

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



Rev. Dn. Stephen Muse, PhD, LMFT, LPC, BCETS, ACS is Director of Counselor Training and the Clergy-in-Kairos, a nationally recognized week-long intensive stress and wellness program for clergy and their spouses at the Pastoral Institute in Columbus, Georgia.

Prior to his entry into the Greek Orthodox Church in 1993, he pastored a Presbyterian congregation for 11 years and helped begin an out-patient psychiatric clinic in Delta, PA. He serves on the Assembly of Canonical Bishops Pastoral Praxis Committee, as an advisor to the OCA task force on Spiritual Abuse. He is past president of the Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion and now serves on their Advisory Board.

Fr. Stephen trained and supervised U.S. Army and Air Force Chaplains in pastoral psychological integration for 21 years. He teaches and leads workshops and retreats throughout the U.S. and Internationally in the areas related to integration of patristic ascetical theology, psychotherapy and neurobiology. These include Christian spiritual formation, stress, burn-out and spiritual resiliency in clergy and helping professionals, marriage as a spiritual path and healing of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, moral injury and spiritual pain.

He graduated from Davidson College with a degree in Philosophy, with an M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary where he was first introduced to the *Philokalia* and studied patristics briefly with Fr. Georges Florovsky. He earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Loyola University of Maryland in the field of Pastoral Counseling. He did post graduate studies in marriage and family therapy at University of Georgia. He is Diplomate certified in Pastoral Counseling; Professional Psychotherapy and Traumatic Stress and is an AAMFT Approved and Certified Professional Counseling Supervisor, and State licensed in Georgia as a Professional Counselor and Marriage and Family Therapist.

He has contributed chapters in ten books, and is author of 60+ articles and book reviews for various professional and trade magazines including national award-winning research in the area of religious integration of therapists and their capacity for clinical empathy. His work has been translated into Russian, Greek, Swedish, Serbian and Romanian. He served as Managing Editor of *The Pastoral Forum* from 1993 to 2002.

Fr. Stephen is the founder and first parish council President of Holy Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Columbus, GA where he currently serves as a Deacon. He and

his wife Diakonissa Claudia have four children, a grand-daughter and three grandsons. They live in Columbus, Georgia.

His books include

- (in press) *Words Into Spirit: Ontological, Existential and Psychological Dimensions of Confession*, Muse, S., and Thermos, V. (eds.) Waymart, PA: St. Tikhon's Monastery Press.
- (2018) η φωνή της Εύας (Dimitra Psychighiou, illustrator) Phosphorus: Athens, Greece, 2018.
- *Treasures in Earthen Vessels: Prayer and the Embodied Life*, Waymart, PA: St. Tikhon's Monastery Press, 2017
- *Be Your Self - Amim's Great Discovery* (Greek and English editions, 2016).
- *Caregivers as Healers & Confessors*, Muse, S., Berg, J., Woroncow, H. (eds.), Witchita, Kansas: Eighth Day Institute, 2016
- *The Peddler and the Disenchanted Mirror* (Greek and English Edition, 2016)
- *Being Bread* (2013, 2015)
- *When Hearts Become Flame: An Eastern Orthodox Approach to the διά-Λογος of Pastoral Counseling*. (2011, 2015) (Greek Edition in 2014)
- *Raising Lazarus: Integral Healing in Orthodox Christianity*, (2004)
- *Beside Still Waters: Restoring the Souls of Shepherds in the Market Place* (2000)