

Ron Richardson is a graduate of Anguilla High School, Hinds Jr. Mississippi State University, Southwestern Theological Seminary (Master of Religious Education), Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Master of Divinity), and Columbia Theological Seminary (Doctor of Ministry). He completed 13 quarters of Clinical Pastoral Education at Bryce Mental Hospital (Tuscaloosa, AL), Kentucky Baptist Hospital (Louisville, KY), and Memorial Hospital (Houston, Texas). He developed the first Department of Pastoral Care at North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo, and was Director of this Department for 29 years. During this time he developed and was Clinical Director of the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team, developed and chaired the Medical Ethics Committee, developed and lead the Grief Guidance Team, developed and was an advisor to the Parkinson Disease Support group, initiated and helped develop the Shepherd's Center of Greater Tupelo, chaired the State Certification Committee for the College of Chaplains, and developed industrial chaplaincy programs for local industries serving for 14 years in two of the industries. He became a certified T'ai Chi Chih teacher in 2003. He has since then taught weekly TCC classes at the NMMC Wellness Center. Ron has served as interim and supply pastor in north MS Presbyterian churches and Christ The King Lutheran Church, Tupelo. He retired from the NMMC in 2005 and became the Parish Associate for Pastoral Care of the Tupelo First Presbyterian Church in August of the same year. He presently serves on the City of Tupelo Accountability Committee. He is married to Deanna (51 years), has two sons (Chris and Todd), two daughters-in-law (Angelia and Leigh) and four grandchildren (Anna Reese, Christopher Cole, Ava Holland, and Corinne Louise). After retiring as an avid Harley Davidson motorcycle rider taking trips through all 48 continental states plus Canada, he now enjoys being with his family, working in his garden, caring for older adults, and teaching TCC.