2017 WEBINARS

General Information:

Continuing Education Hours and Cost
Participants qualify for 2.0 CEHs total for each session (which includes 90 minutes for the webinar plus 30 minutes preparation time), unless otherwise indicated. A CEH certificate is provided for download by participants. For NACC members the registration fee for each individual webinar is $40 per connection for the live sessions or $40 to purchase the recordings. For non-members the registration fee is $55 per connection for the live sessions or $55 to purchase the recordings. We are offering a special package that includes all our January - December 2017 webinars at a discounted rate of $320 for members and $430 for non-members.

Registration
To Register for Live Sessions:
Please register early – space is limited! Complete the registration form and send with your check, made payable to NACC, to: Andris Kursietis, National Association of Catholic Chaplains, 4915 S. Howell Avenue, Suite 501, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Registration will not be considered complete until the NACC receives your registration form and fee. Access information and presentation materials will be made available to participants one week before the webinar session. When you register for the live sessions, you will automatically be eligible for a copy of the recordings.

To Order Recordings:
When you order the webinar recordings you will receive access to the recordings of the webinar sessions, as well as the companion presentation materials. The recording will be made available for download from the NACC website once payment is received. Upon payment, the national office will e-mail you a web-link that will give you access to the recordings. The recordings are accessible using a large variety of software. Please Note: If you order a webinar which has yet to take place, you will receive the recording approximately one week after the webinar has been completed.
Audio Conferences Available:

**Social Justice and Chaplaincy in Settings Other Than Healthcare**
Presented by Barbara Sheehan, SP
Thursday, January 26, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

**Program Summary**
This webinar explores the intersectionality of social justice and chaplaincy. It identifies the dynamics of those whose primary crisis is social and reflects on the areas of spiritual assessment and effective responses by a chaplain/caring practitioner.

**Program Objectives**
1. To increase participants’ awareness of chaplaincy beyond institutional healthcare facilities.
2. To provide helpful assessment tools in caring with those challenged with social crises.
3. To enhance the participants’ practice of care of the whole person.
4. To deepen participants’ connection of actions and faith in the healing ministry of care for today’s needs.

**About the Presenter**
Barbara Sheehan is a Sister of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana. Since August 1995 she is the ACPE Supervisor and Executive Director at Urban CPE Consortium, Inc. in Chicago, IL. She was fully certified as an ACPE Supervisor in 1986, and has spent 14 years as a Hospital/Medical Center Chaplain with foci on hospice, behavioral health (in-patient and aftercare), infant loss and general medical surgery. Sister Barbara earned a Masters in Theology from Xavier University, Cincinnati, and is the author of a book entitled *Partners In Covenant: The Art of Spiritual Companionship*, published by Pilgrim Press.

**Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT): Opportunities for Chaplains**
Presented by Jason Nieuwsma, Ph.D.
Thursday, February 16, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

**Program Summary**
Chaplains have a long history of utilizing principles from psychotherapeutic modalities, as evidenced perhaps most explicitly in the clinical pastoral education (CPE) tradition. For various reasons, however, chaplains have not always fully embraced principles from more current, evidence-based psychotherapies. This presentation will explore opportunities for doing so within Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) – a contemporary, evidence-based psychotherapy that is highly compatible with the practice of chaplaincy.

**Program Objectives**
By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:
1. Enumerate multiple points of resonance between ACT and chaplaincy.
2. Describe the basic elements of the ACT model, important underlying assumptions, and areas of similarity with and departure from other prominent evidence-based psychotherapies.
3. Articulate how as an evidence-based therapy, ACT provides distinctive windows of possibility for chaplains to more optimally integrate their services with those of other care professionals.

**About the Presenter**
Dr. Jason Nieuwsma is a clinical psychologist who is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University Medical Center and serves as the Associate Director for the VA Mental Health and Chaplaincy Program. His work focuses on increasing the availability and cultural relevance of evidence-based psychosocial approaches across various contexts, with areas of expertise in health psychology, cross-cultural psychology, dissemination and implementation science, and spirituality and health. In recent years, Dr. Nieuwsma has helped to lead multiple national-level projects aimed at more effectively integrating chaplaincy and mental health care services. He has authored dozens of peer-reviewed journal articles and is a co-editor on the book *ACT for Clergy and Pastoral Counselors.*

**Where's the Evidence? Introduction to Research Literacy ~ Part 2**
Presented by LaVera Crawley, MD, MPH
Program Summary
Where is the evidence that the pastoral care that you offer as a chaplain is effective? What directs your choice of interventions? Are you guided by tradition, inner wisdom, or your own experience, or is your clinical work more “data-driven” – informed by clinical evidence?

