

# WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION 2021 EDUCATION FORUM EMOTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY MARCH 6, 2021 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

# **PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES**

### Jan Remer-Osborn, PhD. MM, MDIV Keynote Speaker

Dr. Osborn is a neuropsychologist at Psychological Associates of Schuylkill County. She serves on the UCC National Mental Health Network Board. Prior to coming to Pennsylvania, she worked at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital, on staff and at the Behavioral Health Services Clinic in Illinois. She has been on the staff of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital and Olympia Fields-St. James Hospital. She was an Adjunct Faculty at Northwestern University Medical School and Elmhurst College.

Dr. Osborn has specialized in the evaluation and treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, traumatic brain injury, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, ADHD and other neurological disorders. She recognizes the value of a holistic approach and embraces this model in her practice.

Dr. Osborn obtained her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Illinois Institute of Technology. She completed her internship at the University of Chicago Medical Centers and her post-doctoral residency in neuropsychology at Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital.

Rev. Dr. Osborn graduated with an MDiv degree at Chicago Theological Seminary and was ordained as minister in the United Church of Christ, both in 2016. Her first call was at St. John's UCC in Orwigsburg, PA. Currently, she is the designated pastor for New Beginnings Charge, UCC, St. Peter's and Trinity churches in the Penn Northeast Conference.

Dr. Osborn received her Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Music at Northwestern University studying harp and composition. She has performed her original music at Carnegie Recital Hall and the Cultural Center of Chicago, among others. She also has performed with the Grant Park Symphony, Milwaukee Symphony at Carnegie Hall, Lyric Opera Orchestra, Amsterdam Royal Ballet, and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. Her joy and abilities in music are now primarily shared in church settings.

#### **Rev. Andrea Simmonds**

Rev. Andrea Simmonds is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. She received her MDiv from Wake Forest University School of Divinity in 2018. She currently serves as a full time Hospice Chaplain with Amedisys Hospice in Burlington, NC and as a part time youth minister at Parkway United Church of Christ. Rev. Simmonds completed her chaplaincy training at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center where she did her internship, residency, and a fellowship in Palliative Care. She is originally from Suches, GA and currently resides in Winston Salem, NC with her two chihuahuas Harley and Bear.

#### Dr. Randall Mishoe, DMin/IAAP

Randall Mishoe served as pastor of Holy Covenant UCC in Charlotte, NC. He oversaw the church's move to its present location, the design and building of its plant, and its commitment to become an open and affirming congregation. Dr. Mishoe is a graduate of Clemson University, Southeastern Seminary, and completed further graduate studies at Harvard University and Andover Newton Theological School, which pioneered in the integrative studies of spirituality, psychology, theology, and education in relation to the field of medicine. Postgraduate work was at the C.G.Jung Institute New England, from which he received his diploma in Analytical Psychology. His work history encompasses a wide range of experiences: high school math teacher, officer in the U.S. Army Field Artillery with service in Korea, university campus minister, pastor, and psychotherapist in private practice for over 25 years. He is a member of the International Association of Analytical Psychology, the New England Society of Jungian Analysts, the NC Association of Pastoral Counselors (certified by the state of NC), the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE), as well as the North Carolina Society of Jungian Analysts, of which he has served as President. Currently, Dr. Mishoe lives with his wife and cat "Skeeter" in Huntersville, NC, and maintains a private practice in Charlotte, NC.

#### Thelma Flowers BA/ MSW/ MDiv, Spiritual Director and College Instructor

When I was at the age of seven and one half, a ninety-three-year-old neighbor woman died in my arms. After my initial fear and asking God what to do, I calmly cradled her like a baby until she made her transition. In 1992, I had to give permission to take my only child James (Jimmy) off of life support; he died at the age of twenty-one from a brain aneurism. After experiencing this life changing loss, I had to write and to deliver the eulogy at his funeral. You are probably asking yourselves what in the world does any of this have to do with one's biography? Like many of you, despite the letters and the titles behind my name, my true biographical story is my lived experiences. For twenty- four years prior to attending the Iliff School of Theology and obtaining my MDiv. with a concentration in Justice and Peace and as a mentee of the late Dr. Vincent Harding, I spent years in the field of mental health as a Master's level Social Worker/Therapist. In the capacity of a mental health professional residing in a number of states, I provided services to clients from many diverse populations and socioeconomic levels including the following: Job Corps youth, adult and child victims/survivors of domestic violence, male perpetrators of domestic violence, juvenile offenders and their families, AIDS patients, incarcerated females suffering from addictions and other traumas, couples, adult male offenders and community mental health clients. In all of these situations, as well as in formal ministry settings, I have journeyed with and shepherded many individuals and groups through experiences of loss.

## Suzanne Hollrah BA/MA/AMFT

Suzanne Hollrah hails from Northern Minnesota, a locale that tends to build one's faith, if only because of the severe winters. Attending Bethel University, she earned a BA in Social Work and Speech Communications, thereafter moving to Canada. She became a resource worker, living on a reservation with the Indigenous Ojibway People. Relocating to California, she discovered her passion for working with elders and with Mental Health Clients. She holds a MA in Clinical Psychology from Antioch University and is a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional and an Associate Marriage and Family Therapist. Her experience includes Crisis and Suicide Intervention. Ms Hollrah has Hospice experience, and is a Mental Health Diagnostic Professional. Ms Hollrah is licensed as a Residential Care Facility Administrator.

Community involvement incudes a love for Rotary International. Her involvement in the ELCA Bethania Lutheran Church of Solvang, CA has deepened her faith over the decades and continues to profoundly enrich her life.