

## **Dr. Preston C. VanLoon, Ed.D.**

Ethics and the Practice of Interpersonal Forgiveness: From Hurting to Healing and Hope

### **Bio:**

With a passion for making a difference in the lives of people and organizations, Dr. Preston VanLoon has served as a College Professor and Administrator, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counselor, Spiritual Care Director, Board Certified Chaplain, and Certified Dog Trainer. His experience also includes work as a Bioethics Consultant and Mental Health First Aid Instructor. Dr. VanLoon's education includes a Doctorate in Educational Psychology, Master of Divinity, M.A. in Christian Education, and additional graduate studies in Special Education. He is the author of five books; *The Path to Forgiveness: Moving Forward with Hope and Healing One Day at a Time*, *The Path to Forgiveness Study Guide*, *Advice from a Therapy Dog: Barking Up the Right Tree and Finding Happiness in Life*, and two children's books; *Rocky Becomes a Therapy Dog* and *Rocky Goes to School*. He has spoken extensively both domestically and internationally on a variety of topics including interpersonal forgiveness, the topic of his doctoral dissertation. Dr. VanLoon lives with his wife, Mary, and Rocky, their Golden Retriever, a certified therapy dog in Mandan, ND.

### **Description of Presentation:**

Professionalism and the practice of ethical behavior in the workplace is directly related to an individual's personal well-being and the effectiveness with which one manages conflict. In this presentation, participants will explore the relationship between ethics and practicing interpersonal forgiveness strategies in their personal and professional lives. Participants will deepen their understanding of what interpersonal forgiveness is, and is not. They will also consider the relationship between, and benefits of, practicing interpersonal forgiveness in the workplace. Proven interpersonal forgiveness strategies will also be shared that promote productivity and healthy personal and professional relationships.

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Explain the relationship between ethics and the practice of interpersonal forgiveness.
2. Define what interpersonal forgiveness is and is not.
3. Identify the personal and professional benefits of practicing interpersonal forgiveness in professional settings.
4. State interpersonal forgiveness strategies that will help promote healthy personal and professional relationships in the workplace.