

246TH
U.S. ARMY CHAPLAIN CORPS
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Caring for the Soul of the Army



SOLDIERS OF GOD

(Official Chaplain Corps March)

Lyrics by: Private Hy Zaret Music by: Benjamin Machan

(Introductory Chorus)

Faithful to God, we're serving on the battlefield today.
Embracing the cause of Righteousness,
We're marching on our way.

(Refrain)

Soldiers of God, we serve Him faithfully,
And march in His Name,
Through thunder and flame,
Wherever the "call" may be.
Trusting in God, His Strength we lean upon,
As into the fight the Legions of Light,
The Soldiers of God, march on.

(Verse)

We are there, as the Chaplains of the nation,
Everywhere with our fighting congregation,
Serving the Lord, and serving the cause of humanity.
Onward we go, till victory is won,
For Justice and Right, the Legions of Light,
The Soldiers of God, march on!

(Refrain)

(Verse)

We are there, with the fighters of the nation,
Everywhere at a thousand battle stations,
Serving the Lord, and serving the cause of humanity.
Onward we go, till victory is won,
For Justice and Right, the Legions of Light,
The Soldiers of God, march on!

SOLDIERS OF GOD BECOMES OFFICIAL U.S. ARMY CHAPLAIN CORPS MARCH DURING WORLD WAR II

During World War II, Chief of Chaplains (Maj. Gen.) William R. Arnold felt the Army Chaplaincy needed its own official song, and he chose Soldiers of God, which had been circulating in several unofficial versions.

In Circular Letter 281, dated February 1, 1944, Chaplain Arnold wrote:

The Air Corps, Signal Corps, Artillery and Infantry all have had an official song representing the respective branch or service. Now the Chaplain Corps has an official song titled SOLDIERS OF GOD. The spirit-stirring music, composed by Ben Machan, is a catchy melody in thrilling march time. The lyrics, by Private Hy Zaret, are appropriate for a song that will be known everywhere as the Official Chaplains' March... A preliminary arrangement of the song is included in the January 1944 issue of HIT KIT. The final approved version is being published by Remick Music Corporation.

The first edition of Soldiers of God did not meet the intent of Chaplain Arnold. In a memorandum from the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Chaplain Arnold provided additional guidance: First, in all future publications, the word "call" would be in quotes, to emphasize the sense of divine calling Chaplains carry with them as they minister to, care for, and counsel the Soldiers, family members, and Dept. of the Army Civilians within their formations. Second, whereas Zaret's version started with, "We are there, with the fighters of the nation, everywhere at a thousand battle stations," a new verse was added before Zaret's, starting with, "We are there, as the Chaplains of the nation, everywhere with our fighting congregation." Finally, an introductory chorus was added, emphasizing the Chaplain Corps' service "on the battlefield today." Despite the changes, Arnold stressed that members of the Chaplain Corps had the option to sing all of Soldiers of God, or just parts of it.

Michael Swingler, a former Army Chaplain Assistant and retired Sergeant Major, now serves as the DA Civilian Deputy to the Command Chaplain for U.S. Army Installation Management Command. He has created a database that includes history of the song, the sheet music, and several recordings, including the first official recording of the song, done in September 2018 by the U.S. Army Band and Men's Chorus:

Access the resources database using your common access card to open the following:
https://army.deps.mil/army/cmds/imcom_HQ/Chaplain/SitePages/SoldiersOfGod.aspx

CHAPLAIN CORPS LEADERSHIP



Chaplain (Major General) Thomas L. Solhjem became the United States Army's 25th Chief of Chaplains on May 31, 2019. He is ordained as a minister and endorsed as an Army Chaplain by the General Council of the Assemblies of God; and he has served in multiple key assignments and on multiple deployments, supporting a wide array of Army units and Soldiers. As the Chief of Chaplains, Chaplain (Major General) Solhjem leads the Army Chaplain Corps in providing religious support to the Soldiers, Families, and civilians of the U.S. Army.

Chaplain (MG) Thomas L. Solhjem
25TH CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS

“Taking care of the Army's people is our sacred duty. This is what we are for. It is why the Chaplain Corps exists.”

