

**The Henry McNeal Turner AME Chaplains Association
General Board Report
June 27-29, 2022**

“Chaplaincy A Global Ministry”

The Henry McNeal Turner AME Chaplains Association is a professional organization of chaplains serving in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The organization is named in honor of Chaplain Henry McNeal Turner, who was commissioned the first black army chaplain in U.S. history when he volunteered to become chaplain of the First Regiment, U.S. Colored Troops.

During the American Civil War he was appointed a Chaplain to one of the first Federal regiments of black troops (Company B of the First United States Colored Troops). Turner was the first of only 14 black Chaplains to be appointed during the Civil War. This appointment came directly from President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. He was also appointed by President Andrew Johnson to work with the Freedman's Bureau in Georgia during Reconstruction.

One of the most influential African American leaders in late-nineteenth-century was Henry McNeal Turner of South Carolina. Turner was born in 1834 in Newberry, South Carolina, to Sarah Greer and Hardy Turner. His paternal grandmother was a white plantation owner. His maternal grandfather, David Greer, arrived in North America aboard a slave ship but, according to family legend, was found to have a tattoo with the Mandingo coat of arms, signifying his royal status. The South Carolinians decided not to sell Greer into slavery and sent him to live with a Quaker family.

About a year earlier, Turner had been converted during a Methodist revival (Sharon Campground) and decided he would one day become a preacher. After receiving his preacher's license in 1853, he traveled throughout the South as an itinerant evangelist, going as far as New Orleans, Louisiana. Much of his time was spent in Georgia, where he preached at revivals in Macon, Athens, and Atlanta.

In 1856 he married Eliza Preacher, the daughter of a wealthy African American house builder in Columbia, South Carolina. They had fourteen children, only four of whom survived into adulthood. After his wife, Eliza, died in 1889, Turner eventually married three more times: Martha Elizabeth DeWitt in 1893; Harriet A. Wayman in 1900; and Laura Pearl Lemon in 1907.

Henry McNeal Turner was a pioneering church organizer and missionary for the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) in Georgia, later rising to the rank of bishop. Turner was also an active politician and Reconstruction. Turner was an extremely vigorous and successful bishop. In 1885 he became the first AME bishop to ordain a woman, Sarah Ann Hughes, to the office of deacon. He wrote *The Genius and Theory of Methodist Polity* (1885), a learned guide to Methodist policies and practices. With the support of white businessmen from Alabama, Turner helped organize the International Migration Society to promote the return of African Americans to Africa. To further the emigrationist cause, he established his own newspapers: *The Voice of Missions* (editor, 1893-1900) and later *The Voice of the People* (editor, 1901-4).

Turner died on May 8, 1915, in Windsor, Canada, while traveling on church business. He is buried at South View Cemetery, Atlanta, Georgia. A portrait of Turner hangs in the Georgia state capitol.

The HMTCA carries the mantle of Bishop Henry McNeal Turner to proclaim Christ, advocate for humanity to serve the AME Church and the world-at-large.



HENRY MCNEAL TURNER CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION:

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

President: Chaplain G.
Dianne Lewis, D. Min.

Vice-President: Chaplain
Monica Lawson (Colonel)

Secretary: Chaplain Win-
ston Jones (Captain, Re-
tired)

Assistant Secretary: Chap-
lain Jennifer Dukes, BCC

Treasurer: Chaplain Curtis
Andries (Major)

Parliamentarian: Chaplain
Netetia K. Walker
(Lieutenant)

Historiographer: Chaplain
Effson Bryant (Retired
Captain)

Chaplain: CH Obie Madi-
son (BCC)

**INSIDE STORY
HEADLINE**

The African Methodist Episcopal Church Chaplains Commission is an active member of The National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF) and The Endorsers Conference for Veterans Affairs Chaplaincy (ECVAC). These bodies include the official representatives of all major faith groups in the United States.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church Chaplains Henry McNeal Chaplains Association (HMTCA) is a vital entity and global ministry.

Chaplains serve as an extension of the local church in places that other members and church staff sometimes cannot go. The Chaplaincy has an area of service for you. Chaplains are not only in hospitals and military uniforms. They are in boardrooms and classrooms. They work with a diverse group of people in various settings.

