

Professional Advisory Group:

Linda Wilkerson, Chair, retired ACPE Certified Educator, tprairiegirl@gmail.com

Carolyn Barksdale, ACPE Certified Education, Chaplain, USAF, Retired, carjbar@satx.rr.com

Jonathan Fischer, D.Min, BCC, Chaplain (Major), ACPE Certified Educator,
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Doug Slater, Chaplain, Colonel, USAF, Retired, Associate Director- Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies, DSlater@presfedchap.org

Brooks Heard, Certified Educator, ACPE Certified Educator, MD Anderson,
RBHeard@mdanderson.org

Irene Albritton, retired ACPE Certified Educator, pastorirenefcca@gmail.com

Mitchell Holley, BCC, Chaplain (Major), mitchell.holley.2@us.af.mil

Biographical Information for Professional Advisory Group

Linda Wilkerson

Linda is an ordained Baptist minister and retired ACPE Educator. She was the Director of Pastoral Care and Education for Parkland Health & Hospital System for almost 20 years. At the same time, she also served concurrently for 8 1/2 years as Co-Pastor of Iglesia Bill Harrod Church in west Dallas. Her father was a career Naval Officer and she has a special place in her heart for all who serve in the military. She is married to Mark Grace and is step-mom to two grown children and grandmother to six kiddos.

Chaplain (Major) Jonathan R. Fisher, DMin, BCC, ACPE CE

CH (MAJ) Jonathan R. Fisher is a native of Reed City, Michigan. He holds a BA in Music and Theology, an MA and MDiv from Luther Rice Seminary, as well as a Doctor of Ministry from Erskine Theological Seminary. His Army education includes the Chaplain Officer Basic Course, Chaplain Career Course, and the Air Assault School. He completed the Army CPE Educator fellowship at Brooke Army Medical Center in 2020 and is now a Certified Educator with the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education. He recently stood up the Center for Extended Clinical Pastoral Education as a part of the US Army CPE System. CH Fisher is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Before becoming an Army chaplain, CH Fisher served as associate pastor, worship leader, and high school teacher in Georgia and New Jersey. CH Fisher was

commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Georgia Army National Guard in September 2004 assigned to Joint Force Headquarters Atlanta, GA. In 2005, he was assigned to 2-121st Infantry Battalion, Fort Stewart, GA. He then deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom under the Third Infantry Division, Task Force Baghdad. He was mobilized again in the 188th Infantry Brigade, Ft. Stewart, GA in support of Operation Warrior Trainer. He served as an Observer, Controller, and Trainer with that unit on Ft. Stewart until he entered Active Service in February of 2008. He immediately deployed to Iraq again and served as the Battalion Chaplain for the 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division in Baghdad, Iraq. After returning to Hunter Army Airfield, he was reassigned to the 832nd Ordnance Battalion, at Redstone Arsenal, AL. He was then selected to attend the Clinical Pastoral Education course at Madigan Army Medical Center, Ft. Lewis, WA. Following his CPE residency, he was assigned to the 15th Military Police Brigade where he served as the staff chaplain at the Joint Regional Correctional Facility and United States Disciplinary Barracks Fort Leavenworth, KS. After completing the Chaplain's Career Course at Ft. Jackson, SC, CH Fisher was assigned to the 2-44 Air Defense Artillery Battalion on Ft. Campbell, KY where he deployed to Operation Inherent Resolve with the 101st Airborne Division in Iraq. Upon returning, he became the brigade chaplain for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Sustainment Brigade. He completed his Certified Educator process at Brooke Army Medical Center where he then served as the Director of the CPE program. He currently serves as Director for the Center for Extended CPE with the IRL- Graduate School at Ft. Jackson, SC.

In April of 2005, Jonathan married Sara Nave of Cedar Springs, Michigan. She is also an ordained minister and has served churches in SC, KY, and TX. The Fishers have three children, Sophia (15), Ransom (13), and Lenora (11) and a schnauzer named Schuyler. They reside in Irmo, SC.

CH Fisher's Awards include: the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (3OLC), the Army Commendation Medal (3OLC), the Army Achievement Medal (1OLC), the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal with two stars, the Operation Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Mobilization Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon with the numeral 2, the Combat Action Badge and the Meritorious Unit Commendation (1OLC).

Doug Slater

Chaplain, Colonel Douglas J. Slater, USAF, Retired, serves as a Co-Director of the Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies. He is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Ch Slater retired in May 2019 from the Air Force after serving 30 years on Active Duty and 2 1/2 years in the Reserves. He received a Master of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Ch Slater also serves part-time as Stated Supply pastor at Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Willow Spring, NC.

Doug and Sharon live in Apex, North Carolina. They have 3 adult children and one granddaughter.

Carolyn Barksdale

Reverend Barksdale is a native of Waco, Texas. She is an Overseer of the Kingdom Council of Interdependent Christian Churches and Ministries. She also is the Executive Director of R.C. Freedom Ministries, Inc. a non-profit educational resource center.