— Chaplain (MG) Tom Solhjem

Sergeant Major Ralph Martinez entered military service in August 1988. Prior to assuming duties as the 9th Chaplain Corps Regimental Sergeant Major, Sergeant Major Martinez served in key leadership positions at United States Army Forces Command, United States Central Command, United States European Command, and United States Army Africa Command. Sergeant Major Martinez served five tours in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, in addition to deploying in support of Operation Joint Forge.



SGM Ralph Martinez
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR

CHAPLAIN CORPS LEADERSHIP



Chaplain (Brigadier General) William Green Jr. became the United States Army's 26th Deputy Chief of Chaplains on August 16, 2019. He is ordained as a minister and endorsed as an Army chaplain by the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; and he has served in multiple key assignments and on multiple deployments, supporting a wide array of Army units and Soldiers. As the Deputy Chief of Chaplains, Chaplain (Brigadier General) Green supports the Chief of Chaplains in leading the Army Chaplain Corps, to provide religious support to the Soldiers, Families, and civilians of the U.S. Army.

Chaplain (BG) William Green Jr.
26TH DEPUTY CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS

Chaplain (Brigadier General) Thomas (Tom) G. Behling became the Director of the Joint Chaplains Office, National Guard Bureau, as well as the Senior Army National Guard Chaplain and Deputy Chief of Chaplains for the Army National Guard, in July 2020. He is the primary Army National Guard liaison to the United States Army Chief of Chaplains. He is ordained as a minister and endorsed as an Army Chaplain by the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA). Chaplain Behling provides advice and counsel to the Chief, National Guard Bureau, and the Director of the Army National Guard.



Chaplain (BG) Thomas G. Behling
DEPUTY CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD



Chaplain (Brigadier General) Andrew R. Harewood became the Deputy Chief of Chaplains, United States Army Reserve, in November 2020. He serves as the primary Army Reserve liaison to the United States Army Chief of Chaplains. He is ordained as a minister and endorsed as an Army chaplain by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Chaplain Harewood provides advice and counsel to the Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserve Command.

Chaplain (MG) Andrew R. Harewood
DEPUTY CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS, U.S. ARMY RESERVE



The Continental Congress created the Chaplain Corps on July 29, 1775.

With the encouragement of General George Washington, the Congress authorized one ordained Chaplain, serving at the rank of Captain, for each regular regiment of the Continental Army, to ensure that American Soldiers would always have spiritual support and guidance near at hand.

The Chaplain Corps has evolved and diversified along with the rest of the Army. Roman Catholic Chaplains were added to the Corps during the Mexican-American War (1846-1848). Jewish and African-American Chaplains were added during the American Civil War (1861-1865). The Army subsequently commissioned its first female Chaplain in 1974, its first Muslim Chaplain in 1993, its first Buddhist Chaplain in 2009, and its first Hindu Chaplain in 2011.

THE CHAPLAIN CORPS STORY

From the very inception of our United States, the non-establishment of religion and the free exercise of religion have been part of the bedrock of our democracy. These values are enshrined in the enormous body of documents penned by our founders, and delineated in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which provides that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps enables that constitutionally mandated free exercise of religion by America's Soldiers, and facilitates and builds their spiritual readiness. The Corps does this by delivering direct spiritual and religious Soldier and Family care, and by providing moral leadership across the Army's formations, at every echelon, everywhere and anywhere America's Soldiers are required to perform their duties.

The Chaplain Corps preceded the Constitution and its amendments by several years, but the Corps is a product of our Nation's fundamental commitment to religious freedom, and its recognition that religion plays an integral role in the lives of many of America's Soldiers. Since the establishment of the Corps on July 29, 1775, 25,000 Army Chaplains have served as religious and spiritual leaders for 25 million Soldiers and their Families.



As the highly diverse Soldiers of today's U.S. Army train and deploy, they face a perpetually evolving a strategic environment with increasingly complex challenges. The Chaplain Corps is a key and unique part of sustaining the readiness of America's Soldiers to manage and overcome those challenges, while they perform their duties.

