DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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IN REPLY REFER TO
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Dear Colleagues:

As we seek to do God's will, remember the importance of faithfulness. God doesn't ask us to be gifted or successful. As His stewards, we're simply asked to be faithful.

I thought about the importance of faithfulness while saying thank you to Chaplain Rich Duncan at a retirement party in Annapolis, Maryland, today. Rich ends a long and productive career, with its welter and variety of challenges, with its alternating and fluctuating intricacies. He approaches retirement with the satisfaction of knowing that steady and unswerving faithfulness to God is the key to successful service.

I thought again about faithfulness as I read a letter from MM2(SS) Schepis about the work of Chaplain Francis C. Zanger at Submarine Group 9 in Bangor, Washington. Petty Officer Schepis wrote, "If not for Chaplain Zanger, my suffering would have been much greater. His ability to educate me in ways of dealing with the issue was very helpful. He spiritually assisted me and my family and gave us hope." Chaplain Zanger delivered life-transforming service to a sailor in need. Chaplain Zanger exemplified faithfulness.

A key to successful service is faithfulness in prayer. Each day, scores of us lift one another in prayer. I feel the impact of your intercession and thank God for you. On 12 September, I'm calling for a Corps-wide prayer day. I ask each of you to pray that God's loving providence will guide our Corps in these exciting days.

In His Service,

BC Black

BARRY C. BLACK
Rear Admiral, CHC, U.S. Navy
Chief of Chaplains