



Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies

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January 24, 2023

Greetings!

May you enjoy the blessings of our Lord in 2023. I pray you are well and enjoyed some time to rejoice and celebrate during the recent holidays.

May I please have a few moments of your time to provide some updates on Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies?

My first five months as your Endorser have been jam packed. The learning curve is steep, and I have sought to develop a vision as I build on the strong foundation laid by my predecessors. I am grateful to Lyman Smith who has, out of love for you and the PFC mission, freely provided countless hours of training, mentoring, and coaching to ensure a smooth transition.

Mark Smith and Doug Slater also deserve many kudos as they have journeyed with me as Co-Directors providing a critical connection to the care and sustainment of our mission. I thank them for their patience, understanding, and heart to faithfully serve and do whatever is necessary to ensure your care and support.

With the concurrence of our Board of Directors, I am making changes to ensure we continue to provide the level of care and support that has been enjoyed throughout each of our careers. I also am looking to the future to ensure those who follow us in ministry may be blessed as part of PFC. A Presbyterian presence is vital to chaplain ministry. As people of the reformed tradition, we transform our communities through hope which is provided to us in abundance by our gracious covenant keeping God. To be realistic in preserving the care we provide and to prepare for the future, the following changes in personnel and position responsibilities were made at the beginning of this year.

- Mark Smith completed his service as Co-Director. Mark is a faithful servant and beloved in Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies not only as a Navy Chaplain but also as a dedicated servant, pastor, mentor, advisor, and leader with the PFC. Please join me in thanking Mark for his faithful ministry and service as he embarks on a new calling.
- Doug Slater continues to serve part-time for one more year. Doug's title has changed from Co-Director to Associate Director. He will assume responsibilities in the areas of recruitment and financial accountability. His primary duties remain pastoral care, sustainment, and presence.

The mission of Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies is to endorse highly qualified and outstanding ordained clergy to serve as chaplains within our federal institutions. My burden is to ensure endorsement remains more than a signature on a piece of paper. Endorsement for us is a career long partnership from recruiting to equipping to sustaining to celebrating your service with you. We can only do this as we remain in communication with each other. Please count on hearing from me and please, also, let me hear from you.



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Looking ahead to the rest of this year, please consult your calendars and see if you are able attend one of the Credentialing and Training Events tentatively set for Calvin Crest June 26 – 29 or Montreat August 7-11. More information will be shared once firm dates and contracts are signed.

Thank you for your annual report submissions and the amazing ministry stories you share. Doug and I are encouraged and uplifted by your faithful ministry as you transform your community through hope. These ministry stories enable me to transform other communities as many are encouraged by the work our Lord is doing through you.

I look forward to deepening my relationship with you in this new year. Please let me know how I can better serve you and your loved ones.

Peace,

Dennis E. Hysom

Rev. Dennis E. Hysom
Executive Director
Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies



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