop entitled, "When the Spirit Says Sing: Accessing Clinical Integrations of Spirituality and Religion."

- July 2017 **Workshop Co-Leader;** National Meeting for the Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling (ASERVIC), Richmond, VA
Planned and co-facilitated a workshop entitled, "Faith and Domestic Violence: Resource or Roadblock?"
- June 2017 **Paper Presentation:** College Theology Society, Salve Regina University, Newport, RI
Co-delivered with Mary Beth Yount, "Competencies and Identities: Ecumenism, Pluralism, and Interfaith Engagement."
- March 2017 **Panel Convener:** National Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Decatur, GA
Facilitated panel discussion entitled, "Graduate Education and CACREP Accreditation: What Educators Need to Know"
- March 2017 **Workshop Leader:** CEU Event for the Atlantic Region of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors.
Planned and Facilitated CEU event workshop entitled, "Clinical and Theological Perspectives on Suicide."
- November 2016 **Workshop Co-Leader;** Atlantic Region Annual Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Neumann University, Aston, Pennsylvania.
Planned and co-facilitated a workshop entitled, "Faith and Domestic Violence: Resource or Roadblock?"
- July 2016 **Paper Presentation:** *What Can Angela of Foligno Teach Us About Integrating Religion and Spirituality in Contemporary Models of Counseling?*
Delivered at the Women and Franciscan Tradition Conference, The Franciscan Institute, St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY.
- October 2016 **Panel Respondent;** *Understanding Adolescent Sexuality*, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr, PA
Panel respondent for a parent education event on adolescent sexuality.
- June 2016 **Paper Presentation:** *Not Just The Object of My Affection: Clinical Implications of a Franciscan Relational God.* Delivered at the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities, Marian University, Indianapolis, IN.
- March 2016 **Paper Presentation:** *Not Just the Object of My Affection: Clinical Implications of a Relational God.* Delivered at the Annual Mid-Atlantic Region Meeting for the American Academy of Religion, Trenton, NJ.
- January 2016 **Panel Respondent;** The Representation Project Film Series, Bryn Mawr Film Institute, Bryn Mawr, PA
Panel respondent for a viewing of the film, Miss Representation, as part of a public forum series on gender and culture.
- October 2015 **Workshop Leader;** Southeastern Region Annual Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Kanuga Conference Center, Brevard, NC.
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "Demystifying the Supervisory Experience"
- February 2015 **Workshop Co-Leader;** 14th Annual Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling & Education, Savannah, GA
Planned and co-facilitated a workshop entitled, "Beyond the Personal: A Pedagogical Framework that Fosters Open Engagement of LGBTQ Issues."
- November 2014 **Workshop Co-Leader;** Atlantic Region Annual Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Loyola University, Columbia, Maryland.
Planned and co-facilitated a workshop entitled, "Demystifying the Supervisory Experience"

- April 2014 **Workshop Leader;** National Annual Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Saint Louis, MO
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "Recovery, Hope and Healing: New, Integrative Models for Understanding and Engaging Schizophrenia and Religiously Oriented Psychosis."
- February 2013 **Workshop Leader;** 12th Annual Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling & Education, Savannah, GA
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "Beyond Guilt and Shame: Addressing Racists Thoughts through the Practice of Dialectical Behavior Therapy."
- September 2012 **Speaker;** American Foundation of Suicide Prevention- Metro Atlanta Chapter
Offered inter-faith reflection for candle light memorial/vigil for National Suicide Prevention Month.
- March 2012 **Speaker;** Volunteer Training, Dekalb County Rape Crisis Center, Decatur, GA
September 2012 *Presented spiritual/religious issues that survivors of sexual assault face.*
- April 2012 **Workshop Leader;** National Annual Meeting for the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, Leesburg, VA
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "Beyond Guilt and Shame: Addressing Racists Thoughts through the Practice of Dialectical Behavior Therapy." This workshop explored the tenets of Dialectical Behavior Therapy as a therapeutic tool for dealing with the reality of racist thoughts and feelings.
- February 2012 **Presenter/Panel Respondent;** *Unity in the Beloved Community*, a conference addressing issues of race, diversity, and community sponsored by the Multicultural Student Association of Mercer University's McAfee School of Theology, Atlanta, GA.
- April 2011 **Co-Presenter;** Boundary Training for South Dakota UCC Conference, Chamberlain, SD
- November 2010 **Paper Presentation** for *Faith and Trauma: Light in Darkness* a conference sponsored by Austin Heights Baptist Church in partnership with the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX. Paper title: *"Breaking the Theological Cycle of Violence: A Pastoral Theology of the Cross and Domestic Violence."*
- June 2008 **Workshop Leader;** Society for Pastoral Theology Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA
Planned and facilitated a workshop entitled, "Listening to Africa: Reimagining Pastoral Theology, Counseling and Care in the Age of HIV/AIDS Treatment and Preventio