This webinar explores how we can use evidence-based practices that integrate both theology and science to improve the quality and effectiveness of our spiritual caregiving. It is designed to provide chaplain viewers/listeners a solid foundation for identifying evidence-based clinical literature relevant to spiritual care and for assessing the quality and robustness of evidence to guide clinical interventions. A brief review of the basic “hierarchies of evidence” will lay the groundwork for beginning inquirers. This is followed by reviewing online tools for accessing evidence-based literature. Lastly, a practical example will enable participants to apply evidence-based strategies to inform their best practices in chaplaincy and spiritual care.

Program Objectives
By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:
1. Identify types of evidence used in research literature to guide practice interventions.
2. Know where to find the evidence using online databases and other resources.
3. Apply their understanding of clinical evidence to inform decision-making and best practices in chaplaincy and spiritual care.

About the Presenter
LaVera Crawley joined NACC in 2011 and is an ACPE Supervisory Candidate. She has served on the NACC Research Task Force and is now on the NACC Research Advisory Panel. For more than 30 years, LaVera has had successful careers in medicine and ethics, and academic research in health disparities in end-of-life care for which she received national and international recognition. LaVera received her MD from Meharry Medical College; completed her Family Medicine residency and chief residency at USCF; her MPH from UC Berkeley; an Ethics Fellowship at Stanford; and a Palliative Care Education Fellowship at Harvard. Along with her CPE supervisory work, she also serves on the Palliative Care Team at the Alta Bates Campus. As a Catholic lay woman, LaVera is active in the social justice programs in her parish.

Promoting Inner Healing From Addiction
Presented by Rev. Victoria M. Kumorowski, JD, LLM, MJS, DMin
Thursday, May 25, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
This webinar is based upon the Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual (BPSS) Model of Addiction, which takes into consideration the biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dynamics that combine to form substance addictions (Horvath et al. 2016, 1). It primarily focuses upon the underlying spiritual nature and consequences of all addiction. It demonstrates that healing from substance addiction requires much more than just abstaining from the addictive behavior (Rohr 2011, xx). It emphasizes that real healing involves a spiritual transformation of the self that only results from “living into” God’s radical grace (Rohr; May 1988, 125-126). The webinar concludes by discussing ways in which chaplains can help to promote this type of inner healing among patients who are imprisoned by their addictions.

Program Objectives
By the end of this webinar, participants will have:
1. Gained a greater understanding of the nature of addiction.
2. Gained a deeper understanding of the underlying causes of addiction.
3. Gained a greater understanding of the recovery process as a spiritual journey.
4. Gained an understanding of the type of spiritual care that promotes healing from addiction.

About the Presenter
Victoria Kumorowski practiced law for a number of years and served four years as a state trial court judge in Kansas, before changing careers and becoming an ordained minister and board certified chaplain. She received a Masters of Divinity from Phillips Theological seminary in 2000, and a Doctor of Ministry in Formational Counseling from Ashland
Theological Seminary in 2012. During the past ten years, she has served as the director of Spiritual Care (and voluntarily as an ethics consultant) for Genesis Health Care System in Zanesville Ohio, which is partially owned by the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity. During the past four years, she has also served as an adjunct professor, teaching online courses in Principles of Biomedical Ethics (Phil 305), Global issues and Values (Religion 393), and Legal Issues in Health Care (HLSC 406) for Muskingum University. Most important of all, she is the mother of three adult sons, whom she greatly loves and respects, and has three wonderful grandchildren.

Collaboration to Address Compassion Fatigue in Hospital Staff
Presented by Jim Manzardo, STB, BCC, Kristi Thime, RN, CNML, and Courtney Piha, RN
Thursday, June 15, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
Compassion fatigue encompasses secondary trauma and burnout from constant caring for others in tragic circumstances. Chaplains are uniquely positioned to recognize and address this phenomenon in hospital staff. We describe an ongoing effort to address compassion fatigue in a large pediatric intensive care unit using a collaborative multidisciplinary approach, in which the chaplain has played an integral multifunctional role. Participants in this webinar are encouraged to share ways they engage team members in efforts to build resilience and reduce compassion fatigue.