Chaplains have virtually unlimited opportunities to serve in hospitals, military, law enforcement, institutions, corporations such as YMCA/YWCA, fire and police departments, college and universities and places that are sometimes closed to "professional clergy."



**FROM THE DESK
OF THE
PRESIDENT**

Greetings to Members of the General Board,

It gives me great pleasure to make this first report to the African Methodist Episcopal Church General Board as Connectional President of the Henry

McNeal Turner Chaplains Association (HMTCA).

The Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association members are excited about the progress of this journey. The communication, collaboration and commitment from the association members is nothing short of liberating, reconciling, and enlightening. The Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association seeks to grow this ministry, to serve where sent, to educate and encourage, to minister to the marginalized and to leave a legacy.

The HMTCA desires is to encourage others who are called to this ministry through mentorship and membership. We are determined to promote the opportunities available for all who desire to become Chaplains; we are supportive of the active-duty Military Chaplains, retired Military Chaplains, Department of Veterans Affairs Chaplains, Federal Bureau of Prisons Chaplain. We wish to increase our collaboration with the community chaplains (non-federal) who are members of the AME Church, therefore, we invite all Chaplains to join the association.

We see this ministry as a call to go into the hedges and highways; to go beyond the walls of parish ministry and into the world to reach men, women, boys, and girls of all races, cultures, and creeds. Chaplains embody genuine concern for humankind, and a wealth of knowledge to share, and specialized training for ministry in difficult situations. Chaplains are thoroughly trained and are available to lead workshops, and seminars in mental health care, grief and bereavement care, dementia care, family intervention, trauma recovery, burn-out, and hospice care, to name a few. Chaplains address issues which cause moral injuries, spiritual injuries, PTSD and suffering. In a climate of microaggressions it is vital to know that there are people, such as the members, and associate members of the Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association who you can depend upon to be open-minded, caring and compassionate.

The HMTCA members are grateful that the African Methodist Episcopal Church has afforded us the opportunity to serve in this capacity. We are, thankful to Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath for his presence and support during this past year, and we look forward to his support of this ministry in the years to come. We praise God that we are able to serve this present age our calling to fulfill.

Blessed to Serve,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dianne Lewis".

Chaplain G. Dianne Lewis, (D. Min., BCC)
President, Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association



FROM THE DESK OF THE VICE -PRESIDENT

Greetings to Members of the General Board,

We, the members of the Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association (HMTCA), are thankful for the opportunity to serve God, our communities, our countries and the connectional AME church. As religious ministry professionals our primary responsibility is to provide exemplary pastoral care and counseling to those in need. One of our main goals this Quadrennial was to streamline the mission of the HMTCA. We codified this goal by developing four pillars: 1) communicate the vision of the HMTCA, 2) promote membership in and recruitment to the HMTCA, 3) share our history as AME chaplains, and 4) increase our visibility throughout AME Church.

Another goal of the HMTCA was to optimize strategic level partnerships with key leaders in higher education in order to train extremely qualified religious ministry professionals to serve as Chaplains. We recently established a partnership with President/Dean Dr. Ammie L. Davis to start a certificate training program with Turner Theological Seminary. The HMTCA also partnered with Dr. Miriam Burnett and the AMEC International Health Commission and other outside agencies to provide pastoral support to those impacted by tragic events that have taken place around the world.

Over the last conference year we made significant achievements in our ministry support efforts: we increased the number of Chaplains who are members of the HMTCA, increased the number of pastoral care facilitator engagements, attended and provided Chaplain reports at our respective annual conferences, utilized virtual platforms to engage with those in need of pastoral care and counseling and partnered with other communities of faith to bring about spiritual, mental and emotional healing. As a result of our community involvement, we have seen an increase in the number of people of color seeking counseling as a means to bring about healing and wholeness.

In order to continue providing this manner of stellar pastoral care and support to members of our Zion, our communities, our respective countries we must continue to recruit more persons to serve as Chaplains in various capacities. The knowledge and skills that are gained from clinical pastoral education and advanced training in pastoral care will help to ensure that the AME Church continues to endorse religious ministry professionals who are not only called but qualified to provide exemplary pastoral care and support to those we have been called to serve.

