



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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Dear Colleagues:

I have just returned from the Military Chaplains Association (MCA) Conference in Colorado. I was enriched by the fellowship of chaplains and spouses from all Services. I was especially proud of the Navy chaplains who received awards for superb ministry at Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard commands: LCDR Timothy Overturf, USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40); LT Brian Stamm, MCAF Quantico; and LT Dennis Boyle, USCGAS Cape Cod. Congratulations to you and all those nominated for these prestigious awards.

Last week, God blessed our Corps when four new Chaplain Corps Candidates joined our ranks. During that week I was able to speak to Black Entertainment Television, and tell the good news about Naval chaplaincy. The week also provided an opportunity to speak in Groton, Connecticut, at the establishment of CREDO Northeast.

Of course, as chaplains know so well, this life mixes sorrow with triumph. Thousands said a sad goodbye to former Chief of Chaplains John McNamara; and yet our sadness was tempered by the brilliance of his witness and the knowledge that he had attained the reward of a faithful life. His funeral was held in Boston with praise and thanksgiving.

The journey continues for those who have received the torch of ministry from those who went before. Earlier this week I was in Norfolk, Virginia, speaking for a Military Appreciation Service at the Bank Street Memorial Baptist Church. The enthusiasm and patriotism of that great congregation was an inspiring reminder of the way so many Americans value the contributions of those who wear the uniform of our land. Great is God's faithfulness.

We continue fine-tuning our strategic plan. There will be five guiding principles for our strategic march:

- We are faithful to our religious traditions and practices.
- We respect the religious practices and beliefs of others.
- We are committed to the highest moral standards and personal integrity.

- We are committed to professionalism in the delivery of ministry.
- We practice cooperative and collaborative ministry.

At the MCA Conference in Colorado each Chief of Chaplains spoke for twenty minutes on leadership issues. I discussed some of our Corps' strategic concerns—the most important of which is that we must lead with integrity. Peter Drucker in his book *The Practice of Management* says a leader does five things:

- Sets objectives
- Organizes
- Motivates and Communicates
- Establishes yardstick measures
- Develops people

We should lead as Drucker suggests, but we need a foundation of integrity that comes from practicing spiritual disciplines—like prayer, scripture study, worship and devotional reading. When we are spiritually strong our lives will produce the fruits of ethical congruence. We will be peaceful, gentle, faithful, patient, kind, and self-controlled. Thank you for your dedication to God, country, family and those you are called to serve. God bless you.



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