Program Objectives
By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:
1. Recognize risk factors for compassion fatigue and how to identify compassion fatigue in hospital staff.
2. Describe one hospital's interdisciplinary, collaborative process to address staff compassion fatigue.
3. Understand the breadth and importance of the chaplain's role in identifying compassion fatigue and building resilience in staff.

About the Presenters
Jim Manzardo is a chaplain at the Ann and Robert H Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago where he has worked for the past two years in the pediatric intensive care unit. Previously, he was the primary chaplain for the Hematology-Oncology-Stem Cell Transplant service for nineteen years. He also has been part of the Palliative Care and Ethics teams and is a facilitator of a nursing transitions program for new nurses during their first year of nursing. Jim also has been incorporating mindfulness meditation into the hospital environment.

Kristi Thime is the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Manager of Patient Care Operations at the Ann and Robert H Lurie Childrens Hospital of Chicago. Kristi began in the PICU as a staff nurse after graduation in 1994. She currently oversees a staff of 120 nurses and 10 nursing assistants. In her role, she advises several nursing committees including the nursing bereavement committee, which is how she became involved in the R3 project. She feels privileged to work with a highly-trained, compassionate staff that strives each day to make every patient experience exceptional.

Courtney Piha has been a PICU nurse for 7 years. Prior to coming to Lurie Children’s hospital in April, 2012, she worked in Lutheran General’s PICU from August 2009-April 2012. Currently she is the co-chair of the PICU bereavement committee as well as a member of the hospital ethics committee. With the help of a pediatric intensivist, nurse manager and chaplain, she created the R3 debriefing tool for the PICU. The R3 has been well received and is now available house wide. She recently presented the R3 debriefing tool at the Society of Critical Care Medicine in Hawaii and plans to present the tool at the Nursing Ethics Conference in March.

ACE’s In Places - Adverse Childhood Experiences and their impact on Spiritual Care
Presented by Deacon Jack Conrad, BCC
Thursday, July 13, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) are hidden stories in lives that manifest themselves in behavior, beliefs, diseases and early death. Early studies done by Feletti and Alda (1995) show that adverse experiences when you were a child have significant impact on your health and relationships. As Chaplains, our awareness of these stories can aid us in effectively ministering to those who may have high ACE scores. Creating awareness of ACE scores amongst ourselves and interdisciplinary staff will help all to more effectively provide care in our institutions.
The Webinar will present:

a) Current knowledge of Adverse Childhood Experiences and their impact on those with higher scores.
b) Specific Cases related to interaction with families and patience with high ACE Scores.
c) Discussion on the impact of dealing with and ministering to patients and families with high ACE Scores as Chaplains.

Program Objectives
By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:
1) Gain insight on the current literature concerning Adverse Childhood Experiences.
2) Hear and discuss cases related to ministering to patients and families with high ACE scores.
3) Come away with ideas as to how to deal with and minister to families and patients with high ACE scores.

About the Presenter
Jack Conrad has been a Deacon for 24 years and currently serves in the Diocese of Memphis TN. He serves as Director of Spiritual Care for LeBonheur Children’s Hospital. Jack has been a chaplain for the Methodist Healthcare System for 11 years serving in Hospice, Adult Cancer Care, and Pediatrics. Jack is a Board Certified Chaplain (2009) and has a Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics and Economics, a Master’s in Business Administration, and a Masters in Religion. Jack and his wife Linda have 5 children – four of which were adopted, three of which had ACE Scores of 10. Jack is currently working on several research projects associated with the impact of ACE Scores on adverse outcomes in Surgery, Compliance in visitation, and methods to impact people who have had Adverse Childhood Experiences.

Certification by the NACC
Presented by Linda A. Bronersky BCC-S and Sean K. Doll O'Mahoney MDiv, BCC
Thursday, July 20, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
This webinar will provide participants with an overview of the NACC certification process, with special attention to the revised NACC standards and procedures. We will present key information about certification and provide a forum for answering questions about certification with the NACC. This free webinar will be presented by members of the NACC Certification Commission. This webinar will be repeated in November.

