Neppie Alexander, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC Faith Community Nursing Supervisor Morton Plant Mease Hospitals BayCare Health System, Clearwater, Florida Neppie.Alexander@BayCare.org 863-608-1919

Neppie holds a Master's Degree in Nursing (2009) and has over 36 years of professional nursing experience that includes critical care and home care nursing, sick care and wellness promotion, clinical leadership, management, program development, nursing education and faith community nursing. She has worked in for-profit and not-for-profit clinical settings including hospitals, clinics and a homeless shelter, primarily with adult clients, and in academic settings with both pre-licensure and RN students. She is a Board-Certified Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), an advanced practice nursing role designed to impact health through three spheres of influence: patient care, nursing, and systems of care.

Participation in a successful multi-county process improvement collaborative enhanced Neppie's appreciation of the impact of system-level interventions and community partnerships, as the time-sensitive flow of care, communication and transportation of patients needing stroke or heart attack care was significantly improved throughout a largely rural region.

A community assessment and planning experience in graduate school strengthened Neppie's understanding of *community as client* and introduced her to an unfamiliar nursing specialty: Faith Community Nursing. In 2014, Neppie completed a Foundations of Faith Community Nursing course to enhance her own response to her congregation's call to minister to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of whole persons and whole families.

In 2015, she became a hospital-based Faith Community Nursing Coordinator with the BayCare Health System in central Florida, expanding the reach of that system's health ministry support programming from the Tampa Bay area into a more rural inland county. In 2019, she moved to Clearwater, Florida, closer to 4 generations of her extended family, to work with another regional FCN program within the same health system. She looks forward to learning more about community needs, resources, and opportunities to advocate for marginalized individuals and groups in her new community.

Neppie is a faculty partner of the Westberg Institute for Faith Community Nursing. She serves on the Board of Directors of Angels Unaware, Inc., a faith-based organization operating group homes for the intellectually and developmentally disabled in the Tampa area, and is a current member of the Health Ministries Association, the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, the American College of Cardiology and Sigma Theta Tau International.