Faith Communities: Potential Partners for Wellness
Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe
General Session: October 11, 2018, 9:00a.m.

- Introduction to the space between religion and psychology
- A brief history of faith and behavioral healthcare
  - When they were one
  - When they divided
  - The current trend toward unity
    - The work of Dr. Harold Koenig, Dr. Kenneth Pargament, and others
    - What this could mean for clergy, clinicians, consumers, and faith communities

- Faith can support wellness and it can hinder wellness – how do we know the difference?
  - Signs of supportive faith
  - Indication of a faith that hinders wellness
  - What to do when it really matters
    - The question of life or death and the role of faith communities
      - In support of medication, therapy, and spiritual practices for treatment of mental illness
      - When faith and prayer are the only treatment options
      - In the case of suicidality – faith can hinder or help – knowing the difference is essential

- Case Studies
  - Needing More – The case of Jay: Mental Illness and the Limits of Faith
  - Finding Acceptance – The case of Kass: Mental Illness and Supportive Faith
  - Choosing Wellness – The case of Mandy: Mental Illness and Healthy Faith

- Where do we go from here?
  - Partnering with faith communities
  - Spirituality and behavioral healthcare
  - Supporting spiritual practices for recovery and wellness

- Conclusion and Q&A

Copies of the powerpoint will be available after the presentation. Contact Dr. Keefe at Rachael@beachtheology.com if you would like the powerpoint or further conversation.