Dementia and Growing Older
Presented by Sr. M. Peter Lillian Di Maria, O.Carm., BA, LNHA and Alfred W. Norwood, BS, MBA
Thursday, August 3, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
Tapping into one’s Faith belief and understanding a person’s spirituality is a key component to helping those who suffer from different types of dementia. It has been seen that many people with advanced levels of dementia are still comforted by spiritual practices. In this session, Alfred Norwood will discuss dementia and its impact on understanding. Sr. Peter will provide insight on how to identify and provide spirituality for those with a dementia diagnosis.

Program Objectives
1. Discuss the impact of dementia’s progressive, irreversible mental losses on patient behavior.
2. Describe mental process that remain and can be used to facilitate a “behaviorless” decline for those with dementia.
3. Discuss spirituality of aging as it applies to dementia and discuss spiritual approaches for elders especially those living with dementia.

About the Presenters
Sr. M. Peter Lillian has over thirty-five years' experience in the continuum care ministry as a Carmelite Sister for the Aged and Infirm. Sr. Peter Lillian has served her community in many administrative positions and has lectured many times on Alzheimer's disease, palliative care, geriatric spiritual care, family care issues, stress reduction, leadership development, and team building. Sr. Peter has developed successful dementia-care programs, dementia care curriculums and assisted in developing a palliative care resource manual that is specific for geriatric care. Over the past fifteen years, Sr. Peter and the Avila Institute of Gerontology have worked with many Congregations concerning aging issues, as well as, providing
congregational management and education services. She has a BA in Secondary Education and currently holds three state licenses as a Nursing Home Administrator.

Alfred Norwood holds a BS degree and graduate study in Physiological Psychology from Michigan State University and an MBA from the University of Chicago. For 25 years he was the founder and managing partner of Organization Development Associates Inc. (Minneapolis, Palo Alto & Brussels), a management consulting company assisting multinational organizations in team based strategic planning and corporate development. Upon moving to Rochester he founded Companion Radio a satellite service to LTC and Assisted Living facilities. Observing the impending aging care crisis he formed Behavior Science, Inc. which developed tools and training programs for nursing homes, assisted living and home care agencies. For 15 years he has worked with Sr. Peter at the Avila Institute of Gerontology to help Avila clients better meet the needs of seniors they serve.

**Renewal of Certification by the NACC**

Presented by NACC Certification Commissioners Dr. Jane W. Smith BCC and Austine O. Duru BCC

Thursday, August 10, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

**Program Summary**

This webinar will provide participants with an overview of the renewal of certification process and documentation and provide a forum for answering questions about NACC renewal of certification. This free webinar will be presented by members of the NACC Certification Commission.

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**Dignity in Dying: Catholic Approaches to End-of-Life Intervention**

Presented by Gerard Magill, PhD

Thursday, September 14, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

**Program Summary**

The presentation discusses dying in dignity to present Catholic approaches to end-of-life interventions. Three related perspectives are examined. First, there is an explanation of the guiding ethical principles in the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services (5th ed. USCC, Washington, DC, 2009). Second, there is a consideration of Palliative Care as crucial for life-limiting chronic diseases as part of end-of-life care, especially when challenged by increasing policy support for assisted suicide. Third, several ethically puzzling end-of-life issues are discussed, including terminal sedation, donation after cardiac death, and posthumous pregnancy.

**Program Objectives**

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the guiding Catholic ethical principles in the ERDs on end-of-life care.
2. Appreciate the importance of Palliative Care in response to assisted suicide.
3. Become familiar with major end-of-life issues that can be ethically puzzling.

**About the Presenter**

In 2007 Professor Gerard Magill was appointed as the the Vernon F. Gallagher Chair for the Integration of Science, Theology, Philosophy, and Law at Duquesne University. He is a tenured Professor in Duquesne University’s Center for Healthcare Ethics. He graduated with the following degrees: Gregorian University, Rome, Italy (1969-1976), Bachelor Degree in Philosophy (PhB); Bachelor Degree in Theology (STB); Master’s Degree in Theological Ethics (STL); Edinburgh University, Scotland (1987), Ph.D. degree in Theological Ethics. He is completing a book on Governance Ethics for Boards of Directors in Healthcare. His most recent book is, Religious Morality in John Henry Newman: Hermeneutics of the Imagination, Springer, 2015.