In His Service,

Chaplain (COL) Monica R. Lawson

Vice President, Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association





MILITARY CHAPLAINCY

Military chaplains provide military personnel and their families with religious services and programs where they can exercise their right to freedom of religion. The military depends on all faith groups to provide theologically trained, spiritually motivated and qualified ministers to serve as chaplains.

Active Duty--Military personnel and families often endure frequent transfers from one installation to another. As a result, they are often isolated and limited in active involvement in AME churches. AME Chaplains are serving on full-time active duty to help bridge this gap.

Reserve/National Guard--Ministers engaged in full-time ministry within the AME Church may be qualified to serve as chaplains to Reserve and National Guard units. As an adjunct to their full-time pastorate, these chaplains are affiliated with a military unit. This relationship enhances their church's outreach and ministry.

Chaplain Candidate--The Chaplain Candidate Program was developed to provide qualified and competent chaplains for Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard. This program affords seminarians a firsthand look at the responsibilities and opportunities for ministry within the military chaplaincy..

HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY

Healthcare chaplains are persons called by God and trained to serve in an environment of sickness, pain, birth, and death. The term "holistic medicine" means treating people as whole beings: mind, body, and spirit. Total patient care provides for a person's spiritual as well as physical and mental needs. Chaplaincy programs that provide pastoral care are essential services in total patient care.

Healthcare chaplains serve in a variety of facilities: VA medical centers, Hospice, Mental Health Centers and facilities for those who are mentally handicapped, hospitalized, and wounded.

THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED CHAPLAINS ARMED FORCES CHAPLAINS ACTIVE, RESERVES & NATIONAL GUARDS

As of January 31, 2022



UNITED STATES ARMY (11)

COL RAMOTSEPA DAN NKOPODI
(SOUTH AFRICAN)
COL MONICA JOHNSON - LAWSON
LTC GRACE HOLLIS
LTC MARK CISCO (AGR)
CPT STEPHANIE HANDY
CPT SAMUEL SIEBO
CPT A'SHELLARIEN D. LANG
(NATIONAL GUARDS)
CPT LEVY MARSHALL (RESERVE)
CPT CARLOS PERKINS (NATIONAL
GUARDS)
1st LT JEFFREY COOPER II (RESERVE)
1st LT JERMAINE MULLEY (NATIONAL
GUARDS)

UNITED STATES NAVY (10)

CAPT MAURICE BUFORD
LCDR DEVON FOSTER
LCDR CHRISTILENE WHALEN
LCDR JAMES ASKIEW (RESERVE)
LT NANCY CREWS
LT MONYA STUBBS
LT AUTUMN WILSON
LT RAINELL CANNON
LT NETETIA WALKER
LT ROBERT JOHNSON III (RESERVE)

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE (9)

COL IONA SMITH (RESERVES)
LTC DWAYNE JONES
LTC REGINA SAMUEL
LTC SHAWN MENCHION
LTC TRAVIS ALLEN
LTC HAROLD OWENS (NATIONAL
GUARDS)
CPT TARA DIXON
CPT TEMERA TATEM
CPT LEVI MARSHALL (RESERVES)

**THE VETERANS HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION (VHA)
ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED
CHAPLAINS**

As of May 31, 2022



VA Chaplaincy - Active (15)

CH G. DIANNE LEWIS, D. MIN.
CH DEBERRY COOK
CH JENNIFER DUKES
CH LIONEL JACKSON
CH MELVIN JONES JR
CH OBIE MADISON
CH VALERIE SANDERS, D. MIN.
CH JACQUELINE LONG
CH REGINALD CLEAVER
CH DELENA PATTERSON
CH JON BLACK
CH DERRON GRAY
CH JOYCE BURT
CH CURTIS ANDRIES (MAJ)
CH MICHELE WILLIAMS, D.MIN.

