Dixie Ishee has been hired as a new Family Nurse Practitioner at Family Practice of Holyoke and Melissa Memorial Hospital.

Ishee comes to Holyoke from Memphis, Tenn.

Ishee was born and raised in Utica, Miss., a small town of less than 1,000. She attended the University of Mississippi where she became a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. She then moved to Memphis where she worked at Baptist Hospital giving anesthesia for about seven years. At that time, it was the largest private hospital in the world with 700 beds, according to Ishee.

Also, at that time, age 23, she was the youngest CRNA in the United States.

After her time at Baptist, she decided to attend law school at Memphis University of Memphis. There, by age 30, she became a lawyer.

She practiced medical law, general practice and medical products liability. After her stint as a lawyer, she decided to go back into anesthesia.

She moved to Nassawadox, Va., where she worked at Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital for three years.

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