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**Ministry in a World of Violence**

Presented by Laura Kaufmann, BCC and Rev. Richard James, BCC

Thursday, October 19, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

**Program Summary**
Ministry in a World of Violence will focus on doing spiritual care ministry in a large trauma center that engages much of the violence that takes place in Chicago. Richard will share his 30+ years of ministering in the emergency room with patients, staff, family member, law enforcement, and community members. Laura began working at this center a year ago and will share her experiences with the many questions she faced. Both presenters will discuss their ministry and theology as it embraces the many social issues involved in violence.

Program Objectives
1. To identify and discuss the skills and perspectives needed to minister in a large urban trauma center.
2. To talk about and work with the judgements and challenges that one can face in dealing with violence and trauma.
3. To look at some of the developing issues in this ministry such as Involving the Community and Trauma Informed Care.

About the Presenters
Laura Kaufmann is an ACPE certified educator and board certified chaplain working at Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn Illinois. Laura did parish work for the Catholic Church for 19 years. She then moved into chaplaincy getting certified by both NACC and ACPE. Laura's ministry was in Wisconsin and the Chicago area. Laura keeps active in kayaking, gardening and cooking.

Rev. James proclaims, “First and foremost, I am a human being, created in the image of God, a person of faith, a member of the Christian Church, called to follow Jesus as a disciple in Christian ministry.” He is a Board-Certified Chaplain of the Association of Professional Chaplains. He is currently fulfilling his calling to God by serving as Senior Staff Chaplain, in the Emergency Department, and two intensive care units at Advocate Christ Medical Center (ACMC), where he has served for the past 24 years. Rev. James is also a member of the ACMC Emergency Management Committee. He is a member, commissioned and endorsed by the Federation of Christian Ministries, serving as Vice President of the Mountains & Plains Region, covering fifteen States. His most influential life experiences are; academic reflection, at Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS); experiential learning and growth during Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), years of ministerial experience as Staff Chaplain at ACMC, in addition to his ministry as former Senior Pastor at Lincoln Memorial Congregational United Church of Christ, where he served for 12 years. These experiences bestowed within him theoretical and practical skills for ministry. For example, at CTS he developed a theology of Divine benevolent intent, and a theoretical model for doing ministry; The Experiential Narrative Journey, both resources assisting his efforts to engage persons within contextual circumstances. On the other hand, CPE enhanced the quality and effectiveness of his pastoral presence with patients, families, medical staff and students, by providing an opportunity to increase and integrate self-awareness and knowledge of the pastoral and educator roles. Rev. James says, “My belief in God’s providential presence is the grounding conviction and the germinating seed of my ethic of benevolent intent, the Divinely inspired concern and respect for the wellbeing of all persons. My passion for this theological ethic is manifested by bringing the spiritual care to intersect human experience in a practical, and meaningful manner.”

Certification by the NACC
Presented by the NACC
Thursday, November 2, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
This webinar is a repeat of the July presentation, and will provide participants with an overview of the NACC certification process, with special attention to the revised NACC standards and procedures. We will present key information about certification and provide a forum for answering questions about certification with the NACC. This free webinar will be presented by members of the NACC Certification Commission.

Moral distress
Presented by Dr. Rodger F. Accardi BCC and Karen Pugliese, MA, BCC
Thursday, November 16, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

Program Summary
Although stress is a common experience in health care environments, moral distress continues to emerge as a key factor negatively and pervasively affecting healthcare providers. “Moral Distress” was initially defined in 1984. Researchers, however, only began to empirically measure this phenomenon in the last decade. There is little research regarding
effective interventions that enhance psycho-social-spiritual well-being and create a more resilient interdisciplinary workforce. We will present experiential evidence that chaplains, together with interdisciplinary colleagues, can play a significant role in providing supportive interventions that enhance clinical and ethical practice, and contribute to improved patient care and outcomes.

**Program Objectives**

1. Identify the unique characteristics of Moral Distress and the constraints it imposes on professional values and standards of practice.
2. Explore empirical evidence of the psycho-social-spiritual implications of Moral Distress for healthcare professionals.
3. Examine statistically significant decreases in reported Moral Distress following interventions provided by a chaplain in an interdisciplinary partnership.

