



Spirituality, Faith, and Religion: Creating a Time and Space for Connection, Wellness, and Hope for Health Care Providers

People define their spirituality, faith, and religion as a centrally important process involved in growth, addressing existential questions about meaning and sense in life, life satisfaction, well-being, a sense of purpose, hope, and optimism. During the COVID19 pandemic, individuals and communities have started to explore more personal and collective connections with spiritual, faith, and religious resources as coping mechanisms. They seem to be a potential antidote that minimizes the consequences of anxiety, depression, and any other mental or physical stress caused during the coronavirus crisis.



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In this context, the proposed panel and conversation series on spirituality, faith, and religion: creating a time and space for connection, wellness, and hope can be a tool for healthcare professionals, patients, family, and communities to reconnect with themselves, provide the most comprehensive care possible, benefit from spiritual practice, build social support, and share stories of hope and resilience.

Our community conversation series will offer comfort and safe space through structured and innovative conversation focusing on spiritual beliefs and coping. Activities facilitate verbal expression and appropriate social interaction and build a sense of belonging. Activities and themes from these webinars are discussed within a recovery-oriented “emotion-focused coping” framework. This series will be led by a faith community member.

Panelists for June 3rd, 2021 – Register

- **Reverend Torianto S. Johnson Sr.** - Congregation: Flames of Fire Christian Fellowship
- **Pastor Marylin Rodriguez**- Congregation: Church Oasis of Blessing Christian Center
- **Pastor Kelcy G. L. Steele**- Congregation: Varick Memorial African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Zion Church
- **Pastor William L. Mathis**- Congregation: Springs of Life-Giving Water Church (The Springs)
- **Moderator:** Thomas Burr, Community and Affiliate Relations Manager, NAMI Connecticut

Panelists for June 24th, 2021 – Register

- **Reverend Hiram L. Brett**- Spiritual care coordinator and chaplain at Connecticut Mental Health Center (CMHC) in New Haven, serves as a chaplain in the Bridgeport Hospital emergency room.
- **Rabbi Randall (Randy) Konigsburg**- Senior Rabbi, Beth Sholom B’nai Israel, Manchester, Connecticut
- **Benjamin (Ben) Doolittle, MD, MA** - Yale Program for Medicine, Spirituality, and Religion as well as the Combined Internal Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program
- **Pastor Anthony (Tony) C. Martin**- Congregation: Trinity Baptist Church
- **Moderator:** Thomas Burr, Community and Affiliate Relations Manager, NAMI Connecticut

Panelists for July 8th, 2021 – Register

- **Enroue [On-roo] Halfkenny [Haf-ken-ee]** - Babalawo [Bah-bah-lah-woe] within the West African traditional religion of the Yoruba [Yoh-ru-bah]
- **Noman J. Nuton Jr., Senior Minister**- Congregation: New Haven Church of Christ
- **Reverend Bonita Grubbs**- Executive director of Christian Community Action, CT
- **Pastor Marcelo Centeno Jr.**- CPR Church, Bristol, Connecticut
- **Moderator:** Thomas Burr, Community and Affiliate Relations Manager, NAMI Connecticut

