

Katherine L. Davis, MEd, MTS, LPC
Director, The Overton Institute

Katie received her Master of Education (MEd) in Community Counseling from Georgia State University in 1979 and holds the license in professional counseling (LPC) in Georgia. She has worked as a counselor in a variety of settings, including residential adult psychiatry, private counseling, prison and community mental health. She is a former P.O.S.T. (Police Officer's Standards and Training Council) Certified Instructor and was a Certified Instructor in the Georgia Substance Abuse Risk Reduction Program from 1994 to 2008. She received training in team building and basic ropes-course facilitation from Walls' Outdoors Associates of Milledgeville, GA, and coordinated, developed, and facilitated team-building workshops from 1994 to 2004.

The Reverend W. Burney Overton, the creator of Relational Communication™ (RC), introduced Katie to the program in 1979, and she learned from him for the next nineteen years. Katie worked with Burney as an Associate Counselor at STACS (Shallowford Training and Counseling Service) and taught Relational Communication™ during that time. Burney generally taught RC in weekend retreats, of which Katie attended many. He also used RC skills in his pastoral counseling and his personal life, both of which offered her further exposure to Relational Communication™, the creative power of effective communication, and the theology of the unconditional love of God. Through her use of the concepts, principles, and processes of Relational Communication™, and by teaching these to others, Katie will continue to learn from Burney throughout her life.

Returning to graduate school in 1998, Katie received her Master of Theological Studies (MTS) degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in May 2001. Her career interests focus on supporting theologies and faith systems that promote mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being, which includes supporting the processes necessary for building healthy groups, organizations, congregations, and communities. In order to create a forum for continuing the conversation of practical theology initiated in her work with Burney, Katie established a non-profit organization, The Overton Institute. The Overton Institute will carry forward the mission of Burney's work: to serve God by serving others through affirmation, education and proclamation - teaching and applying Relational Communication™ and the theology of the unconditional love of God.

The Overton Institute

*Affirmation
Education
Proclamation*



Photo courtesy of Ellen Surrency

*Katherine L. Davis (Katie)
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Affirmation

We affirm the inherent value of every human being, endowed upon each of us by our Creator through the act of creation.

“So God created humankind in God’s own image; in the image of God, God created humans; male and female God created them. God blessed them . . . So it was; and God saw all that God had made, and it was very good.” Genesis 1:27, 31

Education

We offer educational programs and counseling services that facilitate awareness, understanding and development of satisfying, fulfilling relationships that will enrich all of life.

Proclamation

Through our programs and services we proclaim the good news of the unconditional love of God for all of creation, a love which calls us to love self and others unconditionally, and to treat self and others accordingly.

“The realization that my Creator loves me unconditionally did more for my self-image than any other single discovery.”
W. Burney Overton, *From Me-To You*, p, 48.

Programs and Services

• **Relational Communication™ Program**

Classes, workshops and retreats formatted to meet the sponsoring group’s schedule to include training in:

- **Interpersonal communication skills**
- **Conflict management**
- **Wellness**
- **Team building**
- **Diversity training**
- **Spiritual development**

• **Counseling and Consultation**

Offered by licensed professionals whose practice is based on the theology of the unconditional love of God working with:

- **Individuals**
- **Couples**
- **Families**
- **Groups**
- **Congregations**
- **Organizations**

• **Publications**

Distribution of W. Burney Overton’s book, *From Me-To You*, as well as the series of “Burney’s Papers” and his sermons and letters.