VA Chaplaincy - Retired (8)

REVEREND DR. WILTON BLAKE
REVEREND CECILIA WILLIAMS
REVEREND LEODIS STRONG
REVEREND DR. QUENTIN WHITE
REVEREND EFFSON BRYANT
REVEREND ACIE COLLINS
REVEREND DR. BENITA LIVINGSTON
REVEREND OREA JONES-WELLS

**THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF
PRISONS
ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED
CHAPLAINS**

As of May 31, 2022



Federal Bureau of Prisons (1)

REVEREND VALERIE PERRY-WHITE

**THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES CHAPLAINS
RETIRED WITH 20+ YEARS
ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSED
CHAPLAINS**

As of January 31, 2022



UNITED STATES ARMY – RETIRED (7)

COL CALVIN SYDNOR
COL JAMES S COOPER
LTC JAMES R. JOHNSON SR
LTC WILLIAM LIPTROT
LTC ROGER L. ARMSTEAD
MAJ SANDY MCLEAN
MAJ RONALD OWENS
COL ADDISON BURGESS SR

UNITED STATES NAVY – RETIRED (9)

CAPT JOHN MORRISON
CDR DAVID BROWN
CDR GLENDA JENNINGS-
HARRISON
LCDR MABEL MIXON
LCDR GERALD BAILEY
LCDR JON R. BLACK
LCDR CASSIE ALLEN
LCDR ATTICUS TAYLOR
LCDR AMMIE L. DAVIS

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE –
RETIRED (8)**

COL WILFRED H. BRISTOL
LTC OLEDIA F. BELL
MAJ JOSEPHINE PINKNEY
MAJ BRUCE JONES
MAJ EFFSON C. BRYANT
MAJ LEROY WEATHERS
CPT WINSTON JONES
LTC KENNETH JOHNSON JR



INSIDE STORY HEADLINE



A PROUD MOMENT

DR. AMMIE L. DAVIS NAMED AS 8TH PRESIDENT-DEAN

Dr. Ammie L. Davis is a native of Hattiesburg, Mississippi with an enthusiastic, innovative, and holistic approach to the Worship Experience, community outreach, and pastoral care for God's people. Dr. Davis is an Itinerant Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. Dr. Davis is the Eighth President-Dean of Turner Theological Seminary at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia, Connectional First Vice President of AME/Women in Ministry

Chaplain, Colonel Regina O. Samuel

We are proud to announce that Chaplain, Lieutenant Colonel Regina O. Samuel was selected for promotion to Colonel on the Air Force CY21B-621B Chaplain Colonel Board. Pending Senate confirmation, Chaplain Samuel will be the first woman Chaplain Colonel in the Air Force Chaplain Corps endorsed by the African Methodist Episcopal Church.



Chaplain Samuel is currently assigned to the National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, VA. She is a member of the Northeast Annual Conference. Her home church is Mt. Zion AME Church, Florence, SC.



Chaplain, Captain Jermaine Mulley

Congratulations to Chaplain Jermaine Mulley as he celebrates being promoted to Captain on Pentecost Sunday.

In addition, Chaplain Mulley acquired his Doctor of Ministry Degree.

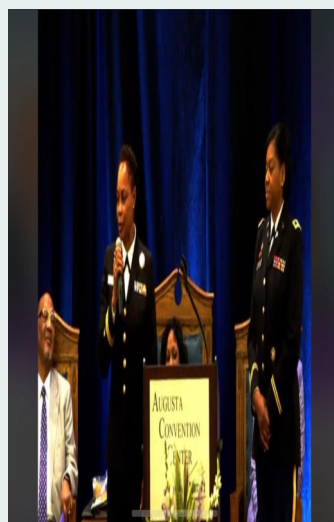


Please contact the Connec-
tional President Chaplain for
additional information:

Rev. Dr. G. Dianne Lewis

hmtca2021@gmail.com

(404) 964-9109



THANK YOU!!

To the Ecumenical Officer and
Chaplain Endorser

Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath

President of the Council of Bish-
ops

Bishop Anne Henning Byfield

The General Board Members!