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Reverend Barksdale received a Master of Divinity Degree with a concentration in “Word and Sacrament” from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, Texas in May 1998, and ordained to the Gospel Ministry that same year. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree (Cum Laude) in May 1991 from Saint Leo College in Saint Leo, Florida where she concentrated her studies in the field of Sociology. She received Ecclesiastical Endorsement for full-time chaplaincy in June 1998. She is a certified Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) CPE Educator assisting clergy and laypersons in the integration of theory and practice for ministry. As a federal contract chaplain, she is currently the Program Director of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at the San Antonio Military Medical Center, USAF CPE Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. She is the only CPE Educator for the United States Air Force training Air Force chaplains from around the world each year.

Reverend Barksdale is active within the ACPE organization. She has served as a member of the Southwest Regional Racial Ethnic Multicultural Committee; the Accreditation Committee, Chair ACPE Southwest Region and currently serves as a member of the Certification committee. On August 1, 1994, she retired from the United States Air Force with twenty-three years of honorable service.

Rev. Brooks Heard a Board Certified Chaplain and ACPE Certified Educator. He is an emerging leader in the field of spiritual care, education and training. Rev. Heard comes from a Christian background (Baptist). He grew up in many different parts of the world during his father's 22 year career in the U.S. Army.

Brooks currently serves as the Manager, Clinical Pastoral Education Program at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. He has a wide range of educational, cultural and spiritual experiences that influence his approach to his work. Brooks is a graduate of Columbia International University in Columbia, SC where he earned his Bachelors of Science degree and Masters of Divinity degree with a concentration in Educational Ministries. He completed his ACPE Certified Educator training at Palmetto Health in Columbia, SC and has extensive experience as a pastoral care provider in oncology, hospice and behavioral health settings.

Rev. Irene Henderson Albritton lives in Columbia, SC. She was ordained by Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church in Jacksonville, FL in June 1987 after graduating from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. After completing her CPE Residency and Supervisory training at Emory Healthcare in Atlanta, she moved to Columbia in 1992 to join the CPE faculty at Baptist Medical Center. In 1995, she became the Director of Chaplaincy & Pastoral Education for the newly formed Palmetto Health, created with the merger of Baptist Medical Center and Richland Memorial Hospital. In 2000, she changed denominations, having her ordination recognized by the South Carolina Region of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She served as Chaplaincy Director and active member of the CPE faculty until her retirement in May, 2017. She has served as pastor of First Christian Church Aiken since September 2018.

During her tenure as a CPE supervisor, Irene was active in ACPE at the Regional and National levels. She served two terms on the Board for the SE Region, served two terms on Certification, including one term as the first woman chair of the SE Region Certification Committee, and on Accreditation. She also served on the national Certification Commission and the national Accreditation Commission, including several years as a National Site Team Chair.

Her first Supervisory CPE student was an active duty Army Chaplain at Ft Gordon in Augusta. Part of the training included supervising the accreditation process needed to move Ft. Gordon from a Satellite Center of Palmetto Health to a free standing center. In addition to this direct military involvement, she also has supervised many students especially in the extended programs with Palmetto Health who were retired military shifting into ministry after completing their active duty assignments.

Irene's father served in World War II, both brothers served in the Air Force, one during the Vietnam War and one afterwards. Both brother in laws served in the Army, as did her husband, Ed. In her current congregation, a small church with under 40 members, there are 12 Veterans and two widows of retired military.

Irene and her husband Ed have three children and five grandchildren.

CHAPLAIN, MAJOR MITCHELL S. HOLLEY

Ch, Maj Mitchell S. Holley serves as a Staff Chaplain at the Air Force Chaplain Corps College located at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. In this capacity, Chaplain Holley is responsible for assisting the Deputy Commandant in the design, development, and execution of curriculum and courses in the college. He manages and administers education course design and format, as well as development of future education courses benefiting 2,200 total force Chaplains and Religious Affairs Airmen across the Chaplain Corps.

Ch, Maj Holley was born in Martinsville, Virginia. He was Commissioned into the United States Air Force Chaplain Candidate program on 21 March 2006 and graduated from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 2008. Chaplain Holley is endorsed by the Presbyterian Council for Chaplains and Military Personnel. He served at various bases as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee Chaplain in the United States Air Force Reserves. Chaplain Holley has extensive experience with trauma, psychiatry, intensive and palliative care. He became a Board Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains in 2012. Prior to his current position he served as Deputy Wing Chaplain, 49th Wing, Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

EDUCATION

2001 Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

2006 Commissioned Officer Training, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, Ala.

2007 Chaplain Candidate Course, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, Ala.

2008 Master of Divinity, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Austin, Texas

2009 Clinical Pastoral Education Residency, Children's Medical Center Dallas, Texas

2010 Clinical Pastoral Education Residency, Methodist Health System, Dallas, Texas

2010 Basic Chaplain Course, Air Force Chaplain Corps College, Fort Jackson, S.C.

2014 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2014 Chaplain Spiritual Leadership Course, Air Force Chaplain Corps College, Fort Jackson, S.C.

2020 Deputy Wing Chaplain Course, Air Force Chaplain Corps College, Maxwell AFB, Ala.

2022 Academic Instructor Course, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala.