Contextual Education 1 Site & Teaching Supervisors

Rev. Betty Brewer-Calvert  
Site: Campbell-Stone

Rev. Brewer-Calvert is the Director of Chaplain Ministries at Campbell-Stone Christian Centers. She is ordained in the Disciples of Christ tradition. She earned her BA in Political Science from NC State and her MDiv from Union Theological Seminary.

Rev. Kate Culver  
Site: First Presbyterian Community Ministries

Rev. Kate Culver is the Pastor for Community Ministries. She graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design and earned her MDiv from Calder School of Theology. She is ordained in the PCUSA tradition.

Rev. Brittany Fiscus-van Rossum  
Site: Mercy Community Church

Rev. Fiscus-van Rossum is a pastor at Mercy Community Church in the Presbyterian tradition. She earned her Bachelor's from Murray State University and her MDiv from Columbia Theological Seminary. Her favorite part of ministry "is the work of building healthy community" and working with people to create "spaces where people can find welcome, sanctuary and hospitality." As a CE1 supervisor, she enjoys seeing the connections students make between what they learn in the classroom and the work they do in CE.
Rev. Dr. Lisa Heilig  
Site: Toco Hills Community Alliance

Rev. Dr. Heilig is the Executive Director of Toco Hills Community Alliance. She belongs to the Metropolitan Community Churches tradition. She earned her BA in English Education and Religion from Florida Southern College, her MDiv from Candler, and her DMin from Columbia Theological Seminary. Her favorite part of ministry is "creating and nurturing inclusive spiritual community." Her favorite part of being a CE1 supervisor is "helping students find, claim, and use their gifts as spiritual leaders."

Rev. Danny Horne  
Site: Metro RYDC Juvenile Justice

Rev. Horne is the Director of Chaplaincy Services for the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice. He is ordained in the United Methodist Church. Rev. Horne earned his BS in Broadcasting and Film from Boston University and his MDiv from Candler.

Rev. Emily Kelly  
Site: Metro RYDC Juvenile Justice

Rev. Emily Kelly is a chaplain for Georgia's Department of Juvenile Justice. She began her journey at DJJ in 2015 as a Contextual Education I Intern at Metro RYDC. She graduated from the University of Georgia with a BA in Sociology and BS in Psychology and then earned her MDiv from Candler School of Theology. She is currently a Provisional Deacon in the United Methodist Church.
Rev. Kim Jackson
Site: Church of the Common Ground

Rev. Jackson is the Vicar of Church of the Common Ground, a worshiping community of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta. She is ordained in the Episcopal Church. She also serves as a Georgia State Senator. Rev. Jackson earned her BA in History from Furman University and her MDiv from Candler.

Rev. Dr. Joshua Noblitt
Site: Ministry with the Unhoused (Teaching Supervisor)

Rev. Dr. Noblitt is the Minister of Social Justice and Pastoral Care at Saint Mark UMC and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Noblitt earned his BS in Political Science from Greensboro College and his MDiv and DMin from Candler.

Rev. Susan Bishop
Site: Arrendale State Prison (Teaching Supervisor)

Rev. Chaplain Susan Bishop has been a Correctional Clinical Chaplain with the Georgia Department of Corrections since 1984. She is a Candler graduate, has a master's degree in music education from Georgia State, and has been supervising Candler students since 1997. Susan is an ordained Southern Baptist clergywoman.
Rev. Maressa Pendermon  
Site: Georgia Division of Reentry Services (Teaching Supervisor)

Rev. Pendermon is the Pastor of Unity Fellowship of Christ Church, Greater Atlanta, Inc. She is ordained in the Unity Fellowship tradition. She earned her BS in Criminal Justice from Albany State University, her JD from the University of Florida, and her MDiv from Candler. Her favorite part of ministry is "the opportunity to journey with individuals who are continuously seeking to expand their concept of God." What she enjoys most about being a CE supervisor is "the opportunity to learn and grow with the amazing students that I encounter."