WHO WE ARE

Today's Chaplain Corps includes Chaplains representing a multitude of faith groups, and it includes 177 female Chaplains in its ranks. 78% of Soldiers self-identify with one of 128 religious faith groups. Army Chaplains themselves currently represent 112 religious faith groups; but the Chaplain Corps cares for all Soldiers and their Families, regardless of their religious preferences, and even when they have no religious preference at all.



Chaplains are at the center of the Chaplain Corps, but Chaplains don't do it alone. The Army established an official position for enlisted assistants to Chaplains in 1909. Known as Chaplain Assistants until October 1, 2017, and now as Religious Affairs Specialists, these Soldiers assist Chaplains with essential administrative and logistical support, while providing expertise in religious support and religious support operations.

The Chaplain Corps also includes Department of the Army Civilians, chief among them the Corps' Directors of Religious Education, who have been serving with the Army since 1948. Directors of Religious Education provide expertise in religious education theory and practice, teaching and learning theory, educational program design and implementation, human and faith development theory, curriculum design and evaluation, and spiritual formation.

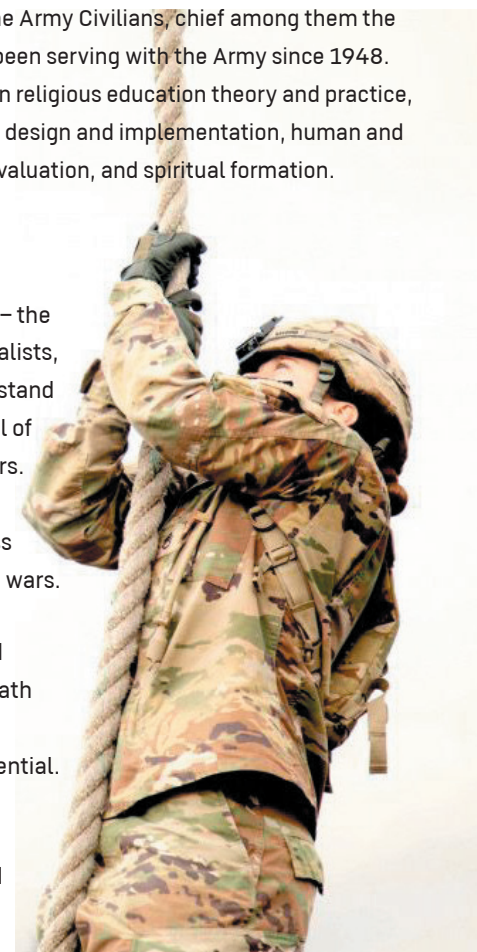
WHY WE SERVE

As the members of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps – the Army's team of Chaplains, Religious Affairs Specialists, and Department of the Army Civilians – we understand the powerful forces that test and threaten the soul of the Army, the individual souls of America's Soldiers. We know these forces can feel unyielding and unrelenting, and that they can affect the readiness of our fellow Soldiers to fight and win our Nation's wars.

But there's a clear path forward – a path to shared meaning and purpose at the deepest level. That path starts with the recognition that each of us has immeasurable, inherent value, and incredible potential.

We serve to join America's Soldiers on that path; to guide them in understanding the forces arrayed against them, and the forces aligned with them; and to care for and shepherd them on their personal journeys of discovery, growth, and service.

Our mission has never been more important. Our skills have never been more relevant. Our time to serve is now. We care for the soul of the Army. It is our sacred duty.



OUR CAPABILITIES

In their capacity as professional military religious leaders of distinctive faiths who are individually endorsed by distinctive civilian religious organizations, Chaplains perform distinctive rites, sacraments, and ordinances for Soldiers in their own faith groups, while providing access to the appropriate distinctive rites, sacraments, and ordinances for Soldiers in other faith groups, and also encouraging spiritual readiness in Soldiers of all faith groups and of no religious faith at all.