Professional Affiliations:

- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, State of Georgia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- American Academy of Religion, Member
- American Baptist Churches, USA, Ordained Minister
- Society for Pastoral Theology, Member
- Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Psychotherapist Member

Professional Organization Leadership Activities:

- March 2019-Present **Member, Interim Psychotherapy Commission;** Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
As part of the merger between AAPC and ACPE, this commission creates the foundational framework and provides oversight for the formation and continuing education of ACPE Psychotherapists, pastoral counselors and other related spiritual care providers.

- January 2019-Present
President; Board of Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling
The Mission of JPCP Inc. is to advance theory and professional practice through scholarly and reflective publications. The Vision of JPCP Inc. is advancing theory and professional practice through scholarly and reflective literature on pastoral and spiritual care, counseling, psychotherapy, education, and research.
- November 2018-Present
Member, Steering Committee; American Academy of Religion: Psychology, Culture and Religion Group
- January 2017-December 2019
Vice President; Board of Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling
The Mission of JPCP Inc. is to advance theory and professional practice through scholarly and reflective publications. The Vision of JPCP Inc. is advancing theory and professional practice through scholarly and reflective literature on pastoral and spiritual care, counseling, psychotherapy, education, and research.
- January 2015-March 2019
Leadership Development Committee Chair; Atlantic Region, American Association of Pastoral Counselors
Develops leadership experiences; Identifies and nurtures potential leaders within the region; Maintains connections with Area Leaders to identify potential leaders; Manages mentoring/supervision program; Contributes to the decision-making process and provides "hands-on" support as needed; facilitates local area programming
- January 2013-December 2014
Leadership Development Committee Member; Atlantic Region, American Association of Pastoral Counselors
Collaborates with the Education/Contact Hours Coordinator to plan Area educational events; Serves as local arranger for Region-sponsored events; Identifies members who can serve as facilitators of events; Provides leadership in promoting AAPC within their specific Area; Assists with identifying potential leaders
- Current Community Service:**
- July 2017-Present
Laurel House, Mainline Task Force Member; Bryn Mawr, PA
Serve on a committee of religious leaders and clinicians who are helping Laurel House, a domestic violence service program, to develop outreach, programmatic, and service opportunities for residents of the Mainline of Philadelphia.
- January 2014-Present
Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion; Philadelphia, PA
Active congregational member; preach regularly at worship services; serve on worship planning committee; teach adult education
- Other Relevant Experience:**
- March 2011
Retreat Leader; Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Atlanta, GA
Facilitated a congregation wide retreat. The retreat focused on a pastoral, experiential engagement with the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist and the reality of the Communion of Saints.
- May 2007
 August 2005
Retreat Leader; Christian Council of Churches, Zambia, Africa
Facilitated a retreat for people living with HIV/AIDS in Zambia. The retreat focused on providing emotional and spiritual support for participants, as well as providing education about HIV/AIDS – how it works, how it is transmitted, and other relevant issues related to living with the disease.
- March 2011
 March 2006
 March 2005
Retreat Leader; Duluth Presbyterian Church, Duluth, Georgia
Facilitated retreats for women congregants. The retreats focused on providing emotional and spiritual support in connection with their specific lives as women.

January 2004
March 2001

Retreat Participant; Five Day Ignatian Silent Retreat, Georgetown University
Participated in the Spiritual Exercises in the context of a five day silent Ignatian retreat sponsored and led by the campus ministry of Georgetown University

March 1995

Worker/Participant; Habitat for Humanity, Brazil
Participated in a three week construction project and engaged in other socio-economic and cultural educational opportunities.