

Dear Colleagues:

I am on my way back to Washington, DC from a most productive DoD Family Readiness Conference. At 35,000 feet, I find myself reflecting on our vision: We will unite and deliver innovative, life transforming service throughout and beyond the Sea Services.

I am struck by the fact that we are in a life transforming business. We have supernatural allies in our efforts to serve. The power working through us will touch like nothing else can. Marriages can be restored, careers can be saved, homes can be strengthened, and suicides can be thwarted, if we take seriously our vision. Much of this life transformation will occur within the worship context. When we are about the business of attending to the needs of our people, and providing for their worship, we stand on holy ground. Throughout my career, I have seen God work through the vehicle of worship. No doubt, you have seen this as well.

With such a potent resource, I challenge you to set goals for your worship services. Use needs-assessment instruments to ascertain customer interests, then labor assiduously to meet those needs. Invite people to this life transforming opportunity and encourage them to bring their friends. We know where bread is in a time of famine.

I hope the Chaplain Corps Day of Prayer was a meaningful time for each of you. May it be just the beginning of lifting our hands to heaven.

Please share this letter with your colleagues.

Fraternally yours,

BARRY C. BLACK
Rear Admiral, CHC, U.S. Navy
Chief of Chaplains