



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.

Chaplains Training 2021's theme is "Rest. Sabbath. Hope." Working in an array of institutions, our training enables our chaplains to collaborate with their peers, be spiritually renewed, hone their skills, and implement best practices within their profession. Chaplains provide adaptive, creative, and innovative pastoral care in the midst of an evolving ministry landscape. We are committed to ensuring that our training meets the spiritual needs of our chaplains and serves as an opportunity for professional development.

Our main speaker, Kerry Egan, a Hospice chaplain by training and vocation and New York Times bestselling author of *On Living* (Riverhead, 2016) will share insights on chaplaincy and creativity. Chaplains listen to and absorb the stories of those we serve as they work to make meaning of the events of their lives. We are not always aware of the intense creativity that we as chaplains bring to that process. This presentation and lively discussion will encourage us to think about the creativity inherent in our work, and the ways in which we can nurture and care for that creative impulse.

Finally, several chaplains will present specific tools and practices they use in their work. These tools are unique and applicable to chaplains in many different settings. This enables chaplains to engage with their peers, find new resources, and continue their education after the training. Attendees will also be able to engage spiritual care tools for a variety of situations to provide meaningful and restorative spiritual care.

We are committed to ensuring that our training meets the spiritual needs of our chaplains and serves as an opportunity for professional development. By attending this training, participants will complete 11 hours of continuing education. We thank you for your consideration and for allowing your chaplain to attend this important denominational function. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office (616) 224-0733 or visit our event website, [Annual Chaplains Training](#), to learn more.

Sincerely,

Rev. Tim Rietkerk, Endorser  
Director of Chaplaincy and Care Ministry for the Christian Reformed Church

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