SOCIAL WORK MARRYING PASTORAL CARE FOR TRANSFORMATIVE HOLISTIC CARE

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“SOCIAL WORK MARRYING PASTORAL CARE FOR TRANSFORMATIVE HOLISTIC CARE”

Chaplain, Consultant, Church Educator
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Introductions/Expectations

- How many Social Workers?
- How many different areas?
- Clinical Areas?

- What would you like to walk away with by way of knowledge or experience?
II Corinthians 4:7

• But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves”
Defining the Ministry of Caregivers

• The caregiver ministry is “compassionate presence in hospitality.” “… My presence will go with you.” ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’

• Hospitality - Parker Palmer gives a good definition: “letting the stranger find a sanctuary of warmth, trust, and good will in our company, of “letting the stranger remain a stranger while offering acceptance nonetheless.” *Images of Pastoral Care* by Robert C. Dykstra, pg. 128).
Chaplaincy /Social work/ - Overview

1. The Need
2. My Focus and why
3. Major Topics of Concern
Objectives:

1. To broaden awareness for the untapped resource of chaplains

2. To encourage more/better integration of the two disciplines

3. To encourage holistic empowerment
The People We Serve

Life is about interacting with people.; working, serving, engaging people from all walks of life, social status, economic status. We come in all shapes, colors, cultures, conditions. We may appear or seem healthy on the outside but ...

Their “normal” may be our paycheck or their “abnormacy” may be our paycheck

Today, it may be theirs but.... tomorrow it may be ours.

“Life (stuff) happens on the way to destiny”
The Need: - Christ-Centered Caregiving

- "At the core of every illness, sickness and disease is a spiritual conflict' (Psychiatry and the Bible by Carroll Wise)"

- III John 2 “I would above all things that you prosper and be in good health even as your soul prospers” (ASB).

- Crucial for the “church(Christian Social Workers)” in bringing wholeness to God’s people.

- Crucial in promoting the Word: The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me... Luke 4: “He has anointed Me to..."
The Context and Space in which we meet our “Clientele”
The “Gift” (Chaplains) bring:
- Ourselves
- Resources
- Compassion
- Knowledge
Any one of these people interacting in business ventures, could be the parent or patient we meet today and the person we serve.

What are some of the influence chaplains bring

Ex. Hidden pain and shame: Chaplains’ presence provide

1. In crisis those who have never had a safe place to confess their shame to know that counseling is a safe place where they have to fear being exploited

• Wimberly says (2) ‘we must help create a safe environment where others can express their shame without the fear of having their shame misused’ (Wimberly, 83).
INFLUENCE AND IMPACT
Hierarchy of Need Stages

- **Physiological**
  - breathing, food, water, sex, sleep, homeostasis, excretion

- **Safety**
  - security of body, of employment, of resources, of morality, of the family, of health, of property

- **Love/Belonging**
  - friendship, family, sexual intimacy

- **Esteem**
  - self-esteem, confidence, achievement, respect of others, respect by others

- **Self-actualization**
  - morality, creativity, spontaneity, problem solving, lack of prejudice, acceptance of facts
# FAITH STAGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Experience of God</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magic (Intuitive Projective)</td>
<td>All powerful God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional 1 (Mythic/Literal)</td>
<td>Cause and effect God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional 2 (Synthetic-Conventional)</td>
<td>Parent God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rational/Modern (Individuative/Reflective)</td>
<td>Distant God (or atheist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-modern (Conjunctive)</td>
<td>Paradoxical God</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integral (Universalizing)</td>
<td>All pervasive God</td>
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Journey towards Personal Wholeness

Social Worker – social and physical
Chaplain – spiritual and emotional

Family
Social Worker/Chaplain
Wholeness or New Normal

Chaplain - spiritual and emotional
Social Worker – social and physical
Rethinking Maslow’s Need and how it relates to the Kingdom of God?

- How do we work with the most vulnerable people who struggle many times for basic needs?
Case Study

• Jackie – 18 year old
  – Beaten/Sexually abused
  – seemingly all together family
  – Grades good
  – A few social problems
  – The moral of the story
Discussion

• What we can learn from Jackie
• Chaplain and Social Worker working together
• Take-aways
Summary

• Chaplains are a vital resource - A good chaplain address spirituality of persons safely while social workers address social and physical resources according to need safely

• Realistic expectation- Faith in God
  – Chaplains have expertise to provides a nonjudgmental presence and at no expectations

• Stay focused on the goal- wholeness of persons
Divine and Human – Hospitality – Hebrews 13:2  Parker Palmer writes

- “In the “company of strangers,” we are reminded that the foundation of life together is not the intimacy of friends but the capacity of strangers to share a common territory, common resources, common problems -

- Without ever becoming friends,” fear of the stranger is faced and dealt with; scarce resources are shared and abundance is generated; life is given color, texture, and drama; people are drawn out of themselves, reminding us “that the universe is not egocentric;
Chaplaincy and Social Worker

• Mutual responsibility becomes evident, and mutual aide possible; and people are empowered and protected against power.”

• We need relationships that allow us to care for persons while maintaining distance.... So the stranger becomes the spiritual guide in the public life”

Images of Pastoral Care by Robert C. Dykstra, pg. 127).
Resources

- **Moving From Shame to Self-Worth: Preaching & Pastoral Care** by Edward Wimberly
- **The Practice of Pastoral Care: A Postmodern Approach** by Carrie Doehring
- **Psychiatry and the Bible** by Carroll Wise
- **Charts**: Maslow’s Needs, James Fowler’s Stages of Faith, Faith and Power
- **The Critical Journey** by Janet Hagberg & Robert Guelich
- **Images of Pastoral Care** by Robert C. Dykstra, pg. 128)
- **Holy Bible NAS**
QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
REMEMBER, WE ARE WORKING WITH THE APEX OF GOD’S CREATION – HUMANITY