THE PLAN, THE PROGRAM, THE VISION



Henry McNeal Turner Chaplain Association

The 4 Pillars of Performance

28 MAR 2022



RECRUITMENT	TRAINING
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Media Networking 2. Database of Members 3. Maintaining Episcopal District Connections 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Certificate Program at Turner Seminary 2. Quarterly Trainings 3. Training Seminars 4. Leadership 5. Professional Development
PASTORAL CARE	SUSTAINABILITY
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prayer Line 2. Self-Awareness/Introspection 3. Emotional Intelligence 4. Cultural Intelligence 5. Spiritual Care 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where and How to Apply for Membership (Federal/Community) 2. Benefits of Membership 3. Maintaining Religious Organization Endorsement 4. HMTCA Newsletter (CH Jennifer Dukes/CH Lang) 5. Accomplishments/Commendations 6. Public Relations 7. Legislation 8. By-Laws

“The Four Pillars of Performance” addresses the areas of ministry the HMTCA will plan its work and execute its plans. We are inviting you to join a committee of your choice. There is plenty of work to go around.

- ◆ **RECRUITMENT:** CHAPLAIN MONICA LAWSON, CH WINSTON JONES, CH OBIE MADISON
- ◆ **TRAINING:** CH NETETIA K. WALKER, CH STEPHANIE HANDY, CH KENNETH JOHNSON
- ◆ **PASTORAL CARE:** CH G. DIANNE LEWIS, CH A’SHELLARIAN LANG, CH JENNIFER DUKES
- ◆ **SUSTAINABILITY:** CH EFFSON BRYANT, CH ATTITUS TAYLOR

CONGRATULATIONS:

Chaplain Tara Dixon (Air Force) was promoted to Major on October 29, 2021. She was pinned by her grand-daughter.

Chaplain Reginald Cleaver completed Integrative Mental Health Certificate Program at Vanderbilt Divinity School and is a 3rd Year D. Min Student.

Chaplain Netetia K. Walker is the first United States Navy Chaplain to earn the newly created and approved Surface Chaplain Officer Professional Qualification on WED, December 29, 2021 in her role as the Command Chaplain for Destroyer Squadron 50 Taskforce 55, Taskforce 52, CNSS-5, and Patrol Forces Southwest Asia in the Middle East. On November 25, 2021 Lieutenant Walker graduated from the United States Navy War College by successfully earning the Joint Professional Military Education. Chaplain Walker graduated with her Leadership Coach Certification and mentor and coaching qualifications for ICF on March 31, 2022 with the newly created Department of Defense joint military (Navy, Army, and Air Force) Coaching Culture Facilitator Course.



SPIRITUALITY PLAYS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN OUR HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Do you struggle with loss and meaning in your life?

Do you currently have what you would describe as religious or spiritual struggles?

What would bring you peace and well-being?

If you struggled to answer the above questions, maybe you are experiencing **BURNOUT**.

The following are signs of burnout:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Feeling helpless, trapped and defeated | 9. Exhausted |
| 2. Detachment, feeling alone in the world | 10. Empty |
| 3. Start to hate what you do | 11. Headaches |
| 4. Increasingly cynical and negative outlook | 12. High Blood Pressure |
| 5. Decreased satisfaction and sense of Accomplishment. | 13. Helpless |
| 6. Sense of Failure and self-doubt | 14. Hopelessness |
| 7. Digestive and Intestinal Issues | 15. Loss of Motivation |
| 8. Unable to cope with the demands of life | 16. Feel less Capable |



EMPTYING THE EMOTIONAL JUG



PRACTICAL STEPS TOWARDS SELF CARE/WORK LIFE BALANCE

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Reserving Family Time | 4. Setting Boundaries |
| 2. Protecting Privacy | 5. Building Friendships |
| 3. Clarify Expectations | 6. Seeing Help |

13TH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT ESTABLISHES CHAPLAIN SPIRITUAL CARE TEAM

Rev. Dr. Benita Livingston, 13th Episcopal District

The 13th Episcopal District, under the leadership of Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield and Supervisor Ainsley Byfield, held its Mid-Year Convocation on March 24-26, 2022, at St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee. One of the highlights of this meeting was the presentation given by the Rev. Dr. G. Dianne Lewis, Chief of Chaplains at the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, and the Connectional President of the Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association. Dr. Lewis' presentation entitled "Overcoming Stress, Depression, and Frustrations" was to clergy only. It was an opportunity for clergy self-examination to identify signs of burnout, opportunities to practice better self-care, and engage in a lively question and answer session.

