

Rachael A. Keefe  
Curriculum Vitae  
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## **EDUCATION**

Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction, St. Catherine's University, St. Paul, MN, 2020-  
D.Min., Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School, formerly Andover Newton  
Theological School, New Haven, CT, 2011  
Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, Practical Theology, 1996  
M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, Practical Theology, 1992  
B.A., Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA, Psychology/Religion, 1988

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Pastor, Living Table United Church of Christ, Minneapolis, MN, 2015-  
Psychiatric Chaplain, New Hampshire Hospital, Concord, NH, 2008-2014  
Pastoral Psychotherapist, Norma Kent Pastoral Counseling Center, Abington, MA, 2004-2008  
Gathering Pastor, Promise Church, South Shore of Boston, MA, 2006-2008  
Specialized Homecare Provider, Growthways, Inc., Brockton, MA 1999-2007  
Ecumenical Youth Chaplain, Harwich Ecumenical Youth Ministry, Harwich, MA, 1997-1998  
Associate Pastor for Education and Outreach, Morrisville Presbyterian Church, Morrisville, PA,  
1996-1997  
Youth Minister, Christ Lutheran Church, Allentown, PA, 1995-1996  
Associate Pastor, Old South Union Church, S. Weymouth, MA, 1992-1995  
Ordained by the Barnstable Association of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church  
of Christ, 1992

## **TEACHING**

Adjunct Instructor, United Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN, 2021-

## **PUBLICATONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Books**

*The Lifesaving Church: Faith Communities and Suicide Prevention.* Chalice Press, 2018  
*Barefoot Theology: A Dictionary for Pilgrims, Priests, and Poets.* Wipf & Stock, 2013  
*A Circle in the Dark: Daily Meditations for Advent.* Wipf & Stock, 2011  
*Negotiating the Shadows: Daily Meditations for Lent.* Wipf & Stock, 2010

## Chapters

“God’s Not a Fan,” in *When Kids Ask Hard Questions*, Bromleigh McCleneghan & Karen Ware Jackson, eds., Chalice Press, 2019

## Print Journals

“Living by the Word: October 7, Ordinary 27B (Mark 10:2-16),” *Christian Century*, September 2018

“Living by the Word: September 30, 26B (Mark 9:38-50),” *Christian Century*, September 2018

## Web-Based Publications

Revised Common Lectionary monthly contributor, [RevGalBlogPals](#)

Contributor, [The Journey](#), The UCC Mental Health Network Blog

Contributor, [The Christian Century Blog Network](#)

“[Responding to Suicide with Faith](#),” Red Letter Christians, August 2018

“[Craft of Preaching: Preaching and Suicide Prevention](#),” Working Preacher, September 2018

“[Sunday’s Coming: So Many Kinds of Salt \(Mark 9:38-50\)](#),” *The Christian Century*, September 2018

“[Sunday’s Coming: Jesus’ Siblings \(Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Mark 10:2-16\)](#),” *The Christian Century*, October 2018.

## Keynote Addresses

New Hampshire Conference, UCC Clergy Convocation, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Postvention and Being a Lifesaving Church,” May 2020

Suicide Symposium, Mental Health Connect, Minneapolis, “Responding to Suicide with Faith and Saving Lives,” September 2019

VA Community Mental Health Western Mass, “Faith as a Healthy Response to Suicidality,” June 2019

Faith Connections on Mental Illness, Chapel Hill, NC, “The Role of Faith in Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” April 2019

Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Conference, Breckenridge, CO, “Faith Communities: Potential Partners for Wellness - Assessing Protective and Risk Factors for Behavioral Health Consumers,” October 2018

Venice, Florida United Church of Christ Mental Health Weekend, “Reassessing our Theology Around Suicide: The Church’s Role in Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention” February 2017

Interfaith Network on Mental Illness Fall Conference, Boulder, CO, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention: What Your Faith Community Can Do,” November 2017

## Select Workshops and Presentations

Southeast Conference UCC Annual Meeting, Decatur, GA, “Becoming WISE,” June 2021 (virtual)

First Congregational UCC, Omaha, NE, “Intro to Mental Health and Suicide Preventions,” May 2021 (virtual)