**About the Presenters**

Rod Accardi, D. Min. is Director of Spiritual Care Resources at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois. He has a BA in Theology, Master of Education, Doctor of Ministry, and is a former NACC Certified CPE Supervisor (1982-2007) and is currently a Board Certified Chaplain with the NACC. Rod has taught on the college level for 6 years and made numerous presentations around the country over the past 37 years including ACHE, APC, NACC, CHA, ASA Forum on Religion, Spirituality and Aging, etc. He has also facilitated numerous retreats and workshops.

Karen Pugliese MA BCC is an Advanced Practice Chaplain at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Illinois. She holds a BA in Religious Studies, and a Master of Religious Studies. Karen was Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains in 2007-2008. She served as a Key Advisor to Making Health Care Whole: Integrating Spirituality into Patient Care by Christina Puchalski, MD and Berry Ferrell, RN, PhD, and contributed content to the Templeton Foundation funded Palliative Care Consensus Conference. She also served as a Mentor in the Coleman Foundation Palliative Medicine Training Program, and has made numerous presentations around the country over the past 27 years including APC, ACHE, NACC, ASA, CHA, AACCN, IONL and the Beryl Institute. She too has facilitated numerous retreats and workshops.

**Developing & Competent Chaplains**

Presented by Tom O’Connor, PhD  
Thursday, December 14, 2017 – 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Central Time

**Program Summary**

How do you know if you are becoming a more competent chaplain with each passing year? In a year from now, will your skills, your humanity and your relationship with the divine be the same, or more complex? Research has found that most people in the helping professions stop growing in their skills after about two years of work in the field. A small group of professionals, however, keep on growing, and they achieve much higher rates of success with the people they serve. This webinar will show you how to be one of those professionals who keep growing.

Tom O’Connor, Ph.D., has trained thousands of chaplains in the US, Canada, Ireland, England, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand, and he has learnt that training is not enough to ensure growth. Adding the right kind of support, objective assessment, feedback and coaching about what we say and do in our actual ministry is necessary to develop our natural strengths and grow in our skills.

Tom will talk about a new process of selecting, supporting, training, assessing, giving feedback and coaching chaplains to competency as an active listener, coach, change agent and learner. After six months in this process, your skills, humanity and relationship with the divine will be more developed and more complex. At the heart of this approach is a small online practice community of fellow chaplains, and a skilled coach who can help you avoid stagnation and burnout, gain support, and ensure measurable growth in your skills, wellbeing, and competencies.

**Program Objectives**

1. To increase the participants’ appreciation for the fascinating research on human development and professional competency.
2. To become more thoughtful, open and intentional about the participants’ development and competencies as a chaplain.
3. To increase participants’ motivation to take steps to grow as a chaplain.
4. To determine the next step participants need to take to develop their natural strengths and competencies.

About the Presenter
Tom O’Connor, Ph.D., grew up in Ireland and qualified as a solicitor (attorney) in the Irish legal system. Then Tom joined a contemplative Catholic religious order called the Carmelites and lived as a friar (a wandering monk) for 9 years working and studying in Ireland, Scotland, France and the US. The Carmelites sent Tom to Washington DC in 1987, and two years later he took a job at a research institute in Loyola University of Maryland evaluating the impact of a federal prison program on recidivism. Ever since, Tom has concentrated on issues of human development, change and effectiveness in the criminal justice system.

Tom has degrees in law, philosophy, theology and counselling; his Ph.D. from the Catholic University of America focused on Religion and Culture in the US Penal System. Tom has been nationally certified in the US as a chaplain and a counsellor, and trains many evidence-based practices such as Motivational Interviewing, Cognitive Behavioral Coaching and the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory. Tom also incorporates Implementation Science, Dialogue Coaching and the Immunity to Change: How to Overcome It and Unlock the Potential in Yourself and Your Organization® process into his work with personal and organizational development.

Tom lives in Salem, Oregon with Aislinn Adams, his wife, and Sorcha, his 15-year-old daughter. Most recently Tom worked as a research manager for two years and as the head chaplain for eight years with the Oregon Department of Corrections. Tom has published, trained, and coached widely, across the US and internationally, on leading change, organizational development, the contribution of chaplaincy and volunteers, the role of humanistic, spiritual and religious ways of making meaning in the desistance process, and collaborative ways of developing staff and successfully implementing evidence-based practices throughout the criminal justice system.

Tom teaches in the Criminal Justice Division at Western Oregon University, and is the CEO of Transforming Corrections whose mission is to advance a more effective, less costly and more compassionate criminal justice system.