At the request of Bishop Byfield, the Chaplains in the 13th Episcopal District met with Dr. Lewis to discuss organizing a spiritual care team for clergy, the endorsing process, and membership in the Henry McNeal Turner Chaplains Association. Clergy stress is enormous, and as Dr. Lewis stated in her presentation, pastors report significant stress-related crises. Therefore, there is a need for clergy support and spiritual care, and the Chaplains of the 13th Episcopal District will be providing spiritual care in grief and bereavement support, end-of-life care and planning, and trauma and crisis care for individuals in-person or through video meetings. District meetings will also provide on-site care, if needed, and offer various presentations in specialized areas. A pastoral care team will also compile a list of various professional counselors that clergy and lay may utilize and referred if needed. When clergy request spiritual care, a Chaplain will respond to the request to assess the need, provide the assistance or work with clergy to connect them with a professional counselor in their area. The 13th Episcopal District has also agreed to pay for three professional counseling sessions for clergy.

Chaplaincy is a calling. The ministry of Chaplains is diverse. Chaplains offer spiritual care, support, guidance, and the ministry of presence to individuals, family members, and institutions. Chaplains minister in government facilities, hospitals, hospice settings, workplaces, on college and university campuses, and on military bases. Chaplains are ordained ministers who take care of the spiritual needs of people from a variety of religious backgrounds. Chaplains must have a Master of Divinity, complete a residency of Clinical Pastoral Education, be endorsed by the denomination through the process as outlined by The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and obtain Board Certification through the Association of Professional Chaplains or the Department of Veteran Affairs. Chaplains are clinically trained, educated, and well qualified to serve the present age. Chaplaincy is a vital ministry of our denomination. We praise God for the vision of Bishop E. Anne Henning Byfield in establishing a Chaplain's Spiritual Care Team to provide care to clergy.

The following are members of the 13th Episcopal District Chaplain's Spiritual Care Team: the Reverends Dr. Benita Livingston (Coordinator), Dr. Sarita Wilson, Dr. Dianna Watkins-Dickerson, Elizabeth Shell, Melissa Hale, Omaràn D. Lee, Linda Jackson, and Nachia Woods.

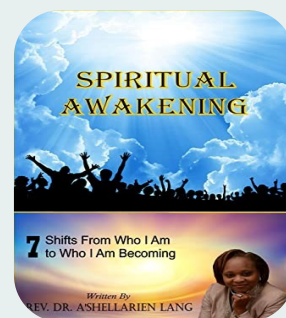
MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING

Chaplain Valerie Sanders serves on the faculty of the Integrative Mental Health team for the third cohort of the Integrative Chaplaincy Doctor of Ministry Program. This exciting program has been birthed out of a partnership between VA's Integrative Mental Health and Vanderbilt Divinity School.

This innovative program trains VA and military chaplains to integrate principles from evidence-based practices (ACT, Motivational Interviewing, and Problem Solving Therapy) that synergize with chaplaincy and foster a more integrative system of care through interdisciplinary collaboration. Chaplain Sanders is one of only 5 VA chaplains chosen to participate in providing instruction through co-facilitation of the practicum consultation groups.