“How Faith Communities Can Respond to Suicidality and Suicide,” Bangladesh and India, February 2021 (virtual)

“How Communities Cope with Anxiety, Depression, and Suicide,” Bangladesh and India, January 2021 (virtual)

Ebenezer UCC, Sheboygan, WI, “The Benefits of Being WISE,” August 2020 (virtual)

Mental Health Connect, Monday Night Mental Health, Minneapolis, MN, “Being a WISE Church Beyond the UCC,” February 2020

UCC Mental Health Network, WISE Conference, Phoenix, AZ, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” November 2019

Wild Goose Festival, Hot Springs, NC, “Becoming a Lifesaving Church,” July 2019

Northern New England Veterans Administration Suicide Prevention Conference, Holyoke, MA, “Faith as a Protective Factor in Suicide Prevention,” June 2019

UCC Mental Health Network, WISE Conference, Oakland, CA, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” March 2019

South Congregational Church, Glastonbury, CT, “The Benefits of Being WISE,” March 2019 (virtual)

Committee on Ministry, Minnesota Conference UCC, Minneapolis, MN, “When Mental Illness is Part of the Faith Journey: How to Respond in a Health Way,” January 2019

New Hampshire State Suicide Prevention Conference, Concord, NH, “Faith as a Protective Factor,” November 2018

UCC Mental Health Network, WISE Conference, Omaha, NE, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” November 2018

United Church of Christ, Yankton, SD, “What Mental Illness and Is Not: Changing the Way Congregations Welcome,” November 2018

South Church UCC, Concord, NH, “How to be a WISE Congregation,” October 2018

Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Conference, Breckenridge, CO, “Navigating the Relationship Between Spirituality and Mental Health,” October 2018

Wild Goose Festival, Hot Springs, NC, “Becoming a Lifesaving Church,” July 2018

Marple Presbyterian Church, Broomall, PA, “Becoming a Lifesaving Church,” July 2018 (virtual)

Indiana-Kentucky Conference UCC Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, “Becoming a WISE Congregation” May 2018

First Church Indianapolis UCC, Indianapolis, IN, “Rethinking Suicide Response: Becoming a Lifesaving Church,” May 2018

Minnesota Conference UCC Annual Meeting, St. Joseph, MN, “Being a Lifesaving Church and Being WISE,” May 2018

UCC Mental Health Network, WISE Conference, Chicago, IL, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” May 2018

UCC Mental Health Network, WISE Conference, Venice, FL, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” November 2017

UCC General Synod, Baltimore, MD, Fireside Chat, “Being a Lifesaving Church,” July 2017

UCC General Synod, Baltimore, MD, Youth Gathering, “Treating Our Bodies as Temples: Helping Friends who Self-Harm,” July 2017

National Youth Event, Orlando, FL, “Your Body is a Temple: Coping with Addictions and Self-Harm,” July 2016

South Church, Concord, NH, “The Role of Faith Communities in Supporting Wellness,” November 2015

Widening the Welcome Conference, Hartford, CT, “Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention,” April 2015

Quaker Meeting, Boston, MA, “Creating Healthy Boundaries for Ministry with High Needs Populations,” March 2013

Widening the Welcome Conference, Columbus, Ohio, “Finding God in Recovery,” “Rethinking Mental Illness: What It Is and Is Not,” June 2012

New Hampshire State Suicide Prevention Conference, Concord, NH, “The Ethical Consideration When Faith Communities Respond to Suicide and Suicidality,” November 2012

University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA, Community Psychology Course, “Community Mental Health and Institutionalization Today,” January 2011

University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA, Biological Psychology Course, “Mental Illness and its Presentations,” May 2010

## **SERVICE**

Facilitator, LGBTQ+ Clergy Support Group, monthly, 2021-

Facilitator, Clergy Mental Health Support Group, weekly, 2020-

Vice Chair, UCC Mental Health Network 2017-2020

Board Member, Mental Health Connect, 2017

Board Member, UCC Mental Health Network, 2009-2017

Ethics Committee Member, Concord Hospital 2011-2014

Ethics Committee Member, New Hampshire Hospital, 2012-2014

Board Member, Fellowship Housing, 2010-2014

Faith Liaison, New Hampshire State Suicide Prevention Council, 2010-2014