



June 25, 2021

To whom it may concern:

The Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) will be holding its annual Chaplains Training from September 23-25, 2021. Our virtual training enables chaplains to collaborate with their peers, receive spiritual renewal, hone their skills, and implement best practices within their profession. Chaplains' spouses are welcome to attend as well.

As the CRCNA Director of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry and an Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agent, I require all endorsed chaplains to attend this annual virtual training event as a condition of their chaplaincy endorsement. We consider chaplains' attendance at the training "mission essential" in accordance with DoD policy instruction 1304.28.

Chaplains Training has unique opportunities for chaplains to inform civilians of the military's mission and unique opportunity to serve beyond the walls of the church. It is an excellent recruiting venue for military chaplains to share about their ministry to colleagues who are highly skilled, trained, and experienced. Military chaplains are also encouraged to preach at their local calling church, strengthening their relationship with the church that holds their ordination credentials.

The theme of Chaplains Training 2021 is "Rest. Sabbath. Hope." In addition to hearing from our main speaker, Kerry Egan, a hospice chaplain, we will have numerous chaplains presenting on practical tools and best practices. These sessions will enable our chaplains to learn new skills and implement new techniques in their work. Chaplains will also be able to engage spiritual care tools for a variety of situations to provide meaningful and restorative spiritual care.

The CRCNA ensures that Chaplains Training enables chaplains to continue to serve proficiently and competently. We trust this letter will give you adequate information for you to grant your approval. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 877-279-9994 Ext 2388 or visit our event website, [Annual Chaplains Training](#), to learn more.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Rietkerk".

Rev. Tim Rietkerk, Endorser

Director of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry for the Christian Reformed Church in North America

1700 28th Street SE  
Grand Rapids MI 49508-1407  
616-241-1691

3475 Plainway  
PO Box 5070 STN LCD  
Burlington ON L7R 3Y8  
905-336-2920

[crcna.org](http://crcna.org)