Dr. Winston Persaud  
Site: New American Pathways

Dr. Persaud is the Lead Teacher with New American Pathways where he works with refugee and immigrant adolescents in the Clarkston area. He earned his BA from Carleton College, his MTS from Harvard Divinity School, and his PhD from Emory. Dr. Persaud's favorite part of ministry is, "being able to help shape, and be shaped by, both adults and young people including educated, adult seminary students, and adolescent refugees new to the United States, as we engage in the journey of discipleship into the triune God."
Rev. Kate Colussy-Estes

Rev. Colussy-Estes is a Minister of Word and Sacrament/a Teaching Elder in the PCUSA. She currently serves as the Interim Associate Pastor at Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Susannah Davis

Rev. Davis is the Pastor of Kirkwood UCC. She earned her Bachelor's from Emory and Henry College and her MDiv from Candler.

Rev. Dr. Ca Trice Glenn

Rev. Dr. Glenn is the Youth Pastor at Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church and is a Licensed Professional Counselor. She earned her ThD in Pastoral Counseling from Candler.

Rev. Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts

Rev. Dr. LaRocca-Pitts is the Senior Pastor at Oak Grove UMC. She earned her BA in Religion at Duke University, her MDiv from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and her PhD in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University. Dr. LaRocca-Pitts' favorite aspect of ministry is "teaching the Bible and helping people connect the word to their daily lives." As a CE2 supervisor she enjoys hearing about the varying ministry settings that students serve in.
Rev. Leon Matthews

Rev. Matthews is the Senior Pastor of Warren Memorial UMC. He earned his BA in Religion and Philosophy from Huntingdon College and his MDiv from Candler.

Rev. Brady Radford

Rev. Radford is a Licensed Professional Counselor at the Lovewell Collective and the Senior Pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church Decatur. He earned his BS in Architectural Design and Architectural Engineering from Tennessee State University, his MS in Rehabilitation Counseling from Georgia State University and his MDiv from Interdenominational Theological Center.

Rev. Dalton Rushing

Rev. Rushing is the Senior Pastor of Decatur First UMC. He earned his Bachelors from Birmingham Southern College and his MDiv from Candler. On his favorite part of ministry, Rev. Rushing writes, "I didn't grow up in church, so I am regularly surprised at the capacity for goodness that people have! I love working with a congregation to vision the ways in which God is calling them to love God, love their neighbors, and love one another." He greatly enjoys working with CE2 students as they help him keep his skills "fresh" and give him hope.
Teaching Parish Supervisors

Rev. Joya Abrams

Rev. Abrams is the Pastor in Charge of Bethany UMC Smyrna. She earned her BS in General Science from Spelman College, her BS in Industrial Engineering from Georgia Tech, and her MDiv from Candler. Her favorite part of ministry is, "connecting theology and practice/behavior. I love to help us better understand who a disciple of Jesus is and discover what being his disciple might look like." On her Teaching Parish student, Rev. Abrams writes, "I am in awe of our Teaching Parish students that they are able and willing to serve in church ministry while completing MDiv coursework. It is a joy to support their ministry and to journey with them as they practice, reflect upon, and integrate their experiences into both their studies and work."

Rev. Derek Porter

Rev. Porter is the Lead Pastor of Smyrna First UMC. He earned his BA in Political Science from LaGrange College and his MDiv from Candler.

Rev. Robin Wilson

Rev. Wilson is a pastor in the Alabama West Florida Conference. She earned her BS from Vanderbilt University and her MDiv from Duke Divinity School.
Rev. Mandy Sloan McDow

Rev. McDow is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee. After hearing her call to ministry while working on staff at Camp Wesley Woods, Mandy attended Oglethorpe University in Atlanta, GA, which, ironically, had no religion department. Regardless, Mandy was admitted to Princeton Theological Seminary, from which she received her Masters of Divinity. Mandy has served rural churches in New Jersey, urban churches in Atlanta, and oceanside churches in California. Today, she is the senior minister of Los Angeles First United Methodist Church, the church with land and no building that worships in a parking lot. In solidarity with their houseless neighbors, LA First UMC has pledged to remain unhoused until they can create housing for those who need it the most.

Rev. Dr. Jordan Thrasher

Rev. Dr. Thrasher is the Pastor of Embry Hills UMC. He earned his BA in History from Wofford University and his MDiv and DMin from Candler. His favorite aspect of ministry is all that goes into preaching: exegesis, writing and proclamation. He values the mutual learning that occurs between TP students and mentors.

Rev. Dr. G. Thomas Martin

Rev. Dr. Martin is the Senior Minister at Fayetteville First UMC. He earned his MDiv from Duke Divinity School and his DMin from Candler. Growing up the son of a United Methodist minister, he says there was never a time when he did not experience God's love in the congregations that raised him.