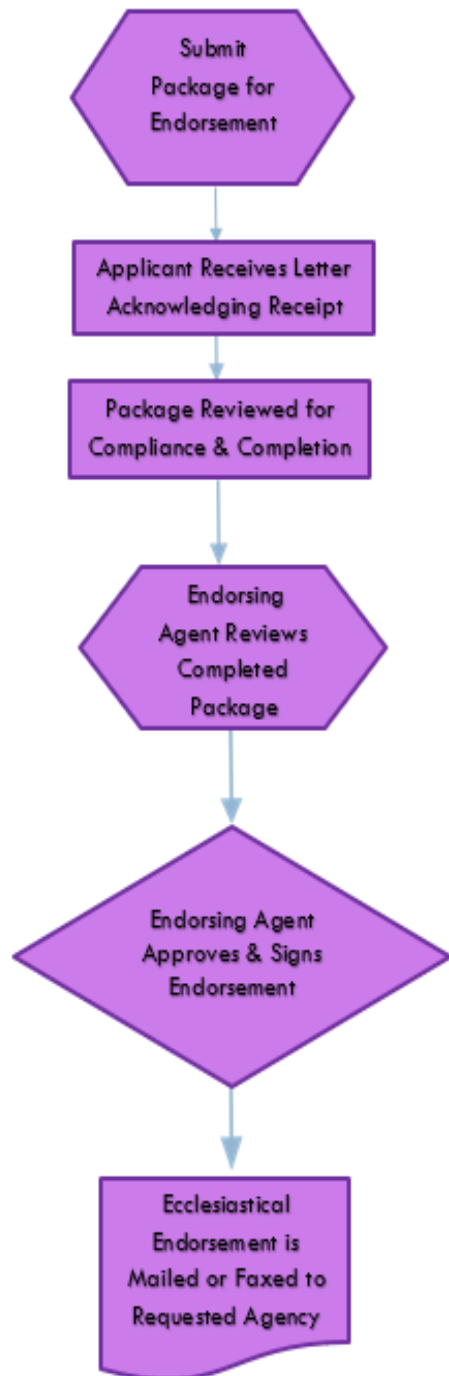


David Reid Brown is an artist, pastor, and retired Navy Chaplain. His first books, *Spirit Soundings: A Chaplain's Journal of Life at Sea* and *Lost Summer*, were born out of his global experiences in the chaplaincy, spanning twenty-one years of peace, war, and three overseas deployments. He is living out his God-given passion to "build people" through teaching high school government, history, and art at Grace Christian School in Mechanicsville, VA.



Chaplain Captain Lang is the first woman to ever serve in the Delaware Army National Guard. She serves as the 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion Chaplain. Trauma has impacted people all over the world. There has been an ongoing conversation around what happens when trauma collides with faith. What does the Bible say? What does science say?

ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSEMENT PATHWAY



AMEC ECCLESIASTICAL ENDORSEMENT

The 2020 Book of Discipline requirements for endorsements is listed under "Commission on Chaplains"—Section II, A - 5, pages 238 - 240. To ensure a complete response to requests for endorsements, each candidate must prepare, complete and submit the following documents:

Endorsement Checklist:

1. Letter from Presiding Bishop stating the candidate is in good and regular standing (Letter should be sent directly to Bishop Leath)
2. Curricula Vitae (CV) or Resume
3. Copy Itinerant Deacon and Elder Ordination Certificate with a seal
4. Official Transcripts (Mail sealed transcripts to Bishop Leath)
5. Positions for endorsement
 - ◇ Federal (Military (Active, Reserves or Nat'l Guards), VA (Federal Bureau of Prisons)
 - ◇ Non-Federal (CPE, Hospice, Corporate, Hospital, Campus, Police, etc.)

NOTE: Federal Chaplains (Only - Active Military, VA, Federal Bureau of Prisons, and Retired Military with 20+ years) are seated as Voting Members of The General Conference (Section 1-A; Composition, page 247).

1. Copy of the recent background check (Mail to Bishop Leath)
2. Current Photo
3. Copy of References submitted with application
4. Interview with the Bishop Leath and the
5. Commission on Chaplains (May be completed via virtually)
6. Copy of the last endorsement form signed by the former Endorsing Agent
7. A Copy of the last Annual Conference Chaplain's Report (Not applicable for newly endorsed Chaplains or Chaplain Candidates)
8. A "Call to Chaplaincy" Personal Statement (One-page only)
9. A Certified Copy of Mental Health Assessment results conducted within the last two years is required (Mail to Bishop Leath)

Mail the completed package to:

Bishop Jeffrey N. Leath
The Office of the Endorsing Agent
PO Box 43037
Philadelphia, PA 19129