In their capacity as professional military religious staff advisors, Chaplains advise their commanders and their staffs on matters of religion, morals, and morale. These duties include assisting commanders with Soldiers' requests for religious accommodation, i.e. adjustments to work conditions that will allow a Soldier to practice his or her religion in accordance with his or her sincerely held beliefs. The



Army's religious program is the commander's program; but throughout the Army's history, Chaplains have advised commanders on the impact of religion both within their own ranks and within the larger operational environment.

OUR COMPETENCIES

The three core competencies of the Chaplain Corps provide the team of Chaplains, Religious Affairs Specialists, and DA Civilians with focus and direction:

NURTURE THE LIVING

Chaplain Corps members develop and execute a religious support plan that seeks to strengthen and sustain Soldiers and Family members.

01

CARE FOR THE WOUNDED

Chaplain Corps members assist in the healing process, by bringing help and hope to those who have been wounded and traumatized in body, mind, and spirit. Chaplains also provide pastoral care and comfort to the dying.

02

HONOR THE DEAD

Chaplains conduct memorial ceremonies, services, and funerals, fulfilling a vital role in rendering tribute to America's sons and daughters who pay the ultimate price, while serving our Nation in the defense of freedom.

03

REGIMENTAL CREST

The Chaplain Corps Regimental Crest, also known as the Regimental Insignia, is one of the Army's 14 Regimental Crests. Regimental Crests are worn on the dress uniform to identify each Soldier's unique regiment.

Each element of the Chaplain Corps Regimental Crest has a special symbolism:

- The shepherd's crook is emblematic of pastoral ministry, and was the first symbol used to identify Chaplains in the Army.
- The rays represent universal truth, and the surrounding palm branches represent spiritual victory.
- 1775, at the top of the crest, is the year the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps was established.
- The dove with olive sprig, a traditional symbol of peace, embodies the Corps' role in the Army to deter war and strive for peace.
- The sun and rays behind the dove allude to the provision and presence of God.
- The open book represents the primacy of sacred texts.
- The blue background is representative of the heavens, and alludes to the spiritual nature of the mission of the Chaplain Corps.
- The Chaplain Corps motto, "PRO DEO ET PATRIA," translates to "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY."



BRANCH INSIGNIA

U.S. Army Chaplains are experienced religious leaders and spiritual caregivers, dedicated to serve Soldiers and their Families. While all Chaplains have a sacred duty to serve God and Country, each Chaplain identifies with a specific faith group.

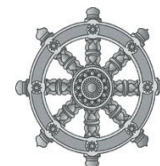
The Chaplain Corps has adopted the following branch insignia, shown in order of adoption:



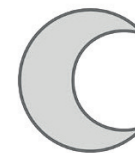
CHRISTIAN



JEWISH



BUDDHIST



MUSLIM



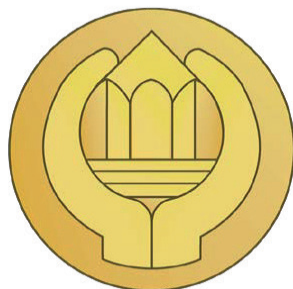
HINDU

BRANCH INSIGNIA

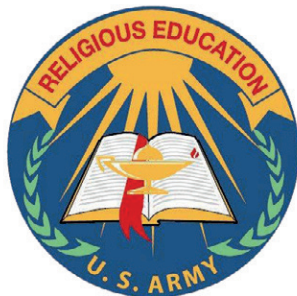
Chaplain Candidates train to become Army Chaplains at the same time they are training for the ministry. All Chaplain Candidates are commissioned officers, assigned to the Army Reserve or Army National Guard. They train up to 30 days each year under the supervision of a senior Chaplain, after they have completed phase one of the Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course.



Religious Affairs Specialists are enlisted Soldiers who provide expertise in religious support and religious support operations. Religious Affairs Specialists support unit Chaplains and Commanders in responding to the needs of Soldiers, their Family members, and Army Civilians. Duties include preparing spaces for worship, managing supplies, and ensuring the security and safety of Chaplains during combat.



Chaplain Corps Army Civilian Directors of Religious Education (DREs) work with Chaplains and Religious Affairs Specialists to provide exceptional religious support to Soldiers, their Family members, and Army Civilians. DREs are the Army's Religious Education professionals who develop innovative, comprehensive, lifelong faith formation programs for all ages and faith perspectives.



BRANCH AWARDS

Order of Saint Martin of Tours - The highest Chaplain Corps branch award, is reserved solely for individuals who display the character and embody the legacy of Saint Martin of Tours, the patron saint of the Chaplain Corps.

The Four Chaplains Medal - Gives special recognition to Chaplains who best exemplify courage, sacrifice, teamwork and sacred values in dealing with Soldiers, commanders, families and the U.S. Army. The Four Chaplains, also referred to as the "Immortal Chaplains," gave their lives to save other civilian and military personnel as the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester sank on Feb. 3, 1943, during World War II.

SSG Christopher Stout Medal - This award is given to Religious Affairs Specialists who emulate SSG Stout's legacy as a Soldier, leader, and person of character, creatively shaping the environment by technical expertise and proficient warrior tasks in religious support operations for the unit and the mission. Nominees must demonstrate enhancement of three core capabilities: Integrated religious operations, spiritual readiness, and basic human interaction in the total JIIM battle space at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. In addition, nominees must demonstrate initiatives that greatly enhance religious support capabilities.

Order of Joseph - This award is presented to exceptional DA Civilian nominees who significantly contributed to the efforts of Army Chaplaincy, local or extended, through exceptional professionalism, integrity, and commitment to excellence in service to others. Named after Joseph, the son of Jacob sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, this award reflects his exceptional commitment to personal integrity, professional service, and commitment to excellence.

Order of Aaron and Hur - The oldest Chaplain Corps award, the character and meaning is exemplified in "supporting the arms" of the Chaplain Corps. This award may be presented to either non-branch military or civilian nominees who made a significant contribution over an extended period of time through active support of either local or Army-wide Chaplain-led Religious Support programs.

CHAPLAINS IN ARMY HISTORY

U.S. Army Chaplains have served with distinction throughout Army history, and are noted for their gallantry and bravery not just as spiritual leaders and advisors, but also as Soldiers. Eight members of the Chaplain Corps have been awarded the Medal of Honor, beginning in 1864 and most recently in 2013, when Chaplain (Capt.) Emil Kapaun was posthumously awarded the medal for his service during the Korean War.



THE FOUR CHAPLAINS - When the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester was torpedoed by a German submarine on Feb. 3, 1943, four U.S. Army Chaplains offered aid to the hundreds of men aboard the transport ship, sacrificing their own lives as the ship sank. Lt. George L. Fox, a Methodist minister; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, a Jewish Rabbi; Lt. John P. Washington, a Roman Catholic Priest; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister, collectively, are known as the "Four Chaplains."

The Dorchester was carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilians on a transport mission across the North Atlantic when it was struck by a German torpedo. The attack punctured the hull and disrupted the ship's electrical system, forcing the crew to evacuate in darkness.

Amid the chaos, the Chaplains helped guide the wounded and panicking men to safety. Life jackets were in short supply, and the Chaplains removed their own jackets and gave them to others. They helped as many men as possible into the lifeboats, and then linked arms on the ship's deck, singing hymns and prayers as the ship sank into the sea.

For their actions, the men were posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Service Cross. Later, Congress authorized a one-time only Special Medal for Heroism that was awarded to the next of kin by President Eisenhower on Jan. 18, 1961.



CHAPLAIN (CPT) EMIL KAPAUN, of Pilsen, Kansas, served as a Chaplain in World War II and the Korean War. In 1950, he and his unit were captured by Chinese soldiers and taken to a North Korean prisoner of war camp. He died of malnutrition and pneumonia in one of the camp's hospitals on May 23, 1951.

Kapaun was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on April 11, 2013, for his heroism during the Korean War. At the time, he was listed as Missing in Action.

Kapaun's Medal of Honor citation explains that he "distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving with the 3d Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy at Unsan, Korea, from Nov. 1-2, 1950." But Father Kapaun's gallantry, intrepidity, and selfless service extended well beyond those two days.

Kapaun remained unaccounted for until March 2, 2021, when his remains were identified among the 867 remains buried as "Unknowns" at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency plans to return Kapaun's remains to Wichita, Kansas, on Sept. 25, 2021, with a vigil and funeral to follow.

In 1993, Pope John Paul II declared Chaplain Kapaun a Servant of God, the first stage on the path to canonization in the Catholic Church. As a member of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps, Father Kapaun lived the call, "Caring for the Soul of the Army," with extraordinary faith, courage, and leadership.

ARMY CHAPLAIN CORPS MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS



Chaplain (Capt.) Charles Liteky, Vietnam War
 Organization: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 199th Infantry Brigade. Action: Near Phuoc-Lac, Bien Hoa province, Republic of Vietnam, Dec. 6, 1967. Date of issue: Nov. 19, 1968. Born: Feb. 14, 1931, in Washington, DC. Died: Jan. 20, 2017.



Chaplain Milton Lorenzo Haney, Civil War
 Organization: 55th Illinois Infantry.
 Action: At Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864.
 Date of issue: Nov. 3, 1896. Born: Jan. 23, 1825, in Savannah, Ohio. Died: Jan. 20, 1922.



Chaplain (Maj.) Charles J. Watters, Vietnam War
 Organization: Company A, 173rd Support Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade.
 Action: Near Dak To Province, Republic of Vietnam, Nov. 19, 1967. Date of issue: Nov. 4, 1969.
 Born: Jan. 17, 1927, in Jersey City, N.J. Killed in action: Nov. 19, 1967.



Chaplain (1st Lt.) James Hill, Civil War
 Organization: Company I, 21st Iowa Infantry.
 Action: At Champion Hill, Miss., May 16, 1863.
 Date of issue: March 15, 1893. Born: Dec. 6, 1822, in England. Died: Aug. 2, 1909.



Chaplain (Capt.) Emil Kapaun, Korean War
 Organization: 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.
 Action: Unsan, Korea, Nov. 1-2, 1950.
 Date of issue: April 11, 2013. Born: April 20, 1916, in Pilsen, Kan. Died in captivity: May 23, 1951.



Chaplain Francis B. Hall, Civil War
 Organization: 16th New York Infantry.
 Action: At Salem Heights, Va., May 3, 1863.
 Date of issue: Feb. 16, 1897. Born: Nov. 16, 1827, in New York. Died: Oct. 4, 1903.



Musician Calvin Titus, while serving as a Chaplain Assistant, China Relief Mission.
 Organization: Company E, 14th U.S. Infantry.
 Action: At Peking, China, Aug. 14, 1900.
 Date of issue: March 11, 1902. Born: Sept. 22, 1879, in Vinton, Iowa. Died: May 27, 1966.



Chaplain John Whitehead, Civil War
 Organization: 15th Indiana Infantry.
 Action: At Stone River, Tenn., Dec. 31, 1862.
 Date of issue: Apr. 4, 1898. Born: March 6, 1823, near Boston, Ind. Died: March 8, 1909.

SOLDIER'S CREED

I am an American Soldier.

I am a Warrior and a member of a team.

I serve the people of the United States and live the Army Values.

I will always place the mission first.

I will never accept defeat.

I will never quit.

I will never leave a fallen comrade.

I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills.

I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.

I am an expert and I am a professional.

I stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.

I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.

I am an American Soldier.

ARMY CHAPLAIN'S CREED

I am an Army Chaplain.

I am a religious leader and a member of a team.

I serve the Soldiers of the United States and live the SACRED Values.

I will always place religious freedom first.

I will always care for the living. I will always care for the wounded.

I will always honor the fallen.

I will never disrespect another's faith group.

I am spiritually and pastorally sound, and proficient in officer and Chaplain tasks and skills.

I will always maintain faith, practice, and my beliefs.

I am a messenger and a professional.

I stand ready to minister, care, and provide for the service members of the United States of America in any context.

I am guardian of religious freedom and the virtuous way of life.

I am an ARMY Chaplain.

